

## Before House Assassinations Committee

# Testimony bares powerful plot in Dr. King murder

## NYC pressmen on strike! —p. 5



Striking New York City pressmen fighting to save their union.

WW photo: Bill Hackwell

By DEE KNIGHT

AUGUST 16—James Earl Ray, who was coerced ten years ago into pleading guilty as the "lone assassin" in the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr., testified today before the House Select Committee on Assassinations. Ray stated in the public hearings held in Washington: "I did not shoot Martin Luther King." Ray then identified a man who went by the name of "Raoul" as the one responsible for setting up Ray's travels which eventually led him into Memphis on the day of the assassination and then on to an incredible escape route across the Atlantic Ocean.

Ray was finally captured in England and is now serving a 99-year sentence in a Tennessee state prison. Ray claimed that he first met "Raoul" in July 1967 in Montreal. The latter subsequently hired Ray to transport some packages and a telescopic rifle just prior to April 4, 1968, the day of the assassination. Ray reported that "Raoul" made payments to him that totalled to more than \$20,000.

On Monday, the former chief assistant to King, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, issued the strongest indictment before the House Committee of the FBI's cover-up of the conspiracy that murdered Dr. King. Abernathy stated:

"I think when Dr. King started to bring poor people together, someone in a very high place in our country decided we must eliminate this young Black leader and cut him down."

Abernathy reiterated his belief that the murder was the product of a conspiracy, and he said that the killer probably had help from the Memphis Police Department and the FBI.

Asked by Congressmen during his more than three hours of testimony to give names, Abernathy commented, "I would not eliminate Mr. Hoover," former head of the FBI.

It is already known that Hoover issued a memo on March 4, 1968—a month before Dr. King was killed—outlining plans to "prevent the rise of a 'messiah' who could unify . . . the militant black nationalist movement." Long before then, Hoover launched a \$1.7 million campaign to destroy Dr. King, under the code name "Zorro." That was the contemptuous name used by Hoover and the FBI against Dr. King.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, who along with Rev. Abernathy was at Dr. King's side when he was murdered, said last week he had "profound doubt" that James Earl

(Continued on p. 3)

## At national union convention

# Delegates say 'no!' to postal contract

By a delegate to the APWU national convention  
DENVER, Aug. 14—A tremendous demonstration of angry postal workers shook this city's Currigan Convention Center here today, as almost 3,000 delegates gathered on the first day of the national convention of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU).

As Emmet Andrews, APWU general president, took the podium to address the convention, over half the delegates rose from their seats and launched a demonstration lasting some two hours to express their anger and disgust at the sellout contract recently negotiated by Andrews with the U.S. Postal Service.

The angry delegates marched around the convention hall

chanting, "Hell no, vote no!" and confronting Andrews with signs reading, "We were sold out by our officers," and "two percent is a disgrace."

The demonstration, which was one of the most enthusiastic ever viewed by this reporter, included both older and younger workers, Black and white, women and men.

It reflected a virtual rebellion in the ranks of postal workers against their union so-called leaders who agreed to a contract with a laughable two percent raise this year, a ceiling on the cost of living raises of three percent a year in the face of double-digit inflation, and no improvement in often horrendous working conditions.

83% AGAINST CONTRACT

This rebellious attitude was

further reflected later in the day in a roll-call vote on a motion to go on record as "totally rejecting the proposed contract." Over 83% of the delegates voted for the motion and against the contract. This overwhelming repudiation of the union's national officers points to a new wave of militant on the horizon in the ranks of labor.

Postal workers are in a fighting mood. They want to be paid fairly for the important work they do. They want to be free of such oppressive burdens as forced overtime, harassing supervisors, and inhuman schedules. They are currently voting in a nationwide mail vote on the proposed contract. If the vote of their elected delegates today is an indication, they will decisively reject the contract. Renegotiations and

possibly a strike (and after all, it's only by striking that workers ever get anything out of the bosses) will follow.

It is important to note that the biggest ovation of the convention thus far came when William Clay, a Black Congressman from Missouri, said in an opening speech, "Perhaps the time has come to tell both the Democrats and Republicans to go to hell and to form a labor party."

By applauding that repudiation of the two big-business political parties and by demonstrating and voting against the proposed insulting contract, postal workers are sending this message to Jimmy Carter and his wealthy backers: "We're fed up, we're fired up, and we're ready to do what is necessary to defend and advance our rights."

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# Hooker Chemical still dumping toxins



WW photo: D. Wara

Homeowner's sign on 99th St. The 600 people who have their homes on the Love Canal chemical dumping site are fighting for redress.

By D. WARD

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y., Aug. 12—As the chemical nightmare of the Love Canal area here unfolds, its dimensions are increasingly ominous. Two new developments underscore this point. The first is that the deadly toxins in the Love Canal are migrating in all directions from the Canal, making containment impossible. The second is that the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is about to issue a permit to Hooker chemical's Durez Division to dump untreated benzene, benzene compounds, and toluene directly into the Niagara River.

#### STATE BACKSLIDES

Some 600 people have homes built on the Love Canal chemical wastes site.

The migration of the chemicals poses a direct threat to all of the residents in the geographical area of the Buffalo Avenue chemical plants. This threat is compounded by the fact that there are nine other known dumps similar to the Love Canal in the area—seven right on the banks of the Niagara River.

Despite the widening of the disaster, the state and federal governments have been systematically attempting to narrow direct aid to the people subjected to the chemical poisons. Most of the relief funds—tens of millions of dollars—will go to contractors, consulting firms, research associations, and banks. As for the resi-

dents, New York Gov. Hugh Carey has promised direct aid only to 310 families whom he says are "most directly affected." The banks which hold the mortgages on the soon-to-be-vacated homes will be "paid in full" by the state, however.

#### MAKE HOOKER PAY!

This use of working people's tax money to pay for corporate-made disasters lets the real culprit off the hook. "Hooker must have known about the chemicals they were dumping or they wouldn't be where they are today. They had the foresight and they must be held responsible," said Richard Lippes of the Sierra Club and attorney for the Love Canal Homeowner's Association, an organization of those whose homes are built on the dumping site.

But in the midst of this chemical quagmire, Hooker Chemical and Plastics, a subsidiary of giant Occidental Petroleum, is being treated by the press and politicians almost as an innocent bystander.

Nothing is further from the truth. For example, the chemicals Hooker is preparing to legally dump into the Niagara River are the same compounds they buried in the Love Canal! This arrogant corporate attitude toward people's health is supported by the state government which is doing the corporate bidding.

Clearly, Hooker and the other chemical giants in the area (DuPont, Carborundum, FMC, Union Carbide) must be made to foot the entire bill for this disaster. This bill includes relocation funds for everyone in the area, adequate lifetime medical care for all people involved, and monetary compensation.

These multi-million dollar corporations must also be made to pay immediately. Waiting for high-salaried judges to decide the issue gives a tremendous advantage to the corporations which have the time and money to stay in court for years.

When unions "illegally" (according to the bosses) strike for better conditions (including safety), judges are quick to issue injunctions, heavy fines, and contempt of court citations against the unions. Surely these judges should be pressured to move at least as quickly in this case of callous corporate contempt for workers' lives.

#### SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

While the contractors and banks jockey for monetary position, the suffering of the

people grows worse each day. This reporter toured the Love Canal area this week to speak with residents and inspect especially affected areas.

Signs hang from houses and flagpoles on 97th, 98th, and 99th Streets expressing the people's outrage against Hooker, the government, and politicians: "Hooker & Politicians = Cancer," "Taxation Without Representation," "Welcome to Love Canal—Home to 82 Chemicals," and many, many others. The skull and cross-bones has replaced the American flag on some poles or hangs together with it on others.

#### "NOXIOUS CLOUD OVER MY HOME"

In conversation with the harried people, horror stories of dead dogs, children with burning feet, and unspeakable birth defects come up again and again. Mrs. Warner of 97th St. described "a noxious white cloud hovering over my home... causing paint to blacken and my eyes to burn." Mr.

## Specter of general strike hovers over Memphis

By ANDY STAPP

AUGUST 16—With sanitation workers starting to walk out in support of striking firefighters, the city government of Memphis is facing the possibility of the first general strike in the city's history.

Almost one thousand National Guardsmen armed with M-16 rifles and riding in armored personnel carriers are patrolling the streets. As of yesterday, over 100 people had been arrested for violating the dusk to dawn curfew decreed by Memphis Mayor Wyeth Chandler. The city's regular force of cops has refused to work since last Friday. (The cops, of course, aren't really workers. In the history of the labor movement, many tens of thousands of striking workers have been shot, beaten, and arrested by cops acting as strikebreakers!)

Three days ago, the Memphis Firefighters Association, the union of the city's 1,400 firefighters, went on strike.

"The firemen's wage strike has threatened to spread to sanitation workers," the UPI report stated today, "after firemen threw up picket lines at several sanitation collection centers yesterday."

and Mrs. Voorkers of 99th Street were found to have 5,000 times the upper-safety level of toxic fumes in their basement. Mrs. Schroeder of 99th St. has three children with birth defects. The Love Canal area has a rate of birth defects eight times the national average.

Tom Heisner of 99th St., a leader of the Homeowners Association, has called for the families to stop payment of mortgages and property taxes until corrective action is taken. Last week's Niagara Gazette quotes spokesmen for the Western New York Savings Bank and the Niagara Falls Savings Bank as threatening that they would have to foreclose on the property should the non-payment movement materialize.

It is ironic that amid all of the corporate blather about "tax revolt," the politicians have steadfastly refused to reassess the now-worthless property and lower taxes for the people.

A walk through the Love Canal revealed pits of black sludge, a pungent chemical odor, bubbling chemical pools, and gritty, clinging soil. This chemical alphabet soup served as a children's play area until very recently.

Community meetings are frequent, organized sometimes on the spur of the moment. Organized by cars with loudspeakers driving through the streets, these meetings have become the focal point to collectivize the anger and experiences of the residents and to formulate a plan of action. It was from such a meeting that the Homeowners' Association grew.

Ultimately, it is these actions and organizing efforts that will determine whether the giant chemical peddlers can be brought under control. If the homeowners can broaden their movement to include everyone in the area, and not just homeowners (for example, a large multi-national housing project starts on 96th St.) their united struggle can force the corporations to pay.

Although these pickets were later withdrawn, "many of the garbage collectors still refused to make their rounds" according to the United Press dispatch.

In response to Mayor Chandler's stated intention to withdraw municipal recognition from striking unions, Tommy Powell, the head of the Memphis AFL-CIO Labor Council, countered by suggesting a general strike of the city's 60,000 organized workforce.

Ever since the general economic turndown in the capitalist world that began over three years ago, the cities of the U.S. have been very hard pressed, municipal services have been slashed to the bone, hospitals and schools closed, and city workers laid off by the tens of thousands all across the country. The response of the bosses has been to meet the crisis by making the poor and working people pay for it. Mayor Chandler's attempts to smash the municipal unions in Memphis is all part of this pattern. The threat by local union leaders to retaliate with a general strike is a proper response to the mayor's bully boy tactics, especially his attempt to rule the city with National Guard machine guns. [See related editorial, page 8.]



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# Selling arms is 'good business' for death merchants

By ANDY STAPP  
AUGUST 15—The Pentagon has informed Congress that it intends to sell \$774.3 million in weaponry this coming year to Taiwan, Iran, Israel, south Korea, Spain, Pakistan, and Thailand. Fascist Iran alone will get \$263.5 million.

The big winners in these arms deals are the Ford Motor Company (the Sidewinder missile), Hughes Aircraft, Texas Instruments, and Honeywell, all firms that do a brisk business peddling weapons of mass destruction to U.S. client states around the world.

"The Carter administration," observes yesterday's Wall Street Journal, "is rushing to finish the paper work on these sales this year."

Now Carter isn't "rushing" to free the Wilmington Ten and the many other political prisoners in this country. He isn't "rushing" to get legislation passed to help the unemployed get jobs. He isn't "rushing" to do something to stop the spiraling inflation that is weighing so heavily on the poor and working people of this country. He isn't "rushing" aid to the millions in this country who go to bed hungry every night.

Quite the contrary.

Carter has, in fact, presided over a general cut in the standard of living of the average person in the U.S., while huge monopoly firms like General Motors are pulling in profits of over a billion dollars every 90 days.

## AID TO PUPPET GOVERNMENTS

Taiwan, Iran, south Korea, Pakistan, and Thailand are all outright military dictatorships ruled by various stooges put in power by the U.S. Army or CIA over the last couple of decades.

Spain, of course, is a right wing monarchy and Israel an out-and-out settler state repeatedly condemned by the United Nations for racism and colonialism.

In arming these fascist and reactionary governments, Carter is implicitly giving the green light to all the repression and misery that such quisling regimes inflict on the people who live there.

When the fascist junta in Thailand burns students alive, or when the south Korean secret police get caught bribing members of the U.S. Congress, or when the brutal Shah of Iran orders his army tanks to fire directly into crowds of unarmed demonstrators, the entire capitalist establishment in this country tries to get off the hook by claiming that the U.S. government has no control over the actions of foreign countries. But the machine guns, the helicopters, the tear gas, the tanks—all of the weapons used to keep the people down—are supplied by the Pentagon and its big business cheerleaders.

