Workers World

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

Shah shuffles cabinet in hopes of stopping anti-regime protests

—р. 7

September 1, 1978

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Mass rebellion grips Nicaragua



WW photo: Bill Hackwell

'U.S. out of Puerto Rico!'

By DAVID PEREZ

NEW YORK, Aug. 29—Chanting "Ni con rifle, ni con bala, esta lucha no se para!" (Neither rifles nor bullets will stop this struggle!") and "U.S. out of Puerto Rico!" over 400 progressive people, the majority Latin, held a militant and spirited picketline and rally in front of the United Nations today.

The demonstration was timed to coincide with a meeting of the United Nations Decolonization Committee that is once again taking up the question of whether to

designate Puerto Rico a U.S. colony. In 1953, after a maneuver by U.S. imperialism to install a puppet colonial administration under the title of a "free associated state," Puerto Rico was taken off the UN's list of colonies. Over the years, a Cuban resolution that would declare Puerto Rico a colony has been overruled in one way or another by Washington.

However, this year the struggle to expose U.S. colonialism in Puerto Rico has become more intense. Numerous pro-independence

(Continued on p. 10)

By SHARON SHELTON

AUGUST 30—The struggle against the hated U.S. puppet regime of Anastasio Somoza Debayle has exploded into a full-scale insurrection in the wake of last week's spectacular takeover of the National Palace by Nicaragua's Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Armed with handguns, rifles, machetes, and homemade bombs, youths and striking workers across the country have taken to the streets, fighting Somoza's National Guard alongside FSLN guerrilla forces in a determined effort to topple the regime.

As part of Somoza's desperate attempt to regain control of major urban areas, the Air Force has been bombing, rocketing, and strafing Matagalpa, the nation's third largest city, and Somoza's son has personally led a tank assault on the civilian population. Since the weekend, armed civilians have held most of the city, described by a CBS TV correspondent as a war zone. Fighting was also reported in Managua, Diriamba, Jinotepe, and elsewhere.

A nationwide general strike by the workers has been 85% effective and is spreading, recognized even by small businessmen. Only U.S.-owned businesses and a few interests controlled by the Somoza family have remained open.

COUP ATTEMPT FOILED

In a virtual admission of his regime's instability, Somoza just this week rammed through legislation allowing him to leave the country "temporarily." Even the National Guard, Somoza's police and military force and traditional supporters, is divided. On Monday, a coup attempt by Guard officers, reportedly angry over government concessions to the FSLN following the palace takeover, was thwarted by other officers, resulting in over 80 arrests. Prior to this there had been open discussion of a possible coup on Guard frequency radio.

What has so angered the reactionary officers in the Guard is last week's successful action by the FSLN, who seized about 50 Senators and others in the National Palace and held them until FSLN demands were met. As a result the FSLN got \$500,000 ransom, 58 political prisoners freed, safe passage to Panama, and, had its communique broadcast over major radio stations and published in all local papers.

The bold military action captured the imagination of workers and peasants all over the country, who flocked to the airport to see the guerrillas and the freed political prisoners off, despite large contingents of Guardsmen. The jubilant crowds chanted, "Down with Somoza," "Somoza to the gallows," and "Long live the Sandinists!"

"It's fantastic. It's tremendous. It's a triumph for the people," said one young woman in the cheering crowd.

What distinguished the FSLN palace takeover was the context in which it was carried out. The FSLN has been waging a liberation war against the Somoza regime and U.S. imperialism for (Continued on p. 6)

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WORKERS WORLD

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Landlords and arson

Scorched-earth' campaign against the poor

By JAQUI O'SHAUGHNESSY

AUGUST 28-Arson, the practice of "torching" property in order to collect the insurance money, pays. At least it pays for the landlord who cashes in on the insurance when his property is destroyed.

This was revealed last week in the testimony of one torcher, alias Michael Smith who admitted before the Senate Permanent Investigative Subcommittee to setting over 100 fires for pay in the Minneapolis area in a seven-year

Smith, according to today's El Diario-La Prensa, said that he was following orders from high-ups in organized crime. businessman wanted his place burned by us (i.e., organized crime), we would demand 25% of the final insurance payment for the loss, with 25% of that up front," Smith told the Subcommittee.

The Senate hearings revealed that the landlords and big

property owners are really behind what has literally become a scorched-earth policy-especially in the poorest and most oppressed urban areas. But the people living in those areas have known that for a long time, and they know who has been raking in the insurance payments.

WHO PROFITS, WHO SUFFERS, WHO GETS BLAMED?

And as the poor, neglected

communities burn who suffers? The people who lived in the decaying, tumble-down housing, who are forced to pay extortionate rents who lose the few precious possessions they have, and then have to move on. The ultimate slap in the face is that the poor who are victimized by thieving and firesetting landlords are in most cases blamed by a racist press for the destruction.

It's the oldest trick in the book—and is still being used—for the bosses' press to wail, scream, and spew the most outrageously vile propaganda aimed against working and poor people while the real criminals are sneaking off to the bank.

SENATE NOT FOR THE POOR

But let no mistake be made. The fact that these hearings took place by no means shows even a speck of sympathy for the poor who are at the landlords' mercy. What is truly reflected here is the ruling class fear that the insurance companies (which are mammouth compared to most landlords) might be getting taken for a ride. Only that could truly upset and outrage the bought-and-paid-for members of the Senate.

The real point is that only in a system run by, for and of profit could such circumstances arise. In a society-based on people's very real and pressing needs, neither landlords, nor insurance companies will exist.

D.C. hospital lays off 230 workers

By ELEANA BROOKS

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 17-At the beginning of this month, 230 workers at the Washington Hospital Center were served with layoff notices and more are to

This happened only a few weeks after the striking registered nurses, represented by the District of Columbia Nurses' Association, voted to accept their first contract with the Washington Hospital Center. The layoffs are also coming at a time when 1,700 workers, represented by SEIU Local 722, go into negotiations for a new contract.

It's not surprising then, that Local 722 president John Montee,

Special to Workers World

workers in two counties in Ohio

have gone on strike for better pay

and benefits. Some 2,000 workers

have walked out of tomato fields

owned by the giant Libby and

Campbell Soup agri-corporations.

Friday, has been organized by the

Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC). Caravans of

workers, sometimes numbering

200 people, have been traveling from field to field calling out the

mostly Chicano tomato pickers. Shouts of "Huelga! Huelga!" can be heard from the loudspeaker

mounted on a car decorated with the FLOC flag which is red with a

"The workers march right out of

the fields in front of the farmer

when our caravan goes by," said

Ray Santiago, an organizer for

black falcon in the center.

The strike, which began last

who has 32 years of service with the hospital, was one of the first to be laid off. Although the contract. states that layoffs are to be according to seniority, it doesn't state exactly what that means. The administration is laying off people according to their job titles. For example, a worker with 20 years' job seniority could be laid off by a job phase-out. These layoffs are permanent.

The administration is also reducing the number of beds from 911 to 750. When this is done, the hospital can justify the reduction of the workforce. This would also mean a speedup for the workers who are lucky enough to keep their

But the hospital is really putting

the blame for the layoffs on the recent nurses' strike which lasted for about three weeks. However, the hospital started laying off workers only when the two unions (DCNA and SEIU) at the Hospital Center were gaining strength.

As Mr. Montee said, "The hospital is crying poor but they are spending millions of dollars on remodeling and building a shock trauma center. They are spending millions on frills, but patient care is going to deteriorate when floors don't get mopped, and food doesn't get cooked, and utensils aren't sterilized. The patients suffer and our co-workers suffer. This is a racist attack on our membership and on Washington community."

2000 Ohio farm workers on strike CLEVELAND, Aug. 30-Farm



FLOC-led strike in Indiana for a union contract two years ago. This amazing photo shows the reality of class warfare in the fields as heavily armed federal marshals stand over arrested farmworkers.

FLOC. Santiago told Workers World in a telephone interview today from the strike fields that the main demands of the workers are for a wage increase to \$3.25 an hour, '14 hours a week guaranteed pay, and improved living conditions and health care.

The owners have begun to attack the strike, with groups of them menacing picket lines and spraying strikers with pesticides. Another of their tactics has been to call in the federal immigration officers. Since the strike began six days ago, more than 100 people have been deported.

"As long as the people are picking the growers' tomatoes, everything is fine. But as soon as the workers organize for their legal rights, their 'human rights,' La Migra (immigration) shows up and the deportations begin," Santiago

NOTICE

Workers World will not be

published next week. The next issue of Workers World to

appear will be on Sept. 15.

SHUT LIBBY PLANT!

On Saturday, FLOC set up a picket line at the Libby tomato juice and ketchup plant to stop trucks bringing in tomatoes. Dozens of trucks were turned away. The response of the company and local authorities was to call out over 60 police and deputy sheriffs from four counties. Armed with riot gear and dogs, the cops came in and arrested 40 pickets for disorderly conduct and trespassing. Libby is now suing FLOC for \$1 million for the picket line and the field strike.

It is the almost medieval hardships in the fields that have forced the farm workers to go on strike now during the peak of the tomato harvest. The average farmworkers' family makes a paltry living.

Nancy and Jose Valdez are representative of many of those who are active in the strike. They live in a one room shack with their three-year-old son. They have one bed, no water, and no toilet. (For the whole camp there are only two toilets and two showers.) Their rent averages \$75 a week, and the

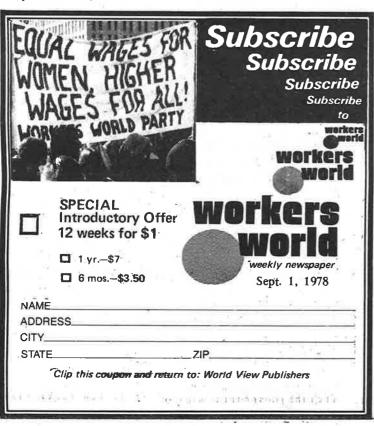
Valdez family cannot get food stamps. "Sometimes I run out of diapers and milk for the baby in the middle of the week." Nancy Valdez said, "and there are times when we have to scrape to get enough money to buy them.'

Photo: John Cantos-Nuestra

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee caravans are shutting down five to ten camps a day. Many of the strikers have been evicted from their homes, and FLQC has set up a tent city in Belmore where 100 people are currently being housed and fed.

Support for the strike has already come from many labor unions in northwestern Ohio. The Toledo United Labor Council, AFL-CIO, has pledged support and money to FLOC, and Toledo AFSCME is planning a fund raising event.

FLOC has asked for telegrams of solidarity from labor unions, community groups, and religious organizations and money (especially to help replace the \$4,000 bail paid to free the 40 arrested) to: Farm Labor Organizing Committee, 7141/2 South Saint Clair, Toledo, Ohio 43609, (419) 243-3456.



Death ray threatens new arms escalation

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

AUGUST 28—Two developments last week showed that the Pentagon and the Carter administration's frenzied arms buildup is continuing with no relief in sight for masses of poor and working people burdened with both the threat of war and the tax load for the massive military budget.

The more ominous of the two frightening developments was the Pentagon's announcement that a powerful laser weapon had succeeded in a recent test in destroying a high-speed missile. The development and deployment of an effective anti-missile laser system would bring the threat of a nuclear holocaust closer by enabling the Pentagon Dr. Strangeloves to launch a nuclear attack in the belief that they could repulse a retaliatory Soviet attack.

Anti-missile missiles have always been unfeasible because the delay in destroying their target allowed too much of a margin for error. A laser weapon would destroy its target instantaneously.

The test was conducted at San Juan Capistrano, Cal., by the Defense and Space Systems Group of TRW, Inc., for the Navy and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. This revelation was made in an article in the current issue of Aviation Week and Space Technology, a journal that the Pentagon often uses to publicize its latest achievements in mass-murder technology.

A Pentagon spokesman, quoted in the article, said that a successful test of laser weapons had been conducted as early as 1973 by the Air Force, and in 1976 by the

-Shanghai

Commune was not an isolated attempt by one grouping but was

the ultimate goal of the Cultural Revolution, as expressed and validated in the most authoritative document of the Cultural

Revolution—the Sixteen-Point

Decision of the 11th Plenum of the

CCP Central Committee, adopted

The far-reaching turn to the

right in China has already

provoked a reassessment of the

Chinese Revolution itself within

the communist movement. In the

heat of the polemic against the

Chinese leaders and under the

tensions of the present world

situation, the excesses and

mistakes inevitable to any

revolution are too often

exaggerated and made to seem

responsible for the subsequent

period of reaction. But the true

significance of the Cultural

Revolution for the revolutionary

workers' movement and its

ultimate objective can best be

understood in light of the heroic

but brief experiment in Shanghai.

