

## MUNDO OBRERO

Inmigrantes protestan 'Somos trabajador@s, no criminales' 12

## RACIST COP VIOLENCE

Milwaukee: Community takes to streets 3



WW PHOTO: ANNE PRUDEN

## NYC SERVICE WORKERS

'No justice, no peace!' 4

## Solidarity with NYC transit union

EDITORIAL 10

## 'MADE IN PALESTINE'

Thousands pack art exhibit 8

## A RETURN TO IRAN

A first-hand account 9

## NEPAL

Monarchy rocked by strikes, protests 11

## SUBSCRIBE TO WORKERS WORLD

Trial subscription: \$2 for 8 weeks  
One year subscription: \$25

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKERS WORLD NEWSPAPER**  
55 W. 17 St. NY, NY 10011 212-627-2994  
**www.workers.org**

# Generals fall out over Rumsfeld

## Clash over how to win wars, not stop them

By Deirdre Griswold

The stresses and strains within the Bush administration, the Pentagon and Congress have reached a new and unprecedented level of intensity. They come not only from the military's desperate position in Iraq but also from apprehension over reported plans for a new assault on another oil-rich country in the Middle East—Iran.

A number of retired generals, obviously speaking for many active-duty officers as well, have openly criticized Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and called for his resignation. As of April 19, they include three from the Marines—Gen. Anthony Zinni, who headed the U.S. Central Command in the late 1990s, Lt. Gen. Gregory Newbold and Lt. Gen. Paul K. Van Riper—plus four Army generals: Maj. Gen. Charles Swannack, who led the 82nd Airborne Division in Iraq; Maj. Gen. John Batiste, who commanded the 1st Infantry Division there; Maj. Gen. John Riggs and Maj. Gen. Paul Eaton.

These generals are not doves. They are for winning this and other wars for U.S. imperialist dominance in the world. But they have lost confidence in the Rumsfeld doctrine of doing it with a minimum of ground troops reliant on high-tech air power.

The intervention of the military brass into this political struggle has nothing progressive about it. Even the Washington Post, which also calls for Rumsfeld to step down, editorialized on April 18 that a military revolt "threatens the essential democratic principle of military subordination to civilian control."

Rumsfeld is now fighting for his political life. On April 14, President George W. Bush had to interrupt his Easter vacation in Camp David with a public statement that the defense secretary "has my full support and deepest appreciation." But the criticism continued.

The administration then rounded up its own military figures to put before the media, including Gen. Tommy R. Franks of the Army, who commanded U.S. troops in both Afghanistan and Iraq, and Gen. Richard B. Myers of the Air Force, former chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. So far, no high-ranking officer from the Air Force has spoken out against Rumsfeld, who promotes air power.

Rumsfeld has gone before the cameras to defend himself in what the New York Times (April 19) derisively referred to as "the Donny show" and "a daily ritual." Almost every day, Bush has found it necessary to repeat his statements of support for Rumsfeld.

As commander-in-chief, Bush is of course ultimately responsible for Rumsfeld's decisions. He knows that if the leading executor of his administration's war policy goes down, he could be the next target.

In a further symptom of internal crisis, there has been a broad shakeup at the White House. Karl Rove, the "boy genius" who shepherded Bush's political career from before he became Texas governor to the White House and ran Bush's re-election campaign in 2004, has been forced out of his role as senior policy coordinator in the White House. Rove is reportedly implicated in the outing to the media of covert CIA agent Valerie Plame after she and her husband, former ambassador Joseph Wilson, wouldn't verify bogus claims by the administration about Iraqi WMDs. Rove was once considered the third most powerful person in the White House.

Bush spokesperson Scott McClellan has also been forced to resign after almost three years on the job. He had the unenviable task of trying to deflect embarrassing media questions about the administration's Iraq policy.

Had Rumsfeld's strategy of "shock and awe" succeeded, none of this would be happening. But a prolonged resistance struggle is now deeply embedded in the Iraqi population. More and more Iraqis and U.S. troops are dying in a conflict that will not end as long as the occupation continues.

Washington has been spectacularly unsuccessful in stabilizing a neocolonial regime in Iraq. The very thing they totally disregarded from day one—the sentiment of the Iraqi people—has made it impossible to truly effect "regime change." They have killed or captured the former leaders of Iraq, devastated much of the country, and instigated virtual civil war but they have not succeeded in establishing a puppet regime with the strength and authority to roll back the Iraqi commitment to self-determina-

Continued on page 9

## Immigrant workers' struggle rising like tide 5, 6-7



WW PHOTO: JULIA LA RIVA

Los Angeles, April 15. Protesters continue the struggle for immigrant rights in a march dedicated to Anthony Soltero. The 14-year-old student committed suicide, lawyers and family say, after the assistant principal at De Anza Middle School told him he would be going to prison for three years for helping to organize Mar. 28 student walkouts against anti-immigrant legislation HR4437.

# Why 1960s gay rebellions had to erupt 'from below'

By Leslie Feinberg

The 1960s rebellions that erupted in response to police raids on gay/trans bars, culminating in the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion in Greenwich Village in Manhattan, were not led or supported by the national gay and lesbian organizations. The politics of these primarily white, middle-class organizations—Mattachine and Daughters of Bilitis—had kept them from uniting with the most oppressed.

Leaders from both Mattachine and DOB, in their appeal to the establishment for rights, had stressed the need to adhere to manners of dress and gender behavior. The dress code enforced by both organizations excluded gender-variant lesbians and gay men, drawing to their ranks instead those who could "fit in."

Those whose gender expression could not conform were drawn to the social strength of community found in the gay/lesbian bars. As a result, the bars were often difficult to categorize as gay/lesbian as distinct from drag (transgender, in today's language) bars, since those who were gender-variant as well as same-sex-loving forged social alliances there. In an era of overall racist segregation, the bars were often integrated—Black, Latin@, Native and white—in some cities, as well.

The leaderships of both Mattachine and DOB blamed the dress and behavior and social visibility of cross-dressing butch lesbians and drag queens in the working-class bar crowd for drawing violent police raids.

The same political approach that kept Mattachine and DOB from defending the most oppressed ended up dividing them from each other as well. Some of the Mattachine men blamed the lesbians for being "splitters" by forming their own organization. This argument ignored the additional burden that lesbians face as women. It also let the men off their own hook for struggling against sexism.

On the other hand, rather than uniting with the men to confront police brutality head on, some of the DOB leadership blamed the gay men in Mattachine for getting arrested while having sex outside their homes.

Ken Burns, who rose to president of Mattachine on a wave of anti-communism, argued that "we must blame ourselves for much of our plight. When will the homosexual ever realize that social reform, to be effective, must be preceded by personal reform?"

Editorials in the Ladder—the widely circulated DOB newsletter—denounced lesbians who wore pants and short haircuts, advising them to do "a little 'policing' on their own."

## Class struggle

Lesbian library worker Barbara Gittings, who founded the first East Coast DOB chapter in Manhattan in 1958 and who edited the Ladder for three years, talked to historian Jonathan Katz in a 1974 interview about the DOB drive to "fit in." Gittings represented a left current in DOB and she later headed the Task Force on Gay Liberation of the American Library Association.

Gittings recalled, "Appearance and behavior were very important. We needed the acceptance of society, we thought, so we geared ourselves to getting it. There was an incident at an early Daughters of Bilitis national convention (in Los Angeles, I think), where a woman who had

been living pretty much as a transvestite most of her life was persuaded, for the purposes of attending that convention, to don female garb, to deck herself out in as 'feminine' a manner as she could, given that female clothes were totally alien to her.

"Everybody rejoiced over this as though some great victory had been accomplished—the 'feminizing' of this woman. Today we would be horrified at anyone who thought this kind of evangelism had a legitimate purpose. Yet at the time, I remember, I joined in the rejoicing. At the same time there was some kind of mental reservation in me; I felt there was something grotesque about this women's trying to look 'normal' for the purposes of appearances at this convention."



PART 60

**Lavender & Red** focuses on the relationship over more than a century between the liberation of oppressed sexualities, genders and sexes, and the communist movement. You can read the entire, ongoing Workers World newspaper series by Leslie Feinberg online at [www.workers.org](http://www.workers.org). Stop and get a subscription while you're there!

Both Mattachine and DOB argued that the dress code created safe space for gay men and lesbians since cross-dressing was against the law. Of course, so was same-sex love. Trying to distance themselves from gender-variance did not protect the organization from the state. Lillian Faderman noted in her book "Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers" that police informants had infiltrated DOB during the Cold War and were channeling the names of the group's membership to the FBI and CIA.

In reality, the demand to adhere to gender conformity was just one expression of a class struggle within what was to become the modern lesbian, gay, bi and trans (LGBT) movement. The dress code itself revealed the distance between the needs and demands of the working class and most oppressed sectors of the LGBT population and those of the middle class. Historian John D'Emilio noted, "DOB took special pains to dissociate most lesbians from patrons of the bars. Gay women 'aren't bar hoppers,' one officer

declared, 'but people with steady jobs, most of them good positions.'

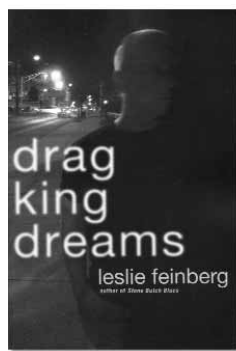
In addition, this call to "fit in" laid bare that the leadership of DOB and Mattachine looked to the rulers of society to lead them to their well-deserved rights, not to the ruled.

However, letters to the editor of the Ladder revealed that not everyone agreed with the political approach of scapegoating those who fell outside the organization's dress code.

For example, African-American playwright Lorraine Hansberry—author of "Raisin in the Sun"—wrote several letters to the Ladder. She called for an end to the "lecturing ... about how to appear acceptable to the dominant social group. ... One is oppressed or discriminated against because one is different, not 'wrong' or 'bad.'"

*Next: Mexico City 1968—lesbian and gay youth voice own demands while helping lead militant*

Feinberg's 1993 novel, **Stone Butch Blues**, translated internationally, won the American Library Association Award for Gay and Lesbian Literature and the LAMBDA Small Press Literary Award. Her non-fiction work, **Transgender Warriors: Making History from Joan of Arc to Dennis Rodman**, is the first analysis of the historical roots of transgender oppression.



Autographed copies available only at [www.Leftbooks.com](http://www.Leftbooks.com).



## ★ In the U.S.

- Generals fall out over Rumsfeld . . . . . 1
- Lavender & red, part 60. . . . . 2
- Milwaukee community protests acquittal of cops . . . . 3
- Taking back our communities . . . . . 3
- Community, labor should support Pat Washington . . . 4
- New York service workers . . . . . 4
- On the picket line . . . . . 4
- Flatbush tenant protests . . . . . 5
- Immigrants speak out . . . . . 5
- Latin@ students protest racist treatment . . . . . 6
- Hypocritical U.S. immigration policy . . . . . 6
- May 1 "Great American Boycott of 2006" . . . . . 7
- Black leaders' solidarity with immigrant workers. . . . 7
- Thousands march for peace and justice in Atlanta . . . 8
- Rally against military recruitment . . . . . 8
- Remembering Anne Braden . . . . . 10

## ★ Around the world

- 'Made in Palestine' art exhibit . . . . . 8
- A return to Iran. . . . . 9
- First-hand view of modern Iran . . . . . 9
- Nepal king besieged by strikes, protests . . . . . 11

## ★ Editorials

- Solidarity with NYC transit union . . . . . 10

## ★ Noticias En Español

- Inmigrantes protestan con fuerza de 2.000.000. . . . . 12

## WW CALENDAR

### DETROIT

#### Sat., April 22

Workers World Party public meeting: Defending abortion rights. Hear a Marxist analysis of the rightwing efforts to overturn Roe v Wade and what can be done about it. With guest speakers on "The origins of women's oppression" and on "How Cuba guarantees reproductive rights." Dinner served. 5:00 p.m. At 5920 Second Ave. For info (313) 831-0750.

### LOS ANGELES

#### Sat., April 22

Stop War on Iran Before it Starts: Hear Ardeshir Ommani and Ellie Ommani, just returned from Iran, An eyewitness report and analysis

4 p.m. At 5274 W Pico Blvd #203, L.A. For info (323) 936-7266.

### NEW YORK

#### Fri, April 21

Workers World Party meeting. "May Day 2006: Building class-wide solidarity with the immigrant struggle" Hear Larry Holmes, a WWP leader and principal organizer of the May 1 Coalition. Also: "The deepening ruling class crisis: Behind the generals' call for Rumsfeld's resignation." Hear a Marxist analysis by Deirdre Griswold, editor of Workers World. 7 p.m. (Dinner available at 6:30 pm for a small donation.) At 55 W. 17 St., 5th Fl., Manhattan. For info (212) 627-2994.

