

Everything but the Marines

U.S. behind Israel's massive aggression

Miners force bosses to yield more in third pact

But union leaders fail to fight for what strikers really won

Rumblings of anger in coalfields

MARCH 15—The coal bosses have just offered a third pact, which has been accepted by UMW President Arnold Miller but not yet agreed to by the 39-member Bargaining Council or by the UMW membership itself.

The pact is an improvement over the last two proposals in some respects—particularly in money benefits—and a step backward in others.

In the face of Carter's strike-breaking Taft-Hartley move the 160,000 coal miners are standing as firm as a rock. They are facing arrest, fines, imprisonment and violence from the capitalist government itself.

It was this struggle that brought the coal bosses back to the bargaining table last week with a new and more conciliatory "team," which almost immediately made noises about fixing up a compromise.

The truly earth-shattering strike forced both the mine bosses and the ruling class itself into this new and "softer" approach.

Adding to the overwhelming strength of the miners was the growing involvement of other unions representing millions more of the U.S. working class. The United Auto Workers, for example, donated \$2 million for relief of the miners' families after Carter invoked the Taft-Hartley, thus in effect joining the miners' defiance of the government.

This was immediately followed by a \$1 million gift from the huge Steelworkers Union and \$25,000 from the much smaller West Coast Longshore Workers.

In addition, there was talk in West Coast labor circles—although couched in whispers—of a possible general strike.

Furthermore, labor's great rank and file is beginning to stir and rise to the occasion with resolutions, both from local unions and central labor bodies. Caravans of cars and trucks have gone into the coal towns from Detroit and Baltimore and other cities.

But Arnold Miller and his bargaining group of seven, instead

of utilizing this irresistible head of social steam and rolling over their allegedly "conciliatory" opponents at the bargaining table, merely accepted another and still unsatisfactory agreement.

It is an improvement, to be sure, but not one-quarter as much of an improvement as this far-reaching class struggle has really won.

The new pact contains substantial improvements over the previous pension and hospitalization offers. And it increases the wage offer.

But it provides for the suspension and discharge of wild-cat strike leaders and under less conclusive evidence than in the rejected agreement.

It also provides for an incentive (i.e., piecework) plan which, however, is only operative in each given local where a majority votes for it.

Even a babe in the union woods can see what the corporations are up to. They are trying to buy "labor peace" and increased production—and Miller is selling it.

The fact that Miller rushed into such an agreement shows that he fears the militancy of the miners as much as or more than the social pressure and repressive force of the ruling class.

The 39-member Bargaining Council meets today at 5 p.m. to consider ratifying this new proposal. The council is already receiving a shower of complaints from the coalfields. The workers are by no means joyful over the new plan.

Naturally it will be extremely difficult for the ranks to vote the new contract down—first because they will be starved out for another week or ten days during the vote; second, and more important, all the engines of social pressure are being fired up to force a favorable vote.

But with so many thousands of workers in motion against the tiny minority of ruling class parasites who exploit them, they will certainly win more if they reject it.

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Anti-apartheid forces to protest Davis Cup at Vanderbilt U.

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Carter's phony amnesty for undocumented

THE BANKS & THE BOSSES CAUSE UNEMPLOYMENT—NOT UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS
—p.6



By KENNY PETERSON

MARCH 15—Twenty-five thousand marauding Israeli troops initiated a massive invasion of Lebanon yesterday, striking at Palestinian villages and refugee camps with ferocious bombardments from air, land, and sea. Israeli jets have sent air-to-surface missiles crashing into crowded Palestinian encampments from the Lebanese border to as far north as the suburbs of Beirut.

This is the largest military operation that the Israeli aggressors have thus far launched against the oppressed Palestinians in neighboring Lebanon. Principal responsibility for this Israeli terror rests with the U.S., Israel's arms supplier and overlord. Israel is the largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid, receiving about \$2 billion yearly in weapons.

[See editorial on this subject, page 8.]

CARTER RESPONSIBLE

U.S. President Carter bears personal responsibility for the savage destruction and wanton killing which the Israeli military is carrying out since he was aware of Israel's plans and said nothing to stop it. Nor has the U.S. in any way condemned it. In fact, Joseph Cisco, former Assistant Secretary of State under Kissinger, and still connected to the State Department, has virtually approved it!

The death toll among the innocent Palestinian people is enormous, although exact figures are as yet unavailable. Israeli armor reportedly has overrun at least four key Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon, while Israeli bombers have raided Palestinian population centers in a premeditated yet indiscriminate slaughter.

Israeli jets fired rockets into a hospital in Damur (10 miles south of Beirut) and into numerous Palestinian and Lebanese homes. In Beirut, reports the New York Post, "a teenage girl said the Israeli jets bolted out of the clouds, swooping in from the seaside and releasing 'red hot arrows right into our home.'"

At the "Jerusalem Hospital" outside Beirut, Dr. Fathi Arafat showed reporters a wounded woman and two sacks containing dead children. A woman rushed up to Dr. Arafat, reported the pro-Israeli New York Post, imploring him "Please save my son!"

"My son, my son," cried the old woman. "His belly is open, his arm is cut off. I want him to live. Please!" "The Zionists will pay dearly for this," vowed a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) spokesperson.

At the Sabra camp outside

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Bosses' economists predict new downturn**Soaring prices show crisis continues**

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By **BILL DEL VECCHIO**
MARCH 13—The current sharp increase in inflation is causing a growing number of capitalist economists to admit the economy's deep troubles, and the potential for a new downturn.

Wholesale prices rose 1.1% in February, the largest increase in three years. This means that in the coming weeks retail prices will soar above their already outrageous current levels. Consumer price increases last month caused a 3% drop in purchasing power for working people, and the coming price increases are sure to deepen this hidden wage cut.

Adding to the domestic inflation has been the fall of the value of the dollar on the world currency market. This has pushed up the price of imports and emboldened U.S. monopolies which are in competition with imports to raise their prices.

Because of this dangerous speedup in the inflation rate, "more and more economists are forecasting recession" according to the March 20 Business Week.

Among these gloomy capitalist soothsayers is Lacy H. Hunt, senior vice-president and economist at the Philadelphia Fidelity Bank. He predicts that the money supply will soon rise, causing even further inflation without producing an increase in the output of goods and services.

Another recession foreseer is Howard Sharpe, of Purchel and Graham Co. He is challenging the administration's claim that last month's big 1.9% drop in the leading economy indicators (a government survey which is supposed to predict future economic performance) was a fluke mainly caused by the bad weather.

Sharpe found that the amount

of production time lost this winter due to bad weather was actually much less than last winter. In his view, the drop in the indicators was due to a fundamental weakness in the economy, and the long range prospects for the economy are "looking woeful."

Feeding the ruling class's pessimism about their own system has been the stubborn stagnation which has left major industries throughout the capitalist world glutted with unsold products.

This stagnation is directly responsible for three recent business failures—the bankruptcies of the Banco Credito y Ahorro Ponceno, Puerto Rico's third largest bank; the Commonwealth Refining Co., also of Puerto Rico; and the giant Edai Sangyo Co. of Japan.

In both the cases of the Banco Credito and Edai Sangyo, the underlying cause for their failure

was the long term slump in the building industries in Japan and the U.S. colony of Puerto Rico. The failure of Edai Sangyo was believed to be the second largest bankruptcy in Japan since World War II.

SYMPTOMS OF CRISIS

The recent business failures, soaring prices, the fall of the dollar, and dropping sales of cars and other key commodities are all manifestations of the capitalist system's crisis of overproduction. The ruling classes of the imperialist countries have tremendous military, industrial, and political power under their control, but they are powerless to control the boom-bust cycle of their own system. No number of economic experts, equipped with computers, can stop the profit system's crisis, and no number of public relations geniuses can cover it up.

Workers are the victims, not the cause**Inflation and the minimum wage**

By **KENNY PETERSON**
FEBRUARY 25—Blaming unemployment on the unemployed and blaming poverty on the poor is hardly a new addition to the capitalists' bag of tricks.

So when the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other representatives of big business insisted last year that any raise in the minimum wage would only be self-defeating and even cause additional unemployment, there were very few who were gullible enough to swallow this argument.

These saintly exploiters of labor pleaded with Congress that they had only the interests of the poor at heart, that only they knew and spoke for the true interests of workers receiving the minimum wage. Even the New York Times chimed in, lending its editorial columns to the defense of poor workers who were in danger of a raise.

So Congress, knowing on which side their bread is buttered (and following Carter's lead), rebuffed the AFL-CIO demand for a more substantial raise, and on Jan. 1 of this year the legal minimum wage was increased from \$2.30 to \$2.65. While not exactly eating their words, the New York Times was forced to admit (Feb. 19) that this took place "apparently without producing the predicted cutbacks

in the number of low-paying jobs." The federal government has estimated that there are now about four-and-a-half million workers who are receiving the minimum wage, with several million more who are getting only a few pennies

above it. Also, there are many millions who are receiving less than the minimum—all those who by law are excluded from its provisions, such as waitresses, farm workers, domestic workers, and many others. There are also

undocumented workers who are denied any protection from the law at all.

The additional 35 cents an hour that the workers on minimum wage are now getting has already been filched back by the bosses through higher prices and higher Social Security taxes.

Of course, the sweatshop bosses and McDonalds' owners who screamed bloody murder last year when the minimum wage bill was before Congress have this year simply passed their higher costs on to the public. But it would be a mistake—a mistake these same bosses would like us to make—to conclude from this that "higher wages cause higher prices."

The ruling class learned long ago that direct wage cuts provoke resistance and rebellion that is both costly and dangerous for them when the same objectives can be obtained through indirect means. Price inflation, which is virtually built into the structure of monopoly capitalism and chronic war spending, enables the bosses to maximize profits while keeping the workers' income on a treadmill.

PROFITS FORGE AHEAD

Blaming inflation on the poor worker who ekes out \$2.65 an hour (usually at the most back-breaking labor) is like blaming racism and the Ku Klux Klan on its victims, Black people (which is another shining example of the bosses' style of reasoning). The fact is, of course, as every working and oppressed person knows all too well, that wages and income have been left in the dust of galloping price increases. Even the well-groomed figures of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics attest to this.

To uncover the true relation between wages and prices, the role of profits must be seen for what it is. While wages have consistently lagged behind prices, profits have steadfastly blazed the way.

Higher wages mean lower profits, while higher profits mean lower wages. Isn't that what the struggle between workers and the corporations is all about? The truth is that minimum wages mean maximum profits, and that is why—as we all know—the bosses are so anxious to keep wages low.

Also, and this is more important, the lower the legal minimum, the lower are all wages, and vice versa. And that is why the working class needs to do everything it can to make it higher.

Gay people's conference set for March 31 in Atlanta

By **HEIDI J. SILVER**
and **JIM HARLOW**

ATLANTA, March 9—The Third Annual Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men will be held the weekend of March 31 to April 2 in Atlanta. Organizing for this year's conference has taken place throughout the Southeast, with representatives attending regional planning meetings from as far away as Mississippi and Florida. Over 1,000 lesbians and gay men are expected to attend. Many have been leaders in the struggle against anti-gay bigotry in their home states.

The conference is being designed to reflect the present status of the southeastern gay community, and its apparent direction. Its goal is to aid in building a stronger and more unified gay movement in the Southeast by increasing communication between lesbians and gay men, increasing gay people's consciousness and sense of power, and by reaching out to all members of the gay community, especially those most oppressed and often ignored. Planning of the conference has been based on a structure of equal representation of women and men.

A variety of workshops, films, and speakers will be featured. Such topics as gay prisoners, older gays, lesbian mothers, fighting racism in the gay community, and coming out will be presented.

Jill Raymond, Adam DeBaugh, and Kathi Dennis will speak. Jill Raymond, who was jailed for refusing to testify before a grand jury conducting a fishing expedition into the women's and gay movements, is involved in the ACLU National Prison Project in Washington, D.C. Adam DeBaugh is a national lobbyist for the Metropolitan Community Church. Kathi Dennis is a Black lesbian mother who has served in the leadership of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) and is also a veteran of many anti-

racist and anti-war struggles.

Accommodations are being made for childcare, handicapped and deaf gays, and some free housing.

The legacy of slavery and the plantation system has left the South with relatively few unionized workers, the largest number of prisoners on death row (mostly Black and all poor), and a host of "runaway" plants from the more organized North, paying low wages and maintaining dangerous working conditions. To protect these profit-making conditions, the ruling class has tried to destroy the unity of working people who are fighting back against racism and sexism and anti-gay bigotry in the South and elsewhere. But the South has also seen much struggle in the civil rights movement, for example, when many Black and white lesbians and gay men fought side by side with their straight sisters and brothers. Now gay people must contend with Anita Bryant's right-wing offensive, which began in Florida, and recent grand jury harassment of lesbian activists in the South and nationally.

The last few years have also seen a corresponding rise in militancy and unity among gays in the fight for their rights. In addition to openly organizing and demonstrating, gay people realize the need to gather together for the purpose of discussion of their common oppression. Many states, such as Virginia, still have laws making an intentional gathering of homosexuals a crime.

The Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men is not only a chance for Southern gays to meet and organize, but also a challenge to the racist and sexist laws that uphold U.S. capitalism and perpetuate the oppression of working and poor people, straight and gay. For more information, please contact the SEGC, P.O. Box 5319, Atlanta, Ga. 30307.

Fight back; smash gay oppression!