(Continued from p. 9)

on Aug. 8, 1966.

Army, in which winged or helicopter drone aircraft were destroyed by laser beams. The spokesman added that the weapons were "very much in the feasibility study stage," and "we still don't know whether they will prove in the long run to be costeffective, practical weapons."

The Soviet Union also possesses highly advanced laser technology, and so further efforts by the U.S. in developing a laser anti-missile system will necessitate tremendous increases in military spending by both the U.S. and the Soviet Union for the costly laser and computer technology needed by such a system.

CARTER'S LATEST MISSILE

The second sign of the continuing drive towards war was the announcement by Carter's Defense Secretary, Harold Brown, that the U.S. was going to stand behind its provocative position that the MAP mobile missile system was included in the draft text of the SALT II agreements, a position that the Soviets categorically reject. The "multiple aim point" missile system, quaintly called the "shell game" idea, would constantly move Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (with nuclear warheads) from silo to silo by means of a vast underground tunnel system.

This system, which is meant to make an attack against U.S. landbased missiles more difficult, would cost at least \$30 billion to build and many of the technical problems of such a system have not yet been worked out.

Despite the many questions of the cost and feasibility of the MAP system, the Carter administration is pushing the "right" of the U.S. to deploy the system if it decides to. This demand "is being read as a shot across the Soviet bow by high levels of the Carter Administration," according to the Aug. 24 International Herald Tribune.

U.S. "OFFENSE" BUDGET

Although the U.S. imperialist ruling class likes to refer to their military spending as their "defense budget," the U.S. has already stockpiled enough nuclear weapons to destroy every Soviet

city with a population of over 100,000 forty times!

And still the Pentagon presses for increased weaponry. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, possesses less than half this nuclear capacity, according to the Pentagon's own estimates, and keeps up its development of weapons only in response to U.S. escalations in order to insure its

Besides carrying the long-term threat of nuclear devastation, the U.S. arms buildup daily breeds inflation and drains tax money from needed social services.

Laser death rays, mobile missiles, and the like, while providing weapons manufacturers with billions in profits, will only mean an increased deterioration in living standards for the masses of people at home.

Arrests at anti-nuke protest



MORRIS, ILL., Aug. 19-Police haul away one of 15 persons arrested today at a symbolic occupation of the parking lot of the Morris nuclear waste dump, operated by General Electric.

About one hundred others, many from Chicago. Champaign, and other cities in the Midwest ticipated in a march and rally in the town of Morris before observing the occupation.

The action was called by the Bailly Alliance, which is also actively opposing the construction and operation of nuclear power plants in northern Illinois and Indiana.

The Morris dump accepts deadly nuclear waste from all over the U.S., some of which will be dangerous to WW photo: Peter K. life for a quarter million years.

Commune this struggle to establish the

Another 'cost overrun' for the rich

Gov't makes giant payoff to war contractors

By HILLEL BAILIN

AUGUST 25-High government officials yesterday said they plan to give away \$931 million to two giant defense contractors to cover socalled "cost overruns."

General Dynamics Corp. and Litton Industries, the two contractors, have for a long time claimed that the Navy owes them this money. What is highly unusual about the giveaway is that it will be the largest single cash payment ever made for military cost overruns. Also, the Carter administration officals in the Pentagon plan to pay the money even though the Navy brass publicly opposes it.

General Dynamics has been under contract to build 18 nuclear submarines. Litton has been building 5 assault ships and 30 destroyers. Both these companies claim that the costs of constructing these ships is now much greater than when they originally signed the contract. They say that they cannot make a profit without the extra money and threaten to stop building the ships until they get the extra cash.

General Dynamics and Litton have a great deal of power. Along with Newport News Shipyard Co., they are the only companies that build military ships of that size. The Carter administration is in a mad rush to build military hardware and is afraid to confront these companies and possibly delay its shipbuilding. Besides, Carter has shown before that he will not oppose such big corporate powers just to save working peoples' tax dollars.

Interestingly, the Navy has opposed the giant payoff even though the Navy brass usually have a cozy relationship with the shipbuilding companies. Admiral H.G. Rickover, who heads the submarine program, wrote a memo and called the payments 'unwarranted and unwise.' Rickover pointed to a Navy study that showed, that General Dynamics and Litton were claiming \$594 million more than the real costs. What worries Rickover and the other admirals is that the money will come out of their budget and they will get one less

submarine this time around. If the whole deal means only one less unnecessary warship, does it really matter?

Yes.

WORKING PEOPLE WILL LOSE OUT

For one thing, there is little chance that the Navy will settle for less hardware. With the all-out anti-Soviet war threats by President Carter and Co., sooner or later that submarine (and more) will be back in the budget. And the extra submarine and all other ships will be bought at the new, higher prices which in turn will be subject to new "cost overruns" and will cost even more.

The whole military budget which, at \$123.7 billion, is larger this year than ever before, is itself a tremendous cause of inflation. No new usable goods come back to the marketplace as a result of military spending. The money paid out for the death machines must be spent elsewhere and drives up the prices of all other really usable goods like food, clothing, and appliances.

Cost overruns make this waste even greater and destroy what little budget planning there is. In turn, the cost overruns mean more inflation and more cutbacks of necessary government spending for services such as health care and

GOVERNMENT IS NOT NEUTRAL

Another important point about cost overruns is that they show how much the government is a tool of

the giant corporations. Supposedly, a contract has the force of law and no one can break it. But when the military contractors decide (as they always do) that the contract does not give them enough profits, they just "reopen" the contract and demand more money to pay "cost overruns."

(If a union were to try on its own to "reopen" a contract because the cost of food went up, the union would immediately be hit by a court injunction.)

General Dynamics actually told the government that the company would break its contract and stop production if it did not get the extra money. The Carter administration went along to prevent this "work stoppage" by the corporation.

But when the postal workers who were not under contract said they might withhold their labor, and for a lot less money, Carter said he would call out the troops to put them down.

'Cost-overrun'' is a catchy phrase for a symptom of an economic system that is running out of control. The government is a captive of big business which uses the government to drain out tax money from workers to feed the overrunning and overheated military-industrial complex.

And the impact of cost-overruns and the drain of the military budget on the economy and on poor and working people is in its own way as deadly as the missiles on all those nuclear submarines.

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Postal ranks oppose arbitration betrayal



Postal workers picket in New York in July. Around the country the rank and file is upset with the present agreement between the union leadership and management. WW photo: Bill Hackwell

In interview with WW

Press striker tells of job dangers

By BILL HACKWELL

NEW YORK, Aug. 29-As the newspaper strike at New York's three major dailies enters its fourth week, both the striking pressmen and the publishers remain at an absolute stalemate in negotiations.

Harold Apotheka, a father of two, is one such pressman who now spends his shift walking the picket line in front of the New York Times. He has worked on the presses at the Times for 16 yearsever since he came there from the now-defunct New York Mirror. He was one of those the Times said they no longer needed.

Apotheka had just returned from being denied food stamps when he spoke with Workers

World.
"How am I supposed to survive? They hassle me just for food stamps, then the unemployment office tells me I have to wait seven weeks to be eligible for unemployment checks. How does the state have the right to get away with this," he asked, "when I pay taxes of up to 50%—and they don't have to wait, they get cash every week?"

Apotheka felt that the bosses, in union-busting attempt, were refusing to bargain in good faith. "I came in every snow storm, I came in during the blackout and ali sorts of emergency situations," he said. "The thanks we get is that they won't even negotiate." He added, "We were still up at the bargaining table when they closed the plant.'

THE PRESSMEN AND JOB SAFETY

Apotheka explained the hazards involved in the work of maintaining the presses. Every shift he must climb four-story ladders 8 to 10 times to service the presses. The excess ink that is all through the air settles on the ladders and walkways between the rollers, making all movement dangerous.

There are fires at the New York Times regularly from ink and paper dust combining in the vents. "There is so much ink in the air that even after two days off,

I'm still blowing ink out my nose,"

The worst health problem involved, he said, "was that of noise and vibration. "Each press has a 40 horse-power motor and the vibration is so great that the earplugs they give you pop out. It's comparable to working a jackhammer, only it's worse, because we have to stay with our press through the whole shift. Who knows what that can do to a person's nervous system? Who's going to do anything about it? The Times isn't about to let OSHA in.'

The publishers are claiming that because the new letter-flex plates are lighter now, only half the work force is needed. But Apotheka explained that this new machinery has made the process less automated. "The machines are the same configuration that they've been for 35 years," he said. "Basically, the only difference is that the plates have gone from lead to tin. What this means to us is that instead of sliding the plates into place off a conveyor belt we have to go get them and carry them. It's much more work and more dangerous because the edges

"The first night we got the new plates," he said, "we were given no instruction along with them and about 80 guys were seriously cut on my shift alone. We were never consulted on these changes, just one day management said 'here they are-sink or swim."

Just last week the Times suspended payments towards the workers' insurance plans and medical benefits. Apotheka said, "What about the guy who is sick or retired, or laid up from a finger he lost in a press?

For Hareld Apotheka and hundreds of other pressmen in this city this struggle is one of survival-for their jobs, their union, and then some.

"You know," he reflected, "this may sound funny, but for me being a pressmen isn't just a way

to upgrade my life, it's also a way for me to make a social contribution that is of some value to people. It just isn't fair that after all this time now all they want to do is repay me by a kick in the

AUGUST 30-Postal workers around the country are viewing with deep apprehension and even disgust the arrangement worked out between their top union officials and the U.S. Postal Service.

Emmet Andrews, president of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU), and J. Joseph Vacca, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), reached an agreement with William Bolger, the Postmaster General, to reopen negotiations for a new contract with any deadlock to be resolved through arbitration.

This is in clear violation of the mandate which the union presidents received at the recent conventions in Chicago and Denver of the NALC and the APWU. At those conventions the delegates

registered overwhelming rankand-file sentiment against the last contract offer, in favor of free collective bargaining, and for strike action, if necessary, to win their demands.

ARBITRATION UNCONSTITUTIONAL

In addition, the agreement to submit to arbitration on wages and the no lay-off clause violates the constituions of the two unions.

The APWU and the NALC represent the overwhelming majority of the country's postal workers, with a combined membership of 480,000. There are approximately 570,000 postal workers all together. The Mailhandlers Union of the Laborers International and the Rural Letter Carriers represent the balance of (Continued on p. 5)

Carter readies new attack on construction unions

AUGUST 29-As part of and to award military contracts Carter's phony "anti-inflation" program of cutting the wages and benefits of all workers, a White House agency is attempting to overrule laws which protect the labor standards of contracted projects.

This latest in a series of administration attacks on the labor movement is being spearheaded by the Office of Federal Procurement policy, which is trying to overrule protective laws passed by Congress and administered by the Department of Labor.

This agency has already begun to try to get the Defense Department to defy the Service Contract Act, a protective law,

to companies with the lowest wages and the poorest benefits. The next target the agency has zeroed in on is the Davis-Bacon Act, a similar law which protects workers on federal construction projects.

The attack on these laws has the form of a squabble between the Office of Federal Procurement Policy and the Department of Labor, but the labor movement and even the ruling class press view this development as a new attack on the labor movement by Carter which is likely to deepen the growing split between the top labor bureaucracy and the Administration.

California firefighters' job action

AUGUST 25-The fight against Proposition 13 is continuing in California. In the city of Vernon, an industrial suburb of Los Angeles, firefighters who are facing layoffs and pay cuts because of Proposition 13 are refusing to answer fire alarms. The action began Aug. 22 after city officials refused to meet the firefighters' needs. The officials' only response has been to threaten to fire the entire department.

In San Francisco, hundreds of people demonstrated outside a Board of Education meeting when it voted unanimously to close 18 child care centers. nine schools, and lay off 860 teachers. Clearly, the only ones to benefit so far from the media-hyped "tax revolt" have been the landlords and big businesses through a whopping \$4.5 billion tax cut.