## Workers World

55 West 17 Street  
New York, N.Y. 10011  
Phone: (212) 627-2994  
Fax: (212) 675-7869  
E-mail: [editor@workers.org](mailto:editor@workers.org)  
Web: [www.workers.org](http://www.workers.org)  
Vol. 48, No. 16 • April 27, 2006  
Closing date: April 19, 2006

Editor: Deirdre Griswold  
Technical Editor: Lal Roohk  
Managing Editors: John Catalinotto, LeiLani Dowell, Leslie Feinberg, Monica Moorehead, Gary Wilson  
West Coast Editor: John Parker  
Contributing Editors: Greg Butterfield, G. Dunkel, Fred Goldstein, Teresa Gutierrez, Larry Hales, Berta Joubert-Ceci, Milt Neidenberg, Bryan G. Pfeifer, Minnie Bruce Pratt  
Technical Staff: Shelley Ettinger, Maggie Vascassenno  
Mundo Obrero: Carl Glenn, Teresa Gutierrez, Berta Joubert-Ceci, Donna Lazarus, Carlos Vargas  
Internet: Janet Mayes  
Supporter Program: Sue Davis, coordinator

Workers World (ISSN-1070-4205) is published weekly except the first week of January by WW Publishers, 55 W. 17 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10011. Phone: (212) 627-2994. Subscriptions: One year: \$25; foreign and institutions: \$35. Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited. Articles can be freely reprinted, with credit to Workers World, 55 W. 17 St., New York, NY 10011. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or photocopy from University Microfilms International, 300 Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106. A searchable archive is available on the Web at [www.workers.org](http://www.workers.org).

A headline digest is available via e-mail subscription. Send an e-mail message to [WWnews-subscribe@workersworld.net](mailto:WWnews-subscribe@workersworld.net).

Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 55 W. 17 St., 5th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10011.

JOIN US. Workers World Party (WWP) fights on all issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples—Black and white, Latino, Asian, Arab and Native peoples, women and men, young and old, lesbian, gay, bi, straight, trans, disabled, working, unemployed and students.  
If you would like to know more about WWP, or to join us in these struggles, contact the branch nearest you.

**Atlanta**  
P.O. Box 424,  
Atlanta, GA 30301  
(404) 627-0185  
[atlanta@workers.org](mailto:atlanta@workers.org)

**Baltimore**  
426 E. 31 St.,  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
(410) 235-7040  
[baltimore@workers.org](mailto:baltimore@workers.org)

**Boston**  
284 Armory St.,  
Boston, MA 02130  
(617) 983-3835  
Fax (617) 983-3836  
[boston@workers.org](mailto:boston@workers.org)

**Buffalo, N.Y.**  
367 Delaware Ave.,  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
(716) 566-1115  
[buffalo@workers.org](mailto:buffalo@workers.org)

**Chicago**

27 N. Wacker Dr. #138  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(773) 381-5839  
Fax (773) 761-9330  
[chicago@workers.org](mailto:chicago@workers.org)

**Cleveland**  
P.O. Box 5963  
Cleveland, OH 44101  
phone (216) 531-4004  
[cleveland@workers.org](mailto:cleveland@workers.org)

**Denver**  
[denver@workers.org](mailto:denver@workers.org)

**Detroit**  
5920 Second Ave.,  
Detroit, MI 48202  
(313) 831-0750  
[detroit@workers.org](mailto:detroit@workers.org)

**Houston**  
P.O. Box 130322,  
Houston, TX 77219  
(713) 861-5965  
[houston@workers.org](mailto:houston@workers.org)

**Los Angeles**

5274 West Pico Blvd.,  
Suite 203  
Los Angeles, CA 90019  
(323) 936-1416  
[la@workers.org](mailto:la@workers.org)

**Philadelphia**  
P.O. Box 9202,  
Philadelphia, PA 19139  
(610) 453-0490  
[phila@workers.org](mailto:phila@workers.org)

**Richmond, Va.**  
P.O. Box 14602,  
Richmond, VA 23221  
[richmond@workers.org](mailto:richmond@workers.org)

**Rochester, N.Y.**  
(585) 436-6458  
[rochester@workers.org](mailto:rochester@workers.org)

**San Diego, Calif.**  
3930 Oregon St.,  
Suite 230  
San Diego, CA 92104  
(619) 692-4496

**San Francisco**  
2940 16th St., #207  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(415) 561-9752  
[sf@workers.org](mailto:sf@workers.org)

**State College, Pa.**  
100 Grandview Rd.,  
State College, PA 16801  
(814) 237-8695

**Washington, D.C.**  
P.O. Box 57300,  
Washington, DC 20037,  
[dc@workers.org](mailto:dc@workers.org)



## MILWAUKEE

# Community protests acquittal of cops by all-white jury

By Bryan G. Pfeifer

In response to an all-white jury's acquittal of three white cops charged with the savage beating of Frank Jude Jr., an African American, thousands have taken to the streets of Milwaukee and other community spaces to demand justice.

On April 18, in the biggest protest to date, more than 4,000 marched from the Milwaukee County Courthouse to the steps of the Federal Building chanting "Justice for Jude! Justice for all!" The protest was sponsored by a coalition founded by Jude's aunt, Doris Jude Porter. A wide range of multinational participants, including civil rights pioneer Vel Phillips, took part in the weekday morning protest.

"I feel now like I felt with Rodney King. It reminds me of Jim Crow, like we don't exist. I'm outraged," said a Black member of the United Transportation union at the protest.

The protest comes just days after a March 23 "Day Without Latinos" Milwaukee demonstration of 30,000.

Over the April 14-16 weekend many other actions took place, including press conferences, protests and anti-police brutality events at local churches.

The three officers charged—Andrew Spengler, Daniel Masarik and Jon Bartlett—were acquitted on the evening of April 14. All three have a history of police brutality, according to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Bartlett has been

charged at least three times with "excessive force" against Black men, including a fatal shooting. Masarik used a Taser stun gun on at least six people over a three-month period in 2005.

## A savage beating

Frank Jude was nearly killed in October 2004 when he was savagely beaten during a party by as many as 15 off-duty white cops. They claimed Jude stole the wallet and badge of one of the officers, who hosted the event at his house.

After leaving the party and getting into a vehicle with three friends, one Black and two white, Jude was ripped from his car and

repeatedly punched and kicked in the head and body. His friends were able to escape.

According to testimony at the trial, Jude's fingers were pulled back, a knife was put to his neck and anus, his pants were cut off and objects such as pens were jammed into both ears. An emergency room doctor who treated Jude testified he had the worst ear injuries she had seen in 15 years of practice. The doctor also testified Jude had two fractures to his sinus and nasal bone; an eye swollen shut; a grossly swollen hand; marks on his neck consistent with choking; and cuts and bruises over much of his face and body. His left eye was swollen shut and continued to bleed for 10 days.



Frank Jude Jr., shortly after beating (right) and fully recovered (left).

It took four months for minor criminal charges such as felony battery to be filed against Spengler, Masarik and Bartlett by District Attorney E. Michael McCann. Many in Milwaukee accuse the DA's office of covering up dozens, maybe hundreds, of cases of police brutality and murders dating to the 1970s.

According to Jude's aunt and also his civil attorney, Jonathan Safran, McCann only moved after pictures of Jude's pulverized face and body were published in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Feb. 6, sparking massive protests and the possibility of rebellions.

McCann engaged in stalling tactics and purposely muddled the trial, according to Safran and Jude Porter. Numerous affronts to the Black community took place, one of the most prominent being the selection of an all-white jury without the prosecution objecting. According to 2004 U.S. Census Bureau statistics, Blacks make up 40 percent of the total Milwaukee city population of 600,000. Latin@s are 13 percent and whites 47 percent.

At the trial, all the off-duty cops at the party said they didn't see anything, but

*Continued on page 4*



More than 4,000 protest acquittal in police brutality case on April 18.

## Taking Back Our Communities: From San Francisco to New Orleans

By Judy Greenspan  
San Francisco

"There is a correlation between what is happening in Iraq and what is happening in BayView Hunters Point," said Ebony Colbert, managing editor of the San Francisco BayView national Black newspaper and a featured speaker at an April 14 community meeting sponsored by the Troops Out Now Coalition (TONC) of Northern California. "The U.S. is blowing up people's houses and mosques in Iraq and blaming it on the Iraqis. The police do the same by playing communities against each other in BayView Hunters Point. This is war at its best," Colbert added.

BayView Hunters Point, home to a large segment of San Francisco's African-American community, is under attack by greedy land developers and real estate interests. According to Willie Ratcliff, the publisher of the SF BayView Newspaper, the city is trying its hardest to get BayView Hunters Point declared a "blight" area so that the African-American community can be evicted and the area can be gentrified. Colbert clarified this further by stating, "Blight as defined by the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency is 'Black people.'"

Tonight's event began with a performance by a young rap artist, Rap for Rights, who eloquently exposed the racism and genocide faced by African-American youth and the Black community in San Francisco.

The TONC meeting also featured Minnie

Bruce Pratt, a contributing editor to Workers World newspaper, who recently completed the "Walkin' to New Orleans" march organized by Veterans for Peace, Saving Ourselves in Mobile and the People's Hurricane Relief Fund in New Orleans. Pratt noted that the march followed a road that "had been laid down by the Black freedom and liberation movements" in this country.

A strong bond has developed between the Black community in this city and the Katrina survivors in New Orleans. Malik Rahim, once a public housing rights activist in BayView Hunters Point, now is working in New Orleans with the Common Ground Collective for justice and the right of Katrina survivors to return and rebuild their communities.

The African-American community of New Orleans, along with its supporters around the country, is fighting to return and rebuild their devastated communities. Pratt, in her talk, said that Katrina survivors on the march were heartened by the overwhelming support displayed in the South to their struggle.



## April 11 protest to shut down Pacific Gas & Electric plant.

WW PHOTOS: JUDY GREENSPAN

When the march went through New Orleans' 9th ward, former home of that city's African-American community, "It looked like the day after an atom bomb was dropped," Pratt stated. She also noted that "every bomb dropped on Iraq explodes on the Gulf Coast," drawing, like Colbert, a connection between the war at home against the poor and oppressed and the war abroad against the Iraqi people.

Colbert, a 24-year old activist and writer, could relate her experiences to that sight. "Here in this city, schools are being shut down, job opportunities are nonexistent, public housing is rundown and punitive. You can't live in public housing if you are suspected or convicted of a drug related offense," she said.

Colbert talked about the demonstration earlier this week to shut down Pacific Gas and Electric, which has been poisoning people in the BayView Hunters Point public housing project for many years. On April 11, nearly 100 community residents, environmental activists, Gray Panthers, students and others picketed in the pouring rain for two hours. PG&E had missed another deadline to close its plant. "If the government won't, the people will—shut it down," the demonstrators chanted in front of the plant. Just across the street sits a public housing project where many residents, especially young children, have asthma and other medical complications due to emissions from the PG&E plant.



Marie Harrison, a member of Greenaction and the BayView Hunters Point Mothers Committee, chaired the rally outside the plant. She introduced several children who came out to the protest and who suffer from serious asthma. "We say enough! Not one more delay," Harrison stated. The protest ended at one of the plant gates where Harrison and other protesters chained the gate shut.

Colbert urged everyone to get involved—to stand up to the police brutality faced by youth in BayView Hunters Point and to say no to the land grab that is underway. The SF BayView Newspaper has done an excellent job in exposing the Redevelopment Agency's threat of gentrification and the phony label of blight being forced on the community. Housing activists throughout the city are beginning to realize that if the people don't stop gentrification and the destruction of BayView Hunters Point then the Mission and other San Francisco communities will be next. □

## 'An injury to one is an injury to all'

# Why community, labor should support Pat Washington

By Leslie Feinberg

Community and labor support is needed now, more than ever, after a California Appeal Court ruled on April 17 against Pat Washington, who charges that she was unlawfully denied tenure and fired from San Diego State University (SDSU) in retaliation for protesting that she and students of color faced a racially hostile work environment there.

Displaying the tenacity and courage that her supporters find characteristic of her, Washington told *Workers World* on April 17 that she will continue to fight for reinstatement. "We couldn't get justice from a system built on injustice for people of color," she stated. "We need a stronger community outcry."

Washington was denied tenure in the Women's Studies Department at SDSU in 2002. Her bosses claimed that she did not meet the requirements for tenure—traditionally a strong form of job security. She was terminated from her university teaching position on May 21, 2003.

SDSU's decision to deny tenure and fire Washington was stunning. She had been the only Black professor ever hired in the 33-year history of the Women's Studies department at SDSU. She is also an out and proud lesbian woman.