Apparently the U.S. government

"can't interfere" in Thailand or Iran or Taiwan when it comes to stopping repression, but when it comes to trying to stop revolutions, the entire Pentagon arsenal is put at the disposal of the local fascists.

## FOREIGN AID BILL: MORE FOR CLIENT STATES

Today the U.S. House of

Representatives also passed a \$7.3 billion foreign aid bill, the funds being intended to help prop up U.S. satellite and client states around the world. Back in 1960, President Kennedy noted that of the \$50 billion spent by the U.S. government on foreign aid since World War II, \$45 billion (90%) had been allocated in direct or

indirect military aid to rightwing dictatorships. This situation hasn't changed since 1960. According to today's Washington Post, one Congressman described the aid being given this year as "taking money from poor people in rich countries and giving the money to rich people in poor countries."

Progressive nations and socialist

countries like Vietnam, Laos, Angola, Mozambique, and Cuba, receive no "aid" at all from the U.S. government, but fascist regimes like south Korea and Iran have become totally dependant on U.S. guns and dollars for their very survival in the face of deep hostility from the masses of people who live in these captive nations.

## Social services and job training hard hit

# Congress cuts CETA funds by \$1 billion

By TANA MARIE LOY

AUGUST 14—In keeping with the spirit of "don't help the poor or workers if you can help it," the House overwhelmingly voted to slash Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) funding for federally funded service jobs by 1 billion dollars. In one step, it would eliminate 125,000 jobs while additionally cutting the wages of workers presently holding CETA jobs.

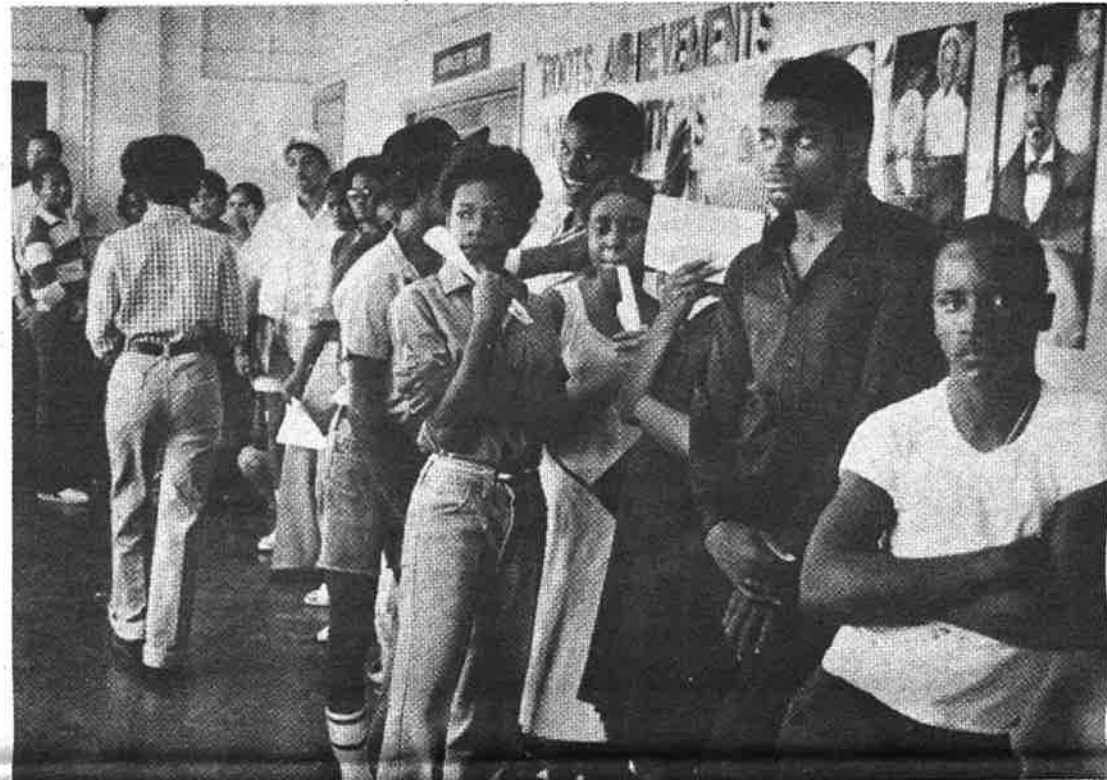
This is the same House that earlier in the week added a few billion more dollars for a nuclear aircraft carrier as part of the \$119 billion defense bill! CETA however doesn't cause waste, destruction or play a part in the ruling class's war game. Instead, CETA has provided training and jobs for 8 million workers in the past few years, and was before the House for a four year, \$11 billion extension.

Imagine the number of schools, hospitals, day care centers, that could be built, and imagine the number of jobs that could and should be created with \$119 billion. Instead, a \$11-billion program designed to reach those most oppressed by unemployment and out of work due to the deepening recession is reduced.

At present, 725,000 people have jobs through CETA. It is hard for the poor and oppressed, for all workers, to swallow the obvious fact that death machines are far more important and worthwhile to these members of the House than are jobs.

## OTHER CUTS

In addition to the limitation of funds for these jobs, there would be a reduction of CETA wages and



While Carter spends billions on military hardware, he slashes at CETA jobs and other programs and social services that effect the poor and oppressed. Here, youths in Washington, D.C., line up hoping to get a summer job.

the phasing out of CETA public service jobs entirely. The maximum salary level would be reduced, thereby lowering all salaries below the present levels, creating even more hardship in these inflationary times.

Passed in 1973 to consolidate employment programs and give more control to localities, the CETA program has been under constant attack for alleged "misuse and abuse of funds." This was the thinly disguised "reason" the House used to reduce CETA

funds.

The present bill before the House pointed out that the number of poor in public service jobs has increased from 44 percent in 1976 to 66 percent in 1977, in effect, due to CETA programs. This bill included a study made by the National Research Council, part of the National Academy of Sciences, that recommended the continuation of the program with changes that would make the program more effective.

None of these facts seem to

matter to the members of the House who do the bidding of the ruling class. Who would be more guilty of misappropriation and abuse of funds than those who allocate billions upon billions of dollars for war machines instead of for needed services and jobs? CETA has provided jobs for thousands who otherwise might not be working, many of these jobs in much-needed areas such as in day care, summer jobs for youth, counselling, needed community services.

## While giving billions to the Pentagon

# House votes another cut in abortion funding

By KATHY DURKIN

AUGUST 10—The House of Representatives voted yesterday to cut funding for abortions for women in the armed forces and wives and dependents of servicemen, in yet another attack on the right of women to have abortions. The anti-abortion amendment was part of a military spending bill which allotted \$19.2

billion for the highest military budget in history.

The present policy regarding abortions in military hospitals allows for abortions to be performed on women in the service and for wives and children of servicemen. But the House's vote would deny the use of any of the above funds—\$119.2 billion!—for abortions procedures, except

where the mother's life would be endangered if she were to give birth.

This is yet another serious setback in the right of a woman to make the ultimate decision about whether or not to have a child. Congressional votes in the past year have taken away the rights of poor women to have Medicaid funding for abortions, except in cases of extreme medical emergency or in some cases of rape or incest.

The vote in the House signifies a further encroachment on not only the right to abortion, but on women's rights in general. It is part of the ultra-right campaign which seeks to abolish the right to abortion for all women no matter what their circumstances might be. As of now with the current restrictions on abortion, more and more women are being forced to seek alternatives to safe, legal abortions, and if abortions become illegal once again, many women will die or become permanently injured from unsafe abortions.

Not only women's rights, but the

rights of all poor, working, and oppressed people are increasingly being attacked by the right-wing movement in this country. While the Pentagon hawks gloat as their Congressional cronies vote in the biggest military budget in history, it is the masses of people who suffer as their gains and rights are pushed further back.

The \$2.1 billion allotted for one nuclear aircraft carrier in the current arms bill could pay for daycare for thousands of children, could build housing for hundreds of families and could provide quality schools and medical care for women, men and children throughout the country who need it so desperately.

All the necessities of life should be made available to women and their families from education and jobs to pregnancy disability, safe abortions on demand, daycare and health care. And all of the resources of this society should be used for human need and not one cent should go to the war-mad Pentagon military and their allies who own the arms corporations.

## —Dr. King

(Continued from p. 1)

Ray actually killed Dr. King.

"I am convinced," Rev. Jackson told reporters, "that he was involved but was not alone. It may very well be that Mr. Ray was a diversion in a grander scheme."

Rev. Jackson visited Ray in prison last week together with two other Black leaders, Rev. James Lawson of Los Angeles and Dr. Alvin Poussaint of Harvard University.

The House Committee, meanwhile, is split by the tension

and conflicting interests involved in the investigations of the King and Kennedy assassinations.

Ray's new lawyer, Mark Lane, told reporters at yesterday's hearings that the House Committee was not pursuing leads, such as evidence presented by New York City's chief medical examiner Dr. Michael Bader on the direction of the fatal shot which killed King. Lane further stated that the Committee was building up another frame-up against Ray to quash any real investigation into a conspiracy.

Last week Lane said the Committee had violated the law and its own rules as part of a conspiracy to prevent a fair investi-

gation of the assassination. Lane claimed that an undercover agent for the Committee, who was formerly an FBI informant, had illegally tapped the phone of his client's brother, Jerry Ray, and also made copies of letters from James Ray to his brother.

Spokesmen for the Committee have denied that the agent, Oliver Patterson, was employed by them, although it was conceded that he may have been employed only by one member of the Committee. Nevertheless, the incident shows that there are ruling class elements, even within the Committee, determined to hide the truth behind the conspiracy that murdered Martin Luther King, Jr.



# Unsafe Seabrook nuke gets government seal of approval

By DIANE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, Aug. 15—The Nuclear Regulatory Commission gave an immediate go-ahead signal today to resume construction of the Seabrook nuclear power plant in New Hampshire.

Tens of thousands of people who have protested the completion of this plant maintain that Seabrook is a hazard to safety, citing the current threat from a possible nuclear accident, and the future threat from radioactive material.

On June 30, five days after 20,000 demonstrators converged on the Seabrook construction site, and within earshot of nuclear opponents picketing the commission's Washington, D.C., headquarters, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ordered a halt to construction of the Seabrook nuke.

When that ruling was announced it was clear that the anti-nuke movement had won a significant victory.

Today's capitulation to profit means that the two irreconcilable sides are still squared off. Representatives of people concerned with human safety have vowed to continue the struggle to obstruct construction of Seabrook. The Clamshell Alliance, which organized the June 25 demonstration—the largest nuclear power action in North American history—said today that they would block Seabrook Harbor to prevent the movement of a key part of the reactor. If that fails, they promised to lie down across a highway and block any land movement of the reactor part.

New Hampshire Gov. Meldrim Thomson, a notorious right-winger in the camp of the nuclear energy bosses, has sworn to assure continued construction of the plant. Thomson claims the dubious distinction of being responsible for the arrests of 1,414 people at the Seabrook site on May 1, 1977. Their "crime" was voicing

concern over the credibility of "nuclear safety."

Worldwide protests took place last week on the anniversary of the U.S. mass murder at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The protests hit the dangerous use of nuclear power in the U.S. and the horrors of nuclear weapons.

Yesterday the New Hampshire State Police arrested 18 protestors occupying the Seabrook site.

Whatever the pluses or minuses of nuclear power, one thing is certain: the owners of nuclear power plants put profit well above the safety of human beings by such actions as building nukes like the Indian Point plant in New York State and the Diablo Canyon atomic plant in California on earthquake fault lines.

Already corporate greed has left a legacy of death and disease across the country by combining a lethal mixture of nuclear power and profit motive. The struggle to close Seabrook once and for all is still swelling.

# GI leukemia cases cast doubt on 'safe' radiation levels

By RACHEL DUELL

AUGUST 13—Has the U.S. government really conducted enough studies to prove, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that its nuclear reactor plants (for example, the plant okayed this week for further construction in Seabrook, New Hampshire) are truly safe?

Evidence stemming from the unusually high incidence of leukemia, a blood cancer, occurring among GIs who were each exposed to low doses of radiation in the vicinity of atomic bomb explosions in the Nevada desert during the 1950s may just show that nuclear reactor plants in the U.S. could be seriously endangering lives.

Donald Coe, a veteran, recently won a disability award from the Veterans Administration (VA). Coe had charged that the leukemia he developed had resulted from his participation in an atomic bomb test code named "Smoky." The atomic blast occurred on Aug. 31,

1957 at Yucca Flats, Nevada.

According to the New York Times (Dec. 25) the Defense Department has said that although some of those present were within two-and-one-half miles of the explosion, "radiation doses were well below the accepted limit of safety which is five rads a year." According to the same source, scientists fear that if doses

now considered safe were found to have effects such as leukemia over a longer term, the redesign of nuclear power reactors might prove necessary.