Steams victory

AUGUST 29—The Stearns, Ky., miners have won a favorable ruling from the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in their two-year long strike for union recognition. The NLRB has ruled that the owners of the mine, the Blue Diamond Coal Co., acted illegally in recognizing a pro-company union, the Justus Employees Association (JEA).

This is the first legal victory for the mine workers in their long battle to be represented by the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA).

"This strike is by no means over," said striker Phillip Tucker when he heard the good news. "If they (Blue Diamond) are ready to sign a contract today, it's over. If not, it's still on."

Blue Diamond has refused to negotiate with the UMWA, and last May the company recognized the JEA, signing a contract with a no-strike clause. Blue Diamond has been bringing in some 80 scabs under state police escort but has not been able to bring out

one ton of coal during the entire two year long struggle.

"They (the scabs) all come out of there clean," noted Dallas Farris, from his post on the picket line. 'If they were working miners they'd come out blacker than that pavement."

The main demand of the strikers is for a contract that includes a union controlled safety committee that has the power to shut down an unsafe mine. The need for this became clear to the Steams miners after the Scotia mine explosion in 1976 that left 23 dead. The Scotia mine is also owned by Blue Diamond.

The Steams miners are determined to win a UMWA contract no matter what tricky maneuvers the company may try. "They've never run into such people as us!" Tucker declared.

Steelworkers win improved conditions

AUGUST 28—A two-year struggle by rank-and-file steel workers at the giant Kaiser steel plant in Fontana, Calif., has won some important changes for the coke-oven workers.

The fight began in 1976 when the state charged Kaiser with 1,142 pollution violations. At that time, coke workers decided to take on their own action so that conditions inside the plant would improve. Speaking at public hearings, and using a variety of tactics, the rank and file kept the pressure building on the management at Kaiser.

Some of the changes that the workers have won include an enclosed, air conditioned lunch room; new oven doors; a doubling of the maintenance crew; personalized, company-cleaned uniforms; and relief periods for the most heavily-stressed coke workers.

One worker said that they didn't get everything they wanted, "but now that we've exposed them, the company is going to do a better job, clean it up a

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FBI-Alabama cops-KKK conspiracy against Black freedom

AUGUST 29-According to FBI documents released as a result of a law suit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) "supplied information on the progress of two busloads of Freedom Riders through the South in 1961 to the Birmingham, Alabama police department even though it knew the department had been infiltrated by the Ku Klux Klan."

The Freedom Riders were attempting to win rights for Black

people to use "white only" facilities on inter-state bus trips through the South and to be allowed to sit anywhere on a bus that was available instead of being pushed to the back of the bus as racist segregation practices demanded.

The FBI tip-off to the KKK set up the Freedom Riders for attacks of homicidal fury from the fascists.

Reporting from Birmingham, Alabama, CBS reporter Howard K. Smith described one of the Klan attacks on the Freedom doors opened, about thirty of the toughs [KKK members—A.S.] grabbed the passengers and dragged them into alleys and corridors, beating them with key rings and sticks and bare fists. About twelve of the attackers knocked down one passenger at my feet and kicked and beat him until his face was a bloody pulp." (CBS Evening News, May 14, 1961).

And this is just the way the FBI wanted it when they passed the information on the buses to the

Klan. It was the intention of the federal police to maim and kill Black and white civil rights workers, the ACLU report con-

"The 3,000 pages of FBI letters, memos and Teletypes clearly show that the FBI knew that Sgt. Thomas Cook, of the Birmingham Police Department intelligence branch, was passing information on the activities of the civil rights workers directly to the Klan, according to the ACLU.

The Civil Liberties Union is representing Walter Bergman, one of the Freedom Riders who was rendered partially paralyzed by a beating he received from the KKK when the bus he was on made a rest stop at Anniston, Alabama.

KKK AIDED BY **BIRMINGHAM COPS**

"Bull" Connor, the Bir-

promised token sentences to any KKK members arrested in the attacks. According to the FBI, Connor, a KKK member himself, had told his buddies that when they mauled the bus passengers to make them look like a bulldog got a hold of them.

In the middle of last July, the New York Times revealed that Gary Thomas Rowe, the chief FBI agent operating inside the KKK, had participated in numerous acts of racist terror against Black people in Alabama, including the 1963 bombing of a Birmingham church which caused the death of four Black children. The latest revelations about how the FBI aimed the KKK at Freedom Riders once again confirms the totally ruthless and ultra-racist nature of this secret police agency.



Freedom Riders John Lewis [left], and James Zwerg in Montgomery in 1961. Zwerg is removing shattered teeth from his mouth after sustaining a brutal beating at a bus station. Documents just released show that the FBI gave the tip-off to the KKK to set up this attack and several others at the

-Postal ranks

(Continued from p. 4)

the workers.

The postal workers are bearing the brunt of the government's wage-cutting plan. The latest contract offer, which was turned down by the membership of the postal unions, contained the most meager pay increases and no relief from the forced overtime which postal workers are subjected to. The contract proposed yearly raises of 2%, 3%, and 5%, plus "cost-of-living" justments, way below the annual rise in the cost of living. This chiseling was dictated by President Carter who, at the same time, doles out billions to the large corporations and the military.

RIGHT TO STRIKE

To enforce the low pay and overwork of the postal workers, the government declared it "illegal" for federal workers to strike, although this flagrantly violates the elementary right of all working people to organize, engage in collective bargaining, and cease work to win their demands.

The federal courts have handed out strikebreaking injunctions that threaten the postal workers with firings (over 100 workers were fired after last month's wildcats) and the unions with crippling fines and jailings of the leaders. Also, the National Guard was put on standby alert for scab duty in the event of a strike.

Nevertheless, opposition to the latest bet: val is running strong,

according to reports received from around the country. In Chicago, for example, a woman with 11 years seniority who operates a letter sorting machine, expressed the mood of the most militant: "Fifteen days or a hundred days, it won't do no good to keep talkin'. It's time for walkin'.

In addition to violating the membership's mandate calling for a strike if no agreement was reached within 15 days, the aspect of the new "negotiations" that has aroused the most opposition is that the issues of amnesty for the fired workers, forced overtime, and a

host of other demands are excluded. The truth is, despite their claims to the contrary, that Andrews and Vacca have capitulated to the threats of the government and have become accomplices in Carter's war on the workers.

The harsh reprisals taken by the Postal Service after last month's walkouts, however, are compelling rank-and-file and local union opponents of the latest offer to seek a new alignment of forces within the national unions that would challenge the present leadership and lead the membership out of the current impasse.

Black Crown Heights residents organize

By TANA MARIE LOY

NEW YORK, Aug. 26-In response to the racist attacks against four summer youth corps workers in Brooklyn a few weeks ago, community members of Crown Heights met today to discuss and to plan what actions can be taken to protect their children. Represented there was the Black United Front and the Black Community Congress.

This community has witnessed the murder of its youth by police and the unchecked gang beatings of others.

The four youth corps workers e part of 96 Black and Hispa summer workers lucky enough to get jobs this year in this city that is burdened with cutbacks in all needed services and with subsequent lay-offs. All of these young people were sent into white neighborhoods to provide needed services. They were harassed and beaten by racists everyday on their lunch breaks. In one incident, two van loads of thugs armed with guns, machetes and clubs descended on a group of workers.

SELF DEFENSE OF COMMUNITY

The meeting today was a planning session to deal with protection, hoping to begin

organizing on a block by block basis. But the ongoing oppression of racism, lack of jobs, lack of good recreational facilities, and racist education is present 365 days of the year. The summer tidbit: jobs to "keep things cool" aren't enough, said one of the organizers who felt it was necessary to begin addressing the deeper issues.

Those present expressed deep concern for future generations and the commitment to build a program that would insure the productive well being of its youth. The reality of that task means inghting the attacks in an their forms. A concrete example of that is the Crown Heights defense patrol of 700 youths, which has been in existence for two years, as well as those community members who are working to provide the jobs and programs that the city has failed to provide.

The upcoming Sept. 28 citywide rally against New York Mayor Ed Koch was also mentioned as a way to fight and demand an end to the attacks. The next meeting of Heights community members to further discuss ways to fight racist attacks will be Sept. 9 at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn. For further information call (212) 756-1300.

Outraged Black representatives charge

ABC 'documentary' spews racist filth

By RICHARD FERGUSON

NEW YORK, Aug. 28-Outraged representatives of the Black communities here in New York as well as nationally have taken legal action against ABC-TV for the airing of the malicious, racist program "Youth Terror: a View From Behind the Gun," on June

"Youth Terror," which ABC dared to call a documentary, was everything but an educational film. The shooting for this program took place in Bedford Stuyvesant, Williamsburg, South Bronx, Lower East Side Manhattan, and New Jersey, all areas in and around New York City. These areas, populated solely by Black and Latin people, were strategically picked by ABC staff to produce a staged film depicting Black and Latin youth as the main perpetrators of juvenile crime.

The youth that participated in the film were given a little money or false promises by the ABC s aff for their part in the film which portrays them as gun-happy, knife-wielding hoods. The entire program was filled with staged street rumbles and rehearsed lines and then broadcast by ABC-TV as a "documentary about real people and real events."

Hugh Hill, the only Black who worked on the program as production associate, charged the film was rife with "misrepresentations" and that all of the positive footage had been cut. After having private conversations with several youth in the film he found some had received bribes of money in order to act out scenes. One Hispanic youth was promised by Helen Whitney, program producer for ABC, a scholarship to a private school and aid in getting him a job at ABC, in return for his being filmed with a gun. The youth further stated that several lines used in the film such as, "we're raised like animals and so we act like animals," had to be filmed in several takes until the director got the effect he wanted.

Hill, in an interview with the Amsterdam News, also stated, "I personally brought in 15 white kids but they didn't consider them 'heavy' enough.'

Is it conceivable that Black and Latin youth, as "animalistic and barbaric" as ABC tried to make them look, would go about their 'everyday acts of terror' while a practically all-white film crew, with their lights and microphones, produced a film?

DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY RULING CLASS

It's true, there has been a reign of terror in these oppressed Black and Latin communities mentioned above, but the real perpetrators of this terror wouldn't dare come near these communities. They are people such as the Rockefellers, Mellons and Duponts, just to name a few of the small ruling clique who control ABC network, as well as all the public news media and who are responsible for the high unemployment, the cutbacks in social services, the attacks and murders by racist cops, and other direct assaults on

the poor and oppressed.
"Youh Terror" was directed
and produced by the ruling class of this country as another tool of racism to further divide the working class and to put the blame on the oppressed Black and Latin communities at a time of astronomical unemployment figures and poverty and hunger.

The very next week after the nationwide broadcast of "Youth Terror," several states, as well as Congress, came up with a drive for harsher more punitive measures against youth crime-meaning stepped-up harassment of Black and Latin youth. And not so incidentally, the same night in June that "Youth Terror" was aired. the decision on Bakke broke.

Leader of Medina Defense Comm. reports

Gov't repression mounts in Mexico

Special to Workers World

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 20-Rosa Moreno of the Jose Medina Defense Committee spoke with Workers World today about increased repression in Mexico. She visited that country last month to attend a meeting of the National Committee to Defend the Politically Persecuted, Disappeared, and Political Prisoners in Exile of the Mexican Republic, which organized a demonstration of 40,000 in Mexico City on July 26 to demand amnesty for victims of

A second purpose of Moreno's trip was to gather documentation and affidavits on repression in Mexico to offer concrete proof to U.S. officials why Jose Medina cannot be deported to Mexico. Jose (Pepe) Medina, a Mexican revolutionary who fled to the U.S. in 1973 to escape political persecution, is presently living in Los Angeles, and for several years now has been fighting for political asylum in the U.S.

Moreno explained that many political activists in Mexico have "disappeared," that is, they have been arrested by government or right-wing fascist forces and are being held in clandestine prisons. These prisons exist all over the country, she said, and added that the committee mentioned above estimates that in a particularly infamous secret prison, Military Camp Number One, located in Mexico City, there are about 5,000 people. The prisoners, men and women, are held in cramped quarters in a basement of a military base and many are tortured.

Moreno spoke with Maria Jesus Carldera de Barron, the president of the Union of Parents of the Politically Disappeared in the state of Sinaloa. "Her son," Moreno said, "is a student and a worker and he has been disappeared for a long time. She told me the atrocious stories of what goes on in the state of Sinaloa, particularly of a boy, a high school student, who was put in one of these clandestine prisons. She showed me a picture of him when he was arrested," Moreno said. "Then this clandestine prison moved somewhere else, to a bigger place, and the parents came in and found a picture of this boy the way he looked then. His head was broken," she said. "It didn't even look like the same person. This is a boy under 19."