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March 17, 1978

Nationwide support for miners

By JESSE LEE

MARCH 14—A new force has swept through the U.S. labor movement. The miners' fight has inspired truck drivers, welders, and street sweepers, the unemployed, women and men, Black, Latin, Asian, Native, and white, gay and straight. From the ranks of labor, there has been a groundswell of support for the miners.

Car caravans have traveled hundreds of miles from the South, East, West, and North to the Appalachian coal fields where the strike is centered. Mack Truck workers in Hagerstown, Md., collected food and money at the plant gate to send to the miners. Poor people in New York City have donated money for clothes to mining families who have gone almost 100 days without pay. California dock workers have promised a regular deduction from their paychecks to aid the Miners' Relief Fund. A Texas supporter stapled a \$5 bill to a post card and sent it to "the miners in Harlan County."

People who have heard of the miners' fight have sought ways to aid the struggle. The grass roots support for this strike has been reflected in the solidarity that has come from so many trade unions.

The auto workers sent \$2 million to the United Mine Workers. The steel workers gave \$1 million earmarked for retired miners and their families. AFL-CIO central labor councils from Washington to Dayton to Miami have passed militant resolutions in support of the miners and strongly condemning President Carter's union-busting intervention.

There is a new force, and it is giving an ever greater power to the miners' strike. And workers everywhere are learning that when the boss cracks the whip, there is a way to fight back.



When the union's inspiration through the workers' blood shall run

There can be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun. Yet what force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one? But the union makes us strong.

Balt. caravan

BALTIMORE, March 12—A caravan of 300 cars and trucks carried \$12,000 in cash and canned foods from Baltimore to striking miners in Martinsburg, W. Va. More than 30 union locals and several neighborhood groups had raised the donations in the last week.

"This caravan is important to both the miners and the rest of the unions in the labor movement," Jeff Bigelow, president of Local 75A of the United Furniture Workers told *Workers World*. Bigelow, who was a part of the five-mile-long motorcade, continued, "It shows that unionists and workers in general are determined to stick together and fight the crisis we all face. This may well be the signal for a new militant union spirit which is long overdue."

An unemployed steelworker organizing the caravan added, "Bethlehem told me I was laid off because of the coal strike, so the first thing I did was join our local's efforts to support the miners. The miners are determined not to surrender the right to strike, and in steel we know how important that is."

Almost all the AFL-CIO unions

in the Baltimore area had participated in the support work. Additional support has come from the Iranian Students Association and the Arab Students Association in the form of a \$100 donation.

Dock workers

MARCH 14—The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) which represents dock workers on the West Coast has given its full support to the United Mine Workers. The union has donated \$25,000 to the Miners' Relief Fund, and has asked all members to contribute on a monthly basis to the miners' fund. A spokesman for the union told *Workers World* that they are monitoring the situation in the coal fields. He said that they have made contact with other unions about supporting the miners and are considering a one-day work stoppage as a show of solidarity with the mine workers' just demands.

Women picket

Wall Street Journal, March 14: "At Amax Coal Co. mines in West Virginia and Virginia, for example, no one returned to work. A spokesman said even if some miners had attempted to return, they would have been prevented from doing so because a group of women had posted picket signs outside the mines."

Roch. council

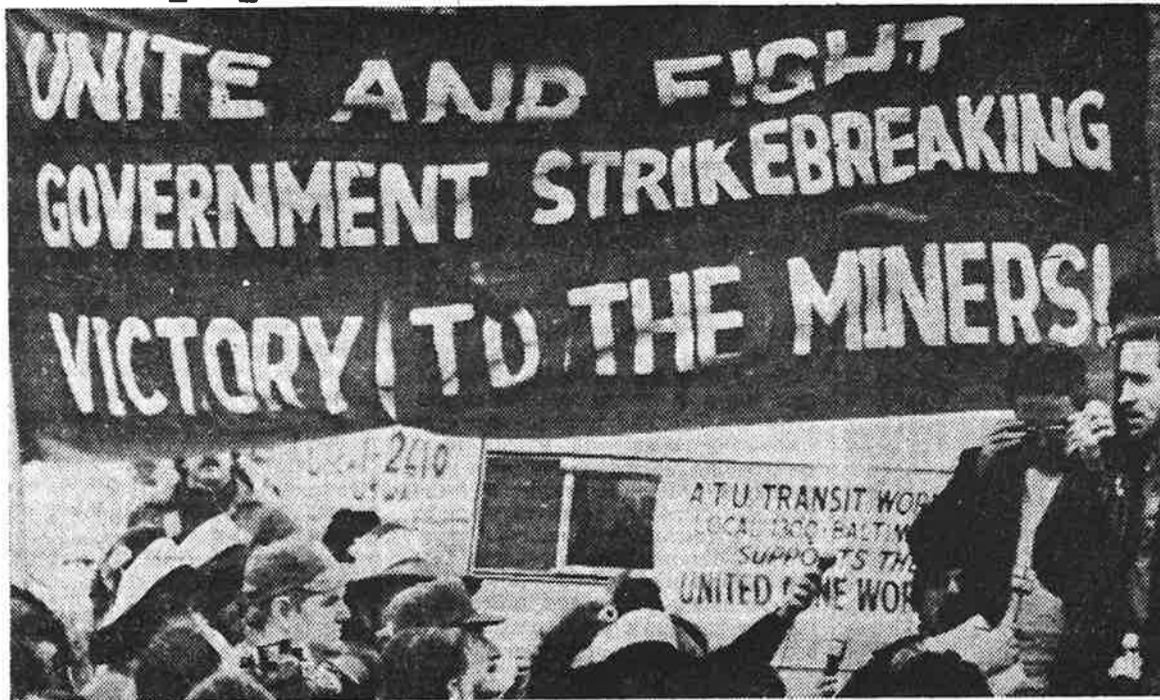
ROCHESTER, N.Y., March 10—The Rochester area Labor Council, AFL-CIO, which represents 55,000 union workers, unanimously endorsed the mine-workers' cause and set up a committee to aid the strike.

In a resolution introduced on behalf of Local 3118 of the American Federation of Teachers by Gene Clancy, vice-president of the local, the council moved to help the miners and condemned Carter's use of the Taft-Hartley slave labor law. Following the council's action, which is an important step forward for labor solidarity, Clancy was quoted as saying, "This outpouring of support reflects the concern of the rank and file members of the unions."

UAW locals

DETROIT, March 13—Representing over 80,000 members in the Detroit area, 300 local union leaders from the United Auto Workers Region 1A met last week and unanimously passed a resolution to give assistance to the Miners' Relief Fund, and in support of the \$2 million donation that the UAW International has forwarded to the miners' union.

Many UAW locals have also passed strong resolutions which support the miners and totally oppose Carter's use of the Taft-Hartley Act. These locals, which include Local 900, Local 15, Local 212, Local 51, and Local 602 in Lansing, have collected thousands



"Victory to the miners!" is the message at a rally in Martinsburg, W. Va., after the arrival of the Baltimore convoy carrying supplies to aid the strike.

of dollars in food and clothing that has been carried to the coal fields.

The Fleetwood Plant GM workers in Local 15 have also sent a message of encouragement and support to the longshoremen's union in San Francisco, which has voted to hold a 24-hour strike in support of the mine workers.



Is there aught we hold in common with the greedy parasite Who would lash us into serfdom and would crush us with his might? Is there anything left for us but to organize and fight? For the union makes us strong.

Boston rally

BOSTON, March 12—Over 1,800 working people of this city, most of them active trade unionists, today showed their militant solidarity with the mine workers. About \$1,800 was raised at the door of the crowded Freeport Hall of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 13 in Dorchester. And \$2,800 was raised in an enthusiastic collection.

The highlight of the day came in the presentation made by Mason Caudill, president of UMW Local 1596 in Middlesboro, Ky. Brother Caudill explained point by point why the members could not live with the operators' proposals. He received three standing ovations.

Detroit labor

DETROIT, March 13—Setting a proud precedent for solidarity between the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and the United Mine Workers, Detroit city and hospital workers have come forward with support for the miners' strike. In addition, recreation, zoo, and museum workers from AFSCME Local 542 have sent a letter to Carter opposing the Taft-Hartley injunction. The Detroit Memorial Hospital unit of AFSCME Local 140 also passed a strong support resolution at its general membership meeting.

In East Lansing, a Mid-Michigan Committee to Support the Coal Miners has been formed as well. They are collecting food and money for the miners.

N.Y. unions

NEW YORK, March 15—Meeting at the Communications Workers of America (CWA) office here, more than 40 representatives of trade unions in the New York-New Jersey area met early this morning to hammer out plans for aiding the United Mine Workers. The meeting was called by a number of union officials such as Morton Bahr, district director for CWA, Ed Grey, district director for UAW, Victor Gotbaum of AFSCME, and Anthony Scotto of the International Longshoremen's Association.

The meeting came to quick agreement that support for the miners and their families must be raised immediately. To do this, the Labor Committee for Mine Workers Relief was formed, with different unions offering their resources. For example, Scotto said the dock workers would provide containers to be filled at collection points throughout the city. Plans were also made to raise the need for miners' support with the Central Labor Council.

Internationalism

PRAGUE, March 11—(Czechoslovak News Agency)—The

World Federation of Trade Unions issued the following statement, entitled "Intensify solidarity with U.S. miners," today:

"For the third time, U.S. coal miners have met government intervention in their strike against the mining companies... The miners remained united despite attempts to divide them and have overcome their difficulties... The well-founded demands of the miners: security, the right to strike, sickness benefits, and sufficient pensions—as well as the desire to overcome all difficulties, have gained them the support of the American and international trade union movement.

"This international solidarity movement needs to gain in strength. The World Federation of Trade Unions: condemns the decision of President Carter to use the Taft-Hartley law; applauds the miners for their courageous struggle; hails the trade union organizations which have already given aid; calls upon WFTU members and friendly organizations to intensify their solidarity towards the miners."



**Solidarity forever!
Solidarity forever!
Solidarity forever!
For the union makes us strong.**

Labor rally for miners turns back racists

BOSTON, March 12—Today's successful rally of trade unionists in support of the striking miners (see related article) also firmly repulsed the racist, anti-labor elements of South Boston's infamous Klan-like ROAR.

In the week prior to the rally, the South Boston Marshals, a paramilitary fascist group associated with ROAR, called the organizers of the rally and attacked them for advertising on WILD radio, which is the most prominent Black radio station in Boston. Other racists called WILD and threatened to attack any "communist" at the rally.

The leadership of the rally, mostly trade union officials, tried to negotiate with ROAR hoping to win over the racists, and in that

way avoid a disruption. This mistaken move failed in the end.

The union officials thought they could ease the threat from ROAR by allowing a priest whose church hosts the South Boston Marshals' meeting to give an invocation. But this only emboldened them, and ROAR became even more determined to disrupt the rally.

The aim of ROAR and all fascist movements in addition to the racist attacks is union-busting, and red-baiting is only a tool they use to do this.

Today's rally was a success, however. But it was only through the intervention of the progressive forces in this city, such as the Center for United Labor Action, that came together to insure a defense so that when ROAR showed up, they were turned back.

NYC celebration of International Women's Day

1000 march for rights of women

By JAQUI O'SHAUGHNESSY
NEW YORK, March 11—Today a thoroughly multinational crowd of 1,000 people took to the streets here to celebrate International Women's Day. Marchers carried signs and banners bearing slogans demanding rights for women and oppressed people—jobs, adequate housing, daycare, health care, abortion rights, and an end to forced sterilization.

Women and men, Black, Latin, Native and white, gay and straight, gathered at Union Square where the march stepped off chanting, "Equal work for equal pay, ratify the ERA." Other slogans included, "Stop the extradition. Free JoAnne Little." "Support our sisters from Chile to South Africa." "Stop the attacks on lesbian mothers, custody rights now." and "Support the workers at J.P. Stevens, union rights now!"

The chairwoman at today's rally at Herald Square traced the rich history of women's struggles which began in 1857 on March 8 with the first massive protest of women textile workers in New York City against low pay, long hours, brutal working conditions, and child labor. Speakers expanded on this point by citing the many struggles women are involved in today, here in the U.S., and in Africa and Latin America as well.

Lydia Taylor, a Black woman and community activist from Brooklyn told of the fight in her community against racist police brutality. Dr. Helen Rodriguez spoke on the need to fight forced sterilization and cutbacks in abortion funding. A telephone worker and steward in the Communications Workers of America pointed out that "the government hasn't taken any action, but women phone workers have" to win the fight to work in skilled craft jobs. When she mentioned the current fight of the coal miners for a decent contract, applause broke forth from the crowd in support.

Kathi Dennis, representing the Gay Caucus of YAWF, a Black lesbian mother of two children, spoke on the court battles gay women face to retain custody of their children. She also spoke of the need to fight cutbacks in daycare and other essential services. A Native woman, Jeanne Baum, told of her fight against the racist school system which perpetrates distortions and lies against Native people in this country.

"WE WANT AS MUCH"

Representing the Women's Focus of the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, Claudette Furlonge announced the April 15 nationwide demon-

stration. She pointed out the importance of intensifying the struggle for affirmative action for women and oppressed people. "We do as much, we want as much, we'll settle for nothing less," she concluded with the famed quote from Sojourner Truth.

Other women at today's rally spoke on such important struggles as those of the UTIER and TUAMA workers on strike in Puerto Rico. There were solidarity messages with the sisters in Iran under the fascist rule of the Shah, and with women in Chile and throughout Africa who are fighting for their dignity and liberation.