Washington is an internationally known and widely acclaimed scholar. She has stressed that her teaching and publication records were comparable to or stronger than those of white faculty who have received tenure at SDSU. The comparison of SDSU's stated requirements for tenure with Washington's credentials are available on her website: [www.patwashington.org](http://www.patwashington.org).

Washington was popular with students. She received the "Teacher of the Year" award for three consecutive years. In fact, she was fired only weeks after she had gotten the award for the third time.

After her firing, Washington took her case to the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The EEOC has only ruled in favor of individuals taking on

corporate institutions in a tiny fraction of cases—less than 5 percent.

Yet the EEOC ruled against SDSU and in favor of Washington. The findings, also posted on Washington's website, stated that there was "reasonable cause" to believe that the university bosses had discriminated against Washington by denying her tenure and firing her "on the basis of her race/sex combined and in retaliation for previous complaints."

The EEOC urged SDSU to avoid a costly legal battle and undo the harm done to Professor Washington by reinstating her faculty job. Rather than do the right thing, however, on Dec. 26, 2003, SDSU officials notified her that the academic corporation would go to court instead. The hundreds of thousands of dollars that SDSU is spending to defend its firing of Washington is coming from taxpayer monies. Washington has been forced to pay for her own defense.

### Impressive circle of solidarity

Pat Washington's struggle for reinstatement, back pay and tenure has won support from organizations prominent in battles against discrimination and oppression on and off campuses. These include the San Diego chapter of the NAACP, California Black Faculty and Staff Association, Chicano/a Studies Foundation, California Faculty Association, Lambda Letters Project, San Diego Chapter of the Peace & Freedom Party, San Diego Concilio for Higher Education, and Equality California (formerly California Alliance for Pride & Equality).

The membership assembly of the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA)—the organization representing the entire body of women's studies departments across the U.S.—passed a recommendation in June 2003 calling on its president to send a letter to SDSU President Stephen Weber and California State University Chancellor Charles Reed expressing concerns about the process used to deny tenure to Washington and supporting her appeal. More information

about the support Washington's fight for reinstatement has received from NWSA caucuses and task forces, and also from prominent women activists, are documented on her web site.

Washington has also drawn support from the California state chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW), American Association of University Women (AAUW), Sociologists for Women in Society, National Center for Lesbian Rights, WAGE—We Advocate Gender Equality, and the California Coalition for Women Prisoners.

### 'An injury to all'

Even before this appeal denial, the critical need for strong labor support for Washington's case was evident in the decision last April by the California Superior Court that dismissed her suit against the California State University and Colleges Board of Trustees.

The court ruled that if Washington's colleagues—her co-workers—did not like her, that a "personal grudge or resentment can constitute a legitimate, nondiscriminatory reason for an adverse employment decision."

This is a dangerous legal precedent that threatens to become a loophole through which employers can escape Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VII not only bars job discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, and national origin, it also prohibits bosses from retaliating against employees who protest workplace discrimination.

Every working and unemployed person, of all nationalities, sexes and sexualities, has a stake in Pat Washington's struggle to get her job back. Those who know in their bones that an injury to one is an injury to all—the working-class truth that the union movement was built on—can find more information about how to they can help Washington in this battle by visiting [www.patwashington.org](http://www.patwashington.org). [lfeinberg@workers.org](mailto:lfeinberg@workers.org)



## Strikers 'hungry' for a union contract

MIAMI—Nine service workers at the University of Miami have been on a water-only fast since April 4 to demand a union contract with Unico Service Co. The 900 janitors, housekeepers, food servers and gardeners represented by SEIU Local 11 have been on strike for union recognition since March 1.

On April 11, University of Miami President Donna Shalala refused to meet with the hunger strikers because, according to the April 14 student newspaper, *The Hurricane*, she did not want to "see" the hunger strikers because that might appear to condone such tactics.

Seven students from STAND (Students Toward A New Democracy) joined the hunger strike on April 14. One of them, senior Tanya Aquino, told *The Hurricane*, "This is not just about the over 400 families on strike; this is for all of working America. This is social justice for the workers whose right to organize is denied. It's bigger than the hunger strikers, it's bigger than me, it's bigger than the University of Miami, and it's not going to stop."

Unico, which employs unionized workers in the northeast, has refused to accept SEIU's card checks, which show that 67 percent of the workers have signed cards saying they want to be represented by SEIU. The company, which has threatened and harassed the workers to keep them from forming a union, is demanding a ballot vote.

The workers and students want Shalala, former Secretary of Health and Human Services in the Clinton administration, to stop shielding Unico. Shalala has the authority to require Unico to stop its anti-union campaign and recognize the workers' right to form a union. To help the strikers, call Shalala at 305-284-5155 and demand that she tell Unico to recognize Local 11.

In a related SEIU struggle, janitors and other service workers at Nova Southeast University in Davie, Fla., went on strike on April 10 over unfair labor practices committed by Unico. The company has also refused to recognize SEIU at Nova Southeast.

*Continued on page 5*

## Service workers say 'No justice, no peace!'

By Milt Neidenberg  
New York

Thousands of members of Service Employees International Union, Local 32B-J, poured out of work on April 18 to jam streets in the exclusive residential area of Manhattan's upper East Side. They blocked traffic as they marched and rallied on Fifth Avenue, chanting "No justice, no peace!" and demands for substantial wage increases and no givebacks. The 28,000 multinational members of the building services union—representing janitors, door attendants and other personnel who service 3,000 buildings in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens—had voted overwhelmingly to strike on April 21, the date their contract expires.

The Realty Advisory Board, which represents residential building owners and managers whose property values have skyrocketed, is demanding a wage freeze, givebacks in health care and other concessions.

The gap in wealth between the top 1 per-



Building service workers protest April 18.

WW PHOTO: ANNE PRUDEN

cent of households and the average wage earner in New York City continues to widen at a rapid rate. According to New York State Comptroller Alan Hevesi, "The 2005 bonus tally was \$2 billion more than the old record set in 2000. In 2004 Wall Street bonuses came to an estimated \$18.6 billion." And that didn't include salaries,

stock options and perks.

Meanwhile, wage earners in this city of high finance have lost ground to rising inflation as rents, energy, food, transportation and other necessities are rising at an alarming rate.

The class struggle is heating up in this citadel of corporate wealth. □

## Milwaukee protests acquittal of cops

*Continued from page 3*

numerous civilian witnesses and one on-duty cop who arrived at the scene gave detailed eyewitness accounts of the beating. Some cops even implied that Jude somehow inflicted his own injuries. The crime scene wasn't secured, clothes and shoes weren't analyzed for blood, photographs were taken hours later and one of the charged officer's hands and clothes were never analyzed or photographed.

For public relations and political strategy, the Milwaukee Police Department fired various officers after Jude's beating became public. But the cops involved continued to receive pay and benefits while they appealed their dismissals—including the three sent to trial. Under a Wisconsin state law the three can now begin an appeal before the Fire and Police Com-

*Continued to page 5*

# PICKETLINE

By Sue Davis

## Farmworkers' union signs guest worker contract

**LOS ANGELES**—As millions of immigrant workers took to the streets all over this country to demand their rights, the United Farm Workers signed an agreement covering agricultural guest workers on April 11 with labor contractor Global Horizons. The firm, which provides workers to farms in twelve states in the southeast and northwest, plans to employ 3,000 to 5,000 workers during the peak harvest season this summer.

Under the new contract workers will be entitled to wages that are 2 percent higher than the minimum wage. In Washington state, for instance, the minimum for agricultural guest workers is \$9.01. In addition, the workers will have employer-paid medical care, a seniority system, and a grievance procedure to help ensure that farms comply with state and federal laws. One of the reasons Global Horizons signed the contract was its revocation of its license in Washington for scores of violations, including failure to pay promised wages. Without union protection, if a worker complained, the firm just deported him.

UFW President Arturo Rodriguez noted: "From the bracero program of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s to the present day H-2A program, the use of agricultural guest workers has been beset by violations of legal protections. For the first time, a union contract will protect agricultural guest workers from retaliation for complaining about conditions or treatment." (New York Times, April 11)

# Flatbush tenant protests after family is locked in

*Below is an action alert from the tenants of 625 Ocean Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y., calling for support against racism and illegal evictions. On April 18, according to one tenant, her door was padlocked by the superintendent—while she was inside the apartment.*

For over two years, there has been an ongoing struggle by tenants of 625 Ocean Ave.—a rent-stabilized building in the Flatbush area of Brooklyn—against their landlord, Harry D. Silverstein. The building currently has more than 411 housing violations, 64 of which are rated class C, the most severe type of infraction. Some of the violations of this building were featured in a news segment on UPN 9 in the summer of 2005.

The makeup of the residents of 625 Ocean Ave. is overwhelmingly working class people of color, many who receive some form of government entitlement. Along with the demand for repairs, tenants are petitioning for the firing and replacement of building superintendent Ronald Dushame, a white male, charging him with racially motivated harassment.

Forms of harassments have included the calling of the police on tenant association meetings, acts of sabotage to private property, disclosure of tenants' HIV status, threats of physical violence and/or evictions. These forms of intimidation have mainly been directed against tenants who are immigrants, women of color and their children, and people receiving government entitlements.

In the middle of the night of April 17-18, one of the most vocal tenants, who is facing an illegal eviction, awoke to find

herself and her children padlocked in and forcibly imprisoned within her apartment. Police from the 70th Precinct were called and the lock removed. However, because there were no witnesses to the placing of the padlock, neither the landlord nor super will be charged with forced imprisonment.

Harry D. Silverstein owns several dwellings. Exploiting people on public assistance, people living with AIDS and immigrant communities are forms of abuse hap-

pening to tenants not only in the Flatbush area but in many working class communities across the city.

We call on community members, progressive groups and organizations to stand with the tenants of 625 Ocean Ave. in their call for the immediate replacement of building superintendent Ron Dushame. Send a clear message to landlord Harry D. Silverstein that forced imprisonment of tenants is an outrage!

## Petition for the removal of Ron Dushame

*(Written, circulated and sent to the landlord by the tenant who was imprisoned in her apartment. Twenty-three signatures were collected on this petition.)*

Dated: October 26, 2005

"We, the tenants of 625 Ocean Ave. submit this petition demanding better living conditions for our families, [and] that the Superintendent, Ron Dushame, be replaced. ...

"We the tenants of 625 Ocean Ave. allege that on more than one occasion he has violated our constitutional rights. He invades our rights by maliciously spreading gossip, spreading personal and confidential information regarding tenants' housing, legal and financial issues. In addition he has ... admitted to having several tenants' mailbox keys and has been accused of interfering with the delivery of the United States mail by retaining tenants' mail....

"The superintendent has slandered tenants, used abusive language to children and used racial slurs to several tenants, calling them out of their name.... He has wrongfully accused tenants ... of being drug addicts....

"The maintenance issues speak for themselves; vestibules with improper or no lighting for several days, broken elevators, poor cleaning and maintenance issues inside and outside apartments go unresolved. For the past six months there has been a large garbage can sitting in the middle of the hallway, collecting water from the ceiling, instead of the necessary repairs. ... Even after UPN 9 News came here there have been no improvements. In short we need a new superintendent."

For more information, call Brooklyn Tenants for Safe Housing at (646) 709-8057 or email bktenants4safehousing@yahoo.com. □

# IMMIGRANTS SPEAK OUT

*Following are excerpts from speeches given at the April 10 rally in New York City for immigrant rights by Doyin, a self-identified queer transgender Nigerian immigrant and Monami Maulik, a member of DRUM (Desis Rising Up & Moving) and the larger coalition that DRUM is part of—Immigrant Communities in Action.*

**DOYIN:** As a queer transgender Nigerian immigrant, explaining my gender identity and gender expression in the U.S. has been as rigorous a process as explaining my right to be in the U.S.

mission and continue to be paid because they have been acquitted.

U.S. Attorney Steven Biskupic, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, District Attorney McCann, Milwaukee Police Chief Nannette Hegerty and other political servants of capital are now claiming "shock" regarding the verdict. At the same time, in concert with influential capitalists, both Democrat and Republican, they are moving fast in an attempt to channel the people's anger into non-threatening avenues. They are trying to forestall rebellions and appease the community with promises of federal "investigations" and "reforming" the police department.

Many protesters clearly weren't waiting for a so-called federal investigation into Jude's beating, which will take months. They want justice now. □

For lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender non-conforming immigrants of color, the struggle to secure housing, employment, health care and education is made even more horrendous by the realities of homophobia, transphobia and xenophobia.

But homophobia, transphobia and xenophobia are not incidental or even coincidental mechanisms. They are part of an imperialistic apparatus that serves to pit us against each other: immigrants vs. non-immigrants, queers vs. heterosexuals, Blacks vs. Latin@s or Asians or Native Americans. They serve to strip us of our power, while imperialists maintain their hold over us.