"One of the cases that I spoke with, and one that really deserves to be denounced, is the case of a

family by the name of Ramirez Duarte. I spoke in particular with the mother, Delia Duarte. She is the treasurer of the Committee. Her son, Juan Manuel Ramirez, who everyone knew as el Bolche for Bolshevik, was killed by the White Brigades in September of 1977."

FASCIST GROUP TRAINED BY CIA

Moreno described the White Brigades as a fascist grouping, like the groups in Argentina that murder and arrest progressives and labor leaders. "Their leader and most atrocious torturer is a men by the name of Nazar Haro," she continued. "They're undoubtedly trained by the CIA."

After Juan Manuel Ramirez was killed, Moreno said, "his wife Mari was arrested by the White Brigades and taken to Military Camp Number One. She was given electric shocks and she had electrical objects inserted in her vagina. Then," Moreno said, 'they brought her husband's body to her, dead and just completely messed up, and showed it to her. Shortly after that they released her. Her family put her immediately in a hospital. She died two weeks later. There was a letter from the doctor saying that she died from an internal hemorrhage, she had burns on her breasts, and burns on her back, and her vagina was totally destroyed. She died as a consequence of the tortures that she received."

Delia Duarte's three other sons. ages 18, 19, and one in his 20s, were arrested, even though none of them were involved in leftist activities. They were detained just because they were Juan Manual's brothers. The oldest, Rafael Ramirez Duarte, is still missing. "It's been a year now," Moreno said. "And the two others, who didn't know anything about Juan Manuel's activities, were tortured by dipping their heads in water.'

HELD FIVE YEARS WITHOUT TRIAL

Moreno also told Workers World about the plight of political prisoners being held in known jails. "I talked to the people who are accused of the same things as Pepe," she said. "These are the people who were involved with the struggle committee of the law school. All these people are lawyers like Pepe who (in 1972-1973) were giving free council to the peasants and the workers seeking their land stemming from the agrarian reform laws and from the Mexican Revolution.

These lawyers "had been given a warning not to give any more free council," Moreno continued, "and they continued to do so. The university was then taken over by the students and charges, including murder and kidnapping, were fabricated by the government against the leaders. They have been held in jail for five years without trial.

'These revolutionaries have been tortured with electrical shock and the torture of the water, called pocito." In addition, Moreno said, they have been awakened at a hours of the night and forced clean human waste from the sewers with their bare hands. "So you see we really have to struggle for Pepe's political asylum," she

One prisoner wrote a letter in the name of the group to Leonel Castillo, Commissioner of Immigration, where "he gives an explicit and detailed story of what happened to him and he also mentions in the letter that in one of his confrontations with the authorities, when he was being processed, a very cynical man who was accusing them said to him, 'The one that I really want to get my hands on is Pepe.' He said, 'I'm not going to rest until I see him in prison.

"By that time Pepe was already here. These comrades wrote a letter to Leonel Castillo, impressing on him that things have been bad for them, and they could be a lot worse for Pepe.'

Moreno explained that, while in Mexico, she found an interview with an agent of the police in the newspaper Novedades that was made on the same day that the government alleges Medina and his comrades kidnapped the dean of the university. In this article, the agent says he didn't see them leave the law school on that day.

"This article really shows how the Mexican government fabricates charges," she said. "They didn't have their stories straight yet. I brought a notorized photocopy of that, and I think it's very important for the case.'

The president of STUNAM, the union of workers at the University of Mexico, gave Moreno a strong affidavit for Leonel Castillo saying that he knows Medina, knows what he was doing at the time, and that the charges against him were fabricated.

Another statement came from Mrs. Duarte, saying that if Medina were deported to Mexico. he would be tortured and dissappeared. "I also have quotes from political prisoners in Coyohuacan jail saying they're very concerned for Pepe's wellbeing, that he doesn't get deported-not to have the same fate that they have."



strength daily since the Sandinista National Liberation Front's successful takeover of the National Palace. Here, a Sandinista leader boards a plane last week to Panama after Somoza met the freedom fighters' demands and released political prisoners.

-Nicaragua

(Continued from p. 1)

over 15 years and is widely 1958. The Sandinist National recognized by the Nicaraguan Liberation Front was formed that people as the leading force in the revolutionary struggle. The action was carried out at a time of tremendous discontent with Somoza encompassing virtually every sector of Nicaraguan society and at a time when Somoza's regime was in political crisis. It was aimed at inspiring the workers and peasants to continue and accelerate the struggle against Somoza and, as events now show, has served as the catalyst for a mass uprising.

Although most Nicaraguan shopkeepers and businessmen have joined in the strike and in the call for Somoza's ouster, some even to the point of joining a coalition with the FSLN, they are becoming increasingly nervous about the outcome of the current struggle, according to U.S. press accounts. While the FSLN has tried to broaden its allies in the struggle against Somoza, at least one of its statements, its communique published in the Nicaraguan press, could not have failed to increase these worries, since it "suggested that private property' would have little place in the new society," according to the Washington Post.

The FSLN is named after Gen. Augusto Cesar Sandino who heroically fought U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua in 1926 which installed the Somoza family in the first place. Sandino's antiimperialist struggle continued until 1934 when he and three other guerrilla leaders assassinated. A veteran of Sandino's army, Ramon Raudales, launched a new struggle against the Somoza puppet dynasty in

same year after Raudales was murdered by the government.

The Somoza family is important to U.S. imperialism and could not have ruled Nicaragua for so long without U.S. support. Somoza's father provided the prerevolutionary Cuban puppet dictator Batista with arms for fighting the liberation forces even before the revolution, and in 1961 counter-revolutionaries participating in the CIA-organized Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba to use Nicaragua as a departure point.

U.S. imperialism's interests in Nicaragua are twofold: both for the Central American country's strategic location and its economic exploitation. Not only has Nicaragua furnished a convenient launch for attacks on socialist Cuba, it is strategically situated near the Panama Canal and has a potential as a site for an alternate canal should the Panama Canal be closed to U.S. imperialism. The U.S. rulers fear a progressive regime in Nicaragua because it could further ease the isolation of Cuba in the Western Hemisphere due to the U.S.-imposed blockade and strengthen the cause of revolution throughout Latin America.

Economically, the U.S. has considerable stakes in Nicaragua. In 1974, Nicaragua's indebtedness to U.S. banks was \$178 million, and a full 80% of the country's foreign investment are those of U.S. corporations like United Fruit, Ralston Purina, Monsanto Chemical, United Brands, Hughes Tool, and Exxon. U.S. transnational corporations and banks don't want to lose the enormous privileges (tax exemptions, few restrictions on imports and exports, and low wages) they have been enjoying in Nicaragua at the expense, of course, of the workers and peasants they exploit.

There can be no doubt that the Carter administration is at this very moment scheming to insure U.S. imperialism's continued stranglehold on the Nicaraguan workers and peasants who are suffering from unprecedented inflation and an unemployment rate of over 36% of the working population. As long as this imperialist stranglehold prevails, the conditions for revolution are there. Whether Somoza and his U.S. backers are thrown out of Nicaragua today or tomorrow or at a future date, history is on the side of the Nicaraguan people and their struggle for liberation.

State of emergency declared in Peru

AUGUST 28-Peru's military government made another grave move against the workers last week, ordering the army to take control of the principal mining centers of the country, which had been shut down by a strike since August 6. The government also declared a state of emergency and suspended rights in those

The areas affected contain the state-owned mines and also mines owned by the Southern Peru Copper Corporation, a U.S.-owned company.

The strike was called by the Federation of Mining and Metallurgical Workers of Peru to demand the reinstatement of 320 unionists who had been fired in the past year for organizing work

stoppages. Union leaders declared that despite the emergency measures taken by the military regime, the strike would continue as long as the unionists are not at their posts.

The copper mines which the strike shut down are vital to Peru's economy for gaining foreign exchange. Peru's government is already over \$8 billion in debt to the imperialist banks and governments. These latter, both directly and through an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), have pressured the military regime to guarantee the debts by imposing draconian austerity measures and in-creasing the exploitation of Peru's workers.

10,000 Chilean miners strike brutal conditions

AUGUST 28—Copper workers in Chile have been on strike since Aug. 3. Some 10,000 Chuquisamata copper miners are striking for higher wages, better working and living conditions, and the rehiring of their fellow workers who were recently fired. The firings took place after the miners had protested their intolerable working conditions at a public meeting.

Workers of El Teniente, the world's largest underground copper mine also located in Chile, on Tuesday proclaimed

their support for the 12-day-old strike, reports the Ethiopian Herald (Aug. 18).

Workers throughout Chile have faced severe repression, denial of all trade union rights, and an inflation rate of over 400% a year ever since the CIA engineered a coup in 1973 that overthrew leftist President Salvador Allende and instituted fascist military rule.

The defiance of the copper miners shows that even fascism cannot put an end to the workers' struggle.

Shah shuffles cabinet in hopes of stopping anti-regime protests

By JOHN CATALINOTTO

AUGUST 28-Events in Iran have continued to move rapidly since the tragic moviehouse fire Aug. 19 which left close to 500 people dead. Yesterday the Shah was forced to name a new cabinet. Establishment politicians and journalists who a few days before had attacked only "communists" and "Islamic Marxists" midweek were sniping at "those who claim to lead the nation."

Following the fire at the Rex theater in the petroleum city of Abadan, the Shah's regime tried to turn the tragedy against its opponents. Anti-Shah demonstrators had been on the streets for nine days, posing the most severe threat to the Shah's repressive regime since the CIA put him in power in 1953. The pro-Shah media then blamed "Islamic Marxists" and "religious fanatics" for the fire, aiming the attacks at the demonstrators.

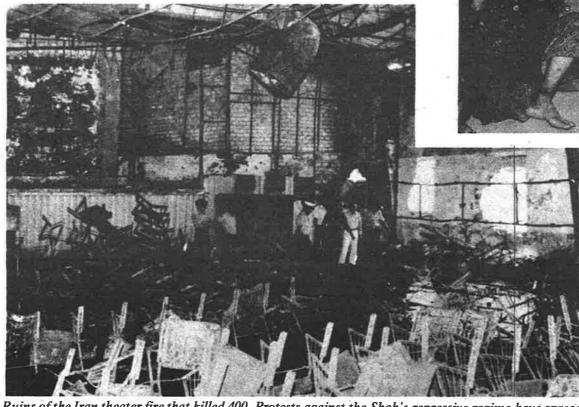
For a day it appeared the people were confused. Anti-Shah demonstrations stopped. The Shah was even able to mobilize a show of force to celebrate his 25th year in power. Although even at this time Iranian progressives believed that it was the Shah's secret police, the SAVAK, who set the fire, there was fear that the regime's plan would work.

MOURNERS BLAME REGIME

But the mourners in Abadan wouldn't fall for it. Following a

Hua in Iran

Chinese Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng is on a three-day visit to Iran, just at a time when the Iranian masses are spilling their blood in an intense struggle against the Shah's regime. Like the earlier visit of Foreign Minister Huang Hua to Zaire when imperialist troops had just been rushed in to put down a popular revolt there, this trip of Chairman Hua is an attempt to pull the imperialists' chestnuts out of the fire in pursuit of an unholy alliance with the NATO powers against the USSR. It must be condemned as a vile blow against the interests of the working class and the liberation struggle.



Ruins of the Iran theater fire that killed 400. Protests against the Shah's repressive regime have spread as it has become the wide spread belief that the Shah is responsible for this murderous act.

religious ceremony last Wednesday, they stormed through the streets of the city, crying for vengeance against the Western banks, the police, and the Shah.

On one narrow street in a poor quarter, a group of youths bombarded a bank branch with stones and bricks and heaved trash barrels through its windows. "There's just one thing we want to say," one shouted. "We are against the Shah, all of us."

TENSION IN TEHERAN

At about the same time, a Le Monde correspondent described the tense mood in the streets in north Teheran, where one-eighth of Iran's 35 million people live.

"A walk here suffices to show how fragile the calm is which reigns in this part of the capital, transformed every night into a veritable armed camp. . . . Young soldiers armed with ancient rifles point their bayonets at groups of young people who strangely resemble them."