Today's spirited rally and march of 1,000 people showed the deep meaning that International Women's Day has to women in this city. And in many ways, it was carried out in the tradition of the textile workers who marched in 1857.

Significantly, solidarity was expressed with the workers at J.P. Stevens who are fighting hard for unionization, and with the heroic striking miners. And that, coupled with the growing solidarity of the march participants with the struggles of oppressed peoples in the U.S. and abroad, is a growing and important trend among sectors of the women's movement. It represents the tremendous impact that the struggles of the oppressed here and abroad, and the workers, particularly the

miners, is having on poor and working people everywhere.

The march and rally were organized by a coalition of groups including Committee for Abortion Rights & Against Sterilization Abuse (CARASA), Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), Committee to End Sterilization Abuse (CESA), Dykes & Tykes, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, New York Women's Focus of the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, and others.



Celebrating International Women's Day in New York City.

WW photo: L. Stein

5000 in Belgian rally call for free abortion



A women's right to abortion was the focus of this rally in Belgium, where abortion is illegal. WW photo: J. Wishnetsky

By JANET WISHNETSKY

GHENT, Belgium, March 4—This city was the setting for a massive demonstration today calling for women's right to abortion, which is still illegal in Belgium. The rally was one of many events staged throughout the world as part of International Women's Day.

A committee of representatives of feminist groups organized the demonstration, the aim being to support a draft bill, tabled by a Socialist member of Parliament, which would make abortion a purely medical matter and no longer a criminal offense.

Approximately 5,000 people marched through the streets of Ghent for several hours singing and chanting, mainly in Flemish, such cries as "Abortus vrij! De vrouw beslist!" ("Free abortion! The woman's decision!") and "Vrouwenstryd, arbeiderstryd; dezelfde stryd; Solidariteit!" ("The women's struggle, the workers' struggle; it's the same struggle; Solidarity!") The issues of free contraceptives and abortions were particularly stressed.

Groups and individuals from all over the country joined together with their banners, signs and militant voices for this rally. Taking part were Flemish and Francophone women's organizations, the Communist, Maoist, and Socialist parties, anarchists, other leftist groups, leftist labor unions, and gay liberation causes.

While abortion is obtainable, though illegal, in French-speaking Belgium, there is no center which practices it anywhere in Flanders, the Catholic stronghold of the country. (Some local doctors will perform it secretly for a sum around \$1,500—but most Flemish women prefer to go to Holland where it costs only about \$180.) The hardline Catholic attitude in Flanders toward abortion—and contraception—is the reason why this year's pro-abortion rally was held there. The choice of the city was significant because the Bishop of Ghent, one of the country's most inflexible churchmen, has come out violently against any amendment of the abortion law.

SEIZURE, HARASSMENT, AND CENSORSHIP

In May last year the names and addresses of the five centers (in Brussels and Wallonia) that perform abortions were printed in a book entitled *Guide de la Belgique des Luttes (Belgian Guide of Struggles)*. The book was promptly seized by police. Despite protest demonstrations against the police action, the confiscated copies of the book are still lying in the vaults of the Palais de Justice, waiting for the case to come before the judges.

Recently 18 local doctors have been arrested for performing

(Continued on p. 5)

Women's health care in socialist countries

By RACHEL DUELL

MARCH 6—The dismantling of private property relations and the planned construction of a new socialist society in the Republic of Cuba, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV), the German Democratic Republic (GDR), the Soviet Union, the Peoples Republic of China, and the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (DPRK) and other workers' states have permitted tremendous improvements in the health status of women.

From the ashes of the second imperialist world war, when its industry was largely leveled by bombings, the GDR has demonstrated in its health programs for women the superiority of a planned economy.

Maternity leave before and after childbirth is 26 weeks with full pay. After the birth of another child the mother may apply for paid leave during the infant's first year. Twenty-four-hour daycare is widely available.

Some 99% of all women in the GDR give birth in maternity hospitals, free of charge; 95% of all newborns are covered by baby clinics also free of charge. High quality prenatal care is available at industrial clinic centers.

There are also protective measures. The labor code of the GDR states that, at her doctor's request, a pregnant worker or breast-feeding mother may be transferred to lighter work at no loss in pay if the health of the mother or child is endangered. Due to these measures, the infant death rate is only 15.7 per 1,000 births in the GDR, while in capitalist West Germany, the rate continues to hover at 21.1.

Women in the GDR may exercise the right to choose abortion which, since 1973, has been made available during the first 12 weeks. Abortion is free, and the woman is eligible for regular sick pay benefits.

In Cuba fully one-half of the physicians left the country after 1959 in search of continued profit gouging from the sick. Today, a campaign to train medical workers is a very high government priority in order to protect the health of everyone in this workers' state. Fifty percent of medical students in Cuba are women.

New physicians are distributed throughout the island to bridge the gap in health services between the country and the city.

The mass organizations pitch in to improve the quality of health of Cuba's people. The Federation of Cuban Women, for example, has among its responsibilities that of insuring that women receive regular cancer screening.

While the oppressed people of Chile suffer an infant mortality rate of 77.1, in Cuba today the rate is 27.4. Less than 20 years ago most Cuban women never even saw the inside of a hospital. Now 95% of women in Cuba deliver their babies in a hospital.

Large scale nutrition programs, sewage projects, and a network of clinics effectively prevent many diseases. Cuba is the only country in Latin America that has eliminated malaria and malnutrition.

FEATURES OF SOCIALISM

In each of the socialist countries, where working people have taken the helm, several features in the health care of women are

shared. Laws guarantee all working people the right to free health care. Also written as law is the absolute equality of women in every sphere of life. To safeguard this right, the constitutions in Cuba, the SRV, DPRK, China, and the Soviet Union also spell out, for the protection of the pregnant worker, the specified time allowed off from work at full pay before and then after childbirth.

Also common to each socialist country and a hallmark of working class rule is the construction of well-equipped health dispensaries located right at the workplace and at large housing units. These are of importance to women who, as society builds daycare centers and nurseries, are more and more entering the industrial and agricultural workforce. Industrial clinics and hospitals provide immediate care for industrial injuries and serve as a focus for disease prevention.

In each of these countries, though at different stages depending upon the weight of the legacy of colonialism, success has marked the campaign to eradicate epidemic diseases such as polio, venereal diseases, and leprosy.

Massive campaigns to train health workers have largely involved women. In the Soviet Union, for example, women as of 1975 comprised 72% of all physicians.

Also very important, the forced sterilization of poor women (which used to limit the numbers of nationally oppressed peoples in capitalist countries and countries oppressed by imperialism) is a nightmare of the past, where the foundations of racism and genocide have been eliminated.



On March 4, the Women's Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism in Cleveland commemorated International Women's Day with a spirited picket line. WW photo: Deb

Protest at White House to demand,

'Carter: Free the Wilmington Ten!'

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

MARCH 14—President "Jimmy" Carter's consistent policy of support and sympathy for the forces of racism will come under fire this Saturday when demonstrators from across the South, East, and Midwest gather outside the White House to denounce the administration's complicity in the frameup of the Wilmington Ten.

The Wilmington Ten are nine Black men and one white woman who were jailed on phony arson charges to persecute them for their leadership in organizing against racist violence in Wilmington, N.C., in 1971. The Black residents of Wilmington at that time were

besieged by a racist terror campaign conducted by the local Ku Klux Klan and the "Rights of White People" organization with the blessing of the local and state police.

The case received international attention and is viewed by people the world over as a glaring example of racist oppression and political persecution in the U.S.

The recantation of the key prosecution witnesses in the trial has so clearly exposed the Ten as political prisoners that even Amnesty International, an organization which rarely admits to the existence of political prisoners in the U.S., listed the Ten as "prisoners of conscience."

A MOCKERY OF "HUMAN RIGHTS"

The international exposure of the frameup of the Wilmington Ten has also made a mockery of Carter's short-lived "human rights" campaign. In an effort to regain some credibility, Patricia Derian, Assistant Secretary for Human Rights of the State Department, referred to the case as "a great miscarriage of justice" in a television appearance last December. But Derian's statement meant no change in the Carter administration's refusal to intervene in North Carolina's continued persecution of the Ten.

Carter's continued insistence that he has "no jurisdiction,"

despite the obvious violations of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, has only served to embolden racist North Carolina Governor James Hunt in defying the worldwide demand for freedom for the Wilmington Ten.

On Jan. 24, Hunt declared that "I cannot and will not pardon the defendants," and instead tried to defuse mass outrage by announcing a reduction of sentences. His action made eight of the Ten eligible for parole in 1980.

However, there is no guarantee that parole will ever be granted.

Knowing the racist record of the North Carolina prison system, as in the case of JoAnne Little, it is clear that the only way the Wilmington Ten will be freed is through increased mass protest. The Wilmington Ten are guilty only of fighting racism, and the fight to free them must continue until every defendant is released. **Free the Wilmington Ten!**

AIM pays tribute to those who died at Wounded Knee

Special to Workers World

PORCUPINE, S.D., March 1—On Feb. 25, members and supporters of the American Indian Movement (AIM) met here to pay tribute to those who have given their lives at Wounded Knee. People came from as far as California and New York to take part in the reunion.

The FBI, which came uninvited, had nineteen units operating in the vicinity of the small village of Porcupine! FBI agents, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police and tribal police have been directly or indirectly responsible for numerous killings of AIM activists on the reservation since the end of the occupation of Wounded Knee in 1973. The daily reality on the reservation is a police state where the Indian people live in fear of harassment, intimidation, long prison terms for trumped-up offenses, and even death to those who fight back.

AIM leader Russell Means explained the significance of the reunion: "In 1973 over 400 Oglalas went into Wounded Knee to show the world that we are still alive. We are here today to memorialize those who fought for the liberation of our people and for the freedom of those yet to be born."

After mentioning Buddy Lamont, who was killed during the occupation of Wounded Knee, and Pedro Bissonette, who was shot to death by BIA police shortly after the occupation, Means continued, "We are here to announce to the people of this state, this country, and to the world that these two patriots did not die in vain. Their spirits are with us, are here today. We are here to give thanks to these

families and the sacrifice they have made."

On Feb. 27, 250 people attended a memorial service to the two fallen activists. At mid-day, a 37-car caravan went to Martin, South Dakota to meet with county commissioners to demand the end to racial threats and intimidation in the area. Although a large number of riot police were on hand and sheriff deputies could be seen carrying high-powered rifles, the confrontation ended without a major incident.

RACISM AT STATE PRISON

Violence against Native people is also a constant part of daily life at the South Dakota state prison at Sioux Falls. Some 30% of the prison population is Indian while Native people comprise only 4.9% of the state's population. Recently, an Indian prisoner was stabbed by two armed racist prisoners. Neither guards nor the warden did anything about the incident. It was only after the warden was confronted by Indian prisoners and legal council that the racist prisoners were disarmed.

The warden works closely with William Janklow, an overseer of the Department of Criminal Investigation and the state attorney general, who was elected to this latter post on a law and order

—Belgium

(Continued from p. 4)

abortions and will go before the court shortly. Also, a liberal priest has been suspended from his teaching post at the Catholic University of Louvain because of an article on abortion he wrote for a family guidance group earlier this year.

WOMEN'S DAYS FESTIVITIES

On Wednesday, March 8, there will be debates, films, and exhibits in downtown Brussels to celebrate International Women's Day. The films are Barbara Koppel's Oscar-winning documentary, "Harlan County, USA" and the Hungarian work, "Adoption," by Marta Meszaros. A vast display table will show posters, books, and record covers on the theme "Violence to Women."

With continued awareness and action by women around the world, we can start making the decisions that affect our bodies and lives!

platform and an openly hostile position toward AIM. Flaunting his vile racism Janklow has stated that the best way to deal with the AIM movement is "to put a bullet through its head." It is reported that he will be running for governor of South Dakota and is considered a strong favorite.

Despite the constant attacks to crush the American Indian Movement, resistance grows stronger as new militants enter into the struggle. Survival schools have been established in different parts of the country to teach young Indians the values of their culture and tradition and to instill the sovereignty of Indian rights and nationhood. The Native people need the unconditional support of all progressive people in their life and death battle for survival.

Anti-apartheid forces to protest Davis Cup at Vanderbilt U.

By ANDY STAPP

MARCH 12—At a time when the fascist South African settler state has been utterly exposed before the whole world for its brutal and systematic murder and repression of Black people, Vanderbilt University, in Nashville, Tenn., is preparing to play host to the U.S.-South African Davis Cup tennis matches.

The white supremacist regime in Pretoria uses such sports spectacles to pretty up its image in the world, just as Hitler tried to present "Nazism with a human face" in the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

And like the Olympics, the

Davis Cup is far more than just a routine sports match. It is a major media event for the super-rich cashmere crowd and the big-shot politicians. Nixon's planned appearance at the 1969 Davis Cup, staged in Cleveland, Ohio, actually touched off a riot as police waded into a large crowd of anti-war activists, arresting 21 and beating more.

Vanderbilt, this year's host, has huge investments with business firms that operate in South Africa and the university's overlords are friendly to the fascists who rule there. Particularly outrageous are the acts of intimidation that have

been directed against opponents of the upcoming match.

The worst attack took place against Dr. Richard Lapchick, head of the American Coordinating Committee for Equality in Sports and Society (ACCESS). On Feb. 14, Dr. Lapchick was savagely assaulted by two masked goons who broke into his office at Virginia Wesleyan college in Norfolk, Va. After ordering him to "Stay out of South Africa protests," they beat him unconscious and carved the word "n---r" on his stomach.