Well, I'm here today to tell you that this U.S. trend of criminalizing immigrants is also a queer issue. The fight against the exploitation of immigrant labor in the U.S. is also a fight for queer rights, just as combating violence and harassment against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people is a fight for immigrant rights.

In the famous words of Audre Lorde, a second-generation Black lesbian Caribbean immigrant, "There is no hierarchy of oppression." Our struggles are one and the same. Until we realize that, we'll never be free.

**MONAMI:** Hello to my beautiful sisters and brothers! From Immigrant Communities in Action and DRUM—Desis Rising Up & Moving—I bring you Greetings: Assalamalakum! Hola! Namaste! Mabuhay! Sasriakal!

This is a beautiful day across the country and a powerful time to be an immi-

grant in the U.S. Finally, our power as over 25 million strong is being recognized in every corner of America.

As the lawmakers debate about our future, Immigrant Communities in Action, a grassroots coalition of diverse communities, sends these messages from immigrant women, men, and children:

First, that our lives and our future are not an election year game!

Second, that we will not be divided. We want equal and full legalization, meaning a path to citizenship, for EVERYONE—no different treatment based on anything. This society benefits from our blood and sweat and our dignity must be recognized!

Third, that we will not let you trade off our civil rights. Stop scapegoating immigrants under the so-called "War on Terror." You must remove all those provisions that undermine any legalization.

- No to local police becoming immigration agents and deporting people
- No to a Border Wall and more deaths—we honor thousands of our sisters and brothers who have already lost their lives at the border. No more!
- No to indefinite detentions
- No to stripping away due process in deportation proceedings
- No to more detention beds
- No to expanding aggravated felonies
- And finally, that we will not accept another "guest worker" program—we know from history that it is simply an attempt to have another Bracero, another Operation Bootstrap. Bush is

pushing a guest worker program not only in the U.S., but worldwide through the World Trade Organization. Guest worker programs EQUAL modern-day Slavery! We are human beings, not cheap labor for your profit-making!

In fact, we know that the "War on Terror" has provided cover for the real goal: to expand control over the resources, markets and labor of poor people here and throughout the world. As immigrants who are the casualties of this War on Terror here in the U.S.—we want an end to this War Abroad and War at Home.

The fact is that immigrants are here BECAUSE of these inhumane foreign policies of our government that have devastated communities across the globe—from NAFTA, which pushed over 1.4 million Mexican farmers off their own land, to CAFTA and the Andean Free Trade agreement which, as we speak, millions of indigenous people in South America are taking to the streets to protest. From the bombing of Afghanistan, to the bloody occupation of Iraq, to the impending war agenda on Iran. The U.S. can no longer preach human rights and democracy around the world, as it attacks immigrants and people of color right here, and innocent lives abroad.

No to Free Trade Agreements!  
No to war and occupation!  
Millions of people stand united across this nation in demanding:  
Legalization not Deportation!  
Inquilaab Zindabaad!  
We will fight, we will fight,  
we will fight until we win!



## Latin@ students protest racist treatment

By David Dixon

Sixty Latin@ students walked out of North Mecklenburg High School on April 12, saying they had suffered racist abuse for months. They could finally take no more when classmates taunted Tracy Vargas and another young woman with racial slurs during a discussion about the April 10 National Day of Action for immigrant rights. Not only did the teacher allow the racist remarks to continue, he laughed about them. Vargas said, "It made me feel real bad. I started crying." When Vargas went to the principal to complain, she was told he was in a meet-

ing and could not talk to her. (news14.com)

In response, students organized a walk out. They chanted "Latin@s united will never be defeated" as they marched away from the school. One student, Flor Ramirez, said, "This has happened before, and the school didn't listen. So sometimes you have to take other actions so people do listen." (charlotte.com) Another student, Ivania Ramirez, said, "We want respect. We're just like them, we're humans."

Students agreed to return to school on condition they could discuss the racial problems with the principal. (news14.com) □

## Cuban Adjustment Act

# Hypocritical U.S. immigration policy

By Cheryl LaBash

Congressional orators have said a lot about immigration laws lately. Lofty terms like "fairness" are used. Undocumented U.S. workers are scolded for "jumping ahead in the line."

Indeed, nothing cuts through these well-crafted distortions more quickly than examining the murderous "Cuban Adjustment Act" (CAA).

While Congress threatens to declare undocumented workers felons, this special 40-year-old U.S. law actually rewards irregular emigration from Cuba and only Cuba. It is commonly called a "wet foot/dry foot" policy. The only requirement is to be Cuban and reach land. Such an immigrant is eligible to receive a permanent resident "green card" status in just one year — no need to go through a regular port of entry, either. The U.S. government not only uses the carrot of immediate legal status and benefits to lure people to sea, but the stick of blocked

or delayed visa applications to cut off legal avenues.

In new travel ban rules, the U.S. now arrogantly tells Cuban Americans which relatives can be considered family members! Legal visits, even to spouses or parents, are limited to once every three years — no exceptions — a measure that increases personal pressures.

The most widely-known tragic result of the CAA is that of young Elian Gonzalez' mother, who perished with others at sea. Two recent events on April 5, one in Cuba and one in Florida, are still unfolding, although not covered extensively in the for-profit media.

Off the coast of Pinar del Rio, Cuban border guard troops intercepted a speed boat attempting to pick up 39 people and smuggle them illegally to the United States. Seven were children ranging in age from 23 months to 14 years old. All waited for nearly two days in a mosquito-infested swamp without food and fresh water. Two children, ages 3 and 11, were rushed to the hospital suffering from dehydration. According to Periodico26.cu, one of the human traffickers joined the crew to pay off a \$20,000 debt owed for transporting his wife and son to Mexico, where they are still in the hands of a criminal gang. He reported the U.S. Interests Section in Havana denied visas for his family even though he had been a resident of the U.S. since 1980.

Another example of the CAA in action came on April 5 when, according to the South Florida Sun-Sentinel, a fishing boat filled with 43 Haitians, a Jamaican and a Cuban landed in Broward County, Florida. Forty-four human beings face racist deportation — the Haitians to a world-recognized desperate situation, especially in the bloody U.S./UN occupation following the coup-napping of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. One, the Cuban, will be allowed to stay. (www.sun-sentinel.com)

A new development is the increase in organized-for-profit illegal Cuban emigration via Mexico. The Mexican paper, Por Esto, quoted in Granma International digital, reports the scurrilous \$200 million business is sponsored by the notorious Cuban-American National Foundation (CANF). CANF, based in Miami, Florida, directs terrorist actions against Cuba. One of their cohorts, admitted terrorist Luis Posada Carriles, entered the United States via this route. Only when he brazenly held press conferences in Miami did the U.S. government take him into custody. Carriles is currently detained on immigration charges in El Paso, Texas, trying to avoid an extradition request from Venezuela. He is wanted to stand trial for helping to plan in Venezuela the mid-air bombing of Cubana airline 455 that killed 73 people on Oct. 6, 1976. The Cuban Five, Gerardo Hernández, Ramón Labañino, Antonio Guerrero, Fernando González and René González, have been unjustly imprisoned in the U.S. since 1998 for monitoring such Miami-based terrorist plots against their homeland.

A truly fair U.S. immigration policy must end the Cuban Adjustment Act as well as grant full rights to all immigrant workers. □

In solidarity with the call for a Great American Boycott 2006  
**NO WORK, NO SCHOOL, NO SALES, AND NO BUYING**  
 on Monday, May 1 across the country

# Immigrant Rights Are Workers Rights FULL RIGHTS FOR ALL WORKERS

## Rally **MAY 1** March

4 pm Union Square Park

14th St. & Broadway, NYC

(take #4, 5, 6, R, N, L to Union Square  
 or F, 1, 2, 3 to 14th Street)



**MAY 1 COALITION**

c/o.TONC, 39 W. 14 St., #206, NY, NY 10011 212-633-6646  
 or c/o Teamsters Local 808, 22-43 Jackson Ave., LIC, NY 11101 718-389-1900

To endorse and find more information locally in NY: [www.may1.info](http://www.may1.info) and nationally: [www.NoHR4437.org](http://www.NoHR4437.org)

SUPPORT THE APRIL 29 MARCH FOR PEACE, JUSTICE & DEMOCRACY

**FREE THE CUBAN FIVE!**

# May 1 'Great American Boycott of 2006' for immigrant rights gathers momentum

By Sharon Black

The national call for a May 1 "Great American Boycott of 2006: No Shopping, No School, No Work" to demand full rights for immigrant workers and their families is gathering momentum. This call, initiated by the March 25th Coalition Against HR4437—a grassroots coalition that grew out of the Los Angeles action that brought hundreds of thousands of immigrant workers into the streets last month—has likened the May action to the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott of 1955. Organizers want to exercise both political and economic power on that day.

The call has struck a chord in many

immigrant communities. For many immigrant workers May 1 is celebrated in their home countries as a day to commemorate the working class struggle and is marked with marches and rallies worldwide.

In Los Angeles, taxi drivers have vowed to shut down LAX airport and trogueros (truck drivers) will be closing the harbor. Demonstrations are being planned in both major and smaller cities throughout the country, including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, Chicago and New York. Wherever possible, students and workers are planning both individual and group action. Many small businesses, particularly in the Mexican community, will be closing.

On the weekend of April 22, organizers will meet in Chicago to form a national network to continue this momentum. Following the meeting, there will be a press conference in Washington, D.C., on April 24, the date that Congress reconvenes.

In New York City, the Million Worker March Movement and the Troops Out Now Coalition, which were planning a May 1 rally and march from Union Square, voted to support the immigrant rights movement and the "Great American Boycott" action. The coalitions had held a march and rally last year to revive May Day and were actively making plans to march again this year. Chris Silvera, sec-

retary treasurer of Teamsters Local 808 and president of the National Teamsters Black Caucus, proclaimed, "We support and embrace this movement." His union local is hosting the May 1 Great American Boycott 2006 Coalition, which is composed of the many immigrant communities of New York City including Latin@, Filipin@, South Asian, African, and Caribbean communities.

Nationally organizers are making plans to politically and legally support any worker or student who is retaliated against for their participation in activities.

For more information please visit [www.nohr4437.org](http://www.nohr4437.org) or email [granmarcha2006@hotmail.com](mailto:granmarcha2006@hotmail.com). □

## New York Committee for a May 1 Boycott for Immigrant Rights

# Black leaders declare solidarity with immigrant workers

By Monica Moorehead  
New York

On April 13, the New York Committee for a May 1 Boycott for Immigrant Rights held a press conference/rally on the steps of City Hall to announce support for the nationwide protests in solidarity with immigrant workers, especially those who are undocumented. May 1 is being viewed by immigrant rights leaders and their supporters as the next important step in consolidating a civil rights and workers' rights movement in the U.S.

The press conference gave the opportunity for political and community activists and leaders, especially those of African descent from all five boroughs, to express their wholehearted solidarity with immigrant workers, who are facing racist laws that seek to criminalize them. The majority of the speakers raised the importance of building a rally at Union Square on May 1 at 4 p.m.

Councilperson Charles Barron, the initiator of the press conference, called on leaders from around the country to support unity to put an end to divide-and-conquer tactics. "For those in the African-American community or the Caribbean community who think that immigrants are taking away their jobs, there was double-digit unemployment in our communities before Mexicans came here. The only time there was full employment was during slavery and we have had problems with unemployment ever since that time," stated Barron.

He went on to say, "America is changing. The white male-dominated power structure is afraid of the browning of America. We say 'no' to deportation and 'no' to felonies for those who are here undocumented. The only felonies that should be given are to those corporations that don't pay a living wage or health benefits or pensions. Globalization, monopoly capitalism, imperialism and free trade are causing immigrants to come here who are fleeing from corporate exploitation. Every one of us should ask the Native Americans if it is okay for us to be here."

Larry Holmes from the Troops Out Now Coalition and press conference emcee, told the press, "Barron has always been the friend of the downtrodden, oppressed people, working people. We stand with our undocumented sisters and brothers as they are rising up in the hundreds of thousands to demand legalization and the right

to defend themselves on the job with unionization. Blame layoffs, budget cuts, downsizing and plant closings—not immigrant workers. We are demanding jobs for everyone at a living wage and a right to a union. Together we will be stronger."

Chris Silvera, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 808 and chair of the Black Teamsters Caucus, called for freedom for Roger Toussaint, president of Transport Workers Union Local 100, whose three-day strike last December shut down the entire subway and bus system. Toussaint was recently sentenced to 10 days in jail for carrying out the strike, considered illegal under the repressive Taylor law.