This correspondent also found wider and wider circles of opinion believing that the fire was a 'government provocation," and that in any case people so

thoroughly hated the regime that martial law or state of siege to save they were ready to hold it respon-

UNCERTAINTY IN RULING CIRCLES

The uncertainty felt in the ruling circles themselves was reflected in articles in the Teheran Journal, an English-language newspaper close to the regime.

In the first days following the fire, this paper called for a violent anti-communist crusade, blaming the ills of society on "those who dream of a communist state." They added that the population is now ready "to accept whatever

the country from this cancer.'

But following the demonstrations at Abadan and the growing anti-regime sentiment, this paper changed its tune. The ills of Iran's society were then laid at the door of "high functionaries of the government who exercise power without taking account of the law ..., who preach discrimination and favoritism, punish small thieves severely while closing their eyes before the crimes committed by the state.'

A well-known senator, Jalal Naini, denounced the incompetence of "those who claim to be the draconic measures, curfew, rulers of our country." He cautiously added: "Nothing like this would have happened if the authorities regularly informed the sovereign of the real problems." The search for scapegoats would reach as high as advisers to the Shah.

NEW CABINET.

By Sunday, the scapegoats were found. The cabinet was forced to resign and the Shah named a new premier, Jaafar Sharif-Emami. From the description of his qualifications and his opening press conference it was apparent that the regime aimed at splitting the religious opponents of the regime away from the workers and poor who are fighting for progressive social gains.

Sharif-Emami has a reputation for easier relations with the Muslim religious leadership. He called for the elections the Shah has been promising, for freedom of activity for "legitimate" political parties, and a government campaign against "corruption and exploitation." The Shah stated that "the grandeur of Islamic principles would get top priority.'

While the regime mouthed this demagogy, they appointed a brutal general, Gharabaghi, Minister of the Interior, and opened up a campaign of repression against

SHAH THE KEY

It's an old trick for kings-and (Continued on p. 10)

Zimbabwean liberation presses forward as

Armed struggle reaches Salisbury

By PADDY COLLIGAN

AUGUST 28—Recent news from Salisbury, Rhodesia, indicates that the armed struggle which now affects much of rural Zimbabwe (the African name for the country) has now reached the capital itself.

Last week spokesmen for the Patriotic Front (which has the support of the majority of the people of Zimbabwe) in Lusaka and for the racist regime in Salisbury described a series of clashes between freedom fighters and the regime's security forces in and around Salisbury which had occurred during the preceding few days. Although the casualty figures differed widely, the incidents were thought to be the

Invading Zambian settlements

South Africa launches genocidal raids on Namibians

By KATHY DURKIN

AUGUST 26-Today is the third day of a sweeping attack by South African troops against a settlement of Namibian (South West African) people in the Zambian border town of Shesheke. As of today, reports are circulating in that area that the fascist South African troops have massacred fifty Namibians living near the border areas of Zambia.

According to Siteke Mivale, the Foreign Minister of Zambia, the South Africans crossed the Zambezi River in a dozen troop carriers and "started shooting everything." The government of Zambia has charged South Africa with bombing a school and according to Zambian television networks, South African troops detained two busloads of civilians.

In the recent period, South Africa has carried out several attacks on Namibian settlements in Zambia and has stepped up its

threats against the people of Namibia and against the Namibian liberation movement.

The Pretoria regime had so escalated its military stance that in June, the Zambian government that South African troops and aircraft were lining up along the Zambian border on the Caprivi Strip and had plans to attack Zambia. The Zambian government feared that South Africa would carry out a massive attack like the one they had carried out in southern Angola on May 4 against a Namibian civilian settlement. On that day, airborne South African troops killed and wounded over 1,000 Namibiansmainly women, children and elderly people—who were living in a Namibian settlement at Kissinga in Angola.

U.S. BOLSTERS UP PRETORIA

At this time the Western imperialist countries, led by the

U.S., have devised a "moderate" plan for Namibian independence from the South African colonial regime, which has occupied and ruled Namibia for over half a century. There are liberals within the bourgeoisie in this country that maintain that by working with South Africa, both politically and economically, they will be able to moderate the Pretoria regime. However, it is clear that South Africa's racist government has no intentions of ending its police-state repression against the Namibian people. Why, this latest bloody attack by the forces of the settler regime in Pretoria comes at a time when South Africa is supposed to be involved in talks for the independence of Namibia! Actually, U.S. imperialism is bolstering up the fascist South African regime in order to protect the tremendous profits that U.S.-based transnational corporations reap off the backs of the people in southern

Even while the representatives

of South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO) (which has led the Namibian liberation struggle against South Africa) have been involved in these negotiations with South Africa, the Pretoria regime has tensified the repression against SWAPO members in Namibia. Many SWAPO leaders and members have been arrested and jailed and under a law imposed by South Africa this year, anyone who is opposed to the South African occupation of Namibia can be indefinitely imprisoned without a

Clearly South Africa, in stepping up its repression against the Namibian people-both inside and outside of their country—has shown it is not too willing to loosen its colonial grip on its strategic and financial interests in Namibia. And it's all too clear that this racist, apartheid regime has total disregard for the just rights of the Namibian people to live in peace and free from oppression.

The Patriotic Front statement in Lusaka said that guerrilla fighters "mowed down several of the enemy soldiers" in one incident and "completely outmaneuvered" soldiers and police at a roadblock in another. Front spokesmen put the total Rhodesian dead at 29 soldiers and police killed "so far this week" according to the communique issued about Aug. 24. The Rhodesian settler government's version admits to only four killed.

Although incidents of urban confrontation have been reported with increasing frequency since late last year, this week's reports indicate that the Patriotic Front poses an increasingly grave threat to the regime, despite the backing that fascist Ian Smith and company get from U.S. and British imperialism.

The racist regime's establishment of what it calls a bi-racial transition government last March mocked world opinion and has exposed itself to be nothing but one more vulgar maneuver to perpetuate settler exploitation of the people of Zimbabwe. But the scale of last week's attacks in Salisbury shows that racist Rhodesia's days are numbered.



The smell of fascism

Young Black people have been told by the Baltimore County Police that they must carry a special green identification card if they wish to enter the Woodlawn area, a part of the county which is 97% white.

A typical green card reads: "This card gives Derek R. Copeland B-M dob 2-26 the right to walk the streets of Woodlawn," according to a report in the Baltimore Afro-American (Aug. 19). Whites are not required to have any such card.

The attempt to make Black people carry such discriminatory identity cards brings to mind the hated South African pass cards which the African population there are forced to bear. It is an outrage that smells of police fascism and must be stopped immediately.

U.S. troops to Mideast?

"President Carter is prepared to suggest a 'limited presence' on the West Bank of the Jordan River and in the Gaza Strip as part of a Mideast peace settlement," the Philadelphia Inquirer reported on Aug. 29.

"It would be the first time in the 30 years since Israel was born that Americans would be placed virtually on the front lines in heavily populated areas of the Mideast," the newspaper added.

A "limited presence." Isn't that how it always starts? Isn't this just another Pentagon code phrase for dispatching the U.S. military to a war zone?

Does a "limited presence" of U.S. troops mean another socalled "limited war" like the one in Vietnam which led to the death of millions of Vietnamese and scores of thousands of GIs? Of course it does, and most people understand this. As the Christian Science Monitor (Aug. 28) complained, "thanks to the Vietnam war, many Americans would shudder at the thought of sending U.S. troops to an explosive region of the world, even as part of a Middle East peace settlement."

And well they should, since a Pentagon military occupation of parts of Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt would insure not peace but war. It is a notorious fact that each move the U.S. government has made in the Middle East in the name of "peace" has been followed almost immediately by bloodshed and carnage. One has merely to recall former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's "shuttle diplomacy," his promised policy of "step by step toward peace" which culminated in the Lebanese bloodbath, to appreciate the perils of actually sending heavily armed U.S. troops to the region.

The oppressed Palestinian people would resist this move just as the Vietnamese resisted. More soldiers would then be sent to crush them, the president assuring that country that he sees "the light at the end of the tunnel" and that victory is just around the corner.

So much for the "lessons of Vietnam" which the U.S. government claimed to have learned after its shattering defeat there in 1975!

"STRATEGIC HAMLETS" IN JORDAN?

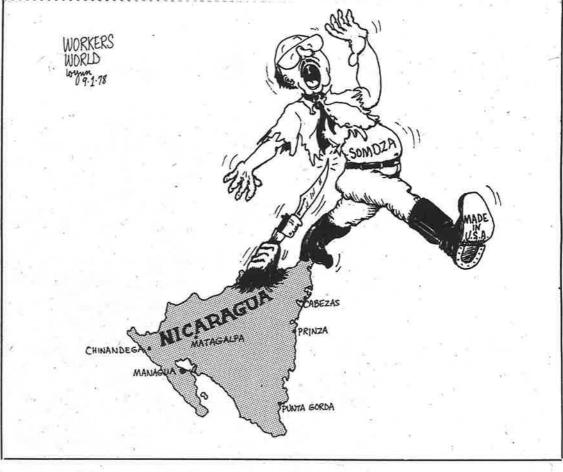
Not even four years have elapsed since the imperialists fled Southeast Asia in disorderly haste, yet now the Pentagon Strangeloves have found another area of the world to invade. Two or three years from now, will the people of this country be forced to watch the same grisly scenes with their dinnertime TV news as were common in the late 1960s and early 1970s? Will it be "search and destroy" missions in the Sinai, "incursions" into Lebanon, "strategic hamlets" (concentration camps) in Jordan, "preemptive" air strikes against Damascus, Mylai-type massacres in Palestine?

What else could it be. After all, the Palestinian people have been fighting for their right of self-determination, for the return of their stolen homeland for three decades against heavy odds, and the presence of U.S. troops is highly unlikely to smother their struggle.

If the Palestinians have demonstrated anything to the world it is their intention to keep fighting until they obtain justice. It should also be noted that the USSR and a number of other socialist countries, as well as the more than 100 million Arab masses, have given the Palestinians general support in their fight against Israel and the rich U.S. oil monopolies which the Israeli racist settler state was set up to defend.

A U.S. military occupation of the region, therefore, runs the risk of bringing the U.S. government into open confrontation with the Soviet Union, a country which directly borders the area.

This is not what the people of the United States want, and it certainly goes against the wishes of the great majority of Arab people, particularly the Palestinians. The progressive movement in this country must be on special alert and ready to mobilize its forces should Carter actually try to implement his warlike scheme and not be fooled in the least by any attempts to disguise imperialist troops as a "peacekeeping force."



Anti-communism mixed with sour grapes

The U.S. and the Moscow Olympics

AUGUST 21—The United Press. International reported today that a major campaign may soon be in the works to "call for a boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games." The proposed boycott, which is backed by a variety of anti-Soviet organizations, is supposedly aimed at protesting the conviction of Anatoly Shcharansky and some other reactionaries in the USSR.

According to the professional Soviet-baiters, "the Olympics should not be held in Moscow because of the supposed climate of repression there.

Now this wasn't the tune they were singing back in 1968, when

the Olympics were being held in Mexico, a U.S. client state. (U.S. businessmen have invested well over \$1 billion in the country.) Shortly before the games began, on Oct. 2, 1968, Mexican cops and troops fired point blank into a large crowd of leftist students who had gathered in a large plaza in Mexico City, killing hundreds.

"The troops," wrote Time magazine (Oct. 11, 1968) "formed a cordon around the crowd and moved in—shooting and bayonetting as they went."

Now if this had happened in Red Square in Moscow, the U.S. politicians and the capitalist news media would have gone wild, but by an army allied to Washington and Wall Street, no newspaper or government figure in this country even hinted at boycotting the games.

The Olympic Games have never before been held in a socialist country, despite the fact that the teams from the socialist countries traditionally send very many of the best athletes. To call for a boycott now is nothing but crude anticommunism, mixed with a touch of sour grapes over the fact that since they entered the games in 1952, the athletes from the USSR have won more gold medals than those from any other country.

--A.S

A 'champion of human rights'

Former Nazi in State Department

By ANDY STAPP

AUGUST 28—A high-ranking official of the U.S. State Department has been identified as a former Gestapo officer who took part in the World War II murder of 17,000 Jewish people in the Soviet Union.