The same article further states that officials from the National Center of Disease Control reported that scientists would have "to reappraise the safety standards

(Continued on p. 10)

## In Chicago

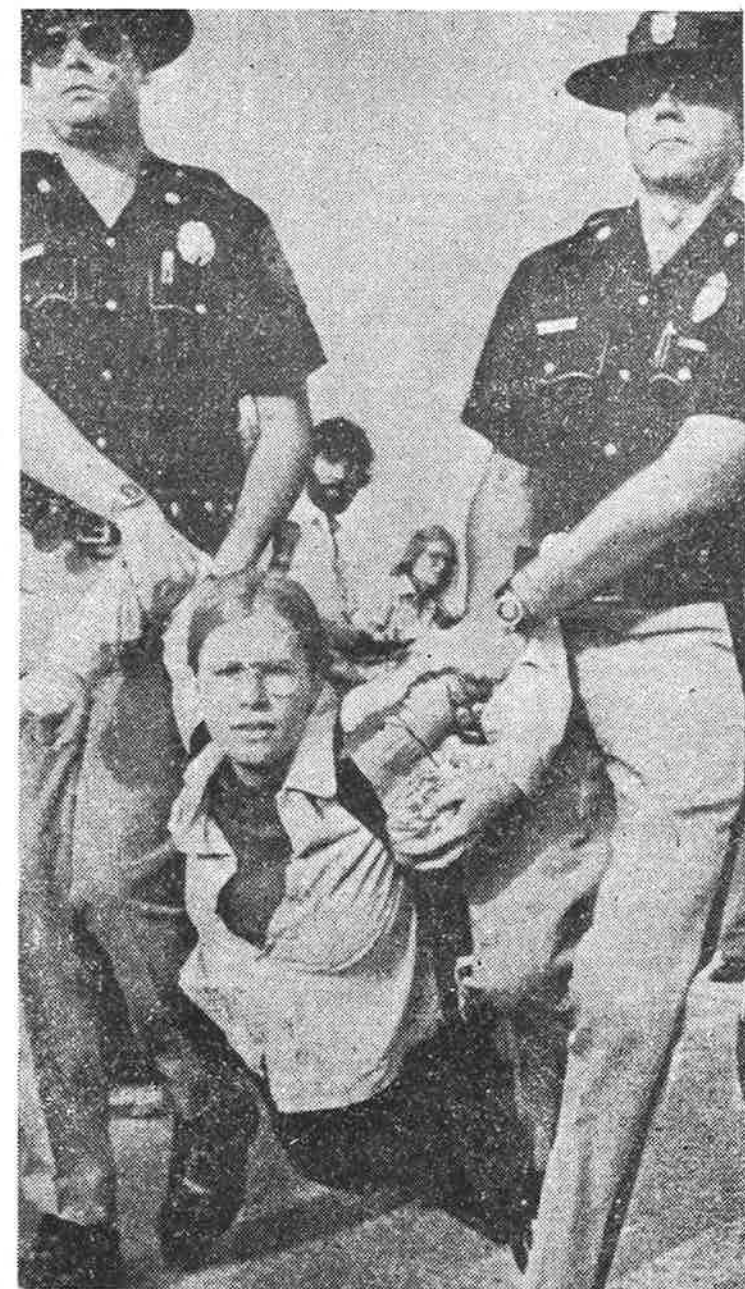
# Hiroshima-Nagasaki deaths commemorated

By P. KIMBALL

CHICAGO, Aug. 5—Thirty-three years ago this week U.S. imperialism burned, blasted, and radiated 300,000 Asian people from the face of the earth. With the A-bombings of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the horrors of imperialist war took on a new meaning: nuclear devastation.

"My body was burnt black and spattered with blood," wrote a survivor of Hiroshima. "I saw men and women screaming, dying, tortured. In one moment I saw more pain than I could have imagined in a lifetime."

These words were read today by Chiye Tomihiro, president of the Chicago chapter of the Japanese-American Citizens' League, to a



Protester being dragged off during the occupation of the site of the Seabrook, N.H., Nuclear Power plant Monday. Eighteen protesters were arrested.

crowd of 200 who had gathered today to march in commemoration of the bombings, and to protest the growing threat of nuclear disaster that all people in the U.S. and in the world must face.

Decades after Hiroshima, the U.S. war machine persists in cranking out new and more ghastly terror weapons, and in peddling nuclear hardware to such racist regimes as South Africa and Israel. In addition, nuclear power plants and waste dumps—managed for profit, not for safety—threaten many U.S. and European towns and cities with the release of the most lethal substances ever known or created.

## PROTEST HITS BIG BUSINESS

Today's demonstration, called by the Mobilization for Survival and sponsored by 18 community, religious, and labor groups, was directed against the corporations which are behind these developments. A march down Michigan Avenue, included stops at the corporate offices of such merchants of death as International Harvester, FMC, and Borg-Warner, all major arms contractors.

In addition, protestors stopped at the South African Consulate. The racist South African regime claims to have developed atomic weapons.

Dennis Brutus, South African exile, quoting from various news sources, pointed out to the rally that it was the United States which had sold South Africa enriched uranium with which to build these bombs, and was planning to sell more; and that the governments of West Germany and Israel were guilty of providing South Africa with nuclear technology.

"The racist minority of three

million plans to hold up to ransom the continent of Africa and its 500 million people," Brutus declared. "If it is the government of the United States and the corporations which are guilty of aiding this racist and brutal regime, then it must be the people of the United States who must turn that policy around."

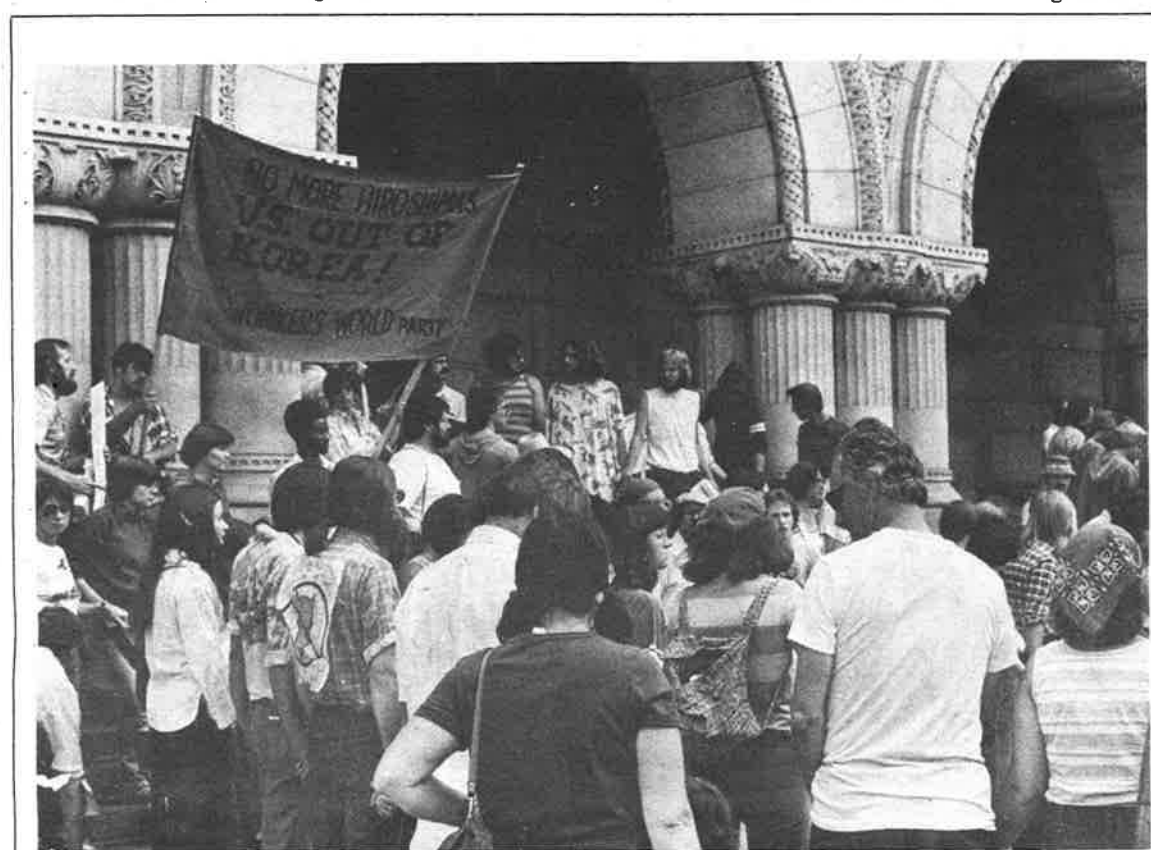
## WORST SAFETY RECORD

Literature distributed by the Bailly Alliance headed "Illinois: Nuclear Wasteland!" pointed out that there are seven nuclear power plants operating in the state; eight being built, and nine more being planned.

Commonwealth Edison (Com Ed), the major utility involved, has the worst safety record of any electric company in the U.S. which has nuclear plants. For example, it was recently revealed that workers at the Zion plant had had to handle radioactive waste by hand with hoses when the automatic machinery broke down. Com Ed had reported this to no one, claiming it was not "safety-related!"

Illinois also boasts two nuclear waste dumps, including the Morris dump, a project of General Electric. Over 300 tons of intensely radioactive used fuel rods have been trucked all over the U.S. to sit in a pool of water at Morris. No one knows what to do with this waste next, but some of it will be lethal for 250,000 years.

The Bailly Alliance has called for a demonstration at Morris on Saturday, Aug. 19, followed by a "non-violent occupation of the parking lot to halt the shipment of nuclear wastes." For further information on this action call (312) 764-5011 or (219) 926-3172.



## March in Milwaukee against nuclear war drive

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 5—Some 200 people marched through downtown Milwaukee here today and rallied at the Federal Building on the anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing. They demanded the stopping of unsafe nuclear production, an end to the war drive, and that the taxes be used for housing and social welfare, not for war.

WW photo

# Carter-Meany feud not just a war of words

By VINCE COPELAND

AUG. 15—The anti-labor offensive of big business has finally been answered by the top leaders of the U.S. labor movement, if not yet in deeds, then in clear and unequivocal words.

AFL-CIO President George Meany has said that he and other AFL-CIO leaders are going to resign from the Labor Management Board, which is a class-collaborationist affair on which big business representatives and labor leaders conspire to hold

wages down allegedly in the interest of "the public," but really in the interest of capital itself.

"I don't see much prospect of our continuing to participate on the Labor Management Board under the present conditions," Meany declared on Aug. 9 during the AFL-CIO Executive Council's meeting. "I'm sure it will be acted on in the next few weeks (i.e., by the various AFL-CIO unions). I won't resign alone."

He added at the same press conference that inflation was not

caused by wage increases anyway. "I see no sign that inflation is going to abate," he asserted. "There is every indication that it will go up."

While every worker with more than thirty days on the job has always known that simple truth, this is the first time George Meany has uttered it.

The importance of this statement, however, lies in his companion declaration that because inflation is beyond the power of wage workers to stop, "we are not

going to hold down wages"—which in fact the Labor Management Board has been constantly working at.

If Meany is serious, and there is every indication that he is, then the logical thing is for him to resign from the Labor Management Board as he said he would. Douglas Fraser of the United Auto Workers (UAW) did just this last month. (See Sam Marcy's analysis, *Workers World*, Aug. 4.)

Meany also said of the proposed contract of the Postal Workers, "I

don't think it was a good settlement"—a mild but significant encouragement to the workers to vote it down.

## CARTER "LIVID"

These brief words from the 83-year-old labor chief who "never called a strike and never walked a picket line," as he says of himself, have been little less than earth-shaking on Capitol Hill and in the crisis-ridden White House. In both places Meany has always been considered a pillar of the capitalist state and a branch of the Democratic Party.

President Carter was reported as being "absolutely livid" over this and over Meany's criticism of his weak handling of the Labor Law Reform Bill, which the aged but intractable union leader is still talking about. (It was defeated in Congress last spring.)

And according to the capitalist commentators, this is a feud which may lead to a complete break between Meany and Carter and thus weaken Carter's chances for reelection. In addition, they say, it may weaken the Democratic Party, whose strength is partially derived from the attachment of the labor union leaders to its back seat.

But in relation to such a break, when pressed by reporters for his opinion about the Republicans and Democrats and whom he would support, he answered, "... We are not going to start a labor party if that's what you mean." (Fraser of the UAW had indirectly indicated that the UAW might do that. The UAW is not a part of the AFL-CIO.)

Nevertheless when another reporter asked him if he thought that big business was really waging "class warfare" when it scuttled the Labor Law Reform Bill, he answered, "Yes... I think it is a part of a class warfare."

It cannot be expected that the anti-communist cold warrior, George Meany, will advocate the workers engage in unlimited class warfare themselves in order to defeat those who are making class warfare against them. But like a weathervane when a stormwind shifts it, he has responded with a clear and visible about-face.

The militant workers will make the most of it.