"I call for a strike of all workers if Toussaint goes to jail, because what Roger is fighting for is something that we are losing—health coverage and pension plans. Labor should have the same right as capital to flow freely across borders. We need a global solution. Undocumented workers are not to blame, corporate America is to blame. We support the call of immigrant workers to exercise their power to show the world that they do have power."

Nellie Bailey from the Harlem Tenants Council stated, "This is a civil rights movement for all workers. This is a struggle for all workers. As our immigrant sisters and brothers wave the American flag, you are waving the flag for not only a job and meager wages, but for decent public education for your children, for health, for all of those things that make up a viable community. As long as immigrant workers are being exploited, all workers are being exploited."

Norm Taylor, AFSCME Local 215 and District Council 1707 president, declared, "A job is a right and health care is a right. I stand here in unity with undocumented workers."

Brenda Stokely, a leader of the Million Worker March Movement, stated: "We are not separate from people because they speak a different language or come from a different land mass. People should have the freedom of movement to go wherever they need to go to take care of their families. On May 1, we are not just talking about immigrant rights as if it's a separate



April 1 News conference at City Hall in New York.

WW PHOTO: HEATHER COTTIN

issue, but it's a human issue and working person's issue. It's ironic that the people who are being focused on the most are Mexican, because these are people who are coming back to their own land that was stolen from them by the colonizers here in the U.S., who thought it was okay to steal the land from the Native Americans in order to expand westward. These are issues that tie us together against forces that deny people their humanity. Come out on May 1 to defend human rights for everybody."

Omar Henriquez, New York Committee for Occupation, Safety and Health and founder of the Day Laborers Union, remarked, "We are workers who happen to be immigrants. We want the freedom to be able to move, to join unions, to go to our countries and come back. Immigrant workers put \$90 billion into the U.S. and only get \$5 billion in benefits. Who is taking from whom? Who is winning? Immigrant workers responded to clean up after 9/11 and were paid only \$60 a day. Immigrant workers have the highest incidences of injuries and deaths."

Bernadette Ellorin with the Justice for Immigrants/Filipin@ Coalition stated, "There are more than 4 million Filipin@s in the U.S. and we have one of the largest undocumented populations. Migration was never a choice for us. We were forced to leave our loved ones back home because our home countries can't sustain us. Home countries cannot provide jobs. We can't carry out self-determination due to the racist, anti-foreign, anti-immigrant

U.S. policies. The struggle of immigrant workers is one with all working people. Immigrant rights are workers' rights.

"May 1 is an international day of action. In our home countries, it is a holiday. It must be a day of national action in the U.S. Change only happens when we are in the streets, not passing laws. We say yes to everything that Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks and Malcolm X stood for."

Chuck Mohan, president of the Guyanese-American Workers Association, said, "We have the right to be here. Immigrants are not struggling in a vacuum but are tied to the struggles of African Americans, Latin@s and Native Americans. The May 1 rally will serve to bring us together."

Vicente Alba from Day Laborers Union 108 stated, "I work for a union that fights for immigrant rights. We are determined to support the undocumented of all nationalities. Many employers are begging undocumented workers not to leave on May 1."

LeiLani Dowell, representing Queers for Peace and Justice, ended the press conference with these words: "I stand here as a queer person, as a person of African-American and Hawaiian descent, as a person whose communities at some point in time were all considered 'illegal' by the U.S. government. The slogan 'No human being is illegal' resonates very strongly with all my communities. All of our communities will be out in force on May 1 to demand full rights for all."

[mmoorehead@workers.org](mailto:mmoorehead@workers.org)

# Thousands turn out to view 'Made in Palestine' art exhibit

By Charlotte Kates  
New York

The "Made in Palestine" exhibition of contemporary Palestinian art celebrated its opening in New York City on March 16, to a packed gallery with nearly 2,000 people attending. The show, which features works by Palestinian artists in Palestine and in exile—including Rana Bishara, Mustafa al-Hallaj, Suleiman Mansour and Vera Tamari—premiered in Houston in 2003 at the Station Museum, the home of curator James Harithas.

Harithas, who assembled the exhibition with the assistance of consultant and "Made in Palestine" artist Samia Halaby, was on hand with several of the exhibition's artists for the gala opening celebration.

The exhibition made its debut in New York's art world after two years of fundraising by the Al Jisser Group, a committee working to promote Arab art and culture in New York. Spearheaded by Halaby, Al Jisser hosted a series of fundraisers and events that built excitement about and awareness of the exhibition among the city's Arab and Palestinian communities, their supporters and allies, and the city's art community.

World-renowned musician Simon Shaheen donated a concert to the fundraising effort. Nibras Arab American Theater Collective and the Kazbah Project organized a series of one-act plays to benefit the show. Students from Pace University performed plays by Betty Shamieh and Noura Erakat, and members of the New Jersey Palestinian community organized a large benefit for the exhibition as Friends of Al Jisser, among numerous efforts in support of the show.

The years of work paid off with the opening of the show at The Bridge gallery, a space rented by Al Jisser. Thousands have so far viewed the exhibition, which has been extended until May 27. The show has also become a location for numerous events, including an evening for political prisoners from Palestine to the U.S., a panel of the exhibition's artists, presentations by Palestinian health workers, a memorial for late Palestinian activist and leader Ali Kased and commemoration of the Day of the Land, film showings of Palestinian films and poetry readings by Suheir Hammad and Poetic Injustice.

The work in the show is a catalog of Palestinian history, creativity and expression. The prisoner art of Zuhdi al-Adawi



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

and Muhammad Rakouie, Palestinian political prisoners who taught themselves drawing and painting in Zionist jails while under constant threat of solitary confinement and the confiscation of their materials if discovered, evokes traditional symbols of struggle for freedom and liberation and love for the land of Palestine, and evince a brilliant creative resistance that cannot be suppressed. Al-Adawi—who was freed in a prisoner exchange after 15 years in Zionist jails and lives today in Damascus, Syria—attended the opening and visited the New York area as the exhibition's visiting artist and honored guest.

Tyseer Barakat's chest of drawers is burned with images that tell the story of his father's life through al-Nakba, the 1948 occupation of Palestine and expulsion of more than 800,000 Palestinians, with each drawer unveiling another chapter of his father's Palestinian life.

"Blindfolded History," by Rana Bishara, consists of glass panels silkscreened in chocolate with iconic images of oppression and resistance in Palestine; the chocolate appears to be dried blood, and there are 57 panels in her series, one for every year since al-Nakba.

Rajie Cook's "Ammo Box" provides an imposing reminder of the power disparity in Palestine. A huge NATO munitions box is full of rocks—the weapons of Palestinian resistance that serve to highlight the massive military, political and economic aid provided to the Zionist occupation.

In Mervat Essa's "Saffurya," a photograph of the village from which her grandmother was exiled during al-Nakba hangs above ceramic sacks which seem to be yearning to return. Marked with numbers, the sacks mark the times the residents of the village have appealed to return to their homes and land—every time denied.

A series of small blocks, each emblazoned with a donkey in a different situation or amid a different material, comprise Ashraf Fawakhry's "I am Donkey/Made in Palestine" series, a humorous piece identifying with the donkey, persistent in all situations. Samia Halaby's large wall piece, "Palestine from the Mediterranean Sea to the Jordan River," is an abstract map of Palestine in colors that evoke gardens, mountains and the varieties of the land of Palestine.

The photographic prints by Rula Halawani capture devastation in Palestine, produced as negatives in order to draw attention in a way news documentary photographs rarely do. "Stripped of their Land and Driven from their Homes," by John Halaka, is a massive mural rubber-stamped with the words "Forgotten Survivors," creating a portrait of refugees forced from their homes and seeking justice and return—an image that could refer to today's Katrina survivors, to Iraqis seeking refuge from occupation, or to indigenous peoples forced from their land in North America as well as it does to Palestinian refugees.

The massive print, "Self-Portrait as God, the Devil and Man," by Mustafa al-Hallaj, incorporates techniques reminiscent of ancient Egyptian art while exploring timeless themes, creating a fantastical modern mythological work that spans ancient themes and modern Palestinian life. Jawad Ibrahim's small, dense images of Palestinian martyrs evoke the horror of life under occupation, while Noel Jabour's family portraits of Palestinian families who have lost fathers, mothers, and brothers to Zionist arms convey both the absence of the missing and the steadfastness of those who remain.

"Crossing Surda," an installation by Emily Jacir, combines video and sound to evoke the atmosphere of the checkpoint Jacir crossed daily on her way to work. Suleiman Mansour's large clay pieces, "I, Ismael," line a central wall of the exhibition, depicting the revered ancestor of the Arab people in a cracking clay. A series of pen-and-ink drawings by Abdel Rahman al-Mozayen depict the destruction of the Palestinian refugee camp of Jenin in 2002, drawn into the embroidery of the dresses of Canaanite goddesses, making the images of destruction beautiful and referencing ancient Palestinian heritage.

Nida Sinnokrot's "Rubber-Coated Stones" ironically provide "rubber-coated" rocks to Palestinians as counterpoints to the Zionist military's "rubber-coated bullets" that have maimed many Palestinians while masquerading as humanitarian "alternatives" to regular ammunition, while "West Bank Butterflies," a piece mounted by Al Jisser Group based on Sinnokrot's work in progress, turns a map of Palestine's West Bank, marked by the apartheid wall, into butterflies ready to fly free.

Five massive, sheer silk dresses form Mary Tuma's "Homes for the Disabled," evoke the simultaneous resilient, steadfast presence of Palestinian women and their absence from much public discourse about Palestine. Vera Tamari's "Tale of a Tree" presents an image of the Palestinian olive tree, iconic yet endangered, in a large photographic print and small ceramic forms.

The exhibition, drawing together multiple styles, evinces the creativity and resilience of contemporary Palestinian art. It is an exhibition of revolutionary art, brilliantly expressive and committed to a Palestinian creative and artistic presence whose power, integrity and vision cannot be denied or suppressed despite nearly 58 years of Zionist colonialism. Embracing Palestinian artists throughout Palestine and in exile, it presents a museum-quality view of Palestinian creativity.

"Made in Palestine" is open for public view at The Bridge, 521 W. 26th St., 3rd floor, daily from Tuesdays to Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., until May 27. For more information about the show and the Al Jisser Group, please visit [www.aljisser.org](http://www.aljisser.org). □

## RALEIGH, N.C.

### Rally against military recruitment

Yolanda Carrington of Raleigh FIST (Fight Imperialism, Stand Together), at an April 13 indoor organizing rally to stop the Pentagon from recruiting youth.

The rally was organized by the Raleigh Counter-Recruiting Coalition, an organization made up primarily of high school students. Over 100 people attended, 80 percent of them youth. Speakers included Elena Everett of Raleigh FIST and the Green Party; Dustin Langley, a Navy veteran and counter-recruitment activist for the International Action Center (IAC); and Stan Goff of Military Families Speak Out and Veterans for Peace.



—Story and photo by Peter Gilbert

## ATLANTA

### Vibrant march for peace & justice

By Dianne Mathiowetz

Gold Star mothers and Iraq veterans were joined on April 1 by civil rights, labor, student, immigrant, LGBT, women, Katrina survivors and faith leaders as well as city and state elected officials marching behind a banner demanding "Peace in Iraq and Justice at Home."

Starting at the gravesite of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the more than 4,000 protesters were exhorted to continue the struggle against war, racism and poverty with the same dedication and passion as Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King and Anne Braden, three women from the South whose actions changed history.

With giant puppets, colorful banners, signs and balloons, African, Japanese

and plastic bucket drumming teams, squads of radical cheerleaders, cultural performances from hip hop to country western to baritone solos, the demonstration was a vibrant display of people's culture, all in the service of defending human and civil rights and opposing militarism.

Speakers at the rally in Piedmont Park included well-known figures such as Dr. Joseph Lowery, Rep. Cynthia McKinney, former U.S. diplomat Ann Wright and Tisha Tallman of MALDEF. Youth played a big role in the event with emcees and speakers from the National Hip Hop Political Convention, Critical Resistance, FIST, SCLC, Bolivarian Circle; Emilio Zapata and Student Political Action Committee, and a high school group from Decatur, Ga. □



# A RETURN TO IRAN

This article is based on a talk April 14 by Ardeshir Ommani, who had just returned from a 25-day-long visit to Iran. It was his first visit to the country of his birth in 25 years.

Iran today "is a work in progress." In the city of Esfahan, for example, with a population of 4 million and about 2 million Iranian tourists from other parts of the country, visiting during the Iranian New Year (Norooz) at the start of Spring, one could feel the tremendous energy and vigorous economic activities in such sectors as housing construction, road building, tourism, transportation, entertainment and trade. The huge number of private cars, taxis, and buses made traffic almost unmanageable.