Such acts of terrorism will do nothing to refurbish the image of the South African racists, who are under worldwide attack for their bestial policies. Recently the United Auto Workers union announced that it was taking all its money out of banks that invest in the land of apartheid, stating, "We don't believe our hard earned dues money from 1.5 million members should wind up being used directly or indirectly to aid a country that practices such racist, repressive and undemocratic principles."

Eighty-five members of the Vanderbilt faculty apparently feel the same way about aiding the fascists and have petitioned the university to stop the tournament.

If Vanderbilt decides to go through with the event, and it appears likely, there will be protest actions held on March 18 at the tournament itself.

JoAnne Little extradition to be protested March 23

NEW YORK, March 15—Support is growing for JoAnne Little, especially in the Black communities here, as she continues her struggle to fight extradition to the racist dungeons of North Carolina where her life is endangered.

Angered over New York Gov. Hugh Carey's recent extradition order, supporters have gathered thousands of petitions demanding a hearing where arguments could be presented on why Little should not be turned over to racist North Carolina officials.

Little has been in New York since she was arrested here in December after she was forced to escape from a North Carolina jail where she had been a target of persecution for more than two years. A high-placed North Carolina official has offered to testify that since the young Black woman's 1974 acquittal on charges of murder for defending herself against a rape attack, she was a marked woman as far as her jailers were concerned.

As part of the battle to block Little's extradition as well as to demand her total freedom, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee has called a demonstration for



WW photo: John Long

JoAnne Little

Thursday, March 23, in front of the Brooklyn Supreme Court, 360 Adams St., at 8:30 a.m. The demonstration will coincide with a court appearance where Little's attorney, William Kunstler, will be presenting legal arguments against extradition.

Busing and Self-determination

By Sam Marcy

A clear and concise statement of the Marxist position on self-determination for all oppressed peoples.

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Nazis routed in St. Louis

MARCH 12—The Nazis attempted to hold a march in St. Louis yesterday, and they almost got torn limb from limb by an angry crowd.

The fascist demonstration, called to build for a planned march on Hitler's birthday (April 20) in the Chicago suburb of Skokie, began as 41 swastika-waving stormtroopers drove down St. Louis' Chippewa Street in an open truck. According to the March 12 New York Times, they "were put to rout" by hundreds of people who had gathered in the area shopping center.

"Despite a bus and two vans loaded with policemen, a motorcycle escort and foot patrolmen along the route," the Times adds, "the hooting crowd chased the Nazis along with the police protecting them."

Three anti-Nazis were arrested, but this did not save the fascists from total humiliation. They had to be taken to a police station where they stripped off their uniforms, changed into regular clothes and slipped out a side door.

All in all, it was a good day for the people, and a bad one for the Nazis and their cop friends.

Racist, anti-labor scheme**Carter's phony amnesty for undocumented**

By SHARON SHELTON
MARCH 14—While national attention is riveted on strike-breaking Carter's imposition of the Taft-Hartley injunction in an effort to force an end to the heroic coal strike, another attack by Carter on the rights of the working class is quietly in the works in Congress.

This is Carter's phony amnesty plan aimed at the poorest section of the working class—the undocumented workers who toil in the sweatshops, in restaurants, in the fields, in the lowest paid jobs

under the most brutal conditions. These workers are denied social services and other benefits to which they are entitled and constantly face the threat of racist harassment and deportation.

DEMONSTRATORS TO HIT CARTER PLAN

Demonstrations around the country this week protesting the treatment of undocumented workers and Carter's so-called "amnesty" scheme raise the question: **What is Carter's plan and why is it important that it be**

fought tooth-and-nail by all working people?

The demonstrations, which are roughly coinciding with Congressional consideration of the plan, were organized as a result of a call by a coalition of over 50 organizations in the Midwest recently for March 18 to be a National Day of Action against the Carter Plan.

Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, San Jose, Seattle, Tucson, Santa Barbara, San Diego, and Albuquerque are some of the cities where protests will take place.

Basically the Carter scheme

would give permanent resident status to only a small portion of the undocumented workers in the U.S. By the government's own admission, the "amnesty" will affect only 500,000 workers, who could apply for full citizenship after five years—and then only if they can prove they entered the U.S. before Jan. 1, 1970.

WHAT CARTER HAS UP HIS SLEEVE

The plan also creates a second, far larger category of workers who must prove they entered this

country between 1970 and Jan. 1, 1977. These workers will be required to register with the

(Continued on p. 10)

Protest D.C. attack on undocumented

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 1—Demonstrations were held here today protesting a bill, proposed by D.C. City Council member Whilemenia Rolark, which would impose stiff and very severe penalties and fines for employers who hire undocumented workers.

Police and media reports estimated crowds "numbering in the hundreds" picketing in front of the municipal building where hearings on the bill were held. The hearings began in the morning but, under public pressure, were held in the evening as well. Protesters were there in force, for the entire period, from morning through the night. Many of those who participated were from the Latin Community in D.C., who came out, in effect, in defiance of the ever-present threat from "La Migra" (immigration authorities), to make their presence and their indignation known.

It is significant that this bill was introduced under pressure and initiation from a few reactionary high level officials of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union. But subsequent opposition from many varied constituents of organized labor, much of it from delegates to the Greater Washington Central Labor Council, compelled that union and others to completely withdraw all of the open support the bill had received from labor bigwigs in the D.C. metropolitan area. In fact, one union, District Council 20 of AFSCME, offered testimony in opposition to the bill.

The power of the people cannot be under-estimated; and the outpouring of opposition to this bill, this conscious show of strength, is certain to go a long way in the fight for the rights of all workers—those who have papers as well as those who do not!

People of Vieques demand U.S. out

By DAVID PEREZ
NEW YORK, March 13—Lawyers representing the fishermen of Vieques, a small island off Puerto Rico's east coast, plus other sectors of the population (including the mayor) have brought the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps before the Federal District Court in San Juan to demand that they cease their military maneuvers, and leave the island. These maneuvers, which include bombings and missile firings, have brought tremendous hardships on the whole population of Vieques, particularly the fishermen, who have lost three fishing zones and 100,000 pounds of fish a month due to the assaults on their neighboring waters.

The court injunction calls for a permanent halt to the violation of international and constitutional rights which the U.S. military and other NATO nations impose daily in Vieques. The people have also demanded \$100 million in compensation for the years of suffering they've undergone since the military illegally occupied the island in 1941.

ROLE OF COLONIAL GOVERNOR

The bourgeois press in Puerto Rico and all the Spanish dailies circulated here in New York have tried to make the colonial governor, Carlos Romero Barcelo, look like a hero coming to the rescue of Vieques. El Nuevo Dia (organ of the New Progressive Party—Barcelo's statehood party) pictured Barcelo dressed like a buccaneer storming the navy guns

with a sword!

Let no one be fooled by this. It is true that Barcelo has asked the U.S. military to suspend operations in Vieques, but this is only a reflection of the spirited struggle of the people of Vieques in their determination to be rid of the military once and for all. Also, Barcelo's actions are of a limited character. According to Carlos Zenon, president of the Vieques fishermen, the governor's actions "do call the naval maneuvers illegal and say the actions should stop, but our struggle goes farther in that we want to stop completely

the military activities in Vieques." Zenon made it crystal clear that this judicial process in no way limits the actual struggle which, in reality, "is the only way to liberate the island."

In a related incident, the Carter administration was forced to suspend indefinitely some planned war "games" titled "Operation Solidshield." These militaristic "games" (aimed, to be sure, at the rising tide of struggle in Puerto Rico and Vieques) were to be held next May. They were to take place around the southern coast of Puerto Rico and near Vieques;

they consist of air assaults from planes and helicopters, amphibious assaults, and other threatening maneuvers. In fact, the Pentagon has been approaching farmers in Puerto Rico and trying to persuade them to sell their land so as to carry out these "games" (this was done behind the back of the colonial administration).

That Carter was forced to suspend these activities is an important victory for both the people of Vieques and Puerto Rico. The struggle continues.

U.S. out of Vieques!

Guerrillas strike down hated military chief of Somoza's regime

By P. MEISNER
MARCH 13—The repressive dictatorship of General Anastasio Somoza was dealt another heavy blow last Wednesday when Somoza's military chief-of-staff and closest adviser was struck down by guerrillas of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN). As the guerrillas attempted to capture General Reynaldo Perez Vega in Managua, Nicaragua's capital city, they were met with resistance and killed the hated military official. His corpse was found wrapped in an FSLN flag.

The Somoza regime has been in a crisis of survival since it murdered Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, a prominent bourgeois newspaper publisher and liberal critic of Somoza's iron rule, last Jan. 10. The outraged Nicaraguan masses responded with a nationwide general strike which left the Washington-backed dictatorship crippled for two weeks. One of the strikers' main demands was Somoza's immediate resignation and to this day it is still the rallying call for most Nicaraguans, even including some of the most conservative Nicaraguan businessmen.

But in spite of the international as well as domestic isolation of the Somoza regime, the U.S. imperialist rulers have continued their backing of Somoza. Just last Friday, a UPI dispatch reported that Under Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Terence Todman had said that the U.S. government "recognizes that the Nicaraguan government has the duty to protect the population from terrorism and acts of violence."

U.S. MERCENARIES

This statement once again exposes Carter's phony human rights campaign, since both Carter and Todman know that the one terrorizing the Nicaraguan population is none else but



Corpse of Nicaragua's military chief-of-staff wrapped in the flag of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN].

Somoza.

Also, Nicaraguan exiles living in neighboring Costa Rica have charged that U.S. mercenary pilots have replaced Nicaraguan pilots during the two-month rebellion to aid Somoza in repelling the armed resistance and guerrilla movement. With many of Somoza's soldiers already having defected, the President-General has "grounded" his own air force.

In yet another signal that Carter, the Pentagon, and the CIA are still backing the butcher Somoza regime, a delegation of counter-revolutionary Cubans from Miami just returned from a visit with Somoza in Nicaragua. The Cubans gave their complete backing to Somoza in the present crisis and thanked him once again for his support of the CIA-organized invasion of Socialist Cuba in 1961. Nicaragua was the main base for the infamous and ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion.

But Washington's efforts to save the puppet Somoza dictatorship may all be in vain. With every passing day, scores of youths are joining the ranks of the FSLN guerrillas. The armed attacks on Somoza's Pentagon-equipped forces grow steadily. The days of Somoza's tyranny and U.S. imperialism's stranglehold over this Central American nation are surely numbered.

Demonstrate March 24 against fascist military rule in Argentina

By DIANE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, March 13—A demonstration in New York has been called for Friday, March 24 in front of the Argentine Consulate here. The protest calls for democratic rights for the Argentine people who have suffered and struggled under the crushing weight of a military regime with full U.S. backing.

Since the right-wing coup on March 24, 1976, the military junta led by Gen. Jorge Videla has unleashed a wave of fascist repression.

In two years 10,000 people have been murdered by the "Security" Forces, 30,000 people have disappeared, 20,000 people are imprisoned and all political parties and trade union activity are outlawed.

Widespread misery and hunger are fueled by an almost 200% yearly inflation rate coupled with a 60% decrease in real wages.

The demonstration called in solidarity with the Argentine

people by MASA (Anti-imperialist Movement for Socialism in Argentina) is sponsored by many groups demanding freedom for all political prisoners in Argentina, the immediate publication of a complete list of political prisoners, the immediate restoration of democracy, human and civil rights in the country, and freedom for ex-president Hector J. Campora.

Although Videla, hand-picked by the U.S., stands with Augusto Pinochet of Chile as a butcher of the working class in Latin America, he has been unable to stamp out the class struggle. Armed struggles, sabotage, and strikes such as the one last November of over 200,000 workers have rocked the Argentine military regime.

Supporters are urged to come and demonstrate their solidarity with the Argentine people. The protest will take place from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in front of the Argentine Consulate at 12 West 56th St. in New York.

Colonial gov't rejects UTIER compromise

MARCH 13—Last Friday in Puerto Rico negotiations between the striking members of the Union of Electrical Industry and Irrigation Workers (UTIER) and the Water Resources Administration (AFF) broke down once again over the primary issue of wage increases.

UTIER, after originally demanding an immediate pay increase of \$1.41 an hour, has gone down to 69 cents (less than half their original demand!), while the bosses continue to insist that all they can afford is 31 cents.

The UTIER workers absolutely rejected this as unreasonable and unacceptable. The AFF, in collusion with the colonial government, insists on provoking further crisis, and the workers of UTIER pledge to continue their struggle.

The 'end of a dream' for imperialism?

Ethiopia routs Somali forces

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD
MARCH 14—The Somali plan to annex south-eastern Ethiopia collapsed this week as the last of the invading Somali forces were driven out of the Ogaden. With them went the hopes of imperialism that with Ethiopia besieged, the door would be open for internal counter-revolution.

NOT A WITHDRAWAL
BUT A ROUT

It was not the studied withdrawal that President Carter tried to make it out to be. Rather, as Le Monde admitted on March 11, "One can no longer hide that the decisive argument which pushed Mogadishu to retreat has been, not the American exhortations formulated over recent weeks, but the adverse military pressure which threatened the destruction of a good part of the Somalian army."

The Sunday Times of London made it a little more explicit. "A third of the 25,000-strong Somali army defending the Ogaden was destroyed by the Ethiopians last week," wrote their correspondent in Djibouti on March 12. He quoted a diplomat there as saying after Somali President Siad Barre's announcement on the withdrawal of his troops from the Ogaden, "If not he would soon have had no army to withdraw."