The mass killings took place between Nov. 7 and 9, 1941, in the town of Rovno in the Ukraine. The State Department official is Konstantin Varvariv, an officer in the International Relations Department.

According to a July 28 press release issued by the USSR Mission to the UN, "The American authorities have been handed material from the Nazi archives in occupied Rovno seized by the Soviet Army.

"Among this data are certificates pertaining to Varvariv, signed by representatives of the Hitlerite administration, as well as payrolls of the Nazi Gebietskommisariat, where there are Konstantin Varvariv's signature," the indictment continued.

Yuri Novakovsky, a resident of Rovno and an eyewitness to the November 1941 massacre that Varvariv took part in, described the murders:

"The executioners shot down defenseless people who were naked and lying with their faces to the ground. They crushed the victims' heads, with their butt-stocks and threw the corpses into huge holes that had been dug. No bullets were

wasted on the children. They were hurled alive into the holes."

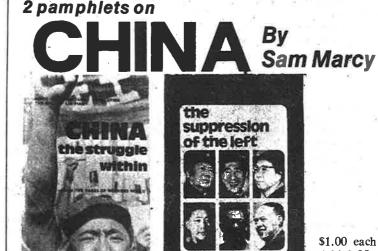
Varvariv, who had defected to Hitler's side almost immediately after the Nazi invasion of the USSR began, escaped with his fascist masters to Germany as the Soviet Army advanced in 1944. After the war he came to Washington, D.C., and joined the U.S. State Department.

spokesman told Workers World that the Department wouldn't "knowingly" hire a Nazi, but nonetheless, there have been no moves on the part of the Carter administration to kick Varvariv

out of the government.)

With the help of higher-ups in the U.S. government, "the Nazi accomplice turned into a 'champion of human rights,'" observes the Soviet UN statement.

"One can just imagine how anxious this former Hitlerite is to promote relations with the Soviet Union," continues the news release, adding "the promotion of the Nazi accomplice to so eminent a position in the administration of President Carter is an insult to the memory of the victims of Nazism and a challenge to all antifascists."



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China escalates border conflicts with Vietnam

By NAOMI COHEN

AUGUST 30—The border conflicts that have been going on between Vietnam and Kampuchea for several years, and more recently between Vietnam and China, have taken a serious turn with the news that Chinese soldiers and heavy artillery are fighting alongside Kampuchean forces in the border area with Vietnam. Government officials in Hanoi released this information on Aug. 22, according to the International Herald Tribune of Aug. 23.

Just a few days later, on Aug. 25.

25, a clash took place at Friendship Pass between Vietnamese and Chinese border guards which resulted in several deaths. While press reports of what actually happened are sketchy and confusing, it is known that several thousand Vietnamese citizens of Chinese descent (called the Hoa people in Vietnam) have been gathered at the border for some time waiting to go to China.

Although it had been inciting them to leave Vietnam, China closed the border on July 12 to all but a few people who had both Vietnamese and Chinese permits, while persisting in its campaign of vilifying Vietnam for the so-called "persecution" of people of Chinese descent. This has caused an explosive situation at the border region where these people are gathered.

CHINA DISTORTS VIETNAM ANTI-CAPITALIST CAMPAIGN

Several months ago the Socialist Republic of Vietnam launched a campaign against capitalist elements in the country, particularly merchants in the south, who were trying to undermine socialist construction there. For historical reasons, a sizable percentage of the merchants were Hoa people. Many of these elements chose to leave Vietnam rather than to live and work like the mass of the people do, going to Hong Kong and Taiwan, as well as to People's China.

The Chinese government seized on this exodus of Hoa to charge the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with "discrimination" against the Chinese population as a whole. Over Peking Radio it urged the Hoa people to leave Vietnam and even sent ships to Vietnamese waters without permission to pick them up. It is now estimated that about 160,000 people have gone to China

Not all the Hoa people were merchants, of course. The vast majority of the 1.7 million Hoa in Vietnam are workers who have been strong participants in the struggle against imperialism. Most of those who have left Vietnam in one way or another since the liberation of the south have not been Hoa people. But the Chinese leaders have chosen to make nationality the issue and ignore the class question.

In an attempt to negotiate their differences, Vietnam called for meetings to take place at the viceministerial level. However, according to press releases issued by the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi, these talks have made no progress because the Chinese representative has used the talks only as a forum to re-raise the charges of "discrimination" against the Hoa people and then to demand that Vietnam take back some of the people who left for China. On Aug. 28, in the wake of the border clash of Aug. 25, the negotiations broke down without a date being set for the next meeting and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Chung Hsi-tung returned home.

These developments, together with the reports that Chinese soldiers are now actively fighting

with the Kampuchean army in the border war against Vietnam, as well as the cruel cessation of all Chinese aid to Vietnam on July 3, have raised again the question of what could be the motivation for such acts of aggression against a small socialist country that has just come through a 30-year war against imperialism.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE CONFLICT?

It is well known that the present Hua-Teng leadership has set China on an open course of trying to make an alliance with U.S. imperialism to isolate the Soviet Union. In this campaign they have gone so far as to call for the strengthening of NATO, imperialism's prime tool for counterrevolution in Europe as well as in Africa; they have allied themselves with imperialist puppets like Mobutu of Zaire and the fascist Shah of Iran, to the detriment of the liberation struggles in these countries, all in order to help consummate an alliance with the U.S.; in addition, Chairman Hua's trip to Yugoslavia and Romania this week was but another attempt to forge such an anti-Soviet alliance with the two Eastern European countries that imperialism regards as having pulled the furthest away from the Soviet Union.

It is also well known that Vietnam for many years attempted to mend the rift between the Soviet Union and China and has tried to steer an independent course, maintaining friendly relations with both. However, in the Chinese leaders' scramble to impose an anti-Soviet line on all their allies, they have become more and more hostile to Vietnam, which has refused to take up their false and reactionary assessment of the Soviet Union as a "social-imperialist" power.

In fact, China cut off all aid to

Vietnam just three days after Vietnam joined Comecon, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, which is an organization of socialist countries, including those in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, that can aid tremendously in the herculean Vietnamese efforts at postwar reconstruction.

Nothing could delight U.S. imperialism more than to see

socialist countries at war with each other. This has been the strategy of U.S. imperialism ever since the great Chinese Revolution itself. And nothing could cause the workers and oppressed people of the world more harm than a continuation of these hostilities, which can only serve as a diversion from the struggle against the main enemy of all humanity—U.S. imperialism.



The Chinese leadership has been waging a campaign to incite ethnic Chinese within Vietnam to leave and have falsely claimed that Chinese within Vietnam were persecuted there. Here, Lao Van Sinh, a Vietnamese of Chinese descent who had gone to China only to be disillusioned there, speaks to the press after his return to Vietnam.

Photo: Vietnam Courier

The Cultural Revolution and the Shanghai Commune

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

The sharp turn to the right of the leadership in China, going so far as to embrace the imperialists and some of their worst puppets, has thrown into confusion, and even into the camp of reaction, those parties and movements that have automatically and unthinkingly endorsed whoever came out on top in Peking.

It has also produced an understandable revulsion among progressive people everywhere.

In the fierce polemics now being mounted against the Chinese leadership, however, the great achievements of the Chinese Revolution itself are in danger of not only being misunderstood but actually thrown out the window. Particularly under attack is the period of the Cultural Revolution, when the masses were mobilized in a great campaign against the bureaucratic degeneration of the Chinese party and the state apparatus, and which, although it failed to achieve its ultimate purpose, did succeed in beating back the bourgeois elements in China, the "capitalist roaders" whose influence reached into the top ranks of the CCP and raised the spectre of counter-revolution. It is ironic that the present

polemics against the Hua-Teng leadership should in the same breath attack "Maoism" and the Cultural Revolution, for it is Teng above all who epitomizes the rightist grouping in the party which was literally driven underground by the leftists during the Cultural Revolution. Not only does it do damage to history to equate the present Chinese leaders with the group around Mao who initiated the Cultural Revolution, but it obliterates the objective significance of the tremendous defeat suffered by the left after Mao's death, when a sweeping purge was initiated against the leaders and cadres of the Cultural

Revolution in the guise of the campaign against the so-called "Gang of Four."

KEY ELEMENT IN CULTURAL REVOLUTION

What was the Cultural Revolution? Was it, as its detractors are now saying (and which is increasingly becoming the line inside China itself), merely a period of chaos and indiscipline in which a bunch of ultra-leftists utilized general disorder and attacks upon authority to pursue factional gains?

Sam Marcy, chairman of Workers World Party, wrote in this paper in February 1967 at the height of the Cultural Revolution that "one of the key, if not the key element of the contention in the struggle" was the "conscious effort by the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party-Chairman Mao and Defense Minister Lin Piao-to project the popular masses onto the political arena and to induce them by their own efforts and creative initiative to radically reconstruct the fabric of Chinese society along the 'lines of the principles of the Paris Commune.''

"The Paris Commune," he continued, "has always been regarded as the model for a genuine proletarian dictatorship, ever since Lenin wrote his celebrated book, State and Revolution. . . What is regarded as the quintessence of the Paris Commune type of state is the thoroughly democratic and genuinely revolutionary control by the popular masses over the machinery of the state—by the workers and peasants as against the privileged officialdom."

When more details of the struggle came to light later, they showed that this general analysis was remarkably correct. At almost the very same moment that these words had been written, the

Shanghai Commune was being launched.

SHANGHAI COMMUNE

In a series of articles on "The Suppression of the Left in China' that appeared in Workers World beginning in October 1976, that is, right after Mao's death, Marcy devoted considerable attention to the short-lived Commune in Shanghai and its very great significance. The fourth article in the series, entitled "The Shanghai Commune and the Rightist Reaction," written on Jan. 10, 1977, fleshed out on the basis of recently available information how the leaders of the Cultural Revolution had tried in January 1967 to call out the masses to build a Paris Commune-type state in Shanghai.

This marked "the period in which the working class, for the first time in the Cultural Revolution, intervened on a truly mass scale and transformed the entired political situation, not merely in Shanghai but throughout China," wrote Marcy. "For the first time vast numbers of the great industrial working class of Shanghai seemed to take destiny into their own hands. Shanghai, it must be remembered, is not only the largest and most industrialized city in China, but can truly be called the proletarian capital of all Asia."

It is impossible to review here the many aspects of the Commune covered in Marcy's rich analysis, which the reader can pursue by studying the pamphlets Chinathe Struggle Within and The Suppression of the Left (available from World View Publishers). Suffice it to say that in this struggle to not merely transform but to dismantle and replace the existing state apparatus in China, for which the establishment of the Shanhai Commune was to provide a model, the forces of reaction proved too strong. A compromise

was quickly reached to set up in its place "revolutionary committees" or a "triple alliance" which in effect served to bring back into command elements of the same privileged grouping which had been ousted by the Commune.

BETTELHEIM ALSO RAISES COMMUNE

Since this analysis by Marcy written a year and a half ago, much has appeared in print about the evolution of the Chinese Revolution, but very little that sheds any light on the question. It is of note, therefore, that in an article entitled "The Great Leap Backward" by Charles Bettelheim which appeared in the July-August issue of Monthly Review, this question of the Shanghai Commune is raised with due emphasis on its strategic importance for the fate of the Cultural Revolution.

Bettelheim is the former president of the Franco-Chinese Friendship Association. He resigned that position in May 1977 with a letter expressing disagreement with the line taken by China's leaders after the death of Mao.

He later expanded on this theme in the larger article referred to above, in which he characterizes the purge unleashed against the four collaborators of Mao as a, defeat suffered by the revolutionary line.

Despite our many differences with Bettelheim, we find in his analysis of the Shanghai Commune a confirmation of Marcy's earlier exposition. Many of the same elements are stressed: that in the writing of both Marx and Lenin, the Commune or Soviet was seen as the model for the workers' state, the workers' parliament, so to speak, which subordinated the administrators, the bureaucrats, the technical intelligentsia, and so on to the will of the masses; that

(Continued on p. 3)

U.S. bank wins a bundle

Betting against the U.S. dollar

By V. COPELAND

NEW YORK, Aug. 28— Everybody else—especially the poor—is suffering because of the decline of the dollar. But Citibank of New York, which is a conglomerate super-bank—the second biggest bank in the country—is making millions out of it.

How can that be?