## Solidarity crucial as

# NYC Pressmen fight to save their union

By KENNY PETERSON

NEW YORK, Aug. 16—Are trade unions becoming an "endangered species"?

The newspaper industry in the U.S. has become a battleground in which this question is being fought out. On the one hand are thousands of newspaper workers, belonging to some of the oldest unions in the country, on the other are the newspaper owners, millionaire tycoons presiding over powerful media empires.

Newspaper workers have been the target for several years now of a monstrous conspiracy: the capitalist newspapers have let it be known that they are going to try to drive the unions out of the newspaper industry.

## THE SCRAP HEAP

In New York City, the pressmen are entering the second week of their strike against the *New York Times*, the *Daily News*, and the *New York Post*—to prevent the dismemberment of their union. The strike was forced upon them by management. In reality it is a lockout, and an actual example of the "one-sided class war" that United Auto Workers President Doug Fraser charged business was waging against the working people of this country.

The *Daily News*, *New York Post*, and *New York Times* have banded together and, in effect, summarily fired fully one-half of the approximately 1,600 pressmen employed at the three papers. The newspaper owners are attempting to throw on the scrap heap workers with twenty and thirty years of seniority!

## LABOR SUPPORT

All of the other organized workers at the *News*, the *Post*, and the *Times* are honoring the pressmen's picket lines, forcing the papers to cease publication. With the example of the *Washington Post* behind them, the workers have learned that class solidarity is the only effective reply

to union busting. Attention is especially focused on the members of the deliverers' union, since the publishers have trained management and non-union employees in the "art" of producing a scab newspaper.

It was the rank and file of the deliverers' union who forced the *Daily News* to shut down its scab operation during a Guild strike only two months ago. The deliverers' rank and file had forced their own leadership to reverse itself and support the Guild.

## THE GAME PLAN

The issue in this strike is plainly union busting. Bill Kennedy, president of the New York Printing Pressmen's Union, Local 2, said point blank: the publishers' "aim is to break the union." Even Abe Raskin, the avowedly pro-management former labor editor of the *Times* spoke on a TV talk show of a publishers' "game plan" to "smash the unions."

The publishers, naturally, deny this, insisting that they are only after "productivity" gains in order to "compete" with the suburban papers. A quick look at the facts proves this to be a lie.

Technological changes, which have revolutionized the typesetting industry, are not an issue: the presses are basically the same as they've been for fifty years. Cutting the number of pressmen in half, while it will certainly give greater profits to the owners, will place an unbearable strain upon the workers, who already labor under extremely difficult, noisy, and dirty conditions.

The *Daily News* is the largest circulation daily in the country, while the *Post* is the largest evening daily. Last year, the parent companies of the *News* and the *Post* netted profits of \$56.1 million and \$12.3 million respectively. And the *Times* had record earnings last year (as did the *News*) of \$26.1 million. Each of these three papers is number one in its own



Striking pressmen picket at the New York Daily News.

domain, hardly the victim of undue competition.

## THE SCAB SCHOOL

To uncover the sources of this conflict between the unions and management one would have to go back to the early 1970s when the American Newspaper Publishers Association shelled out \$6 million to set up a scab school in Oklahoma, where management and professional strikebreakers are instructed in the techniques of union busting. According to Pressmen's Union President Kennedy, the New York City publishers are "following the same pattern established at the *Washington Post*," where management and non-union personnel were sent to this infamous scab school and to another one in Kansas.

Hypocrisy and deceit are nothing new for the newspaper publishers. As a matter of fact, that is their stock in trade. Their editorials reek of it day after day. (At the founding convention of the American Newspaper Guild in 1934, a resolution was adopted charging that "news writers have been too often degraded as hirelings compelled by their employers to serve the purpose of politicians, monopolists, speculators in the necessities of

life, exploiters of labor, and fomentors of war.")

All of labor has a vital stake in defending the pressmen. Determination, solidarity, and struggle is the formula for success.

## Jewelry workers walkout



NEW YORK, Aug. 15—Production workers at Avedon Manufacturers Corporation, a costume jewelry shop in Manhattan, are in their second week of a strike demanding a union contract. The striking jewelry workers, who are seeking union recognition, are members of the Amalgamated Jewelry Diamond and Watchcase Union Local #1 (AFL-CIO). As of now Avedon workers have no family medical plan and are paid low, non-union wages. WW photo: Bill Hackwell

## Labor and Carter

CHICAGO, Aug. 10—Members of AFSCME demonstrated in the Loop here today carrying a black coffin labeled "Labor's ties with the Carter administration."

WW photo: G. Dunkel

## Heat kills 2 workers at Sparrows Point steel plant

By KERMIT LEIBENSPERGER

BALTIMORE, Aug. 7—Last week, two workers here died from heat exhaustion as temperatures soared to as high as 150 degrees, at some jobs. At tonight's meeting of United Steel Workers Local 2610 at Sparrows Point, workers voted unanimously to strike if a relief system in hot areas of the mills isn't started immediately.

Anger against the company for oppressive working conditions is raging high among coke oven, open hearth, and particularly blast furnace workers. Customarily extra people have been added to

blast furnace crews because of the heat, but this summer the company eliminated these jobs.

When Local 2610 President Joe Katelchuck called for the "aye" vote after the reading of the executive board's strike resolution, the roar of voices echoed through the hall like a clap of thunder. When the "nay" vote was called for, there was total silence.

The tension is building as the possibility dwindles of the safety committee talking the bosses into a heat relief system without a strike.



## Colonial police massacre two independentistas

# Repression mounts in Puerto Rico

By P. MEISNER

AUGUST 15—The level of colonial repression reached a new high in Puerto Rico this past July 25th, the 80th anniversary of the invasion of the island nation by U.S. imperialist troops. Two young advocates of independence for their country were led into a police ambush by a police agent on a mountain near Villalba, a town located in the southern part of the island.

Carlos Soto Arrivi and Arnaldo Dario Rosado were summarily executed in the most shocking act of political repression in many years on the Caribbean island. It was revealed the next day that a police agent-provocateur, Alejandro Gonzalea Malave, had infiltrated a number of the pro-independence organizations in Puerto Rico and led the two independentistas into a trap where at least 15 police fired with M-1s and carbines nearly 200 rounds of ammunition at the two defenseless young Puerto Ricans.

The massacre shook the entire island, except, of course, the colonial government of Carlos Romero Barcelo and its brutal police henchmen. Romero, puppet governor of the island, applauded the killings as "heroic" while claiming that police only reacted to a planned sabotage of communications installations. However, the revelation of the existence of a police agent in the public car (long-distance taxi) among the three "conspirators"

has exposed the pro-statehood governor as a vicious liar.

### EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT OF MURDERS

The driver of the public car, Julio Ortiz Molina, had been forced to drive the three men to Villalba but survived the ambush and was able to tell his version of how Soto and Dario were killed. Ortiz, in a sworn statement, said that the two independentistas were only wounded in the initial round of fire and were captured by the policemen. The two pleaded for the life of Ortiz Molina, claiming that he was an innocent bystander. The driver stated, nevertheless, that he was beaten by the club-and-trigger-happy police.

Then, Ortiz heard one of the two captured and wounded youth scream, "I surrender!" Shortly after, he heard another round of fire. Soto Arrivi and Dario Rosado had been murdered in cold blood. Soto was the 18-year-old son of Pedro Juan Soto, a popular Puerto Rican author and poet. The latter intends to file a suit against the police butchers and has demanded an autopsy of impartial body, conducted by an impartial b9dy.

### "ROMERO, ASESINO!"

The massacre angered much of the population of the island. Almost 1,000 people took to the streets of San Juan on Aug. 2 to protest in front of the colonial governor's mansion. The

demonstrators shouted from the top of their lungs, "Romero, asesino y anti-obrero!" ("Romero, assassin and anti-worker!") On Aug. 3, as many people met to form a broad coalition against repression, which included the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), the Popular Socialist Movement (MSP), UTIER (the municipal electrical workers' union), the Teamsters, the General Union of Workers, the United Workers Movement (MOU), and several other organizations.

Many statements showing opposition to the government's terrorist act were issued by political organizations as conservative as the colonial opposition party of Munoz Marin (governor of Puerto Rico from 1948 to 1964), the Popular Democratic Party (PPD). Juan Mari Bras, secretary-general of the PSP, said in his article in the Aug. 11 issue of Claridad, the PSP's weekly newspaper:

"What occurred in Cerro Maravilla of Villalba on July 25 was a massacre, coldly planned and executed by the most brutal elements of the Police of Puerto Rico. . .

The level of political repression had been increasing in the past year, with the assassination of Teamster leader Juan Rafael Caballero last September, the frame-up murder charge leveled against Teamster organizer Miguel Cabrera, the jailing of labor leader Radames Acosta for "violating the union-busting, U.S.-imposed Taft-Hartley law, and the recent bombing of Teamster and PSP offices.

But the massacre at Villalba was part of a well-coordinated chain of physical assaults on the labor and pro-independence movements in Puerto Rico. The same police agent, Gonzalez Malave, shot at the residence of Munoz Marin and had eight independentistas arrested for it. On July 4, Gonzalez also shot at the campus guard-house of the University of Puerto Rico and tried to frame the independence movement for the attack.

The stepped-up repression of the colonial regime reflects the insoluble political and economic crisis currently plaguing the colonized island. The political forces traditionally behind the continuation of the present form of U.S. colonial slavery (known as "Commonwealth") are in disarray and on the verge of disintegration. This leaves a huge political vacuum in Puerto Rico and has prompted Washington and Wall Street to seek another form of colonial relationship, including the possibility of total annexation, that is, statehood.

But the one political status the U.S. rulers will never consider is the complete independence and liberation of the island from Yankee imperialism. And that is why the most militant voices for independence are currently being brutally attacked, now that a political vacuum and crisis loom larger every day throughout Puerto Rico.

However, the super-oppressed Puerto Rican working class has yet to intervene on a mass scale in defense of their class brothers and sisters. They have, however, shown recent signs of engaging the colonial and imperialist enemy in class warfare (e.g., the recent UTIER strike against the government). It is this embryonic development that the corporate U.S. ruling class is terrified of—the beginning of the end for U.S. imperialism in Puerto Rico.



The heroic Vieques fishermen.

## People of Vieques won't U.S. Navy occupy their is

By C. BESSON

VIEQUES P.R., July 25—The situation on Vieques had been intolerable for a long time, but now people here are rising up in self-defense. After 38 years of suffering the war-games of the U.S. Navy and Marines, the mutilating injuries, the insults, the fatal "accidents," and the consequent exodus of the youth, the people of Vieques have begun to organize to challenge the U.S. Navy's death-grip on the island.

For the past three years there has been an intensification of military and naval operations that accompanied the transfer of these operations to Vieques from Culebra, a smaller offshore island

of Puerto Rico. The Navy's retreat from Culebra followed a long and ultimately victorious campaign against the Navy there.

At the beginning of 1978 the fishermen of Vieques experienced a sharp drop in their catch—but in addition to the economic hardships created by the Navy there is also the direct brutality shown to the people whose island they bombard so carelessly. There are large unexploded bombs for example, just fifteen feet from the mouth of the harbor which could be easily detonated by an anchor, and, which could cause damage that the fishermen hesitate to imagine.

Not long ago, a group of

## Strike wave gripping

June 18.

Whether it can be carried through or not, the new agreement illustrates how U.S. imperialism can use the IMF, an instrument of the big banks, to squeeze the economic life from a country like Peru, whose government has tried to follow an independent, nationalist policy.

The military junta, which took power in 1968, at first followed a populist policy. They reduced the power of the few wealthy families who owned most of Peru, and even nationalized the U.S.-owned International Petroleum Company in 1969.

The junta also challenged the U.S. by trying to open trade with socialist countries and chasing U.S. fishing boats out of Peru's territorial waters. However, no real social overturn was made that would have put Peru's workers in charge—as, for example, was done in Cuba—and Peru remained tied to the imperialist economic system. In fact, its main trading partners remained the U.S. and West Germany.

As earnings dried up during the general capitalist economic downturn, Peru became more and more dependent on foreign credit and loans from the big imperialist banks. But these banks would not make the loans without first seeing that the ruling military was ready to pay back the loans out of the hides of the workers and peasants.

The IMF was the body that could grant approval for loans and credits, based on the agreement of the military to impose "austerity" measures. In reality, these

## "Stop the repression!"

NEW YORK, Aug. 11—A militant picket line was thrown around the office of Puerto Rico's colonial government in lower Manhattan today to protest the brutal murder of two independentistas in Puerto Rico on July 25.

The demonstration of 150 protesters was called by the Puerto Rican Solidarity Committee (PRSC), the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), El Comite, the Anti-Imperialist Movement for Socialism in Argentina (MASA), and Non-Intervention in Chile (NICH). The PRSC is a broad coalition of progressive organizations and individuals united around the struggle for Puerto Rican liberation.

The demonstrators aimed their loud chants against the repressive colonial puppet regime of Carlos Romero Barcelo, who immediately applauded the police massacre of Carlos Soto Arrivi and Arnaldo

Dario Rosado. Some of the chants were "Stop the repression of Puerto Rican workers!" and "Puerto Rico, Crown Heights, same struggle, same fight!"