And on the next day Le Monde's correspondent in Mogadishu wrote that the politicians advocating "total resistance" changed their minds "after the intervention of General Samantar, Vice-President and Minister of Defense, who returned from Hargeisa the night before to expound the point of view of the high command."

The only way any inkling of this got into the U.S. imperialist press was through a small UPI dispatch from Rome relating that a spokesman for the Ethiopian Embassy there said of Carter's statement that it had "no other purpose than to deceive world public opinion at a time when Somali's regular troops are being routed and destroyed."

Why was Carter so quick to provide a cover story for the Somali defeat? Why has the strategy of the State Department been to completely minimize it and make it appear that the U.S. had been using its "good offices" to bring about "peace" in the Horn of Africa?

WASHINGTON TRYING
TO COVER ITS TRACKS

Only one answer fits the facts. It is that this is not merely a defeat for Somalia, but also for U.S. and NATO policy vis-a-vis Ethiopia. And already the State Department and the Carter administration have had to set the wheels rolling to think up a new approach to what they so painfully regard as the genuine issue in the Horn of Africa: the Ethiopian Revolution, which has refused to be turned back despite the machinations of world imperialism and its compradore allies among the reactionary states in the Middle East.

It must be recalled, in understanding what has happened, that it was only last summer that the U.S. imperialists were openly bragging about how great things were going in the Horn of Africa. They had weaned Somalia away from an alliance with the Soviet Union; had encouraged Siad Barre to stage his invasion of the Ogaden in July (an American doctor had even taken a personal message of encouragement from Carter to Siad Barre); they were talking of

WW photo: Deirdre Griswold



Col. Mulatu Negash, Eastern Sector Commander of the Ethiopian Army, tells a press briefing in Harar in February that Ethiopian troops have gone on the counter-offensive in the Ogaden.

supplying Mogadishu with weapons and were making all kinds of arrangements with Iran, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Egypt, and other right-wing governments to actually deliver weapons from their U.S.-supplied arsenals.

The thinking in Washington last summer was that the Ethiopian Revolution, racked with internal counter-revolutionary attacks from the feudal Ethiopian Democratic Union (EDU) and the petty-bourgeois Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Party (EPRP); with right-wing officers still prominent

in the Derg or ruling Provisional Military Administrative Council; with a secessionist war in Eritrea having closed the Red Sea port of Massawa and threatening the only remaining port in Assab; with Somali sappers having cut Ethiopia's only other outlet to the sea, the rail line to Djibouti; that with all this, it was only a matter of time until the left-wing of the Derg, headed by Colonel Mengistu, would be overthrown by more conservative officers who would make their peace with imperialism and in effect ask Washington to call off its dogs.

But it didn't happen.

FIRST BLOW
AGAINST REACTION

The first decisive turning point came when the left within the Derg moved against the Derg's vice-chairman, Atnafu Abate, and eliminated the main counter-revolutionary threat within the state structure. Soon after, the mass organizations and government launched the campaign of "red terror" against the armed counter-revolutionary bands which had been carrying out the systematic assassinations of trade union leaders, organizers of urban dwellers associations, progressive Derg members, and other militants.

The "white terror" of these counter-revolutionaries was finally effectively broken by the end of January, and the civil war that had been raging, especially in the cities, gave way to comparative calm.

And now has come the stunning and absolute battleground defeat of the invading Somali army. Le Monde, the influential organ of French imperialism, calls it "The End of a Dream" in its editorial of March 11.

But what Ethiopia has achieved is much more than a military victory. This is both a victory for the masses, who have rallied to the defense of the revolutionary motherland in every neighborhood, every factory, every farm—and it is also a proof that the revolution can rely both on the aroused consciousness of the masses and on the strength of the socialist camp, particularly Cuba and the Soviet Union, which have so magnificently come to the aid of the beleaguered Ethiopian revolutionaries.

"LEFTISTS" WHO RAN OUT

Not all the leftists in Ethiopia shared that conviction. Some ran out, deserted the revolution last spring when the going was most difficult, when Ethiopia had just kicked out its U.S. military ad-

visors—its "umbilical cord to imperialism" as Mengistu put it—and did not yet know for sure whom it could rely on. The All-Ethiopia Socialist Party, known as Meison, split and its right-wing deserted the common front of Marxist-Leninist groups that were working with the Derg in developing the mass organizations and fighting against reactionaries entrenched in powerful positions in the state.

The Meison right-wing wanted the Derg to step down and allow a "democratically" elected civilian government to take power. They also preached "self-reliance" at a time when imperialism was lining up all its guns against Ethiopia and it was clear that for the revolution to survive it had to seek assistance from the socialist camp.

The rest of the Ethiopian left repudiated this position and maintained their relationship with the Derg. And since then the revolution has continued on its leftward course, overcoming tremendous pressure and attacks from both imperialism and internal reaction.

This most recent victory can only strengthen the Ethiopian Revolution and bring it that much closer to the decisive triumph of the broad masses over reaction and the building of a socialist Ethiopia.

Robert Mugabe, Joshua Nkomo speak at UN

Zimbabwe guerrilla leaders denounce phony 'settlement'

By PADDY COLLIGAN
UNITED NATIONS, March 9— "The agreement does not constitute a settlement because it cannot end the war raging in the country," said Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe's Patriotic Front speaking here today before the UN Security Council.

Representing the liberation forces of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo thoroughly denounced the so-called settlement Ian Smith signed with three Black politicians in Salisbury two weeks ago. "If you consider that 100% of the Rhodesian judiciary is white, 99.9% of their civil service is white, and the whole leadership of the security forces is completely white, then you understand the fact that, in terms of real power, this agreement does not settle anything," Mugabe said of the neocolonialist scheme.

In a show of opposition to the Salisbury settlement, the UN Africa Group, a caucus of the African members of the UN, requested permission for the Patriotic Front leaders to address the Council. When Bishop Abel Muzorewa, one of the Africans who had signed the agreement with Smith, arrived in New York expecting to address the UN, it was the Africa Group that blocked his appearance over the vociferous protests of the U.S. and British delegations. This was a blow to Smith and the sellout agreement because Muzorewa was unable to gain the credibility of equal international standing with the Patriotic Front.

NKOMO WARNS COUNCIL
OF FUTURE ASSAULTS
ON AFRICA

Nkomo warned the UN that Smith of Rhodesia and John Vorster of South Africa were planning to consolidate forces in order to launch new and more powerful assaults on independent

Africa once they had obtained a "settlement" of the struggle in Rhodesia on paper.

Bloody attacks by Rhodesia against its Black neighbors have increased in recent months. Botswana protested to the UN about a particularly costly raid carried out by Rhodesia on Feb. 27. According to Botswana's Ambassador to the UN Thomas Tlou, the racist forces ambushed and killed 17 citizens in an unprovoked incident well inside Botswana's borders.

Zambia, currently hosting the growing guerrilla forces associated with the Nkomo/ZAPU wing of the Patriotic Front, has come under increasingly severe attacks as well. Though these offensives are not yet on the same scale as those Rhodesia has launched against the Mozambique-based Mugabe/ZANU forces, Zambia's Ambassador to the UN Gwendoline Konie requested a Security Council meeting to respond to a 48-hour attack which took place March 6-8. Rhodesian forces "using infantry troops and war planes" attacked the Zambian side of the Zambezi River killing five Zambian soldiers and injuring 20 civilians. In a raid which took place at the end of January, Rhodesian forces reportedly crossed into Zambia and killed more than 50 ZAPU members.

SUCCESSFUL RAINY
SEASON OFFENSIVE

All things considered, this rainy season has been a good one for the Zimbabwe liberation forces. With more guerrilla activity than ever and attacks reaching to Salisbury itself, the liberation fighters have shown themselves a credible military threat to the Smith regime. Rhodesia can no longer expect to win in the field as even the overall commander of the Rhodesian forces, Peter Wall, recently admitted in a public statement.

The war is costing Rhodesia an estimated \$1 million a day and the

economy is collapsing from the strain. Between the drain of military service and the white exodus from the country, skilled labor shortages are crippling key sectors of the economy. Morale and business confidence are low, inflation is high, and the Rhodesian currency was devalued in 1977.

The Zimbabwe Peoples Liberation Army (ZIPA), the Patriotic Front's fighting force, now attacks targets in almost every part of the country. Salisbury's administrative control is virtually nonexistent throughout large areas adjacent to Rhodesia's borders with neighboring African states. Government services, such as they were, are no

longer being provided and the people do not pay their taxes.

Many white farmers have abandoned farms and the land is being utilized by their former employees. While the Rhodesian army still controls the cities, the major economic areas, and the most important transportation routes, ZIPA has a claim on 40% of the country.

It is in this framework that Smith "negotiated" his internal settlement with his three hand-picked representatives of the African people. This sellout agreement may prolong but will not preserve the racist control over the Zimbabwean people.

Patriotic Front supporters at UN



NEW YORK, March 8—This lunch-time demonstration was held in front of the United Nations in support of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe and in opposition to the so-called internal settlement, which some signs at the demonstration labeled a "Black front for white control." The speakers at the demonstration exposed the settlement as a scheme put together by the racist Smith regime to maintain itself behind Black faces. The occasion of the demonstration, called by the National Council to Support African Liberation, was a Security Council debate on the "Rhodesian" question.

WW photo: G. Dunkel

U.S. backs Israeli invasion

Israel has invaded Lebanon in what is being described as the largest military operation in the Middle East since the war in October 1973.

Denouncing this blatant act of aggression, Zehdi Terzi, the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization at the United Nations, pointed to the responsibility of U.S. imperialism, which "supplies Israel with weapons, money, and moral support."

Of this there can be no doubt. Even the Israeli press today reported that President Carter was fully informed about the current attack *before it happened*.

How could it be any other way?

After all, Israel couldn't even exist if it weren't for the constant multibillion-dollar handouts it gets from the U.S. government which sees the racist settler state as an important military outpost in the oil-rich Middle East.

In fact, when Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin gave warning against the PLO last week, this was actually a test, to see if Carter would tell him not to stage an armed action. Carter's silence was an implicit go ahead.

Carter has shown in just about every way he can that the U.S. is backing the Israeli invasion, even issuing a statement that Israel has not violated any arms agreements by using U.S.-made weaponry in the attack. Whatever differences may exist between Carter and the Israeli leaders, they share a common desire to break the Palestinian resistance movement and cow the Arab people as a whole. In this connection, it should be remembered that only last October Carter signed a joint U.S.-USSR statement calling for a Geneva conference on the Middle East and pledging to support "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people." By December, 1977, however, the U.S. government had repudiated this solemn pledge, instead setting up the "Sadat-Jerusalem dialogue," cutting out the Palestinians altogether. All this was done in the name of peace, while making the current war inevitable. Pushed to the wall, the PLO was bound to retaliate, just like the guerrilla freedom fighters do in Zimbabwe against the racist colonists there.

Outnumbered and outgunned, the heroic Palestinian people are resisting the U.S.-backed Israeli invasion with every weapon at their disposal.

And the heart of progressive humanity, the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, the working class of the socialist countries, and the class-conscious workers of Europe and the U.S., are with the Palestinians fighting on the barricades in Lebanon.



Carter welcomes Tito's visit as

U.S. penetrates Yugoslav economy

By ANDY STAPP

MARCH 13—Among other things, last week's meetings between Carter and Yugoslavia's President Tito underscored the strong hand that U.S. imperialism has gained in influencing the policies of that small Eastern European country.

"American-Yugoslav commercial transactions in 1977 have reached the record figure of \$842 million," reports the French newspaper *Le Monde* (March 7).

"One worries, however," *Le Monde* continues, "about the important Yugoslav deficit, on the order of \$540 million. It is due to the purchase of equipment from the United States for several hundred millions of dollars destined for the first Yugoslav nuclear center in Krsko, a town situated on the border of the Federal Republics of Croatia and Slovenia, and for an ultra-modern petrochemical complex presently

under construction, in compliance with a contract between Dow Chemical and the INA company of Zagreb, that will come to more than one billion dollars."

Now a billion dollars is a lot for a country like Yugoslavia that has a gross national product of under \$25 billion. It gives Washington and Wall Street a real handle to bring pressure, to use threats and other forms of intimidation. And that is exactly what is happening. According to the article in *Le Monde* noted above, "Whereas the cooperation between Dow Chemical and INA is proceeding normally, differences are appearing a propos of the Krsko center."

"The Westinghouse company," *Le Monde* reports, "has delivered the technology anticipated, but the Carter administration is hesitating to supply the nuclear fuel; it is demanding additional guarantees to those already foreseen by the

accord signed in 1974 with the Ford administration, guarantees that the Yugoslavs are not ready to accept."

The U.S. imperialists, apparently, are incapable of carrying out normal trade relations. Contracts are signed, money is paid, and then suddenly the rules of the game are changed. "In the case of Yugoslavia, Carter is threatening them with a refusal to supply fuel, leaving Tito with the choice of either giving more concessions to the U.S. or on the other hand, of possibly losing the Krsko nuclear plant recently built at such great expense.

All of Carter's flattering talk about how Tito is "the last of the giants" cannot conceal the bad position Yugoslavia now finds itself in vis-a-vis U.S. imperialism. Right now there are more U.S. business firms in joint ventures in Yugoslavia than those of any other country. This imperialist economic penetration tends to cut the ground out from beneath the socialist sector of the Yugoslav economy, and to give the U.S. inordinate power over that country.