A former employee, David Edwards, has just exposed the intricate but not so difficult method by which the foreign branches of Citibank can sell dollars in return for Japanese yen or Swiss francs, and make huge profits.

Since the dollar is going down to a certain extent anyway, the banks can make a killing by giving it an extra push.

They do this by using other people's money—their depositors'—to buy a stronger currency and then sell it back for dollars when they can get 1% to

4% more dollars than they started with. (Even a fraction of 1% can yield a neat profit, though.)

From Aug. 7 to Aug. 11, for instance, the dollar fell by 4%. It fell by that much again in one day—on Aug. 14. If Citibank took just one billion of its 70 odd billions of other people's money, and traded it for yen or Swiss francs on the morning of Aug. 14 and then traded the yen back for dollars at the end of the day, they would have had \$1 billion plus \$40 million

Since they owed the depositors only \$1 billion, there would be a net of \$40 million in the pockets of the Citibank officers.

The hundreds of thousands of depositors concerned would find their dollars worth 4 cents less on the international market, and not that much less, but enough less, on the local market.

The Citibank plunderers, however, would have \$40 million that they didn't have before, thus

profiting from their depositors' loss (and from the loss of many others as well).

FOREIGN PROFITS OF CITIBANK

The bank announced on March 9 of this year that "foreign operations" in 1977 accounted for 82% of its profit. Citibank made \$313 million abroad as against only \$68 million in the United States last year.

However, this was only the "legal" take abroad. Currency speculations are not recorded in the books. And the top officers of the bank can carry on these operations wholly in secret.

When a small part of this secret was exposed, David Edwards was fired for telling the depositors the truth.

In a decent society, Edwards would get a medal and the Citibank officers would be put in jail—that is, if a decent society had such a thing as a Citibank.

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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.

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'Coming Home'

A refreshing anti-war statement

By TERRY KLUG

Over the past several years there have been a number of more-orless progressive films put out in Hollywood about the U.S. imperialist war drive in Southeast Asia.

Some have attempted through humor, others through gore, to portray the insanity and cruelty of the war. Some have tried to capture the confusion and alienation of U.S. veterans by delving into what they would imagine to be the souls of those who were forced to fight in Vietnam. Still others have, in one feeble way or another, even tried to show some of the resistance by U.S. soldiers. Predictably, most of these have come up severely short of their supposed goal.

However, as a dishonorably discharged veteran of the Vietnam War era, I found the recent movie, "Coming Home" to stand apart from the rest.

The opening scene of the film takes place in the recreation room of a hospital ward for paraplegic veterans and centers in on a discussion being held by a number of the veterans. As a former field organizer for the American Servicemen's Union who worked with thousands of anti-war GIs during the war years, I couldn't help but strongly identify with their frustration, anger, and

developing awareness as to their own role in the war.

NOT THEIR WAR

Through the strength of their unique relationship they discuss their feelings of being used to fight a war that has nothing to do with them; how they have been tricked by lies into being cannon fodder for the "man"—the same "man" that dumped them into a garbage heap passing for a stateside military hospital for physical and psychological rehabilitation after they are of no further value to war and destruction.

As the story unfolds it brings together two unlikely types—a veteran, paralyzed from the waist down (Jon Voight), and the rather naive wife (Jane Fonda) of a Marine captain who volunteers as an aide in the ward after her husband volunteers to go to Vietnam.

Upon being released from the ward Voight decides to bring to the public a message from his brothers still inside. After much imaginative thought and organization, he manages to chain himself and his wheel chair to the gate of a nearby military base. This arouses the fury of the base commander who sends out a squad of military police. Before the MPs can get rid of him, Voight

manages to get off an impassioned speech against the war in front of the local press and TV cameras.

Anyone can guess what happens next. As his relationship grows with Fonda his activities are carefully monitored by the local military intelligence.

The film ends after Voight faces the jealous rage of the war-weary Marine captain by saying, "I'm not the enemy and neither is your wife. The war is the enemy."

The movie is, of course, generally devoid of a class perspective and does not at all point to the necessity of capitalism to wage imperialist war in order to penetrate new markets and export capital abroad. But such is Hollywood.

"Coming Home," however, is a strong and genuinely refreshing anti-war statement in this period of crass indifference to the needs of poor and working people and cynical imperialist war preparation.

What breathes life into the film and begs the attention of our class is the fact that none of the men in the paraplegic ward (except for Voight) were actors . . . they are Black, Latin, and white victims of Wall Street's war who really are paraplegic rank-and-file veterans, candidly and angrily stating their opposition to the imperialist war machine.

—Puerto Rico

(Continued from p. 1)

independence forces, including the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), the Puerto Rican Independence Party (PIP), the Puerto Rican Peace Council, Black U.S. Congressman Ronald Dellums, the National Committee to Free the Nationalist Prisoners, and others, are here to testify on, defend the espouse, and inalienable right of Puerto Rico for self-determination and independence and to demand the U.S. relinquish all powers over Puerto Rico. The bulk of them are scheduled to speak tomorrow.

In an unprecedented decision, the two colonial parties in Puerto Rico have sent delegations, specifically the colonial governor Romero Barcelo, and the president of the Popular Democratic Party (PPD), Hernandez Agosto, to speak in the UN before

This is, undoubtedly, a defensive move by the puppet forces on the island. Just the fact that they have to fly to the U.S. to answer the independence forces is a sign of their fear. If the UN puts Puerto Rico back on its list of colonies it would discredit the puppet regime there, tremendously embarrass Washington, and focus worldwide attention on the high unemployment and the increased repression in this island nation.

After an hour of solid chanting

the Decolonization Committee.

and clapping, the demonstrators gathered into a rally to hear various speakers from the liberation movement in Puerto Rico.

Carlos Velez Riekhoff, President of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party, spoke of the escalating repression against the Puerto Rican people and how a united effort will ultimately topple colonialism in Puerto Rico.

Nelson Canals, of the Puerto Rican Committee to Free the Nationalist Prisoners, gave revolutionary greetings from the heroic Puerto Rican patriot, Andres Figueroa Cordero, one of the Five Nationalist Prisoners, who is now free after more than 20 years in a U.S. jail.

Juan Mari Bras, Secretary-General of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, stressed that the UN won't liberate the Puerto Rican nation, but only the people themselves will. He said that different crises always bring the struggle to the forefront, and that the UN debate was a sign of the present crisis in Puerto Rico.

The last speaker, Juan Antonio Corretjer, President of the Puerto Rican Socialist League, spoke of the importance of the liberation of Puerto Rico in the world struggle against imperialism. He also emphasized how the U.S. bears full responsibility for all the repression in Puerto Rico.

One thing was clear from all the speakers, indeed, from all the progressives there. Despite what happens in the UN, the struggle surges forward and it will be

victorious.
I Que viva Puerto Rico libre!

-Shah shuffles cabinet

(Continued from p. 7)
presidents too—to blame their
unpopular policies on "bad advisors." They try to obscure their
own responsibility even as they
hold the reins of absolute power.
In his 25 years as King-dictator,
the Shah has woven the strings of
power around himself, his family,
and his entourage, made all the
connections with the imperialists
who put him in power in the first
place, and handed out privileges to
the Iranian generals.

Through elaborate construction and gala events he has tried to make himself the object of adulation. Through his repression, exploitation, and torture of the workers and poor, he has become the object of their hatred.

One bourgeois correspondent reports the mood in Abadan. The hatred of the Shah is "open, virulent and overwhelmingly widespread." The slogan on the placards of the demonstrators: "Death to the Shah."

SOCIAL REVOLUTION?

With the masses in open revolt against the Shah, there may be those among the Iranian bourgeoisie who would like to ease him out. But experience in similar situations has shown them it is easier planned than done.

In fact, in this age of imperialist decline which began with World War I, the overthrow of an absolute monarchy by a popular

rebellion has inevitably opened a period of intense class struggle, and opened the road to socialist revolution.

This was true in Austria and Germany after World War I, where the revolutions were finally crushed, and in Russia, where the socialist revolution succeeded. Most recently, the overthrow of the Haile Selassie monarchy in Ethiopia led to the intervention of the popular masses and unleashed a profound class struggle.

THE ARMY

With the masses now so determinedly against his regime, the Shah's support is based in the police and the army. Once before, in 1963, the Shah called the army out against the people. At that time, more than 10,000 people died in the fighting, according to opponents of the regime.

While the army has increased its weaponry with the most expensive

arms the U.S. could supply, the workers and poor have also grown stronger and more concentrated. As short a time ago as World War II, ports in Iran were worked by slaves imported from the countryside. Now more than half the Iranians live in the cities, and a very centralized industry has grown up rapidly.

The army, although a professional one, recruits its rank and file from the rural poor. As the Le Monde correspondent said, the soldiers "strangely resemble" the demonstrating youth.

This was not lost on the demonstrators. One of the signs carried in Abadan read, "Soldiers, you are guiltless, the Shah is the real villain."

The masses in Iran have gone on fighting despite the tortures by the police and the bullets of the army. It is unlikely that a few promises by the Shah and the new prime minister will stop them.

POLITICAL PRISONERS

Aimed at Puerto Rican struggle

Grand Jury convenes in N.Y.

NEW YORK, Aug. 22—Today the U.S. government again attempted to use the grand jury as a repressive weapon against the Puerto Rican independence struggle. This is part of a continuing effort by the FBI and the Justice Department to harass, intimidate, and imprison Puerto Rican activists.

Dylcia Pagan was subpoenaed to appear before the Federal Grand Jury of the Eastern District of New York today. This grand jury is an extension of 2 previous grand juries that claim to be investigating the activities of the clandestine pro-independence organization—Fuerzas Armadas de Liberacion Nacional (FALN).

In a militant show of solidarity and determination, 75 Puerto Rican, Black and white supporters held a spirited picket line before this morning's scheduled appearance. demonstration was called by the New York Committee Against Repression.

Dylcia Pagan has a history of community organizing and is well known as a television producer, teacher and writer. She has refused to cooperate with the grand jury's attempt to fabricate charges against independistas and their supporters. In particular, the government is attempting to force her to give information which can be used against her husband, William Morales, who was indicted July 21 on charges of possession of firearms and explosives.

FACES 18 MONTHS IN JAIL

In the last two years, ten women and men have been jailed in Chicago and New York for refusing to cooperate with FBI and political grand juries in their "fishing expeditions" against the Puerto Rican and Chicano movements. Dylcia Pagan faces an automatic 18 months in jail for her principled stance of noncollaboration. Since she is three months pregnant, she also faces the likelihood of giving birth to her first child in prison.

In a motion to quash the grand jury subpeona, her defense attorney, Margaret Ratner, pointed out that the FBI is illegally using the grand jury to do its investigation and in particular to isolate, harass, and intimidate William Morales through an attack on his wife and unborn child. This subpeona also violates the legal guarantee that a wife can not be forced to testify against her

Due to the extreme pressure of the arrest of her husband, the subpeona from the grand jury, and physical complications, Ms. Pagan is facing a possible miscarriage if imprisoned. In today's court proceedings she won

a one week postponement, to Aug. 30, so that her doctor would be available to testify on her

Dylcia Pagan remained strong and determined. Before going into court, she denounced the continued use of the grand jury as a tool to try to destroy the just struggles of oppressed people. And she again stated her principled position of noncollaboration with the U.S. government's repressive machinery.



Graphic: Jackrabbit Press

Stop brutality at Bedford Hills!

BEDFORD HILLS, N.Y., Aug. 28-Nearly 200 demonstrators, mostly women, picketed for over four hours under a blazing sun today outside the women's correctional facility here.

The prisoners of Bedford Hills have been struggling for years against unbelievably oppressive conditions including sexual abuse by male guards, no medical care, inadequate exercise, interference with mail, widespread forced sterilization, and stealing of children by state agencies.

Women who have protested these conditions have been framed up, brutally beaten by riot-equipped guards, fed minddestroying drugs, and illegally segregated for long periods of time.

Over the past year women at Bedford Hills have twice taken the state to court. A lawsuit demanding decent medical care was won last December. During the hearings on this suit one woman was found hanged in her cell under suspicious cir-cumstances. As a result of this death women at Bedford initiated contempt proceedings against the prison for refusing to implement the provisions of the medical suit.

Also, a suit has been filed by Black and Latin women against the use of male guards in the housing units-guards whose presence has meant constant sexual harassment and beatings.

"RIOT SOUADS OUT NOW!"