After more than 50 years of the Pahlavi Dynasty—father and son—that was ended by the 1979 Revolution, more than 50 percent of the Iranian families did not enjoy the taste of running water in their homes. This lack gave rise to a multitude of diseases, including diarrhea and trachoma. In our recent journey, I found out that throughout the entire country, including the most remote villages, families had running water at home and most homes are connected to the city sewer system.

The same with electricity: the streets of all cities and the main roads are brightly lit. The light poles of the electric lines run everywhere. Traveling along the highway between Esfahan and Shiraz, we were surprised to see workers with water trucks busily cleaning the dust and soot off the road signs and light reflectors to ensure safety of the travelers. What a change from 25 years ago!

Each family in the smaller rural farming village of Saman has a refrigerator. Some have clothes washers and dryers. Almost all have televisions. The living space per person seemed greater than in some New York apartments. What was very pleasant to see were the clean streets and sidewalks, especially in Esfahan and Shiraz. Even in Tehran, a city known for its crowdedness (with a population about 10 million) the main streets were swept cleaner than many streets in the crowded cities in the U.S.

One more impressive quality that cannot be purchased at any price was the hospitality and the kindness of the people of Iran.

## Transportation

Iran now produces 300,000 cars annually, with 12 different models completely manufactured and assembled inside Iran,

for both domestic consumption and export to neighboring countries. The country also produces trucks, and construction equipment, including flatbeds for moving heavy equipment.

The road network is extensive, with more than 31,800 miles of paved roads and motorways. The two highways, the A1 and A2, link the Iraqi and Pakistani borders and Afghan and Turkish frontiers. Iran Air runs services to Ahwaz, Esfahan, Kish, Mashhad, Shiraz, Tabriz, Tehran, and Zahedan and other major cities. Bus service is widespread, inexpensive and comfortable.

In comparison to the period before the 1979 Revolution, the roads were greatly extended across the country into 50,000 villages and are wide, smooth and well constructed.

A new subway system, called the Metro, is under construction in Esfahan (to be operational in two years). Railway services are expanding to link Esfahan, Shiraz, Teheran and other cities. Huge openings in the face of the mountains, with earth-moving equipment parked outside, were signs of this expansion.

## Impact of U.S. threats

You may want to know the kind of impact the U.S. government and its European allies' dual strategy—threat of regime change and calling for referral of Iran to the United Nations Security Council—has had on the attitudes of the general population inside Iran, especially with regard to Iran's right to research and development of nuclear energy.

The threats of bombing Iran's nuclear

facilities and its relevant infrastructure by the U.S. and/or Israel and/or invading the country, along with the illegitimate opposition's call for "regime change" drive the general population closer to the position of the Iranian government. It also has forced the opposition in the U.S. to the Iranian government to announce that it too is against the U.S. agenda of de-stabilizing Iran through the use of sanctions, embargo or dismemberment of the country.

Voice of America and Radio Farda programming is primarily directed at youth, depicting life in America with worry-free love songs, long-haired, scantily clad women being wooed by handsome Iranian men, imaged in very Western cultural garb. Its aim is clearly to seduce the youngsters into believing this fantasy life of love, sexy dancing, flashy cars, clubs and "freedom" American-style is what life is like outside of Iran.

Naturally, among the factors influencing the quality of life, the order of priorities varies among different social classes. For a great majority of working class women and men, the issues of healthcare, education and employment take priorities over dress codes.

## Education, literacy and healthcare

Dr. Hadi Azadpour, whose roots are in the Ghashghae tribe in Fars Province and who now is a general physician working in the main hospital of Movdasht, was eager to point out that many members of his own family and the other tribal communities in that area have achieved higher education degrees. Furthermore, they hold leadership positions in the schools and

healthcare systems.

The national policies are aimed at preventing illiteracy, promoting basic education, developing continuing education, and establishing adult educational programs. These policies are to serve the continuing promotion of education and quality of the labor force.

According to UNESCO's Institute for Statistics, the National Literacy Policy goals of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) for the year 2005 are to obtain a total adult literacy rate of 85.2 percent, up from the 2000 figure of 76.0 percent; for women, the goal is 82.5 percent and for men 87.7 percent.

The most recent statistics show that in 2004-2005, some 15 million students are enrolled in the Iranian schools. Out of this total, 7.4 million were female, and 7.9 million were male.

According to statistics available for the year 2004, the level of enrollment in universities reached 2.1 million students, of whom 54 percent were women. This figure strongly challenges the notion put forward by some opposition groups that the women of Iran are debilitated in their educational performance and social status in Iran.

Healthcare is provided to all children, pre-natal care to pregnant women and care to senior citizens, all at no cost. Teams of nurses and doctors and primary healthcare personnel regularly visit the rural clinics, ensuring that the local municipalities properly provide services.

Last, but not the least important, the government gives subsidies towards some of the essential food items, such as milk, rice and flour. □

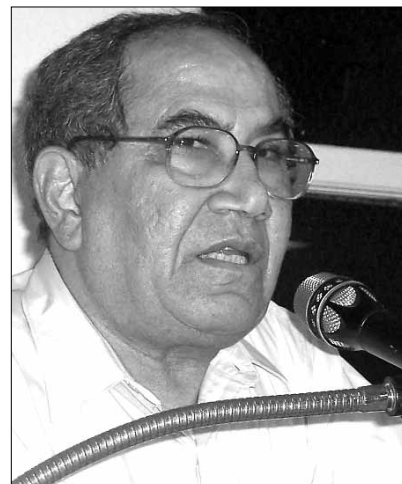
## NEW YORK CITY FORUM

# First-hand view of modern Iran

Ardeshir Ommani and Ellie Ommani spoke at an April 14 Workers World Party forum in New York about their recent trip to Iran. It was Ardeshir Ommani's first trip back to his country of birth since he left in 1981.

Both speakers described the enormous industrial development and provision of services—running water, sewage treatment, roads and transportation, and electricity—to the mass of the population that has taken place under the Islamic Republic since 1981. They also made it clear that while there was not 100 percent support for the Islamic government, each time Washington politically attacks or militarily threatens Iran the population grows closer to its own government, because the public is committed to the use of atomic energy to generate power for the country.

—Story and photos by John Catalinotto



# Generals fall out over Rumsfeld

Continued from page 1

tion born out of the 1958 anti-colonial revolution.

All this brings back memories of the Vietnam disaster, which ended only after the spread of the U.S. war to neighboring Cambodia and Laos, a militant anti-war movement in the streets and rebellions in hundreds of oppressed communities, and massive defections and mutinies among U.S. troops, who often refused combat and even attacked their officers in the field. The generals must fear this could happen again; Rumsfeld's supporters accuse his critics of "politicizing the armed forces."

While the noblest of motives are put forward to explain why an imperialist country like the U.S. goes to war, the real reason is always the same: to enhance the position of the corporate exploiters in the

global struggle over markets and profits. The dissatisfaction being voiced over this war comes from two distinct sources.

There is the opposition from the masses of people, who are appalled at the suffering the occupation has caused and want to bring the troops home and stop the killing. Dissatisfaction with Bush's performance is now at 60 percent in U.S. polls.

But there is also debate within the ruling class establishment over whether Rumsfeld's war plans are leading to even greater defeats for the U.S.—by which they really mean for U.S. imperialist domination over the world.

At present, Iran is the focus of their fears. Even Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) has cautiously deviated from the White House and called for direct talks with Iran

over its nuclear program. Lugar is head of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Daniel Ellsberg of Pentagon Papers fame has called on military figures who disagree with Rumsfeld not to resign but instead to leak to the public the latest plans for an attack on Iran. Ellsberg in 1971 was the Defense Department analyst who gave the New York Times 7,000 pages of top-secret documents that exploded many of the government's myths about the Vietnam War.

According to an article in the April 17 New Yorker magazine by investigative journalist Seymour Hersh, the plans to attack Iran from the air are massive, far advanced and include what seemed unthinkable when the Soviet Union

existed: the use of tactical nuclear weapons. The first use of any nuclear weapons was long ago declared a crime against humanity by the UN General Assembly, but that world body has no teeth.

Many of those who feel that Rumsfeld's doctrine of relying on high-tech weaponry has failed in Iraq want more ground troops sent to the Middle East—as do leading Democratic Party politicians. And where will the troops come from? The specter of a renewed military draft lurks behind this debate.

The struggle to pull back imperialism altogether, bring the troops home and allow the people of the world to control their own destinies will come not from the military brass or either capitalist party, but from a powerful revival of the working-class and progressive movements here.

dgriswold@workers.org



## Solidarity with NYC transit union

**W**as there ever any doubt? The bosses will use every weapon and every dirty trick to try to beat back worker solidarity. The attacks by the courts, the capitalist politicians and the media on New York City's transit workers and their organization, Transport Workers Union Local 100, have made it crystal clear.

The bosses' biggest weapon in this conflict is the capitalist state—the police, the courts, the jails and specifically the anti-labor Taylor Law, which outlaws strikes by public sector workers in New York State. From day one of last winter's negotiations, the threat of \$1 million a day in fines, jail for union leaders, two days' pay for each day of the strike for individual workers and other penalties hung over the heads of the union and its 34,000 members.

Now the courts have jumped in against the workers. Justice Theodore Jones sentenced TWU leader Roger Toussaint to 10 days in jail, fined the TWU local \$2.5 million and stopped automatic check-off of union dues—a particularly damaging step meant to bring the union down.

In December, faced with a bad offer from an intransigent Metropolitan Transportation Authority and a demand for pension cuts that went beyond the MTA's legal authority, the workers heroically confronted the Taylor Law and struck from Dec. 20 to Dec. 22, effectively closing down the city during Xmas shopping. They reminded the world that without labor, everything stops, even in the home of Wall Street. It was fitting that in this period, when the face of the working class is changing, a union with so many members who are African American or from the Caribbean or Latin America, both women and men, would demonstrate the strength of the working class right in the center of finance capital.

It was also typical that media and politicians, specifically New York's billionaire Mayor Michael Bloomberg,

would be so quick to use epithets like "thugs" and "greedy" to characterize the mostly Black union leadership, especially Toussaint.

The strike ended with an improved contract. It succeeded in stopping a two-tier pension system that hurt new workers. But for the MTA corporate/banking fraternity, there are no contracts, no rules they can't break to serve their class interests.

New York Gov. George Pataki then pulled a double-cross, refusing to honor the promise to repay \$131.7 million in pension overpayments to the workers. When—partly influenced by Pataki's betrayal—workers rejected the contract by only seven votes out of 22,461, the MTA bosses tried to take advantage of the situation to reopen the contract talks and insist on binding arbitration, something usually damaging to union interests.

On April 17 the union reported its members had taken a new vote. Some 71 percent this time accepted the December agreement, which amounts to a rejection of binding arbitration. The MTA cut-throats then announced they would refuse to honor the December agreement, thus hurling a challenge at the union membership.

The MTA board, the courts, Pataki and Bloomberg believe they have the upper hand. But the struggle is unfolding in an atmosphere heated by the magnificent upsurge of 12 million undocumented immigrant workers, who are planning a boycott and strike on May 1.

The New York State AFL-CIO and the New York Central Labor Council have called a rally to support Toussaint and the TWU at Brooklyn Borough Hall at 4 p.m. on April 24. What is needed is for the spirit of the immigrant workers to spread to the entire workforce of New York City and bring out a strong show of support. What the MTA-Pataki-Bloomberg gang need is a big surprise from labor. □

## White, anti-racist Southerner

# Remembering Anne Braden

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

Staunch anti-racist activist and white Southerner Anne Braden died in her home town of Louisville, Ky., on March 6. She was 81, and had spent her adult life in an unrelenting struggle against racism.

Anne Braden was born in 1924 in Louisville, a descendant of a white settler family, and raised in Anniston, Ala., in a middle-class, pro-segregation family. She began her working life as a journalist. She later said her radicalization came from covering the Birmingham courthouse as a reporter, seeing first-hand the brutal injustices done to African-American people under a segregated and racist legal system.

Along with her husband Carl Braden, she was the central figure in one of the key battles to end segregation. In 1954 they bought a house in an all-white Louisville suburb on behalf of African-Americans Andrew and Charlotte Wade. The house was dynamited and the Bradens were arrested under Kentucky state sedition laws passed in 1920 to support the anti-communist Palmer raids of that era that were being used in the 1950s to support local versions of the national McCarthy witch-hunts. A storm of red-baiting ostracized both Bradens. Carl Braden was convicted and ultimately jailed for a year in federal prison. Anne Braden expanded her work against segregation into a fight against what she described as "the Southern police state."