All this should be kept in mind when one reads how Carter praised Tito to the press last week, calling him "a great world leader," "an inspiration," and a symbol of "the eagerness for freedom, independence and liberty that exists throughout Eastern Europe."

Carter's interference in French elections condemned

Left parties win bare majority in first round

By JOHN CATALINOTTO

MARCH 13—In the first round of voting for the French Parliament yesterday, 50.5% of France's 30 million voters chose left parties against 46% for the presently governing right-wing parties. This shift left in the French electorate was not as decisive as had been predicted in pre-election polls, and may not lead to a parliamentary majority.

Election results show 22.5% for the Socialist Party (PS), 20.5% for the French Communist Party (PCF), and a little over 2% for the Movement of the Radical Left; these three parties made up the "Union of the Left," which split last September. Other smaller left-wing parties got around 4% of the vote.

The ruling class parties now in power got 46% of the vote. Of this, 22% was for the right-wing Gaullists, led by Paris' Mayor Jacques Chirac, an anti-immigrant racist. President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's coalition got 20%.

In the "first turn," French voters choose their favorite party and program. In next Sunday's

election, only those receiving more than 12.5% of the last vote can run, and most of the 491 parliament seats will see run-offs between either Giscard's coalition or Chirac's party on the right-wing side and a PS or PCF candidate on the other.

MARCHAIS HITS CARTER INTERVENTION

Commenting on election night, PCF General Secretary George Marchais attacked U.S. President "Jimmy" Carter for intervening in the French election campaign.

At the end of his international trip, Carter had held a closed-door meeting last Jan. 6 with PS leader Francois Mitterand in Paris; the White House then arrogantly publicized Carter's comments—that he was concerned that the PS (which he rightly viewed as loyal to the ruling class—JC) would renew their alliance with the PCF, broken the previous September.

In doing this, Carter laid down the law on what would be acceptable to U.S. imperialism in Western Europe: No Communist Party participation in the

government. This rank interference in French affairs was wide open; U.S. covert involvement is left to our imagination.

BOSSES SCARE MIDDLE CLASS

Strengthened by U.S. imperialist intervention, the French ruling class waged a vicious anti-communist fear campaign, designed to frighten middle class voters away from the left, especially away from the PS (most PCF voters are from the working class).

In an election eve TV speech, Giscard said that a left victory would mean a new upsurge in inflation, the collapse of the franc, and loss of French prestige, and would leave West Germany supreme in Europe. Other right-wing politicians threatened that a left victory would bring chaos. To bring that chaos closer, the French rich invested their money abroad, further weakening the economy, already hit with 1.6 million unemployed.

The ability of the ruling class to use fear as a weapon is an example of the limitations of elections as

tools to fight for workers' gains. Besides having the bulk of the media and the church behind them, the ruling class uses the threat of force and the power of their money to influence elections.

LIMITS OF ELECTIONS

Even if the left parties win a majority in Parliament, that would not mean that the workers had "power" in France, although it certainly would encourage the workers to struggle. The state power, that is, the police, the army, the courts, would stay in the hands of the ruling class, tied to them by family, privilege, and tradition. The left parties would merely be in office, much as they were in Chile under Allende; there the struggle for power was decided tragically by the fascist coup in 1973.

The French workers, as they showed in the glorious general strike in May 1968, are much stronger in the factories and on the streets than at the polls. Whatever the results of next Sunday's election, that remains a fact in 1978.

Korea Solidarity meeting

NEW YORK, March 15—There will be an evening of solidarity with the people of south Korea here on Saturday, March 18. Sponsored by the Committee in Solidarity with the Korean People, the meeting will focus on the provocative "war games" launched this month by U.S. and puppet Korean forces, and the popular resistance to the fascist Pak Jung Hi regime.

In addition to a slide show and several speakers, there will be food and entertainment. The meeting will begin at 7:30 at the Washington Square Methodist Church, 135 West 4th Street. For further information, or child care arrangements, call 777-2528.

Hidden aspects of the miners' struggle

By SAM MARCY

MARCH 15—As we go to press, word has come out that a settlement has been reached between the union and the coal operators.

It still has to be approved by the bargaining council and of course ratified by the membership. Rough summaries in the capitalist press of the new terms of the contract indicate that there may be some concessions on the part of the operators. But without seeing the contract and especially the fine print in it, it is impossible to gauge what the attitude of the miners will be at this time.

Regardless of the outcome of the new offer by the operators, there are some very important aspects of the miners' struggle concerning the labor movement as a whole which ought to be considered, even if the strike is settled immediately.

RULING CLASS HAS REAL CAUSE FOR WORRY

The miners' strike, assuming it continues, is by the very nature of its intensity a threat to the entire pattern of so-called labor-management relations in the whole country. It threatens to disestablish the hallowed political status quo that the imperialist government imposed upon the labor movement more than 30 years ago at the very opening of the Cold War, which has survived with few modifications to this very day. Thus this strike is of necessity of the deepest concern to the giant multi-national corporations of this country and to the ruling class as a whole.

There is, of course, their worry that whatever benefits the miners win will of necessity reverberate in chain-like fashion throughout all of the other unions, and even get to the non-unionized workers and the mass of the oppressed people. However, an even larger aspect of the miners' struggle feared by the ruling summits of American finance capital is the deep social effect such a momentous struggle as the miners' strike is likely to engender.

From this it follows that the entire officialdom of the AFL-CIO hierarchy, as well as some of the large independent unions, have been watching the extraordinary struggle of the miners with the keenest interest. They have much at stake in the outcome of the miners' struggle. However, their interest is not based on the elementary principle of trade union solidarity alone, much less working class solidarity.

LABOR HIERARCHY HAVE DIFFERENT APPROACHES

Many of these leaders are well aware that the long-delayed resurgence in the working class movement is bound to come sooner or later, and that many of them are living on borrowed time. Like the old AFL labor bureaucracy before the great working class upsurge of the 1930s, they are attempting to anticipate the nature as well as the scope of the inevitable upheaval. Some fear the loss of their seats of power as well as their bank accounts and are alarmed at the prospects. Others are planning to capture the new movement once it surfaces. And many of course are completely oblivious to it. Still others, and they are not a few, are downright hostile to a potentially explosive new development and would rather see it strangled at birth.

In many ways the lines of division in the bureaucratic trade

union hierarchy today are an anticipation of things to come. Abundant and complicated maneuvers are in the making, plans abound on how to meet the eventual upsurge, and speculation is rife on who the real beneficiaries in the hierarchy will be. In any case, a real renaissance of the American working class—Black, white, Latin, Native American—is bound to take shape no matter what artificial restraints are taken by the government, labor bureaucracy, and the industrialists to retard it.

As always in these matters, when an event of the magnitude of the miners' strike finally takes place, it catches the stultified and encrusted labor officialdom off guard.

The events of the last weeks, however, show a calculated effort to relate to the miners' struggle in the spirit of trade union solidarity. The first indication of this was, of course, the surprise contribution by the UAW of \$2 million—a generous but modest contribution considering the size of the union. What was even more surprising was that the USW steel bureaucracy, which at least in a formal sense stands far to the right of the UAW, shortly thereafter contributed a million dollars.

EVEN MEANY!

Then, of course, came the biggest surprise of all when none other than Meany himself denounced the Carter administration's threat to cut the miners off from getting food stamps and thereafter announced a massive nationwide effort to collect food for the miners and their families. Then there were rumors, some of them well-grounded, that plans were afoot for far more effective and dramatic measures by other unions to help the miners.

It is impossible that the Carter administration had its eyes closed to this very extraordinary development in the labor movement. It is also highly improbable that the Carter administration anticipated any such development in the light of the fragmented and shamelessly docile character of the organized trade union movement. The capitalist press played it in low key, but it could not but be seen by those who are usually concerned with such developments in the labor movement that this show of solidarity was in effect an embryonic united front of key sections of the labor movement and threatened to deprive the Carter administration of one of its principal political props, one of the truly important supports which enabled Carter to ascend to the Presidency.

EMBRYONIC UNITED FRONT OF LABOR

Were such an embryonic united front to actually take place and take on flesh and blood, it might conceivably transform a trade union struggle into a potentially classwide confrontation between the working class and the capitalist government, in spite of the wishes of the labor hierarchy. It could upset the much-vaunted "labor peace" which American capitalism has enjoyed for such a long time, and open the gates to working class struggle.

It should by no means be overlooked that organizing support for the miners had taken place all around the country and for the most part without any

participation of the labor bureaucracy save for a few AFL-CIO central labor bodies. In reality it was these efforts, almost entirely outside the framework of the labor bureaucracy, that began the solidarity moves by the union leaders.

There can, of course, be absolutely no question that objectively what the labor bureaucracy did in essence to aid the miners was not only most necessary and urgent but highly progressive. The point to bear in mind, however, is that it was not motivated simply by trade union solidarity, but actuated more by the prospect that the miners' struggle, especially if it turned out victorious and installed a new militant leadership, might herald an entirely new period in American labor history.

The fear engendered in the top labor officialdom that this period would be one full of ferment and could conceivably topple many from their positions of leadership, is one aspect of the miners' struggle. The other aspect is that they saw the safest course as one of allying themselves with the strike

The revolt of the miners shows the possibility for the first time in a long time of a genuine breakaway by a key union from government control of the labor movement. This is what is really at stake.

in a moderate but nevertheless ambiguous way, certainly as long as the official leadership was still in charge.

Most of the labor bureaucrats have viewed their tenure as a lifetime proposition undisturbed except for minor factional squabbles. Thus the outcome of the strike is viewed on all sides with concern. Here it is useful to go over at least the very latest developments and view them in the broader perspective of an incipient working class upsurge rather than in the narrower framework of archaic trade union politics.

RANKS DEFY UMW LEADERSHIP

As is well known, the miners have defied the Taft-Hartley law before. This is the first time, however, that they have by an overwhelming democratic vote also rejected a contract recommended by the leadership. The critical point here to take account of is that the miners not only defied the operators and the government but their own union leaders as well. And as of this writing, they seem as firm as ever. Beyond a shadow of a doubt this is a truly new phenomenon in contemporary American labor history.

An important facet in the situation is the sorry situation of the official leadership of the miners—Miller and his supporters. Nothing could be more pathetic than a union leader trying to renegotiate a contract that he earlier recommended and that the membership overwhelmingly rejected. This puts him and his negotiating group in a most acutely contradictory position.

On the one hand, he and his grouping must unquestionably try to show that, after all, "he was right in the first place." But on the other hand, he is driven by the tremendous weight of the miners' resurgence and angry rejection of the contract to try to improve the

contract if not win all the substantial points demanded by the membership. In either case, he and his grouping are in a most untenable position.

The operators and the government, who work hand in glove together, are only too keenly aware of the sorry state of the union negotiating committee. Win, lose, or draw, the leadership stands disavowed and repudiated—an exceptionally painful position for the union negotiators in the midst of a crucial period in the strike.

GOV'T SEES SPECTER OF REVOLT BY RANKS

But without this union negotiating committee as a transmission belt to the miners, the Carter administration has no link to the miners at all. This is a key factor to bear in mind. It would have to fall back, of necessity, on the use of force, a very risky adventure in the light of the international problems of the Carter administration. It would also spell the doom of the official miners' leadership and raise the specter in the miners' union of the emergence of a new leadership

American society—the organized working class and the trade unions.

It is sufficient to state, however, that the official pattern of relations between government and the unions was one not merely of cooperation but of virtual integration into the state capitalist apparatus. "Free labor bargaining with free management"—that was the pet cliché of Walter Reuther by which he characterized the dominant relations between the American trade unions and the giant corporations, or rather between the trade union bureaucracy and monopoly capital.

But it never really was like that. Subsequent revelations will make it abundantly clear that consciously or unconsciously, willingly or unwillingly, union leaders en masse were manipulated and co-opted into the capitalist state machine and in this regard played and are continuing to play a decisive and disruptive role in the labor movement.

GOV'T CONTROL OF MINERS FOR DEMOCRACY

When the Miners for Democracy slate won the election in 1972, it appeared to many it was a break, not merely from a corrupt officialdom, but also from government control. On the contrary, Miller and his grouping were co-opted by the liberals of the Americans for Democratic Action who in turn were co-opted by the government.

The revolt of the miners shows the possibility for the first time in a long time of a genuine breakaway by a key union from government control of the labor movement. This is what is really at stake. It is central to the cause of a working class revival. This is what has stunned the Carter administration. This fact towers above all others, even if it goes unrecognized.

Unless aborted, the situation has all the makings of the beginning of a real breakaway from the past, the beginning of a genuine working class renaissance.

Consider this: When the miners rejected the contract, the Miller group was in a panic. Its first thought, like the thoughts of all bureaucrats in similar serious crises, was to find that elusive broker, that middleman, that unobtrusive politician who has an in or a "hot line" to the Oval Office.

Always in such great crises in the labor movement, the first thought in the bureaucratic hierarchy is how to find somebody to reach the ear of "the Man" in the Oval Office. Endless meetings, endless searching, and almost always the invariable deluge of all sorts of people from charlatans to priests who pose as the one who can do the trick to reach the ears of the President so that he will not invoke the Taft-Hartley injunction and make a difficult situation for the union leaders altogether untenable.