The demonstrators' chants of "Stop brutality at Bedford Hills! Riot squads out now!" and "Medical care is a human right!" could clearly be heard by the women inside who responded with loud cheers. Prisoners' relatives coming to the prison for Sunday visitation also loudly expressed their support for the demonstration. The marchers also demanded freedom for Carol Crooks and Shelia Liles, two women who have been especially singled out for attack by the administration because they have articulated the demands of their fellow inmates.

The demonstration closed with a rally at which a moving taped message was heard from Yvonne Lee, who was paroled from Bedford Hills several months ago but forbidden by her parole officer to attend the demonstration. In her message she read the demands from the prisoner's organization, Prisoners United to Save Humanism.

The demonstration was organized by the Emergency Committee to Defend the Human Rights of Women at Bedford Hills. Donations may be sent in care of Solidarity with Sisters Inside Committee, Box 291, 161 E. Houston St., New York, NY

Campaign announced to halt construction of federal prison

NEW YORK, Aug. 13-Jericho, the Newsletter of the National Moratorium on Prison Construction (NMPC) has announced efforts to halt the construction of New York State's first federal prison.

The state of New York handed over part of the Adirondack State Park to the federal government for construction of the prison for a sum of \$1. Construction of the Olympic Prison, a few miles from Lake Placid in upstate New York, is now almost finished. The five cylindrical buildings will first be housing for 1,800 atheletes who will be competing in the 1980 Winter Olympics, before the buildings will be converted into a prison.

Jericho said, "that the prisoners, to be moved in in the fall of 1980 would include 500 young men from the ages of 18 to 26, most from New York City, Boston, and Philadelphia. Jericho added that 60 to 75% of the prisoners will be Black and Puerto Rican.

ad-hoc formed named STOP (Stop the Olympic Prison), originated by the NMPC and the New York Council of Churches.- Supporters of STOP include: National Urban League, ACLU's National Prison Project, and a long list of church organizations, prison groups, sports groups and athletes, and others.

Jericho reports that educational materials have been supplied by progressives to Congress to 'generate opposition to the prison." A public education drive has been begun by STOP and several possible lawsuits are being considered on environmental grounds, on the sale of the land for \$1, and, according to Jericho on "the very murky process in Russell Means

Congress that resulted in the supplemental appropriation of \$22 million for the prison.'

In Europe, a member of the British Parliament, Charles Irving, is conducting an inquiry into this jail. Church groups, sports organizations, and public

officials, are organizing against the Olympic Prison in Holland, England, and France; and a film crew from Holland, IKON-TV, has filmed a documentary on the prison to be distributed throughout Europe during the summer.



Russell Means on hunger strike

By BEVERLY SLAPIN

AUGUST 28-"We can lie down and give up . . . " Russell Means said recently. "Or we can take a stand against our extermination.

Taking a stand against extermination is what Sioux activist and political prisoner Means has been doing for years. A month after he appeared Washington, D.C. to accuse the government of breaking up Indian reservations and stealing their natural resources, Means, in a small South Dakota prison, is on a hunger strike to protest imprisonment mistreatment of other Indians and other oppressed people. As of Aug. 17, Means had been fasting for 21 days.

His imprisonment, which dates back to a phony 1976 conviction, is seen by American Indian Movement (AIM) members and supporters as an attempt to silence the Indian leader when his voice is most needed.

Russell Means has been pursued by the racist cops and courts for a long time. After his acquittal on charges from the 1973 Wounded Knee uprising, Means was shot three times in separate incidents by Bureau of Indian Affairs and FBI agents,

and then he was charged with murder.

The murder charge was

particularly flimsy, since the victim himself, as he lay dying, exonerated Means. But South Dakota prosecuted Means anyway, keeping him in court for over a year.

"This is the seventh time that Russell has been charged with a violent crime and has been found innocent," Means's brother Ted, said after the murder trial. "Russ is a very committed person and that's why all these charges are brought against himbecause they recognize him as a true leader."

Means also spoke before a UN conference on Indian Treaties in Geneva last year, and last month, helped organize and lead the Longest Walk, a 3,000-mile march to Washington, D.C., that demanded the U.S government recognize existing treaties and stop stealing Indian

With all the danger that faces him in this country, Means was once asked why he hadn't stayed in Europe, where he was not persecuted, and where he and the just struggle of Indian people receives recognition.

"South Dakota is my home, where my people are," said. "I don't run."

FBI-Atlanta cops-KKK conspiracy against Black freedom —p. 5

Seattle progressives outraged

Racist, anti-gay cop kills Black man

By JIM McMAHAN

SEATTLE, Aug. 24—Black people and all progressives in Seattle are outraged over the August 19 murder of John Alfred Rodney by a fascist cop. Rodney, an unarmed Black man, was shot in the back by Officer Dennis Falck, a 14-year member and officer of the John Birch Society and a bigoted anti-gay leader of SOME (Save Our Moral Ethics).

Early Saturday evening, a man entered two Seward Park area homes and then promptly left when told to do so by the occupants. The cops were called, and Falck came upon Rodney in the vicinity. Without even firing a warning, he shot him twice in a backyard and killed him.

On Monday, Police Chief H.A. Vanden Wyer backed Falck before a police investigation of the shooting was even underway by saying the murder "appeared to be justified." Rodney's brother, Jesse said, "The way I see it, they just chased my brother up there and killed him."

On Wednesday, the police department was met by an angry demonstration of 200 people in front of their headquarters. The multi-racial demonstrators chanted, "We want Falck, put him in jail!" Many gay people who oppose the SOME-sponsored Initiative 13 were on the line. (Initiative 13 is an Anita Bryanttype anti-gay crusade being pushed in Seattle by bigots and fascistic elements.) The demonstrators then entered the police headquarters. They stood up to the cops inside who appeared

to be ready to arrest them, and demanded to see Police Chief Vanden Wyer.

The determination of the demonstrators forced the cops to back down and two members of Rodney's family and representatives of the demonstration got in to see the police chief with their demands.

They demanded that Falck be immediately removed from the police force, Vanden Wyer retract his earlier statement that the shooting appeared to be "justified," and that a complete and open public hearing be held on the shooting. Murphey Rodney, John Rodney's mother, objected strongly when she heard that the inquest hearings were scheduled before Judge Sullivan, a white judge. She demanded a Black

judge and jury.

ANTI-BLACK, ANTI-GAY, ANTI-POOR

Falck's murder of Rodney puts in bold relief the nature of anti-gay groups like SOME and their cohorts around the country. Under the guise of being for "morals" and "ethics" SOME is sponsoring an initiative on the Nov. 7 ballot to throw out city ordinances which provide protection against discrimination of lesbians and gay men. They gathered fewer than 20,000 signatures after more than

five months of petitioning in order to qualify Initiative 13 for the ballot. Officer David Estes, Falck's sidekick in SOME leadership recently told a Seattle Post-Intelligence reporter that SOME was against "humanism." In the same article Dennis Falck spoke "with great relish" about how he used to brutalize young people with lead lined leather gloves in the university district during the anti-war days of the early 1970s.

Not only are cops anti-gay, but they are anti-Black and against all poor and working people.



The 1977 United Nations Conference on Indians held in Geneva. Violations of the treaties and flagrant racism in the U.S., similar to the recent Milwaukee "grave robbing," prompted this international hearing.

In wake of Proposition 13

Milw.meetings defend social services

By RICHARD DOBBINS

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 10—In the wake of the so-called tax reform initiated in California by Proposition 13, several meetings have recently been held in the Milwaukee community to discuss means of defending vital social services.

On Aug. 3, 40 people attended a forum sponsored by the Martin Luther King Inner City Development Project on the possible effects on the Black community. Today, a meeting sponsored by the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) was called to discuss the real meaning of this "tax revolt."

At the Aug. 3 meeting, Marcia Coggs, a Black State assemblywoman, strongly opposed any move to introduce similar legislation in Wisconsin. Donald Sykes, the director of the Milwaukee Social Development Commission, pointed out that among the first programs to be cut under limited government spending would be affirmative action programs.

Donald Anderson of the Martin Luther King Inner City Development Project, who chaired the meeting, said that the real problem was the lack of jobs in the Black community. Proposition 13type measures, he said, would intensify the hardships faced by the poor and oppressed in Milwaukee.

Dia Dimani. of the United Black Community Council, spoke about the need for the community to develop its own institutions to be able to confront such right-wing attacks.

Today's CULA forum brought together community spokespeople and trade unionists to discuss these issues. Vel Phillips, who was the first Black woman to serve in the Common Council and later as a judge, spoke about the tremendous cutbacks in California and called for a "real tax revolt led by the poor and working people." She stressed the need for all of the

poor to unite around this issue—Black, white, and Latin.

Narciso Aleman of the Latin American Union for Civil Rights spoke about the real benificiaries of Proposition 13—the huge corporations who will reap huge tax savings while passing nothing to their customers.

A SMOKESCREEN FOR RACISM

"It is not only necessary for working people to organize against cutbacks but to build a movement to expand those services," said Jim Miller, Vice President of Local 205 Bakers and Confectionary Workers. Proposition 13 is being used as a smokescreen for racism, he said, similar to the anti-busing movement, the attacks on undocumented workers, and the Bakke decision. He stressed that

in order to be effective, any alliance between workers and community organizations against Proposition 13 has to link up with other progressive struggles.

The meeting ended with a rousing talk by Dan Pryzbla, Vice President of Wisconsin State Employees Union Local 82, who pointed out that it is the public employee who has been used as a scapegoat for government spending and who must now take the lead in exposing these phony tax reform proposals. "Every politician. Democrat Republican, is now jumping on the bandwagon, hoping to ride public discontent over taxation into office," he said. "Yet the public will not be the recipient of more than a pittance of tax relief. A real tax revolt would be felt by the wealthy, not by us.'

Native people protest theft from burial site

By JEFF KANNEL

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 15—The Elm Grove Village Board called it an act in the interests of science and education. Native people called it an act of insensitivity, disrespect, and racism.

Last night, the trustees of this affluent, conservative, virtually all-white Milwaukee suburb voted 5-1 to give the remains from an ancient Indian burial ground discovered there to a private archaeological company for a one year study.

This was in total disregard of the wishes of Native people, from which this land was originally stolen, and who should be the ones to decide what happens to this cemetary of their ancestors.

Native people from Milwaukee went to court and got a temporary injunction to prevent further digging, but the remains of seven of their ancestors had already been packed into boxes and removed to the village hall. The entire

gravesite was excavated and the contents removed by anthropologist David Overstreet and his students.

Native people said that they preferred to have the gravesite left undisturbed, but were willing to take the bones and rebury them on reservation land or state-owned land where it could be protected from further tampering. The developer apparently agreed to this, but the residents of Elm Grove had their own ideas. The Village attorney issued an opinion that the remains were Village property and that the trustees, and not the descendants, could decide the fate of the remains of those buried at the site. One "historical" group from Elm Grove wanted possession of the bones so they could be put on display, a grossly insensative and racist suggestion which greatly angered Native

The Board decision to turn over the grave's contents to the archeological company was worked out at a closed meeting with Overstreet in early August. "This meeting tonight was a set-up," charged one of over 60 Native people who attended last night's meeting but were refused the right to speak. "They had it all arranged with Overstreet in advance. He wasn't even here tonight...probably afraid to show his face."

Board President Tom Godfrey shouted down attempts by Native people to present statements, and even threatened two people with arrest, a threat which angered rather than intimidated the crowd. One board member, who was not present at the earlier closed meeting, voted against the motion because of Godfrey's refusal to allow Native people to speak. Godfrey interrupted the board member's comments and ruled him out of order.

After the decision, Buddy Chevalier of the Menominee Warrior Society told reporters, "This is not the end of this matter. We're going to talk to our lawyer and try to get a federal injunction against what they did tonight. We'll be back here again if we have to."

The Inter-Tribal Cultural Committee said in a prepared statement, "To us, the ashes of our ancestors are sacred, and their resting place is hallowed ground. To the white man, they are viewed as archeological relics, like dinosaur bones, to be picked apart and scrutinized under a microscope so that some scientist may sign his name to a research paper and enhance his standing in the grave robber community."

One spectator's comments pointed up the fact that racism and not the law is at the heart of the controversy: "If somebody digs up the graves of white people, they'd be locked up. But if somebody digs up our graves, they give him a college degree."