The joint leaflet issued at the demonstration said in part:

"We in the United States strongly denounce the actions of the Puerto Rican police and the Barcelo administration. We understand who the real terrorists are in Puerto Rico: the police and rightwing, and the pro-statehood administration of Carlos Romero Barcelo.

"We demand that:  
—an impartial investigation be initiated into the July 25th killing of the two independentistas.  
—Police responsible for the murders be brought to justice.  
—the civil rights of the Puerto Rican people be respected.  
—the harassment against the Puerto Rican Independence Movement and the Labor Movement be stopped."



## "Down with colonialism!"

WW photo: Bob Conklin

ROCHESTER, July 25—About 150 people attended a rally held in the Latin community here today on the 80th anniversary of the invasion of Puerto Rico by U.S. imperialism in 1898. The theme of the gathering was Down with Colonialism, Free Puerto Rico! Today's activity was organized by Movimiento Aguebana. Also participating were the Chilean Refugee Committee and Workers World Party.



## n't let island

fishermen began to plan the first of a series of challenges to the Navy. **Workers World** spoke with Ismael Guadalupe, a key organizer of this development who described how the movement got started.

He and Carlos Zenon, the president of the United Fishermen's Association began visiting the homes of members of the association, scattered across the island, discussing what could be done. It was agreed to have a limited symbolic demonstration to let the Navy know that their wanton abuse of Vieques would no longer go unchallenged. The idea was proposed that the fishermen would stage a demonstration in

(Continued on p. 10)

## ing Peru

measures lower the living standards of the workers and threaten to remove what little is left of the social gains of the past ten years.

### STARVATION

When mass pressure cancelled last year's austerity program, the IMF called the deal off. Peru was in a financial crisis. According to the Aug. 8 Washington Post, "Letters of credit from Peruvian banks became virtually unacceptable abroad."

The article continued, "Meanwhile U.S. banks, led by Citibank, which sent a group of advisers to Peru, persuaded the government to return to negotiations with the IMF." This too collapsed, and so did the Peruvian economy, crunched by the imperialist bankers.

Conditions grew even worse after this. The International Herald Tribune stated July 11 that Peru's population was "on the brink of starvation." A Peruvian personnel manager is quoted as saying that, "An undernourished generation is growing up without even the basic foods. You see them in the streets pale and skinny."

It's under these conditions that the IMF could impose its will on Peru's government. But the resistance of the workers makes it doubtful the agreement can be carried out. Or perhaps that movement will in fact, grow to one that can replace the once relatively progressive military government with a real workers government, one that can cut the ties to imperialism and the IMF and like Cuba, orient to the socialist countries.

## An outstanding manifestation of anti-imperialist solidarity

# Cuban World Youth Festival comes to a close

By JAIME VEVE

HAVANA, Aug. 5—The 11th World Festival of Youth and Students came to a close today as over one million Cuban people assembled at Havana's Revolutionary Square to bid farewell to the more than 18,000 young delegates from around the world.

For over ten days these delegates have been witness to the profound feelings of solidarity and pride exhibited by the Cuban people who made the festival an extraordinary event to be long remembered by those honored to attend.

For over two years the Cuban people, men and women workers, students and peasants have worked tirelessly in order to prepare Havana to be the host city of the 11th Festival. With the slogan "Youth of the World Cuba is your home" the Cuban people welcomed the delegates from around the world into their homes, schools, their workplaces and communities.

### GAINS OF CUBAN REVOLUTION

The delegates were able to witness first-hand the tremendous advances of the Cuban Revolution. A country which U.S. imperialism had once considered its private

playpen, with the resulting poverty, hunger and illiteracy, today stands vibrant as a bastion of socialism and host to the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students, a significant manifestation of anti-imperialist solidarity.

"The 11th World Festival has been a forum for explaining the true nature of our Revolution." These words expressed by Nyosh Teshume, head of the delegation from revolutionary Ethiopia to the festival (the first Ethiopian delegation ever to attend the festival), capsulized the essence of the festival as a platform of anti-imperialist solidarity and support for those struggling against U.S. imperialism. Along with constituting a political defeat for the imperialist blockade of Cuba, the festival also reflected the positive changes that have taken place in the struggle internationally since the last festival held in the German Democratic Republic in 1973.

The victorious people of Vietnam and their indomitable will to defeat U.S. imperialist aggression was symbolized by the presence of Vo Thi Thang, Vietnamese heroine, who, as part of the 270-member Vietnamese delegation, read the final appeal at the closing rally in Havana. Condemned to 20 years in prison

in 1968 by the Thieu regime, a picture of her smiling broadly was shown throughout the world. When asked by a reporter why she was smiling she answered, "Those who condemn me are quite mistaken to think that the regime will last 20 years."

The defeat of the former Portuguese colonial empire in Africa was evident by the presence of the delegations from Angola, Guinea Bissau, and Mozambique. One of the strongest manifestations of solidarity throughout the festival was for the struggle of Southern Africa and the liberation groups from South Africa, Namibia, and Zimbabwe.

Delegations from other corners of the world were also present at the festival. These included Chile, Laos, Nicaragua, Palestine, East Timor, Western Sahara, Puerto Rico, and over 450 progressives from the United States including a delegation of Native Indian people.

The spirit of renewed determination to expand the struggle against imperialism and especially solidarity with the Cuban Revolution was best summarized by Vo Thi Thang in her speech at the closing rally.

"From Cuba we call upon the youth of the world to: Strengthen

our anti-imperialist solidarity with all the people struggling for freedom and dignity.

"That we increase our condemnation of the unjust and criminal blockade against the noble people of Cuba who are constructing a new society and demand the immediate and unconditional disbanding of the base occupied by the U.S. in Guantanamo."

## Education in Cuba

AUG. 11—Frank Shaffer-Corona, member of the Washington D.C. Board of Education, is presently under attack from that city's government for his recent visit to Cuba for the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students. He spent a week touring the Cuban educational system which, he said "is the most advanced educational system I've ever seen in my life." He continued, "If we did 10 percent for our students in the D.C. public schools of what they're doing down there we'd have the most advanced educational system in the United States."



On July 28, at the opening event of the World Youth Festival at Latin American Stadium in Havana, the human card section depicts revolutionary heroes of the Cuban people. WW photo: Molly Charboneau

## Right-wing terrorist admits crime

# Assassin of Letelier gets light sentence

By HILLEL BAILIN

Aug. 13—Michael V. Townley has admitted that he planted a bomb which killed Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffitt, two opponents of the fascist junta in Chile. Townley, a U.S.-born agent of Chile's secret police, said yesterday in a federal courtroom in Washington, D.C. that he had a central role in the September 1976 murders and that he would testify against some of his helpers. In exchange, the U.S. attorney and the federal judge agreed to give Townley the very light sentence of 40 months in jail.

During the court hearing, Townley said, "I was issued orders to complete a mission...the assassination of Orlando Letelier." Letelier had been Chile's ambassador to the U.S. for the progressive Allende government. After the U.S.-backed fascist coup in September 1973, Letelier stayed in exile in the U.S. to build opposition to the murderous regime of Gen. Augusto Pinochet and the other generals. Letelier was in a car with his assistant, Ronnie Moffitt, when they were killed by

the bomb that Townley admits he planted.

Townley testified that he worked with a group of Cuban counter-revolutionary exiles called the "Cuban Nationalist Movement." He also says that he was in touch with General Manuel Contreras Sepulveda, the former head of the Chilean junta's secret police (then known as DINA), who has also been indicted here for the bombing.

Townley's lawyer later said in the courtroom that officials of the Chilean fascist government recently met with Townley and told him to cooperate with the U.S. prosecutor.

In other words, Townley was following government orders when he murdered Letelier and Moffitt and is still following government orders!

### WON'T HAVE TO TELL ALL

Yesterday's Washington Post reported that Townley has been known to be involved in other terrorist activities in other

countries. However, his plea-bargaining agreement only requires him to talk about crimes in the U.S. or by U.S. citizens.

This "agreement" will mean that Townley won't serve more than four years in jail for cold-blooded political assassinations.

It also is a virtual admission that Townley does indeed know about other crimes in other countries and that the U.S. Attorney's office knows something of them, too.

### ALSO WORKS FOR CIA

The facts that have come out in the case also point to CIA involvement, even though it is unlikely that the U.S. attorney will make the connections. For one thing, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has admitted that the CIA had a hand in the 1974 Chile coup, and it is well known that the CIA helped train the DINA, and worked with them.

Cuban exile counter-revolutionaries have been bought and paid for CIA agents for years, and Townley's "other activities"

which he agreed not to testify about indicate that he is an international outlaw.

Finally, the Chilean lawyer for General Contreras recently confirmed that to his knowledge, Townley works for the CIA!

If Townley does indeed work for the CIA, which all the evidence suggests, and if he still works for the government of the U.S.'s ally Chile—which he admits—why has he been arrested at all?

The Carter administration would like to clean up the image of the fascist junta of Chile. With all his talk on human rights it is hard for Carter to explain his great friendship and alliance with the bloody dictator Pinochet. So recently, the DINA changed its name, and now a few agents will serve a little time in jail and "presto-change-o" justice prevails again in Chile.

But it will take more than a slap on the wrist of a few agents to wash away the murderous deeds of Chile's junta and its backers in the White House.




 EDITORIAL

## National Guard out of Memphis!

What are 1,200 National Guardsmen armed with riot guns, using armored personnel carriers and mammoth tanks, doing on the streets of Memphis, Tennessee?

Their presence is a provocation and a state of super-repression against the working and oppressed people of the city. And every progressive person is for their immediate removal.

How did they come to be there in the first place? Because of a policemen's strike—and now a firefighters' walkout.

From the point of view of the situation of a police strike alone, which we cannot support because the police are not workers but the paid professional enemies of the workers, we would still be against the National Guards' presence. Such a presence merely escalates the terror against the **people**—regardless of the possible harassment of a few picketing cops. The Guard protects the banks, the big merchants, the big employers and landlords, money-lenders and the like—and nobody else.

In addition to the above, however, the police strike seems to have set off a wider action of municipal workers. (Some teachers are now reported out as well as the firefighters.) And the National Guard will undoubtedly be used against them, too.

Whether or not the average firefighter or teacher, etc., can differentiate between their own genuine working class status and the spurious status of the police, the former are involved in a genuine working class action themselves and have every reason and right to demand the removal of the Guard.

Finally, the National Guard is, in spite of its part-time, amateur character, a murderous weapon of the imperialist state. We are against its armed mobilization at any time.

## The near-recall of Kucinich

The Mayor of Cleveland, Dennis Kucinich, has narrowly survived a recall campaign that was, without doubt, initiated by the big business interests whose toes he had stepped on. Kucinich had opposed an attempt to give a tax rebate to Republic Steel and some other large corporations and rightly pointed out that these tax giveaways to the rich just come out of the pockets of poor and working people.

To the extent that this attempt by big business, supported by a section of the labor bureaucracy, failed for the time being, that is to be welcomed. And it says something about the growing reluctance of working and poor people to go along with the political machines and ratify corporate rip-offs.

But, while it would be wrong to go along with a recall attempt initiated by the forces of reaction, there is also no reason to support Kucinich, either. On the contrary, given his timidity and downright capitulation on the question of confronting racism, it would be quite wrong.

Kucinich's populist-sounding statements have side-stepped the biggest issue in any city in the U.S. today: the question of racism. Where does he stand on that? The Black community of Cleveland doesn't see him as any particular friend and, even though the Black vote was light, it was more for his recall than against. This may have been partly because of the stand taken by Black politicians who are part of the Democratic machine, but the point is that Kucinich has done nothing to inspire confidence from the Black community, and has as a matter of fact shown that he will appeal to racism among backward whites, as when he said only a few days before the vote that he "personally" was against busing even though as Mayor he would uphold the law on it.

The greatest obstacle standing in the way of advancing the interests of the great multinational working class in this country is racism. It is a potent poison constantly being used to divert the anger of the masses from their real enemies, the billionaire rulers, and has helped reduce the 100-million strong U.S. working class to what appears to be a helpless giant. What the white workers of Cleveland need to know is that if they can find ways to build genuine solidarity with the Black and other oppressed communities, if they can learn from the titanic battles of the Black liberation movement, their struggle against the brutal, calloused monopolies will be strengthened immeasurably and their power will increase by geometric leaps.

### Busing and Self-determination

Makes clear how busing can be used to help improve educational opportunities for Black and other children of oppressed peoples. Shows how the Marxist-Leninist concept of self-determination for oppressed people should determine the stand and tactics on busing. An attack on the anti-busing position of one left-of-center grouping.

By Sam  
Marcy

25¢

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### U.S. looks to 'reap political benefits'

## China, Japan sign treaty aimed at USSR

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

AUGUST 15—The governments of China and Japan signed a Treaty of Peace and Friendship on Aug. 12 which, despite its innocuous title, is widely regarded as a maneuver to isolate and encircle the Soviet Union and was promoted by U.S. imperialism.