CARTER'S INJUNCTION STRATEGY BANKRUPT

But the man in the Oval Office was deaf to the pleas of the union leaders and their middlemen running dogs. Instead, Carter was getting ready to unleash what he and his horde of advisors deemed to be the super-weapon in labor relations—the deadly injunction. However, in the intervening period there developed the extraordinary phenomenon of an embryonic united front of key trade unions

(Continued on p. 10)

Mineworkers help NYC workers bargain for a better contract

By KENNY PETERSON
NEW YORK, March 13—Negotiators on opposing sides of the bargaining table in the contract talks between New York City and the coalition of municipal unions have their eyes on the continuing coal strike, now in its fourth month.

Both unions and management see the perseverance and militancy of the strikers as a potential factor in the brewing confrontation between the two sides here. On the one hand, the coal strike is providing the city's hard-pressed workers with an example of struggle in the face of intransigent opposition, and on the other, is showing the management side the dangers of such intransigence.

After being pushed to the wall, and then some, the negotiators for the unions are finally beginning to show some resolve. Last week, after being hit with a shopping list of 65 demands by the city—ranging from the cancellation of overtime pay to the abolition of coffee breaks (!)—the coalition of municipal unions walked out of the negotiations.

Calling the city's demands "outrageous," a spokesperson for the union coalition said it was time the city realized that it could no

longer take the "sacrifices and sweat" of the municipal workers for granted. The unions began to hint of a strike.

CITY ANNOUNCES FURTHER CUTBACKS

Prior to the unions' leaving the negotiations, the city announced its intention to reduce the municipal payroll by another 6,345 jobs. Only this past January, Mayor Edward Koch revealed his intention to cut 20,000 jobs on top of the 40,000 jobs lost since 1975. Nearly one-third of the city's workforce has been eliminated, either through layoff or attrition.

Deeply in debt to the banks, the city is attempting to impose the economic and financial crisis onto the shoulders of the working and oppressed people of New York through these massive layoffs. Social services have been cut to the bone, from fire protection to sanitation to public education. The cutbacks are continuing.

The coal strike, which is now continuing despite President Carter, court orders, and the National Guard, is putting some starch in the sails of the municipal union coalition here. Management is also reevaluating its position and has softened its stand at the

bargaining table. Both sides have a more clear perception now of the clout that a workers' strike would have.

Of course, the leaders of the municipal unions are almost as afraid of a citywide strike as the city bosses are. Such a struggle, in their view, can only expose their comfortable positions to encroachments from an aroused rank and file. Their pleas to the city to avoid such an impasse reflect this fearful attitude. They are telling the city, in effect, "Don't push us too far. Don't leave us any other option. It's in both our interests to avoid such a conflict."

This is not the way the workers see it, however. The pressure that they can exert against the leaders of their unions will ultimately dictate the tactics employed, regardless of the opinions of those "leaders." The mine workers are proving this now.

Cops are not workers



At the same time that the city workers are bargaining for a new contract with the Mayor, the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association is also engaged in negotiations with the city. The PBA had attached itself earlier to the coalition of municipal unions for the negotiations, but now is bargaining separately with the city.

The police do not consider themselves workers, and neither should anyone else. The police have attacked picket lines of workers, arrested strikers, brutalized workers who are protesting, and generally behaved as the agents of the bosses (which they are). They are a permanent body of armed strikebreakers.

Cops are not workers. They are the enemy of working people.

—Miners' struggle

(Continued from p. 9)

and of swelling support for the miners in dozens of cities throughout the country.

Finally the injunction was served on practically all the union leaders—but nobody returned to work. A pitiful few stragglers, so few they had to be sent back from the mines because they couldn't get anything started anyway, and of course the miners held firm as a rock. The Carter super-weapon strategy backfired. It proved bankrupt.

Nothing so much illustrated this as a complete shift in the strategy of the Carter administration. Whereas before the injunction was issued the union bureaucracy was running amok trying to find a way to the Oval Office, now it is the man in the Oval Office who has to send hordes of his paid agents to try to find a way to reach the miners.

The union negotiating committee is in no position of real usefulness to the Carter ad-

ministration in getting the miners back to work, unless new substantial terms are offered by the operators. To all intents and purposes, their usefulness can be completely destroyed by the Carter administration unless he finds a way to save their face and with substantial concessions.

CAN'T FREE HIS HANDS FOR GLOBAL CRISES

As matters stand, Carter risks a complete break with his labor lieutenant allies nationally and also runs a far greater risk—a veritable groundswell of working class resurgence—if he is bent on a forceable strike-breaking solution.

In the light of the multitude of international problems which the Carter administration is facing, it can scarcely afford the prospect of a working class struggle at home. It would be a humiliating spectacle for the U.S., the principal bulwark of world imperialism and the keystone in the arch of capitalist stability in labor relations, to use

all social services would be denied, though they would be paying taxes.

Another aspect of the Carter program would fine bosses up to \$1,000 for hiring undocumented workers. This would inevitably add to the discrimination in hiring against workers with Spanish surnames. This provision also leaves the way open for the installation of a national identity card system (not unlike the pass system of South Africa), which could be used to tag all workers trying to better plant conditions or fight for a union.

Carter's plan would also further militarize the U.S.-Mexican border by doubling the border police. This force is so racist and repressive that it thought nothing about collaborating with none other than the Ku Klux Klan, when that reactionary group decided recently to set up its own border "patrol," terrorizing the Mexican population in the area. To double the size of the border police is to increase racist, gestapo actions against Mexican people living in the Southwest.

WHY ALL WORKERS MUST FIGHT CARTER SCHEME

It is in the interests of all working people everywhere to fight

naked force at a time when the Carter administration is most anxious to picture itself as the proponent of "human rights" and capitalist stability.

Indeed, the trump card of American imperialism in the world struggle against the national liberation movements and the socialist countries has been the relative passivity of the American working class. A new major upheaval, engendered by the use of force in the miners' strike, could engulf other major sections of the American working class, including of course the vast numbers of oppressed nationalities, which would constitute a major blow to the international position of U.S. imperialism at a time when it is deeply involved in the Horn of Africa, trying to manipulate the French elections, dictating the terms of the new Italian government, and now once again is on the threshold of war in the Middle East.

It is in the light of these circumstances that one must consider whether the Carter administration will accede to the demands of the miners or whether it will risk a truly classic confrontation between a resurgent working class and the capitalist state.

The reason the U.S. ruling class is trying to blame unemployment on undocumented workers is to try to divert attention from itself as the real culprit in the misery created by the current capitalist crisis. The U.S. rulers fear workers' solidarity—especially international solidarity—more than anything else, and bend over backward to sow divisions to prevent a strong, united struggle of all workers in the shops, across the U.S., and throughout the world.

Perhaps no one has said it more eloquently than Rodolfo Sanchez, a Mexican political prisoner facing a long sentence in U.S. prisons on frameup charges. His poem, entitled "Unite," was printed in the Jan.-Feb. issue of *Sin Fronteras*, a Los Angeles-based newspaper:

The immigrant worker has history here, Mister. Don't you know he works and is robbed by his oppressor?

Like yours, my brother his labor creates riches and his wealth is stolen by those factory bosses.

Unite with him, my friend, don't be fooled by the boss, who forever tells lies and tries to divide us.

Get in the struggle with Youth Against War & Fascism and Workers World Party!

Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism are organizing and responsible for many of the struggles you read about in the pages of this paper. These groups are made up of women and men, Black, white, Latin, Asian, and Native peoples, young and old, gay and straight, working, students, and unemployed, who fight on all the issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples in this capitalist society.

If you would like to find out more about Workers World and YAWF, or if you would like to join them in their struggles, contact the branch nearest you from the list below.

ATLANTA—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 424, Atlanta, GA 30301. [404] 523-8990.

BALTIMORE—Workers World Party, 2402 St. Paul St., Baltimore, MD 21218. [301] 366-3713.

BOSTON—Workers World Party, 419 Boylston St., Room 204, Boston, MA 02116. [617] 247-1778.

BUFFALO—Workers World Party, 170 Franklin St. [Crosby Bldg], Room 410, Buffalo, NY 14202. [716] 855-3055.

CHICAGO—Workers World Party, 542 S. Dearborn, Room 310, Chicago, IL 60605. [312] 922-0326.

CLEVELAND—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 12576, East Cleveland, OH 44112. [216] 371-9293 or 231-8456.

DETROIT—Workers World Party, 229 Gratiot, Third Floor, Detroit, MI 48226. [313] 962-4979.

GREELEY—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 1863, Greeley, CO 80631. [303] 356-9408.

HOUSTON—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 52115, Houston, TX 77052. [713] 759-9463.

MILWAUKEE—Workers World Party, 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, WI 53202. [414] 224-0422.

NEW YORK CITY—Workers World Party, 46 W. 21 St., New York, NY 10010. [212] 255-0352.

NORFOLK—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 7032, Norfolk, VA 23509. [804] 627-0870.

PHILADELPHIA—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 9894, Philadelphia, PA 19140. [215] 227-3517.

ROCHESTER—Workers World Party, 171 State St., Rochester, NY 14614. [716] 546-6429.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Workers World Party, 932 K St., NW, Washington, DC 20001. [202] 347-0138.

—Phony amnesty

(Continued from p. 6)

notorious Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), and would have the possibility of staying in the U.S., if, after five years the INS was convinced they were

"good citizens"—i.e., weren't known as defenders of on-the-job rights, agitators for better living conditions, or union organizers.

In a policy similar to that of the apartheid regime in South Africa which confines Black workers' families to bantustans far from the cities, the workers in this category of the Carter program would be prevented from bringing their families to the U.S. for at least five years, if at all. For these workers

'Terrorism': Behind the propaganda

By KENNY PETERSON

MARCH 14—"Terrorism" is such a loaded word, it is not an easy thing to write about. This is especially true when the television and the press are assaulting our senses with images of weeping relatives and politicians clamoring for "revenge."

Everything is orchestrated to make the mind go blank and the muscles contract: in short, to prepare the people for a new round of bloodletting.

We are witnessing this now in the Middle East. And once again, a blow has been struck against an oppressed and homeless people in the guise of a campaign against "terrorism."

But is "terrorism" really the issue? And what is this thing "terrorism" that excites such passions.

In the movie "Battle of Algiers," which was made in France about the war for Algerian independence, there is one scene that is worth a score of books—at least—on the subject of "terrorism."

In this scene, the leader of the Algerian partisans has been captured by the French and is being presented to the press corps as a trophy and proof of the French army's diligence in "counter-insurgency." A reporter steps forward and addresses the Algerian "terrorist."

"Why do you employ such dastardly means of terror against the French?" he asks. The reporter, of course, is all puffed up with moral pride (that comes with the illusion of invincible power) and indignation. "Why do you," he asks again, "place bombs in straw baskets for old women to carry behind our lines and murder us in

our havens?" Why don't you fight fair, he might have said.

"Very well," the leader of the Algerians answers. "You give us your Phantom jets and your napalm, and we will give you straw baskets and our homemade bombs."

In war there is terror. There is no use pretending otherwise. The question is—on which side is there justice? Who are the oppressed? Who are the oppressors?

Following a war, however, as the saying goes, the victors write the histories. And so in America, for example, the Indians were the "terrorists." John Brown and Nat Turner were "terrorists." But was George Washington a terrorist? Was General Grant?

Terror is an act of violence. Every single head of state in the world today owes his position to, and is the political heir of, someone or some group who were at one time labelled "terrorists."

Hysterical appeals to destroy or avenge "terrorism" are a cheap and cynical weapon in a propaganda war. During the late and unlamented Somali invasion of revolutionary Ethiopia, Somalia's Siad Barre kept up a steady drumbeat of allegations of Ethiopian intentions to invade Somalia. "It is like someone shouting for help while he is actually doing the beating," commented Ethiopian leader Mengistu. Such is the character of the "anti-terror" bleatings of Tel Aviv and Washington.

THE REAL TERRORISTS

We have only to look at the main characters in this charade for the proof of this—Israel's Prime Minister Begin and U.S. President Carter. The one is still regarded as a terrorist by many in Britain today (for his bombing of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem where several British soldiers were killed) and the other, equally sanctimonious, is right now deploying a band of shotgun-wielding thugs to enforce a slave-labor injunction in the coal fields.

Begin is most notorious, however, for his role in the 1948 massacre of 250 men, women and children in the Palestinian village of Deir Yassin. On April 9, Begin and his terrorists carried out this atrocity on behalf of the Zionist policy of "a few calculated massacres" to terrorize the Palestinians into fleeing their homes and villages.

But let us take a closer look at the governments of Carter and Begin, since they are really leading the pack in this phony campaign against "terror."

There are only two known instances when a commercial airliner, on a regular flight in peace time, was destroyed in mid-air on orders of a foreign government. The first instance occurred on Feb. 21, 1973, when the Israeli airforce shot down a Libyan flight en route to Cairo, killing all 113 passengers aboard. The second instance occurred when the U.S. CIA placed a bomb aboard a Cuban airliner on Oct. 6, 1976, killing 78 people.

But the conductors of the "anti-terrorism" symphony don't want to talk about these acts of terror. And there are many others that could be cited.

THE POLICY OF TERROR

The racist and outlaw regime of Rhodesia's Ian Smith, which calls the Zimbabwean liberation fighters "terrs" (short for "terrorists"), has jumped on the anti-terror bandwagon. Smith's regime recently carried out a truly

terrorist attack against a refugee camp in neighboring Zambia, committing atrocious acts of butchery, in the name, of course, of "fighting terrorism."

Where is the outcry from a shocked humanity? Don't look to Washington or Tel Aviv, they're too busy organizing mercenaries to

help Smith perpetuate his fascist rule.