After the struggle for desegregated housing in Louisville—where she was living with Carl and their three young children—resulted in the sedition arrests, Anne Braden entered into a wider campaign that she called the "1950s resistance movement against the Red Scare." Fighters against racism in the South were typically smeared as communists, and threatened with arrest and job loss. Many, like the Bradens, actually experienced those losses. (Cate Fosl, "Southern Subversive: Anne Braden and the Struggle for Racial Justice in the Cold War South.")

Anne Braden saw that strength and unity in the movement for social justice could only come with resistance to red-baiting, and joined with others on the Left to resist this "divide-and-conquer" tactic based on anti-communism. She refused then, as well as throughout the rest of her long life, to either claim or disavow an affiliation with a communist party because she felt to do so would accept the ideology of the 1950s anti-communist witch-hunts. The integrity of her position is noteworthy because, despite her commitment to economic justice issues, she did not endorse a specifically Marxist approach to the analysis of history or to political change in her public speeches or writings.



During the struggle against the sedition arrests in the 1950s, Braden went on to join the staff of a civil rights organization, the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF), resumed her work as a journalist to edit its newspaper, and traveled throughout the region to recruit greater support among white people for African-American civil rights. "The Wall Between," her 1958 book on the fight to desegregate Louisville housing, was a runner-up for a National Book Award. A mentor to a younger generation of activists, she organized in the 1960s Louisville Open Housing movement and the 1970s school desegregation movement. Throughout this time she still suffered from extreme social and political ostracism as the result of red-baiting. In 1967, she and Carl were again charged with sedition for their role in protests against strip-mining; they were able to use their case to have the Kentucky law ruled unconstitutional.

Starting in the 1970s, Anne Braden was active in the Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Social Justice and was a founder of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression—which formed along with other local branches as the result of the national campaign to free Angela Davis, then a Communist Party member charged with helping three imprisoned members of the Black Panther Party to escape.

Anne Braden was a constant voice for social justice in her local and regional community, speaking out against police brutality and environmental racism, and in support of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. Her two "Open Letters to White Southern Women" embody her principled determination to forge bonds between oppressed peoples. Speaking of the false accusations of rape of white women that have been leveled against African American men, she rallied white women to struggle against racism as part of fighting for women's liberation, saying, "All issues are 'women's issues,' including war and peace, economics, and racism." □

## Poison DUst Radioactive DU Weapons in Iraq

The new Lightyear 2006 release includes details of a panel about Vieques, Puerto Rico, and a DVD-ROM display of further DU reports.

You thought they came home safely from the war. They didn't.

Poison DUst tells the story of three young men from New York who could not get answers for their mysterious ailments after their National Guard unit's 2003 tour of duty in Iraq. A mother reveals her fears about the extent of her child's birth defects and the growing disability of her young husband—a vet.

Filmmaker Sue Harris skillfully weaves, through interviews, their journey from personal trauma, to 'positive' test results for uranium poisoning, to learning what radioactive Depleted Uranium weapons are. Their frustrations in dealing with the Veterans Administration's silence becomes outrage as they realize that thousands of other GIs have the same symptoms.

Veterans, anti-war organizers, environmentalists and health care providers will find this wake-up call to today's GIs invaluable.

Today more than 1/3 of all 1991 Gulf War vets are on VA Disability Benefits. Meanwhile U.S. use of radioactive DU weapons has increased six-fold from 1991 to Gulf War III! Scientists expose the Pentagon Cover-Up!

Music by Movement in Motion, Catherine Moon, the Fourth Wall Players, Pam Parker & Jobari Namdar-Parker. Directed and edited by Sue Harris and the Peoples Video Network. Final edits by Mike Sudyn, Flying Dreams.



## Subscribe to Workers World

Special trial subscription  
\$2 for eight weeks (new subscription)  
\$25 for one year

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Workers World Newspaper 55 West 17 St. NY, NY 10011 (212) 627-2994  
Or use a credit card and subscribe online at: www.workers.org/orders/subscribe.php



Order online at [www.Leftbooks.com](http://www.Leftbooks.com)

# Nepal king besieged by strikes, protests

By David Hoskins

Fresh rounds of demonstrations have rocked Nepal's capital, Katmandu, during the second week of a general strike. Tens of thousands of protesters answered the call of opposition parties and communist revolutionaries in defiance of the government's shoot-to-kill orders. Demonstrators have been demanding since April 6 that the king step down and hand over power to an all-party government that would call elections to a constituent assembly.

On April 15, protests broke out for the first time in the heart of Katmandu's commercial and tourist center, where a strict ban on protests is in place. In a sign that clear lines are being drawn in the struggle between popular forces and Nepal's absolute monarch, the alliance of opposition parties joined the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) (CPN[M]) in its campaign to encourage individuals and businesses to withhold all taxes and utility

payments from the government.

Professional groups and civil servants have joined demonstrators in protest of the autocratic monarchy. Dozens of lawyers were wounded when police opened fire at a rally called by the Nepal Bar Association. Two more civilians were shot dead by police, bringing the total number of protesters murdered by government forces to six.

The harassment of opposition leaders has also continued with the arrest of Sunil Manandhar, president of the Nepal Progressive Trade Union Federation. Thousands of opposition leaders, human rights activists and journalists have been extrajudicially arrested since the start of protests.

Nepal's monarch, King Gyanendra, remained in the resort town of Pokhara for much of the protests. He returned to the capital in mid April to reissue his call for parliamentary elections that have already been rejected by the revolutionary forces and opposition parties. Many analysts

have concluded that the protests have grown to a point that even seemingly substantive concessions from Gyanendra may not halt the anti-king momentum.

## Masses in neighboring India support growing People's War

Nepal's general strike is in part the culmination of 10 years of revolutionary struggle waged by the CPN(M) to establish a secular socialist republic. The CPN(M) has close ties to revolutionaries in northern India led by the Communist Party of India (Maoist). The party was formed in 2004 by groups associated with years of armed struggle that began after a peasant rebellion stormed the town of Naxalbari in the Indian state of West Bengal 38 years ago.

In recent years the revolutionary struggle in northern India has caught the attention of media and government officials in the United States. A daring jailbreak on the 88th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution made headlines

around the world. On Nov. 13, 2005, over 1,000 fighters of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA) overran a prison in the northern state of Bihar, liberating 300 political prisoners. This new sign of strength sent shockwaves through the state forces.

Government-sponsored militias have orchestrated a campaign of terror against civilians suspected of supporting the PLGA. Vigilante groups such as the Salwa Judum have been explicit about the tactics they employ. As Mahendra Karma, a prominent supporter of Salwa Judum, boastfully stated, "Unless you cut off the source of disease, the disease remains. The source is the people, the villagers."

As in Nepal, India's revolution is fueled by a rigid caste system that creates glaring inequality and poverty. More than half of Indian women are denied the right to read and write and over 25 percent of the population lives in extreme poverty. The infant mortality rate exceeds 54 deaths per 1,000 live births. □

## MUNDO OBRERO

# Inmigrantes protestan con fuerza de 2.000.000

Su fuerza dice: 'Somos trabajador@s, no criminales'

Continúa de página 12

Service Employees y UNITE HERE participaron además de los Food and Commercial Workers y los Steelworkers Local 8751, el sindicato de los conductores de los autobuses escolares. La gente gritaba y llevaba carteles que leían "¡La lucha obrera no tiene fronteras!" y "Somos trabajador@s, no criminales." Según el Centro de Estudios del Mercado de Trabajo en la Universidad Northeastern, Massachusetts tiene la séptima población más grande de inmigrantes documentad@s—cerca del 14 por ciento de tod@s l@s residentes—y aproximadamente 200.000 trabajador@s sin documentos viven en el estado.

L@s organizador@s de la "Marcha por la Dignidad" en Salt Lake City dijeron que aproximadamente 40.000 personas asistieron a la marcha y mitin el domingo pasado, un número verdaderamente histórico ya que el número estimado de inmigrantes no documentad@s en Utah es solamente 90.000. Tony Yapias del Proyecto Latino de Utah, quien empezó a organizar la marcha apenas dos semanas antes con su grupo, estuvo asombrado por la cantidad de participantes. L@s colaborador@s habían distribuido volantes en los clubes latinos de baile, mercados y escuelas del sur de Utah a Wyoming. "Sabíamos que había interés pero no tuvimos ninguna idea de cuántas personas vendrían," dijo Yapias.

En Birmingham, Ala., 4.000 manifestantes marcharon desde el Parque Linn al Parque Kelly Ingram, el sitio histórico del movimiento para los derechos civiles donde la policía atacó a l@s niñ@s afro-american@s con mangueras de bomberos en 1963. Se llamó por un plan comprensivo de reforma de inmigración que proveyera a l@s inmigrantes no documentad@s una manera de conseguir la ciudadanía, protección de trabajador@s y visas para todos miembros de la familia.

El pastor Darrell Wilson del Concilio de Liderazgo Cristiano del Sur en Birmingham, asoció el movimiento histórico para los derechos civiles y la lucha de hoy en día para los derechos de los inmigrantes, diciendo "Aquí ustedes se levantan para ustedes. Levántense para tod@s. Y más que todo, levántense para sus hij@s."

En otras partes, en Boise, Idaho, 4.000 personas se manifestaron. También hubo demostraciones en Des Moines, Iowa,

Omaha, Nebraska, y en Pittsburgh, donde se congregaron manifestantes frente a la oficina del Sen. Arlen Specter. Yinka Aganga Williams que se mudó a los Estados Unidos desde Nigeria hace seis años, se unió al grupo al frente de la oficina de Specter, diciendo, "Este país fue construido por inmigrantes, especialmente Pittsburgh."

En Jackson, Miss., 500 manifestantes cantaron "We Shall Overcome" en español. En St. Louis, miles se pararon en silencio por un minuto el domingo para recordar a los que se han muerto tratando de llegar a los Estados Unidos.

En Arizona más de 50.000 manifestantes salieron en Phoenix, mientras que unos miles más se manifestaron en Tucson. En Champaign, cientos de manifestantes marcharon por una calle muy transitada hasta el campus de la Universidad de Illinois con letreros que llevaban el mensaje "Los Peregrinos no tenían tarjetas verdes". Manifestantes también protestaron en Portland, Maine, y Harrisburg, Pa.

Un grupo estimado en 3.000 personas se manifestó en Garden City, Kan., una comunidad de agricultores en la parte suroeste de ese estado donde hay menos de 30.000 habitantes. Mitines en Dodge City, Kan. y Schuyler, Neb., tuvieron un impacto notable en la producción de la Corporación Excel, el segundo productor más grande de carne de res en la nación, a causa de la ausencia de trabajador@s que asistieron a las demostraciones.

Unos 25.000 trabajador@s inmigrantes y sus grupos de apoyo se manifestaron frente al Edificio Federal en Seattle. El Ejecutivo del Condado Ron Sims, un afro-americano, dijo a l@s manifestantes que algo como 20 por ciento de los habitantes de Seattle nacieron en otro país, enfatizando la demanda por los derechos civiles completos para tod@s. Manifestaciones enormes también tuvieron lugar en las ciudades de Portland y Salem, Ore.

Más de 2.000 personas se manifestaron frente a la oficina del Rep. Peter King en Massapequa Park, en los suburbios de Long Island, N.Y. King es el co-autor del cruel proyecto anti-inmigrante HR4437. Tod@s aplaudieron cuando el miembro de la Coalición el Primero de Mayo, Carlos Canales, pidió apoyo para el "Paro del Primero Mayo," la huelga del Primero de

Mayo para apoyar los derechos de trabajador@s e inmigrantes. "Ese será 'un día sin inmigrantes' en la economía estadounidense," dijo Saúl, un trabajador de fábrica y un organizador del Workplace Project en Hempstead. Luego tomó el altoparlante y gritó,

"King, escucha, ¡estamos en la lucha!"

Estudiantes salieron de sus clases en McNair Academic High School en Jersey City, NJ una hora antes que las clases terminaran oficialmente, gritando, "¡Sí se puede", "Las escuelas son prisiones" y "El pueblo unido jamás será vencido". Las familias de l@s estudiantes vinieron de muchos países incluyendo México, República Dominicana, Puerto Rico, Palestina,

Egipto, India, Pakistán, Bangladesh y las Filipinas. Se unieron a ell@s afro-american@s y blanc@s. Las madres de l@s estudiantes que se salieron de sus clases estaban presentes en solidaridad con sus hij@s.

Más de 4.000 personas asistieron a una asamblea en el Parque del Estado de Libertad situado entre Ellis Island, el punto de entrada de millones de inmigrantes, la mayoría de Europa, al comienzo del siglo 20, y la Estatua de Libertad.