The public text of the treaty is very short, containing five quite vague articles. There is no mention anywhere of China's sovereignty over Taiwan, which is viewed as a major concession by China to the imperialists. But Article II declares that neither country will "seek hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region or in any other region and that each is opposed to efforts by any other country or group of countries to establish such hegemony." It is this part of the treaty which the Soviet news

agency Tass has objected to as likely to "heat up the international situation to the utmost," since "hegemony" is a codeword used by the Chinese leaders against the USSR.

#### "A WATERSHED"

This understanding of the intent of the treaty is not confined to Tass, however. The U.S. imperialist press also views the treaty as essentially an anti-Soviet move, and one that will benefit the imperialists if they play their cards right. Yesterday's Christian Science Monitor even called it "a historic watershed, not only in Asia but also for the pattern of international politics throughout the world."

"The West will have to meet the challenges of the new peace and friendship treaty between Japan

and China in order to reap its potential benefits....America wisely encouraged its Japanese ally to go forward with the treaty," editorialized the Monitor yesterday.

"Though the Japan-China treaty may be a needed signal to the Soviet Union, it will have to be handled cautiously to keep Russia from feeling so hemmed in that it will be tempted to abandon detente and arms control steps," it continued, adding that "suspicious Kremlin leaders" might read the treaty "as a new 'containment' of the Soviet Union taking shape." (As though the Soviet Union had nothing to be suspicious about!)

Today's Washington Post, in a short dispatch from Tokyo, reported that "Japanese Foreign

(Continued on p. 12)

relations have shown.

One of the greatest problems of the revolution has been to resolve the national question on a democratic basis while holding the country together against imperialism's attempts to destroy the revolution by encouraging and supporting a multitude of secessionist movements. Ethiopia has 90 different ethnic groups, the majority of whom suffered from chauvinism and oppression in the days of the feudal empire.

Since the bursting forth of the Ethiopian Revolution, with its steady march to the left under the impetus of the great awakening of the nearly 30 million impoverished peasants and workers, the old privileged ruling class, concentrated largely among the people known as Amharas, has been deprived of its property and politically liquidated. In all areas of social life, the revolution has brought to the fore representatives of the broad masses, many of whom formerly suffered national as well as class oppression.

This overturn of the old ruling class has in and of itself contributed to the beginning of the resolution of the national question in many parts of Ethiopia by eliminating the immediate oppressors—the landlords, members of the old state bureaucracy, and many of the merchants. But in Eritrea, the Ethiopian government was at first prevented from implementing its revolutionary program in many areas because of the war and the control of much territory

by the secessionist groups.

However, these groups have of late found themselves in an increasingly contradictory political position. For some years, they enjoyed the support of progressive movements in many parts of the world because of their claims to represent the aspirations of the broad masses of Eritrea against the imperialist-supported repressive feudal regime of Haile Selassie.

With the unfolding of the Ethiopian Revolution, however, these groups allied themselves with the counter-revolution, subordinated the interest of the oppressed masses to the reactionary classes in the name of "national unity," of all Eritreans, and at the same time began to get substantial aid from the most reactionary Arab states, notably Saudi Arabia. Many efforts were made by the Ethiopian leaders to arrive at a settlement of the war within a political framework uniting the peoples of Eritrea with the rest of Ethiopia on the basis of their common interests against imperialism and reaction, while guaranteeing their national democratic rights. But the secessionist groups chose to continue the war, miscalculating both their own strength and the dynamic of the Ethiopian Revolution.

The present situation represents not only a military defeat of great proportion for the Eritrean secessionist but their political bankruptcy well.

## —Ethiopia

(Continued from p. 9)

and ideologically so as to enable this sector of society to play its proper militant role in the defense of the popular revolution."

In the preamble to the final resolution, again quoting the Ethiopian Herald, the youth noted that "the war currently being waged in the region is a class struggle in every sense of the term" and said "it was part of their revolutionary task to devise a strategy which will discourage and ultimately make an end to feelings of narrow nationalism."

#### ETHIOPIA AND THE NATIONAL QUESTION

The Ethiopian Revolution, which began in February 1974 as a spontaneous uprising against the monarchy and the feudal system, came into conflict with all the reactionary regimes of the area and with imperialism when it declared that its objective was the establishment of mass organizations of the peasants and workers and of a revolutionary workers' party that could lay the basis for the dictatorship of the proletariat and the building of socialism.

These have not been idle words, as the subsequent revolutionary transformations of life inside Ethiopia and of its international



**Behind the sweeping offensive in Eritrea****Ethiopian military gains based on political preparation**

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

AUGUST 15—For the last two months, a strong Ethiopian offensive has been underway to end the war in Eritrea. Much of the Eritrean region, which comprises Ethiopia's entire coastal littoral bordering the Red Sea, has for the last few years been under the control of three secessionist groups which have been waging a costly and bloody war to establish an independent Eritrea.

The Ethiopian drive has been both political and military, although the Western imperialist press has reported only on the spectacular military advance of the Ethiopian forces, which began in the middle of June and has succeeded in recapturing every single town of any size in Eritrea except for (as of this writing) Keren.

Advancing simultaneously along several routes, the First and Second Liberation Armies of Ethiopia have taken the cities of Tesseney, Mendefera, Decamere, Massawa, and most recently, Agordat, as well as many smaller towns. They have also lifted the sieges of Asmara and Barentu.

Thus, both the so-called Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) and Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF) have been deprived of their bases in the towns and cities and also effectively cut off from their sources of resupply in the Sudan.

**POLITICAL MOBILIZATION THROUGHOUT ETHIOPIA**

What has not been explained in any of the press here is that these sweeping military victories of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Liberation Army were prepared for and accompanied by a nationwide political mobilization, in which meetings to discuss the Eritrean question were organized throughout the country, including in the areas under government control in Eritrea itself.

This political offensive began June 7, when Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) and of the Council of Ministers, gave a nationwide address on the situation in Eritrea.

Mengistu's talk was soon followed by the organization of a week-long seminar in Addis Ababa at which 1,000 representatives of government bodies, the armed forces, and the mass organizations intensively discussed the question of Eritrea: the history of the struggle there, the aid being given the secessionist groups by reactionary Arab regimes and Western imperialists, how the Ethiopian Revolution can implement its democratic program on the national question in Eritrea, and the need for the broad masses of all nationalities in Ethiopia to stand firm in defense of their territorial integrity against reactionary-inspired attempts to dismember the country.

This seminar laid the ground for the setting up of similar regional meetings by the beginning of last month. On July 19, a seven-day seminar attended by 1,100 people was opened in Asmara, the capital of the Eritrean region.

**ERITREAN MEETING DEFENDS "CLASS STRUGGLE"**

Another five-day seminar with 1,200 representatives of Eritrean youth associations took place a few days later in Asmara. At the close of the conference, the youth adopted a six-point resolution which, among other things, stated their opposition to the reactionary secessionist forces, urged the

establishment of an Institute of Nationalities to oversee the implementation of the nationwide program of regional autonomy and, according to the Ethiopian Herald of Aug. 1, "called on the pertinent authorities to equip genuinely progressive youth cadres with arms

(Continued on p. 8)

**Soldiers of imperialism**

The September issue of *Soldier of Fortune*, a magazine for racist U.S. mercenaries that flaunts ads for exotic weapons and has been shown to be connected to the CIA, has the following item under the category "Job Rumor Mill":

"Eritrea ... Unconfirmed stories indicate some hiring is being done for the Eritrean Liberation Front, which is apparently getting set for an invasion by the Russian and Cuban mercenaries (sic!) in Ethiopia. One correspondent wrote, 'The pay is lousy, the food is terrible, but the action is great.' Hiring is being done in Khartoum."



All over Ethiopia, political seminars explaining the position of the revolutionary government on the national question in relation to Eritrea were held in preparation for the current military offensive. This meeting in Holetta from July 18 to 21 was attended by 500 representatives of peasants, youths, urban dwellers, and women's associations, as well as by representatives of the regular army and the militias. Photo: Ethiopian Herald

**Church group confirms****Guerrillas didn't kill missionaries**

By DIANE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, Aug. 14—The big business media of the U.S. and its counterpart, the Rhodesian press, have long attempted to win world opinion away from the Black freedom fighters in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) by printing lies.

One of the biggest lies by the U.S. and Rhodesian media (aside from the falsehood that the fascists are making gains) is the accusation that the freedom fighters of the Patriotic Front are responsible for the mass murders of civilians and missionaries.

The Patriotic Front—composed of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) and the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU)—is in fact leading the struggle to once and for all emancipate 6.3 million oppressed Africans from the racist rule of 280,000 settlers.

Dr. Callistus Dingswayo Ndlovu, a representative of the Patriotic Front, explained in a recent press conference at the UN that the atrocities committed against the civilian and missionary population, "are committed by the Rhodesian regime's Selous Scouts,

a counter-insurgency military outfit of the Rhodesian army trained in the most savage methods of warfare," and that these troops use arms and uniforms similar to those used by the freedom fighters.

Ndlovu reminded the Western press, "You will remember that when Rhodesian forces massacred 104 African civilians in the Gutu reserve a few weeks ago, who were alleged to have been attending a rally addressed by a freedom fighter, the regime refused to allow members of the press to visit the scene of the massacre. But when 13 members of the Pentacostal Mission near the Mozambique

border were killed, allegedly by freedom fighters, members of the press were immediately flown to the scene."

**NO ONE BELIEVES THE LIES ANYMORE**

Horror stories of massacres attributed to liberation forces are published to blanket continuing butchery by the savage Smith regime. But today's Christian Science Monitor reveals that even the World Council of Churches (WCC) doesn't believe the lies of the apartheid Smith government.

Rev. William Howard, Chairman of the WCC Commission to Combat Racism, said

that the WCC, which has just made a financial contribution to the Patriotic Front, did not feel that there was enough hard evidence to prove the accusations against the Patriotic Front. In other words, even the Council of Churches doesn't believe the Rhodesian government when it points the finger of guilt at the Patriotic Front, and the issue is the murder of missionaries!

The Rhodesian government's lies will not save Ian Smith and 280,000 of his fellow fascists from the defeat they so richly deserve. For the Black masses of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), victory is on the horizon.

**Camp David summit set to keep up Sadat's capitulation to U.S.**

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

AUGUST 15—A face-to-face meeting between Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, and U.S. President Jimmy Carter has been set for Sept. 5 at Camp David, Md. in hopes of keeping alive what the Carter administration cynically refers to as "the diplomatic effort to secure a just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

U.S. imperialism's concept of peace in the Middle East is the peaceful submission of the Arab masses to ruthless exploitation by U.S.-controlled corporations and banks.

The coming summit is all the U.S. had to offer Sadat in exchange for his continued total capitulation to U.S. imperialism and its garrison state of Israel and his betrayal of the Palestinian people.

Since taking his capitulationist position late last fall, Sadat has loyally tightened the economic screws on the Egyptian workers and peasants on behalf of the imperialist banks, repressed Palestinian and Egyptian anti-imperialist groups in Egypt, stood by idly while the Israeli military launched its bloody March invasion of Lebanon, and provided

military aid to imperialism's puppet dictator of Zaire, Mobutu Sese Seko.

Sadat took this position under the illusion that the U.S. would reward his regime by making it their chief ally in the Middle East and force Israel to return Egyptian lands it has occupied since the 1967 war. But the U.S. responded by standing behind the arch-racist regime of Menachem Begin as it stepped up settlement of the occupied lands and arrogantly refused to even consider their return.

Begin's uncompromising stance forced Sadat to say only nine weeks ago that he would not participate in any further negotiations with Israel until Begin stated in principle that the occupied lands would be returned. But Sadat quickly threw this precondition out the window when he accepted Carter's invitation to the Camp David summit, because he said, the U.S. committed itself to being a "full partner" in the negotiations.

**SADAT'S ILLUSIONS ABOUT U.S.**

This reveals that Sadat's illusions about the benevolence of U.S. imperialism persist, despite their repeatedly stabbing Sadat in the back and the Carter ad-

ministration's open admission that "The President was under no illusion that the meeting in Camp David would itself produce a settlement."

The Washington correspondent for Pravda, the Soviet publication, put it well in this statement: "Apparently, hopes are pinned on the assistance of Washington, of which Cairo expects 'pacifying' influence on Tel Aviv. However," Pravda continues, "new concessions or, to be more exact, capitulation, is expected of Sadat."

For all Sadat's loyalty to imperialism, Egypt remains an oppressed country with a militant working class and peasantry, and for that reason, is unreliable in the eyes of the U.S. ruling class. Israel, on the other hand, was created by and serves as an extension of U.S. military might, and so Carter stands behind Israeli aggression, regardless of Sadat's concessions.

Instead of curbing Israeli aggression, each new concession by Sadat frees the hands of the Begin regime and its imperialist masters to strike out against the Palestinian people and all Arab people. This can be seen by the stepped-up attacks against Palestinians throughout the world as the summit meeting approaches.