The bought-press of the bourgeoisie aim their cameras where they're told. Their editorial writers glorify the well-organized terrorists of imperialism—marching in neatly-pressed and beribboned uniforms. And if this

imperialist terror breaks through the curtain of silence—as in the case of My Lai—one junior officer takes the rap and the policy of terror is concealed.

There is not enough room in this entire newspaper to tell of all the acts of terror committed by the imperialists, the real oppressors of humanity. Their crimes are legion. But an outraged humanity has cried "Enough!" The lies of imperialism cannot stop the struggle of the oppressed. The war for liberation has begun.

Pickets demand freedom for Sami Esmail



NEW YORK, March 13—Around 50 people came out to a picket line called by the Palestinian Solidarity Committee here yesterday in front of the Israeli Consulate to protest the incarceration of Sami Esmail, a U.S. citizen of Palestinian descent who was arrested while attempting to visit his dying father in the Zionist occupied West Bank on Dec. 21.

While in jail Esmail has been tortured for his outspoken support of the national rights of the Palestinian people. Today in a Zionist court Esmail pleaded not guilty to charges of training with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in Libya. The case has been adjourned until March 29. WW photo: Bill Hackwell

On 2nd anniversary

Polisario speaks in Chicago

By P. KIMBALL

CHICAGO, March 12—At the first program of its kind in the Midwest, Majid Abdoullah, U.S. representative of the Polisario Front, spoke here last month in celebration of the second anniversary of the independence of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic.

Formerly a Spanish colony, the land of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic was divided in 1975 between Morocco and Mauritania, two neighboring countries whose reactionary regimes have strong ties to French and U.S. imperialist interests. Control of much of the land, however, rests in the hands of the Polisario Front, which is continuing the heroic armed resistance which it began against Spain in 1973.

Speaking of recent victories of Polisario, Abdoullah said, "Mauritania's iron mines account for 85% of its economy. The Polisario has stopped their production. They increased their army from 3,000 to 15,000, and this wasn't enough, they got 6,000 Moroccan soldiers, and this wasn't enough; then they got 400 French experts and gave them the job of protecting the railroad to the mines. Last Monday we crippled the railroad, it is completely stopped. Now they are bringing infra-red weapons. We don't have any infra-red weapons, only determination.

"We are also carrying on military operations in southern Morocco, 200 km. (160 miles) inside the border. The Moroccan army is on the defensive inside

Morocco! . . . Morocco is losing \$200,000 a day.

"We started the struggle against 50,000 Spanish soldiers with three World War I cannons, and one of them was broken in the first operation," Abdoullah recalled. "But the objective situation said we could defeat the colonial power, and we took a lot of the Spanish soldiers as prisoners, and we took their weapons; and we took the slogan: 'Arm yourselves with the enemy's arms.'"

He continued, "In the first year of the struggle of the Saharans against the Moroccan-Mauritanian invasion, we captured 200 soldiers and in the second year we captured 1,300," Abdoullah reported, "This shows that in the first year we were on the defense, but now we are on the offense. The greatest proof they are losing this battle is the French intervention on their side.

"The Polisario can operate in all of the Sahara up to 5 km. (3 miles) from the cities. The largest city is El Aiun. There are 10,000 Moroccan soldiers there, and last week we attacked it from the south and the north. This shows how close we are!

"We have liberated areas which Morocco cannot enter. This is one-third of the area of the country. This does not mean that Morocco controls the other two-thirds—there are constant battles there."

SOLIDARITY OF MAURITANIAN PEOPLE

But the Polisario has gone further than that, successfully carrying the battle to the enemy's home ground:

"Actually, the Mauritanian people are in solidarity with us, especially those who speak the same language," said the Polisario representative. "Therefore we are able to do operations in southern Mauritania, 2500 km. (about 1600 miles) from our bases—15 days travel by camel or Land-Rover through the sand."

Though a UN task force reported that 99% of the Saharan people want independence, this means nothing to "Human Rights" Carter, who continues the Ford administration's policy of arming Morocco with Vietnam war-type weaponry—\$30 million worth in 1977. One-tenth of the population of the Western Sahara are refugees as the result of strafing, bombing, and napalm attacks.

Has this demoralized them? Abdoullah states, "The Saharan people are more determined than ever to defeat this imperialist plan in northwest Africa." He continued, "We guarantee to our friends and our enemies that the armed struggle in the Sahara will continue in the interests of the Saharan people until the defeat of the Moroccan invaders, and if you don't see it today you will see it tomorrow."

What will the future of the Sahara be like after victory? In response to this question, Abdoullah answered: "We will put into effect the program of the Polisario, . . . whose object is to give the initiative to the popular organizations and to give complete freedom of initiative to the most oppressed, such as women and dark-skinned peoples."

—Israeli aggression

(Continued from p. 1)

Beirut, the home of approximately 20,000 Palestinians, witnesses say Israeli jets "swooped down out of the clouds in pairs and rocketed the camp." Farouk Nasjar, an Associated Press (AP) photographer who watched from his eighth-story apartment window in Beirut, told of seeing "eight sweeps by the planes, each time firing four rockets."

According to the Israeli high command, in language reminiscent of the destruction of Guernica or Lidice by the Nazis, the invasion into Lebanon is "a purifying operation." Israeli Defense Minister Weizman described it as "total war" against the Palestinians. These agents of imperialism are employing the tactics of Lt. William Calley.

Israeli Prime Minister Begin toured the areas of devastation in southern Lebanon, and according to an NBC cameraman, was "grinning and seemed very pleased." Israeli General Gur told a press conference in Tel Aviv that Israel planned to create a "cordon sanitaire" five miles deep along the 49-mile long border, in other words to remain in southern Lebanon.

Israel is apparently planning thereby to extend its borders and occupy southern Lebanon, just as it has stolen the West Bank, the Syrian Golan Heights, and Egyptian Gaza and Sinai. Supposedly seeking "defensible borders," Israel from its day of conception has forcibly occupied the nation of Palestine. The existence of the racist Israeli state, therefore, can never be anything but indefensible.

New York mobilizing for D.C. demonstration

Say NO to Bakke on April 15!

By TANA MARIE LOY
NEW YORK, March 13—"It's as if the whole racist and reactionary forces are just waiting to set things back years," said one of those braving the cold and mounds of snow to put up posters announcing the April 15 March on Washington to Overturn the Bakke Decision. Thousands of leaflets, in English and Spanish, are being distributed at subway entrances, at meetings and at social gatherings.

The mobilization that is building in many states is the response of people angered and ready to fight the racist and sexist Bakke decision. Larry Holmes, of the N.Y. Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, said, "We have to put New York City on the face of the map as far as this mobilization is concerned because the Bakke decision is one of the most serious racist attacks in years. Many people are beginning to sponsor and to endorse this march because they know that the

idea of "reverse discrimination" is racist and absurd. They know how many people in New York City alone will be affected by this decision. It's important for people to go to Washington, to get out posters and leaflets, to do whatever they can. This march is going to be big because people are coming from many states and from the entire East Coast.

Allan Bakke, a 34-year-old white engineer, applied for admission to medical school at the University of California at Davis. He was rejected both times. The medical school has only 100 openings each year, yet in 1972 there were more than 3,700 applicants. The special admissions program reserves 16 of its openings for students of "disadvantaged" backgrounds. These special admission slots have been filled each year by minorities.

Bakke filed suit against the University charging "reverse discrimination." The California Supreme Court ruled in favor of Bakke saying it was unconstitutional to favor minority students, and that special admissions programs which consider race represent "reverse discrimination." The court ignored the fact that the 84 regular admission slots go almost exclusively to whites. The court also ignored the historical and present deep-rooted nature of racism in this country. The University of California appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, which is expected to rule on



WW photo: Iris Holmes

it some time this spring.

"This case is an actual attack on all the oppressed and women because it would eliminate Affirmative Action, take away what few jobs and opportunities there are because of Affirmative Action, continued Holmes, "It would literally close the doors to jobs and schools. Women and the poor are being used as scapegoats for a much deeper economic crisis facing everyone. The momentum is definitely picking up because people just won't tolerate it. The

name Bakke is becoming a curse word!"

The list of endorsers nationwide shows the broad support for this demonstration. The sponsors are: National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, Black American Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Peoples Alliance, and the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition. The growing list of endorsers include: National Conference of Black Lawyers, National Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, NOW Minority Womens Committee, Akil Al-Jundi, the majority of the Black Congressional Caucus, Black Women United for Political Action, Youth Against War & Fascism, Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), Clergy and Laity Concerned, Don Luce, William Kunstler, Florynce Kennedy, Prof. John Henry Clarke, Ramsey Clark, and many more.

The New York Chapter of the NCOBD is organized into different "focuses," such as women, labor, students, and various communities. At the International Womens Day Rally, held here Saturday, Claudette Furlonge of the Womens Focus spoke and said there has always been "affirmative action" for those who were rich, white and male. She also stressed how white was pitted against Black, and male against female to keep workers divided and from knowing the real enemies—the banks and the corporations.

In addition to the April 15 action, anti-Bakke actions will take place locally in many states. For further information on national and local actions, contact: New York Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, P.O. Box 302, Ansonia Station, N.Y., N.Y. 10023 (212) 741-0633, 691-6495; or in Atlanta, Coalition to Overturn the Bakke Decision, P.O. Box 2163, Atlanta, Ga. 30301 (404) 767-3869, 767-0947 or 523-8990.

Say no to racism, help build for the April 15 demonstration by donating funds or leafleting or whatever you can to help overturn the Bakke decision.

Boston demonstration against Bakke scheduled for April 8

BOSTON, March 8—Plans have been announced here for a broad demonstration against the Bakke decision to take place in Boston on April 8, and for buses to bring Bostonians to Washington for the April 15 demonstration called by the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision and others.

The action has been initiated by the Boston Mobilizing Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, which includes the United Community Construction Workers and the Community Task Force on Construction, two groups based in the Black community which have led demonstrations closing job sites around the demand for affirmative action hiring.

Other groups in the Mobilizing Committee include the Citywide Coalition for Justice and Equality,

the Committee to Free the East Boston Black Defendants, the People's Alliance, and Youth Against War & Fascism. The committee has the support of the Black American Law Students Association and the National Lawyers Guild, as well as of a broad range of individuals and organizations.

The Boston demonstration on April 8 will begin at 12 noon at the Blackstone Park in Boston's South End, and will include a march and rally. The demonstration will focus on racist attacks which have occurred recently here in Boston as well as on the Bakke case, and will be used to organize people to come to Washington on April 15. Information about bus tickets may be obtained from the Third World Jobs Clearing House, 266-8570, or the Redbook, 491-6930.

Join the struggle to free Imani

Special to Workers World

ATLANTA, March 13—Under the weight of reams of petitions and public protest, the state of Alabama has "granted" a stay of execution for 60 days to Imani (Johnny Harris), an innocent Black man who was scheduled for death on March 10. This hard-won people's victory is a temporary one and more support is needed to make it permanent. There are efforts now to gather more national and international support to stop Imani's execution.

Imani is one of five prisoners known as the Atmore-Holman Brothers, who were unjustly indicted for the death of a prison guard at the infamous Atmore-Holman prison during a prisoner protest in 1974. The guard was killed as authorities stormed the prison during an Attica-style assault ordered by the warden.

Imani was charged and convicted of murder under a Civil War-era statute mandating the death penalty for a prisoner convicted of murder while serving a life sentence.

A prisoner was later murdered by guards but his death has never been investigated by the state!

The scheduled execution of Imani on March 10 would have the

first since the highly publicized killing of Gary Gilmore by firing squad. Unlike the case of Gilmore, however, there has been a virtual media white-out in the U.S. press of Imani's case.

SUPPORT BUILDS DESPITE U.S. PRESS WHITE-OUT

A recent press dispatch reported on Imani's case, "The racist judiciary has planned the execution of a young Black worker (Johnny Harris) for his resistance to oppression and arbitrariness to which millions of Black Americans are subjected in the U.S."

Was this accurate statement made by the press in this country? To ask the question is to answer it. That statement is part of the coverage given by Tass, the official Soviet news agency. Thanks to the efforts of this socialist country, the world has been kept informed of the case of Imani and also of that of the Wilmington Ten.

TELEGRAMS POUR IN

As an emergency measure to stave off execution, a successful telegram campaign was initiated by the Committee to Defend Imani (Johnny Harris) and Stop the Death Penalty and the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Youth

Against War & Fascism. Hundreds of telegrams from around the country were received by Federal District Court Judge Virgil Pittman urging that he grant the stay of execution.

Some 1,300 telegrams had poured into Gov. George Wallace's office as of last week at a rate of 100 a day letting that gutter-rat know that people felt that this execution was being levied as punishment for Imani's political activity.

Eleventh hour demonstrations have been organized in Mobile and New York City.

The Committee to Defend Imani and Stop the Death Penalty has pledged to continue building support for Imani's freedom and for the other Atmore-Holman Brothers as well.

Members of the Black Congressional Caucus have indicated their concern for justice in this case. Amnesty International sent representation from London to investigate the facts and express the organization's opposition to the death sentence.

Imani's lawyers will take the next step to appeal the original life sentences for which Imani was imprisoned and which made the death sentence applicable to his



Imani

case.

Supporters are urged to continue to rally behind this case until Imani's life is no longer in danger and he is no longer in the clutches of the notorious Alabama prison system. To send contributions, and for more information on how to support Imani, write to Imani Defense Fund, P.O. Box 242, Atlanta, Ga. 30301.