Imani Henry, Bob McCubbin, Dianne Mathiowetz, Sharon Black, Bryan Pfeifer, Gloria Rubac, Jim McMahan, Heather Cottin, Monica Moorehead and Pat Hilliard contribuyeron

Panel Discussions • Workshops • Guest Speakers • Cultural Performances

Workers of all nationalities unite  
There are no borders in our struggle

You are invited to a CONFERENCE  
Preparing for the REBIRTH  
of the World Struggle for

# SOCIALISM

MAY 13 & 14 ★ NYC

11th Street and Sixth Avenue  
Sponsored By Workers World Party

"Unlike Karl Marx, when he first issued the call for socialism in the 19th century, we do not have much time left. The 21st century has now come, 'when the dilemma must be finally resolved.' Time is short. If we do not change the world now, there may be no 22nd century for humanity.

Capitalism has destroyed the ecological equilibrium of the earth.

It is now or never!"

—Hugo Chávez President, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

The words of President Chávez are profound and true. The growing struggle of the people of the world against war, neoliberalism, imperialism, racism and poverty must be guided by a historical and revolutionary vision—the construction of a new world, a socialist world. We invite you to join activists from across the country, and special guests representing struggles around the world at a special conference entitled, "Preparing for the Rebirth of the World Struggle For Socialism." At the conference, both veterans as well as people who are new to the movement will discuss the current issues and challenges that we face. We will analyze, strategize, and organize for the coming struggles. We will take a critical look back at more than a century of world struggle for socialism, and what history and experiences tell us about our approach to today's struggles for everything from the rights of working people globally for basic things like a living wage, health insurance and a union, to the struggle for a new world free of war, exploitation and oppression. Please mark the dates of this conference and make plans to attend.

For pre-registration and pre-conference documents, go online to [workersworld.net](http://workersworld.net)  
Workers World Party National Office 55 West 17th Street, New York, NY 10011  
Read Workers World newspaper online at [workers.org](http://workers.org)

# MUNDO ★ OBRERO

¡Proletarios y oprimidos de todos los países, uníos!

## Inmigrantes protestan con fuerza de 2.000.000 Su fuerza dice: 'Somos trabajador@s, no criminales'

Por Betsey Piette y LeiLani Dowell

Como una gigantesca ola que cubrió a todo el país, inmigrantes documentad@s e indocumentad@s y sus partidari@s salieron a protestar con una fuerza de más de dos millones de personas en demostraciones que ocurrieron en 140 ciudades el 10 de abril, día que se nombra el Día Nacional de Acción Sobre los Derechos de los Inmigrantes. Su impacto se sintió en las calles y en los lugares de trabajo.

La demanda principal era la legalización de 11 a 12 millones de trabajador@s indocumentad@s que viven en los Estados Unidos, un paso a la ciudadanía, la protección de los derechos de los trabajador@s y la habilidad de reunir a sus familias. L@s manifestantes gritaban, "¡Ni un paso atrás!" Este nuevo movimiento masivo ahora planea un boicot y una huelga para el 1 de mayo.

Lo substancial de este movimiento histórico fue especialmente evidente en la cantidad de protestas que se dieron en lugares donde no hubieron manifestaciones previas y que además se dieron durante un día de trabajo.

Los oradores en varias acciones incluyeron a más sindicalistas y líderes de las comunidades negras que antes, junto a políticos, líderes religiosos y representantes de los trabajadores indocumentados.

El 11 de abril el periódico, Wall Street Journal dio a conocer el impacto de las protestas sobre la economía. "las industrias de la carne, la construcción y de ventas al detal—especialmente en el sur y en el medio oeste—estuvieron entre las más afectadas por el absentismo porque l@s trabajador@s participaron en las protestas... Las manifestaciones y sus efectos sobre los negocios, podrían indicar lo que podría ser un boicot nacional mucho más grande planeado para el 1 de mayo."

Grandes manifestaciones también se dieron lugar el 9 de abril en varias ciudades. Tanto como medio millón de personas marcharon ese día en la manifestación más grande por los derechos civiles en la historia de **Dallas**. "Este es el primer movimiento social real, de las bases en el siglo 21," dijo José Ángel Gutiérrez, un activista por muchos años. "Los mexicanos y otros inmigrantes latinos están saliendo y diciendo, 'Ustedes no nos están invitando a la mesa, por lo tanto nos tomamos las calles.'"

Como muchos otros que participaron en la marcha del domingo, Gutiérrez dijo que él no iría a trabajar el lunes.

Otra marcha de 30.000 personas se dio en **Fort Worth**. En Dalla y en Carolina del Norte, grupos de inmigrantes instaron a un boicot económico al siguiente día para mostrar su impacto financiero.

En **Houston**, el 10 de abril, grupos de trabajadores aún con sus uniformes puestos, simplemente dejaron sus puestos de trabajo a medio día para participar en la marcha de 10.000. Un grupo de trabajadores de la Halliburton marchaba junto a trabajadores de una compañía embotelladora de agua. Detrás de ellos estaba el

Consejo Pakistano-Americano de Texas. Había banderas de México, El Salvador, Honduras y Palestina, junto con la bandera de los Estados Unidos y mantas y camisetas con citas de Emiliano Zapata, líder de la Revolución Mexicana de 1910: "Es mejor morir de pie que vivir de rodillas."

"**San Diego** nunca ha visto algo como esto," dijo Bob McCubbin, organizador miembro del Partido Workers World/Mundo Obrero. Las protestas consistían de familias, jóvenes estudiantes, organizaciones laborales, grupos comunitarios, profesores y activistas, pero mayormente fue la clase trabajadora latina. El evento histórico, calculado en 50.000 participantes, sucedió a una semana después de que varias huelgas estudiantiles se llevaran a cabo en la cual resultó el arresto de varios jóvenes y el hostigamiento de sus familias.

En total más de 21 ciudades en California tuvieron manifestaciones organizadas, incluyendo una frente al edificio federal de **San Ana** al medio día y vigiliadas en el **Valle San Fernando** y en el centro de **Los Ángeles**.

En **Atlanta**, la Marcha por la Dignidad el 10 de abril con por lo menos 60.000 participantes fue la más grande de las protestas en la historia reciente de esta ciudad. El Reverendo Timothy McDonald y James Orange, dos de los más prominentes líderes negros en Atlanta, pidieron la unidad entre todos aquellos marginados por el sistema y aplaudieron la lucha de los inmigrantes por sus derechos.

Dianne Mathiowetz del Centro de Acción Internacional describió la escena: "La gente llegaba de todas las direcciones—familias completas con niños pequeños y bebés en carruajes, grupos de hombres vestidos con sus ropas de pintores, electricistas, jardineros, etc. La gente salía de sus casas cuadra por cuadra y caminaba millas [para llegar a la demostración]. El tráfico en el área estaba totalmente obstruido con gente buscando lugares para estacionarse. Los organizadores reportaron que

500.000 manifestantes se reunieron frente al Monumento Nacional en **Washington D.C.** La gente simplemente salió masivamente de las comunidades. L@s manifestantes marcharon de las estaciones de autobuses en la frontera de D.C. y Maryland hacia la ciudad. Muchos jóvenes también dejaron sus escuelas en Virginia, Maryland y el distrito para unirse a la protesta.

Sharon Black lo describió de esta manera. "En muchos de los jóvenes que participaron en la marcha uno podía claramente percibir el sentido de liberación y de poder. La mayoría eran de la comunidad salvadoreña de Washington, D.C. Muchos manifestantes llegaron directo de sus trabajos—trabajadores de la construcción con sus botas enlodadas, trabajador@s de limpieza y mantenimiento con sus uniformes, enfermeras, maestr@s con sus camisetas de sus escuelas.

"Desde el puente que está sobre la calle 16, los transeúntes paraban para saludar a la multitud y gritar con ellos. Frente a la Asociación Nacional de Educación un grupo de cien partidarios salió a mostrar sus pancartas en apoyo. L@s trabajador@s de oficinas a lo largo de la ruta también les saludaron en apoyo. Un grupo llamado Árabes por los Derechos de los Inmigrantes, colgaron sus pancartas desde sus oficinas para apoyarles. En la esquina de la calle 16 y la calle I, un grupo de trabajadores asiáticos se unió a la marcha."

En **Filadelfia**, el parque Love, se llenó más allá de su capacidad de 7.000. Activistas por los derechos de l@s inmigrantes, estudiantes y sindicalistas se reunieron allí a la hora del almuerzo. Otras marchas que llegaban de la comunidad china y la comunidad mexicana se unieron. Entre los oradores estuvieron los representantes de la Asociación China-Americana Hoyu; el Sindicato de Trabajadores de Kaoli; el Consejo Africano y Caribeño; Asiático-Americanos Unidos; varias organizaciones latinas pro inmigrantes; la Coalición del Clero Negro de Pennsylvania;

líderes sindicales y grupos estudiantiles.

La fuente central del parque estaba rodeada de mantas coloridas; tamboriler@s corean@s tocaban sus instrumentos en una esquina mientras que mariachis cantaban entre la multitud. L@s organizadores pidieron a los participantes que participaran en la próxima ronda de acciones el 1 de mayo y los participantes tomaron los volantes anunciando la protesta del 1 de mayo.

El sitio de la protesta en **St. Paul**, Minnesota, estaba tan lleno con los 30.000 participantes que se reunieron ante el capitolio que muchos no pudieron escuchar los discursos. Pero el mensaje fue claro. L@s orador@s incluyeron a inmigrantes Hmong y africanos junto a una mayoría de latinoamerican@s. Exigieron una reforma migratoria comprensiva y desafiaron la ley Sensenbrenner HR4437.

Más de 125.000 personas se manifestaron frente al ayuntamiento en el centro de la **Ciudad de Nueva York**, incluyendo un contingente de 7.000 organizado por Comunidades Inmigrantes en Acción, una coalición que incluye muchas organizaciones anti-imperialistas y en pro de liberación nacional, incluyendo CAAAV—Organizar a Comunidades Asiáticas, DAMAYAN—Asociación de Trabajador@s Migrantes, DRUM—Desis Levantándose y Moviéndose, y la Coalición Filipina Justicia para los inmigrantes (Foro Filipino, Anakbayan NY/NJ). El contingente de Comunidades Inmigrantes en Acción incluyó también representantes de las organizaciones lesbiana / gay / bi / trans, incluyendo el Proyecto Audre Lorde, GayMen's Health Crisis, Fabulous Independent Educated Radicals for Community Empowerment (FIERCE), y Homosexuales para la Justicia Racial y Económica.

En **Miami** unos 7.000 manifestantes se reunieron en el centro de la ciudad el 9 de abril, llenando la plaza fuera del Centro Gubernamental y obstaculizando las calles a causa de su marcha a la Antorcha de la Amistad en el Biscayne Boulevard. Fue la marcha más grande en pro de los derechos de inmigrantes en Florida de Sur desde que el Senado empezó su debate sobre la revisión de las leyes sobre inmigrantes el mes pasado.

En una demostración asombrosa de desafío, valentía, orgullo y dignidad, mucho más de 10.000 inmigrantes y sus aliados manifestaron en **Boston** desde el Commons a Copley Square el 10 de abril con mítines en los dos sitios. Auspiciada por la Coalición de Massachusetts sobre la Inmigración y Refugiados, las demandas principales eran "Legalización sí, no a la criminalización" y "No a la legislación racista." Una agrupación amplia de contingentes multinacionales de países africanos, y también de Asia, el Caribe, Europa, América Latina y el Medio Oriente, participó en las acciones. Much@s llevaron banderas de sus patrias y hermosos estandartes multicoloreados.

Delegaciones laborales grandes de los

Mesas Redondas • Talleres • Locutores De Huésped • Presentaciones Culturales

¡Trabajador@s de todas nacionalidades, Únanse!  
En nuestra lucha no hay fronteras

Están invitad@s a una CONFERENCIA  
Preparándonos para el RENACIMIENTO  
de la lucha mundial por el  
**SOCIALISMO**

13 y 14 DE MAYO ★ Calle 11a acerca de la 6a ave., NYC

"Diferente a Karlos Marx, cuando él primero publicó la llamada para el socialismo en el siglo diecinueve, no nos falta mucho tiempo. El siglo XXI ahora ha llegado, 'cuando el dilema se debe finalmente resolver.' No tenemos mucho tiempo. Si ahora no cambiamos el mundo, quizás no habrá el siglo 22 para la humanidad. El capitalismo ha destruido el equilibrio ecológico de la tierra. ¡Es ahora o nunca!"

—Hugo Chávez Presidente, República Bolivariana de Venezuela

Para registrarse con antelación y obtener documentos que serán la base de la conferencia, visite en línea a [workersworld.net](http://workersworld.net)

Workers World Party Oficina Nacional 55 West 17th Street, New York NYC 10011  
Léan el periódico Mundo Obrero en línea a [workers.org](http://workers.org)

Continúa a pagina 11