**Strikers shot by Rhodesian racists**

AUGUST 16—The fascist Rhodesian regime, which is currently passing itself off as an "interim" government on the road to majority rule, showed its true nature yesterday. Press reports today from that country (which are subject to government censorship) admitted that four Black miners had been killed and five others injured when police fired on a crowd of 3,000 striking mineworkers at the country's largest copper mine 90 miles northwest of Salisbury.

Since this is the government version, and it has been shown in the past that the official accounts grossly understate the violence done to unarmed civilians by the fascist Rhodesian state, it can safely be assumed that the true casualty list in this atrocity is much higher.

## Hundreds killed by fascist troops but

# Protests in Iran growing stronger

By G. DUNKEL

AUG. 14—Thousands of the working people of Isfahan last Friday gathered in a mosque—the only place where working people in Iran can gather these days. They didn't come to pray. They held a political meeting to denounce the Shah.

They knew that they were facing troops in tanks, armored cars, and armed helicopters, alerted by ten days of preceding demonstrations.

Still they took to the streets, shouting "Down with the Shah!" They attacked banks, luxury stores, and cars, all the symbols of the hold that U.S. imperialism has on their city and on their country. Their particular target was a large luxury hotel, which serves as a social center for the 12,000 Americans living in Isfahan.

Isfahan is the second largest city in Iran, a center for the "defense" industry (on which the U.S. is encouraging the Shah to waste billions of dollars—money that

could be used to better the lives of the Iranian people), and the center of Iran's steel industry.

This demonstration was the largest of a series that has shaken Iran since January. Hundreds of people have died in them and still the demonstrations have grown stronger. They have taken place in over 50 Iranian cities and involved at least five million people.

The exact figures for the casualties are unclear. For example, in a recent demonstration in Meshed, a city in northwest Iran, the official figures were one demonstrator killed, 30 to 50 wounded. A few days later, a progressive Iranian support group in Paris, with contacts in Meshed, reported over 200 killed and thousands injured. The reports of only four dead in Isfahan are probably just more of the same kind of lies.

Demonstrations have also recently been reported in Shareza, Najafabad, and Homayunshahr,

all in southern Iran.

### SHAH'S REACTION

The Shah held a press conference in his summer palace when the latest round of demonstrations started. The only justification he could muster up for the repression he has unleashed on the protests was his claim to the throne! He's even said, "I'm not just another dictator, I'm a hereditary monarch." He went on to claim that the demonstrators are just a few "Muslim extremists" who are trying to block the "liberalization" that he, one of the most repressive rulers in the world, claims to be carrying out!

While it is clear that some of the leadership of these demonstrations has come from the Muslim clergy, the targets that the people have chosen—the banks, offices, and playgrounds of the American imperialists and their Iranian puppets—are the targets that a revolutionary movement would

have picked. And it would be impossible for a large demonstration to take place in Isfahan, the industrial center of Iran, without large numbers of workers taking part in it.

### 25th ANNIVERSARY OF CIA COUP

As for the Shah being a hereditary monarch, it's true that his father was also Shah. But his father started off his career as an Cossack officer in the Persian army who managed to grab the throne in 1921 because he had good connections with British imperialism, which wanted to ensure its control of Iran's oil.

And Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi sits on his throne only because the CIA keeps him there.

August 18 is the 25th anniversary of a bloody coup against a progressive prime minister named Mohammed Mossadegh, that was

planned, paid for, and executed by CIA agents since the Shah had abdicated and was hiding in Rome at the time. Thousands of Iranians who opposed that coup were killed. This is how the Shah regained his throne. Since that time, the CIA has systematically trained the Shah and his secret police, the SAVAK, in the methods of fascist repression. Now he is one of the United States' most valuable puppets.

The Iranian Student Association is planning a march from the White House to the CIA's headquarters in Langley, Va. to protest this 25th anniversary of repression. It will begin Aug. 18 at noon in front of the White House and will end the next day. The slogans of their march are: "Down with the Shah and the U.S." and "CIA out of Iran." All progressive people are invited to support this demonstration.

## —People of Vieques

(Continued from p. 7)

their fishing boats to block the maneuvers for a certain number of hours on a certain day. The plan was agreed upon enthusiastically. But however modest or "symbolic" the act of a small group of fishermen in challenging the mightiest military force in history, such an act necessarily becomes one of enormous heroism and enduring significance.

The Navy was preparing a round of maneuvers code-named "Operation Springboard" involving warships of Canada, West Germany, the Netherlands, England, Brazil, Venezuela, and of course, the United States. They were planning anti-aircraft, anti-submarine, and surface target practice, missile launching and amphibious operations. The fishermen were planning to sail their small fishing boats into the middle of the maneuvers, line up side by side to form a floating barricade, and disrupt the operations for about eight hours. On Feb. 6, 1978 that is exactly what they did.

### "A VERY HUMAN INCIDENT"

Guadalupe told of one incident that illustrated the courage of these fishermen who were prepared to die rather than permit themselves to be further abused by the Navy. As they lined up, the Navy threatened to sink their ships, firing over their heads and sending high speed launches at the line of fishing boats and veering off at the last moment. An older fisherman standing alone in a 10 foot boat was the apparent target of one of these Navy vessels attempting to break the barricade.

As the Navy craft bore down on him, he stood erect and simply put his hands over his eyes—and held his position. "There was a very human incident," Guadalupe went on with some ironic amusement. "One of the Navy launches that had been menacing us, struck a reef and was in danger. Several of the fishermen went to its rescue and managed to free it, helping it back to its position among the other Navy ships. Both of the lines then re-formed and the confrontation was resumed." Finally the Navy was forced to back down and the maneuvers were cancelled.

The effects of this united act of defiance have been tremendous. The confidence and will to resist of the people of Vieques has grown immeasurably. Even the pro-statehood Governor of Puerto Rico, Romero Barcelo, was forced to petition the courts for an injunction against further maneuvers of the Navy in Vieques. Luis Munoz Marin, known as the father of "Operation Bootstrap" and the colonial "Free Associated State" status of Puerto Rico has even called for a return of all Vieques to civilian control "as soon as possible." Just a few days ago, Viequenses were heartened by the visit to the island of Black U.S. Congressman Ron Dellums who has supported the struggle for Puerto Rican independence and pledged to do what he could to get the Navy out of Vieques.

### LAND RECLAIMED FROM NAVY

To date there have been four such challenges to the Navy's occupation of Vieques. The last one took place over the 4th of July

weekend during which a group of Viequenses reclaimed a small portion of their island from the Navy and established "Villa Borinquen." On this site a garden was planted and a small settlement of tents was erected. The claim to the land involved in the "takeover" is now being argued in the courts. Also on the legal front, the fishermen of Vieques have sued the Navy to provide \$100 reparation for each of the hundreds of nets that they have destroyed.

While there is no reason to believe that the return of Vieques to its inhabitants will be quick or easy, determination, courage and solidarity of the people here attest to the certainty of their ultimate victory. The organization of the Cruzada Pro-Rescate De Vieques, (Crusade for the Rescue of Vieques) a coalition representing organizations of fishermen, teachers, merchants, students, clergy etc., represents a further step in the deepening struggle in Vieques. Other groups such as the Comite Nacional Pro-Defensa de Vieques (National Committee for the Defense of Vieques) and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party have also played an active role in supporting the cause of the people of Vieques.

The spirit of resistance in Vieques was perhaps best summed up by Mario Felix de Jesus, a fisherman. He told *Workers World* of how he was ordered by a Navy ship to stop pulling in his nets and that he was placed under arrest—without explanation. He told how he refused to board the Navy ship, and was taken in tow. He and his brother then cut the tow rope. He described how during the chase a Navy helicopter swooped down so low over his brother's boat that he was forced to jump overboard to save himself, and was badly injured.

When the FBI finally arrested him he appeared in court and told the judge that if the waters were restricted then the Navy would have to pay him \$300 a week for continuing to fish in waters where he has always fished. When he had finished telling his story someone who had been listening praised him for his courage in standing up to the Navy and the courts. He shrugged and said, smiling with a mixture of pride and humility, "I am a fisherman. It is hard and dangerous work fishing from the sea. Why should these people frighten me?"

For more information or to send badly needed contributions write to: Cruzada Pro-Rescate De Vieques, Apartado 302 Vieques, P.R. 00765.

## —Radiation

(Continued from p. 4)

applying to radiation exposure and this could have profound effects on the future of nuclear technology" should a definite relationship be found between the blast and the occurrence of leukemia.

Hearings conducted by the House Health and Environment Subcommittee brought out other details about the use of troops during nuclear weapons tests in Nevada in the 1950s.

The Newark Star-Ledger (Jan. 23) reported on evidence at the hearings which showed that "the military conducted a volunteer program where individuals both in and out of the services were placed in trenches just over one mile from large shots so that blast, thermal and radiation effects could be measured on human beings."

One witness, Russell Jack Dann, who was at "Smoky" and "Galileo," another shot, said that the blast from "Smoky," "knocked me 15 to 20 feet" from where he was kneeling some two miles from ground zero. Dann stated that within a year of the tests, "I lost my teeth, my hair fell out in blotches—my joints ached and I had a low sperm count."

Enough of a link exists between the leukemia victims and their exposure to low-level radiation at "Smoky," which the Defense Department states were within the "safe level of five rads" to demand that the "safe" level of radiation exposure be reduced. The nuclear reactor plants, which go by the same unsafe standards, should be closed as long as they remain under the aegis of the profit-hungry Dr. Stangeloves of the U.S. government who have well proven their lack of concern for human safety.

## 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 us in these 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, 416 N. Howard St., Baltimore, MD 21201. [301] 837-3929.

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

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

GREELEY—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 1863, Greeley, CO 80632. [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.

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.

## EYEWITNESS ETHIOPIA

### The Continuing Revolution

By Deirdre Griswold

In this booklet:

•Meet members of the peasants' and urban dwellers' associations (kebeles) who are bringing the Revolution into every corner of Ethiopia.

•Visit the war front in the Ogaden where refugees and military commanders explain the international significance of the Somali invasion.

•Hear Chairman Mengistu describe the achievements and tasks of the revolution.

Order from: World View 46 W. 21 St., NYC, NY 10010 \$1.



# POLITICAL PRISONERS



## In Mass. prisons:

# 'Don't give up the fight! The strike is right!'

By P. ROESSLER

BOSTON, Aug. 11—As the prisoners called out, "Strike, strike, strike," answers in Spanish and English from 100 friends and family members bounced off the walls of Norfolk prison on Aug. 6: "Don't give up the fight! The strike is right!"

The 731 prisoners at Norfolk, a minimum security prison in Massachusetts, are now in their second week of a strike against cuts in visitation rights, harassment of visitors, and administrative retaliation against three Black prisoners who defended their rights at a Disciplinary Board hearing.

After unsubstantiated charges of gun-smuggling had been dropped against the three, Milton James, David Spear, and Bryant Stampley, they were kept in lockup for five weeks, and then shipped out of Norfolk three days after the strike had been declared.

That same day, Aug. 3, prison officials cut the prisoners off from the outside by denying them visiting rights, including most attorney visits. They also cut off TV, furlough, and phone rights.

In an effort to break the prison-imposed isolation and ensure the safety of the courageous brothers inside, a prisoner rights and support organization called Families and Friends of Prisoners began a round-the-clock vigil that day.

The next day, state troopers entered Norfolk and snatched 27 leaders, all elected representatives



Demonstrators march in front of the Boston State House in support of the demands raised by striking prisoners in state jails.

of prisoner organizations, and shipped them to other prisons, where they now are on hunger strikes, and have been joined by other prisoners. They were shipped to Walpole, Bridgewater, and Concord prisons.

In response to the removal of the 27 prisoners, 75 families and supporters picketed at the State House on Aug. 4, and two days later, held a mass rally at the prison.

### REBELLIONS AT OTHER JAILS

That same day, Aug. 6, a rebellion took place at Walpole, the maximum security prison just down the road from Norfolk. That day and the next, prisoners rebelled at Bristol County jail in

New Bedford in solidarity with the Norfolk rebellion.

On Aug. 9, Families and Friends of Prisoners held a rally at the State House, where they read a statement from the inmate Resident Council demanding that the 27 organizers be returned to

Norfolk. The members of the Resident Council vowed to continue to resist despite the threats by prison officials, and emphasized the importance of continued support from the outside.

Every effort is being made to

generate support for the protection of the men on the inside and another vigil outside the prison is being planned for Aug. 13 in order to generate support for the protection of the men inside.

The life-and-death struggle inside Massachusetts prisons has resulted in an all-for-one-and-one-for-all attitude, both inside and outside the walls. The prisoners at Norfolk say they will not negotiate or go back to work until all of the 27 who still want to return to Norfolk are brought back.

The strength and solidarity of the Black, Latin, and white prisoners at Norfolk, Concord, Walpole, Bridgewater, and Bristol County with each other and with family, friends, and supporters outside is inspiring and indicates how, ultimately, the walls of these concentration camps for the poor will be torn down.

## Puerto Rican unionist jailed

### 'A law that works against the worker'

The Puerto Rican labor leader, Radames Acosta, was put in jail the 16 of June, 1978. The special policemen of the Department of Criminal Investigation and the members of the F.B.I. arrested Acosta using the police brutality

and violence that is characteristic of the capitalistic system.

The Federal Court found Acosta guilty of violating an injunction, which was a petition of the Puerto Rican Labor Relations Board. This petition came as a consequence of a supposed violation of the Taft Hartley Law during the strike of the "Union Nacional de Trabajadores" against the Werl Construction Company in Minillas.

Radames Acosta followed the decision of his co-workers on strike of staying out of work, violating in this way the injunction. The workers understand that their demands to the Werl Construction Company were fair and reasonable, and that because of bureaucratic requirement of National Relations Labor Board, such injunction could not be accepted or obeyed.

This is an example of a law that works against the worker and against the organized worker movement. This law is the product of an unilateral imposition of the United States government in our island.

The Union and Radames Acosta were found guilty for defending the rights of the workers. These rights are found in the Constitution.



Radames Acosta

The Committee on Behalf of Radames Acosta is asking for your solidarity and ask you to back up all activities to be held in support of Acosta. The following are different activities and means of solidarity that will be appreciated by Acosta and his co-workers: Send letters and telegrams asking for Acosta's freedom to: Juez Jose V. Toledo, Corte Federal, Edificio del Correo, Viejo San Juan, San Juan Puerto Rico.

Send letters to: Radames Acosta Cepeda, Carcel Regional de Bayamon, Seccion Maxima Seguridad 1, Celda 1, Bayamon, Puerto Rico 00619; and please send press released by organizations or individually to Acosta.

Remember, Acosta's freedom is your freedom.

Cordially,  
M. Id: li Torres  
Springfield, Mass.



**FREE  
the  
WILMINGTON  
10!**

## Prisoner activist George Blue asks support to win parole

George E. Blue a prison activist who is presently confined at the federal prison in El Reno, Oklahoma, has been in prison for the past nine (9) years. He is to appear before the United States Parole Commission for consideration in September of this year.

He along with Two others were convicted of a Bank Robbery. His two co-defendants have long ago been released from custody.

During the early seventies, Blue became involved in the prison struggle which was in full bloom through America at that time. Blue described this period of his life as "Like most Poor and Black people. I had spent the biggest part of my life in a prison camp. Not knowing why. After reading some of the most outstanding Writers of that period, I had my eyes opened for the first time in my life. I could see that prisons were a tool of the Rulers, and that Capitalism/Imperialism was the Criminals." He became a vociferous militant prison organizer whom the U.S. Bureau of Prisons feared. He has spent half of the nine years in solitary as part of the Government's attempt to break and Silence him (to no avail). The officials made several attempts to kill him in their behavioral modification programs at Marion Illinois "Notorious" H-Unit.

Blue won several major lawsuits against the Government. One being the right for prisoners to receive Communist Literature at the Atlanta Prison Camp. Also, He won the right for prisoners to receive a complete copy of their prison file.

He co-founded and became Chairman of the National

Prisoners Assn. and Anti-Imperialist Prisoners Group. Blue stated, "Once I became a Marxist, The Government labeled me as an Enemy of the Existing State which was rightfully true. I am an enemy of this or any system that denies people full employment, decent shelter, food, clothing, medical care, Education, exploits the workers of their labor. I hate a system that teaches Racism. Robs people of their culture. Makes war to further their financial interest. Murders and maims human beings to satisfy their greed."

The National Alliance against Racist and Political Repression did succeed in having the World Peace Council of Helsinki Finland to designate Blue as a "Political" prisoner. Even though the

Government denies that America has any.

Blue said: "Even though I have not lost any good time and have not had a bad conduct report since 1974. I'm not naive enough to believe that the Parole Commission will act favorably. The People must mandate my release. The People must become the Parole Commission. I appeal to all to write a letter to the: United States Parole Commission, United States Department of Justice, Constitutional Ave, between 9th & 10th N.W. Washington D.C. 20530., and State that you do support and demand an unconditional release for me." It is this type of support that the Government must obey. The will of the People.

National Prisoner's Assn. Inc.

## September 15 demonstration will insist

### Shut down the hated Marion Control Unit!

On September 15, 1978 there will be a national demonstration at the United States Penitentiary in Marion, Illinois to demand the closing of the Control Unit and the freeing of all political prisoners there.

September 13 is the date of the Attica prison rebellion and massacre in 1971, and we will also commemorate those who died in that heroic struggle.

The Control Unit at Marion is a Behavior Modification program which has cost the lives of 10 men in the five years it has been open—3 deaths in 1977 alone—and have driven countless others

insane or to self-mutilation.

Marion Federal Prison also contains some of the most well-known political prisoners in the country: Rafael Cancel Miranda, one of the four remaining imprisoned Puerto Rican Nationalists, who have been confined for over 20 years(!); Leonard Peltier, the Native American activist, framed-up for the murder of two FBI agents; Eddie "Mwana" Griffin, Black prison activist and author of the pamphlet "Breaking Men's Minds" (about Behavior Modification); Lorenzo Komboa Ervin, a Black anti-war and civil rights activist formerly with the

Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and many others.

We are asking groups and individuals from all over the country concerned about justice and human rights, to march with us to the prison at Marion and demand the release of all political prisoners and the closing of the infamous Control Unit, where so many have suffered and died.

For information, write or call: Audrey A. Myers, Director, NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT THE MARION BROTHERS, 4556A Oakland, St. Louis, MO. 63110, (314) 533-2234.

## In Milwaukee

# Lincoln High closing reversed

By EMILY BAYER  
MILWAUKEE, Aug. 1—The Milwaukee School Board was forced today to reverse its decision to close Lincoln High School, a predominantly Black and Latin school, this fall. After a spirited picket line of over 100 people marched outside a hearing, the Board decided to delay the closing until the 1979-1980 school year.

Today's decision followed several weeks of protests which culminated on July 25 in a packed hearing of over 500 people, including 75 Lincoln students, who militantly expressed their opposition to closing Lincoln.

Lincoln High was the first and for many years the only predominantly Black high school in Milwaukee. It has been a source of pride to the Black community here with a tradition of graduates such as Milwaukee Common Council President Ben Johnson, internationally known singer Al Jarreau and Seattle Supersonics star Fred Brown.

The turnout last week was especially significant despite the fact that the School Board had given only two weeks notice of its intention to close Lincoln and several other schools, under the guise of saving money.

Yet at the same time a new high school in a primarily white neighborhood in Milwaukee is being built. Clearly, some of the \$15 million being used to build Vincent High School could be used

to renovate Lincoln, which has a good physical structure. Only \$1 million is scheduled to be saved in the proposed school closings.

At the July 25 hearing over 100 people, including students, parents, teachers, and people from the community who had been involved in school boycotts opposing segregation in the 1960s,

testified to oppose the closing. Much of the testimony was directed to the point that it is not an accident that schools primarily serving whites have been renovated and have the kinds of facilities—language labs, swimming pool, fine arts programs—which Lincoln is lacking and which is one pretext for closing it. Yet city-owned

vacant land surrounds the school and could be used for these purposes. Obviously the city considers the land too valuable for this.

Testifying at the School Board hearing today were students and teachers from Lincoln. A student told of "being downgraded" by prejudiced teachers after he

switched to a largely white high school. A teacher and former Lincoln graduate, Dan Davis, said, "If they close Lincoln, it's going to create a bigger problem." He continued, "We can deal with our community best.

"We have a couple of kids studying to be doctors," he said, adding that "How will they do this in a school where they don't have the support of their community?"

Today's decision is only a partial victory. It is clear that the School Board was attempting only to avoid a confrontation with the Black community and did not change its long range plans. However, now the community has another year to continue the struggle for its right to control its own schools.

If the activities of the past few weeks are any indication, the movement to keep Lincoln High School open is far from dead.



A Lincoln High School student demands the Milwaukee School Board keep his high school open. This protest meeting of 150 people held here on July 25 opposed closing schools in Black neighborhoods while new ones are built in white areas. WW photo

## Boston coalition draws attack victims together

# Fight against racist offensive grows

By CHARLOTTE ECKARD  
BOSTON, Aug. 8—A meeting, called by the Citywide Coalition for Justice and Equality, was held at Dorchester District Court tonight demonstrating a growing movement of resistance to counter the racist offensive in Boston.

Members of the Coalition, a multinational organization dedicated to stopping racism in Boston, along with many victims of attacks by bigots over the years, spelled out in speeches and discussion their determination to organize and fight back against racial attacks which are escalating again and the double standard of justice. The Coalition was born out of a long history of struggle by the Black community against a vicious onslaught that re-emerged in Boston in 1974 under the codename of "anti-busing."

The Coalition has been in existence for over two years. During this time it has held numerous press conferences to publicize cases, has helped defend homes against racist attacks and has held demonstrations exposing the forces promoting racism and injustice. In June, the Coalition held a benefit to raise money to continue to help defend victims in court and publish its newsletter, "The Open Mind."

Two militant demonstrations organized by the Coalition in front of police headquarters in downtown Boston thoroughly exposed the police practice of

arresting Black people for defending themselves, while letting racist attackers go free.

At tonight's meeting, a number of victims of racist attacks spoke about what has happened to them over the past few years. Mary Harris, mother of Eddie Soares, told how her son and two other men, Leon Easterling and Richard Allen, were given extremely long prison terms for defending a Black woman against a savage attack by a group of Harvard football players.

More instances of racist attack were brought out when Jesse Harris spoke about the near-fatal beating of her son by a group of racists with baseball bats on a main street in Brighton. She said that it took 90 minutes for the police to get to the scene, while her son almost bled to death. He was hospitalized for two weeks.

Alma Harris described being forced out of her car along with two other Black women near Fenway Park and beaten by fascists. She and another woman sustained head and arm injuries, while the third woman required stitches inside her mouth.

Mary Davis spoke about how her home had been stoned by racists who broke most of her windows. She explained how she and her family had not been able to sleep since last October until the Coalition began to protect her home.

Also present at the meeting were

two members of the Community Disorders Unit of the police department which was set up four months ago by the mayor to deal particularly with problems of racial violence. Community residents exposed the inability of the unit to deal with such problems pointing out that there are only six members to deal with the whole city.

One after another, community residents and victims pointed out that the unit was slow to respond or had failed to respond altogether to the victims' calls and that

nothing was done with the information supplied by the victims. When asked what would happen if the victims started taking action against the racists who were attacking them, there was no response from the police. But people in the audience immediately answered that the victims themselves would surely be locked up.

Co-chairman of the Coalition, Harvard Stephens, summed it up by saying, "If victims (of racial attacks) depended on law enforcement solely, they might not be here at all."

## In Brooklyn

# Five beaten by racist gang

By BEVERLY SLAPIN  
NEW YORK, Aug. 15—A gang of about 20 baseball bat-wielding bigots, shouting racial insults, attacked two women, a youth, and two men in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn yesterday.

The victims, ranging in age from 14 to 29, were Black and Hispanic. Two were hospitalized with broken bones, and the other three were treated and released.

Arnold Breckinridge, 17, one of the victims, said that he was walking to work at a nearby Sanitation Department garage where he worked when he was harassed by about 20 racist men.

The men began attacking him and the other four people, Breckinridge said. He suffered a fractured cheekbone, broken ribs, and other internal injuries, and was admitted to Maimonides Hospital.

The other victims were a 14-year-old youth who had lacerations of the face, head, and shoulders; Eloise Perez, 20, a youth corps worker, with a fractured jaw; George Young, 29, a postal worker, with a fractured arm; and Stephanie Vega, 20, also a youth corps worker, with an injured right hand.

No arrests have been made.

The implications of the treaty, therefore, go far beyond the normalization of relations or the euphemistic "peace and friendship" promised in its title. It appears to be an escalation of the policies pursued by the present Chinese leaders to consummate an anti-Soviet alliance with the major imperialist powers, an alliance that would wind up whetting the aggressive appetite of the imperialists and be most dangerous for all the workers and oppressed people of the world—including the Chinese and Japanese people themselves.

## —Treaty

(Continued from p. 8)  
Minister Sunao Sonoda said the Chinese assured him that next year they will formally scrap the 1950 Sino-Soviet pact that names Japan as a common enemy."

While Japan has been taking the diplomatic posture that this treaty is not aimed at the Soviet Union, it was noted in the press that Foreign Minister Sonoda, who signed the treaty along with China's Huang Hua, will not be going to the Soviet Union to explain the meaning of the new pact to Soviet leaders, as is usually done among friendly countries when a major diplomatic step has been taken, but has sent his ambassador to the USSR instead.

The attack was one of many recent incidents involving the gang, which community members know and identify as "known ruffians and racists."

The Borough Park attack is part of a wave of organized fascist terror against oppressed people in this city. Two years ago, a mob of over 50 racist youths carrying bats, sticks, metal pipes, and chains, swept through Washington Square Park, systematically beating every Black and Hispanic person they saw. When the ten-minute siege was over, one youth, Marcos Mota, was killed, and at least 34 other people were injured.