

workers world

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

"Jobs for all!" was demand of 60,000 workers—jobless and employed, men and women, Black and white—in Washington April 26. See page 3.

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*May Day, 1975—A day of victory
for the world working class*

VIETNAM BELONGS TO THE WORKERS!

NEW YORK, April 30, 1975 (AFTER THE WAR)—Washington and Wall Street will never be the same!

They still own the mines and exploit the people of Mexico and Central America and South America. They still drive millions of African people to an early death. They still have a semblance of control of (and most of the profits from) the oil of the Middle East. They still have their postwar penetration into the ownership of Western Europe. And they still have 90 million American workers—employed and unemployed—to produce profits for them when the vast productive apparatus built by the workers is functioning.

BUT THEY LOST THE WAR AGAINST VIETNAM!

And all this power was suddenly put into question today—with a question mark reaching from the production lines of Detroit and the sweatshops of Taiwan to the newly-christened City of Ho Chi Minh.

The oppressed of the world are all asking today: Just how powerful is U.S. imperialism, anyway?

What is the real power of all the B-52's, the napalm bombs, the baby-killers—individual and collective—the battleships, and the

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Inventions and millionaires

'Generous' company finally marked his grave



Sixty-five years after his death, these school-children honor Granville Woods, the Black inventor and scientist who was never honored, or paid for his inventions, during his lifetime.

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NEW YORK, April 24—If you invented the "third rail" of the subway system, made a complex railway signal that greatly reduced train accidents, and sold inventions to General Electric, Westinghouse Air Brake, and AT&T (assets \$60 billion), you might expect to be remembered—even if you never got paid.

—But not Granville T. Woods.

He invented these and many other valuable things, but people not only forgot his name, but also where he was buried.

Woods was a Black American

who died in 1910. He had to pretend to be an Australian aborigine so as to even get a hearing for his inventions, so great was the discrimination, race hatred, and ridicule poured upon Black inventors in the United States.

M. A. Harris, a Black historian, has recently discovered Woods' long-forgotten burial site. He led a crowd of schoolchildren in a pilgrimage to Elmhurst Cemetery in Queens yesterday to honor Woods, with a song from the children and a speech from Dr. James Mitchell, who spoke of the con-

tinuing problems of being a Black scientist.

Mr. Harris explained that Woods held no less than 50 patents on valuable inventions (now owned by various billionaire corporations, of course) even inventing a better chicken incubator.

It was Mr. Harris who got Western Electric (a \$5 to \$6 billion subsidiary of AT&T) to provide a bus for the school children and a stone for Woods' grave (after 65 years).

"At long last," the papers said with appropriate sentiment,

"grave 144, range 3, plot 5, had a gravestone."

They didn't add, of course, that Granville Woods' descendants and other relatives would have appreciated somewhat more than a gravestone—and that these companies were busy right now putting them out of jobs.

But this is hardly surprising considering that Woods himself, the actual inventor, was respected even less. According to Mr Harris, "He was thrown into a coffin with two infants and an adult and buried here."

Where most families live below poverty level

NEW YORK, April 28—"Sixty percent of all Puerto Rican families live below the U.S. poverty level," according to a letter sent by Rafael Hernandez Colon, colonial governor of Puerto Rico to Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine. This was reported in Claridad, the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) newspaper. In the letter, the governor asks Muskie to include Puerto Rico in a bill he is presenting to Congress asking for federal funds for states affected by the economic crisis.

"I write," the governor's letter said, "in the hope that you already have or are planning to include Puerto Rico in your proposed anti-recession program. As you know, we have been seriously affected by the high cost of energy and the severity caused by the combined effects of inflation and recession." (WW translation.)

The colonial governor went on to say that because Puerto Rico depends so much on products imported from the U.S., "this has caused a rise in prices, par-

ticularly food stuffs and petroleum derivatives for consumption in the island, resulting in a negative effect on the family budget."

He went on to cite figures showing the downturn in the Puerto Rican economy. "In the past fiscal year, the number of manufacturing jobs in Puerto Rico

have gone down by 5.5 percent; from 152,400 to 144,000," read the letter.

"In addition," the governor continued, "while the average minimum hourly wage rose from \$2.17 to \$2.44, real wages went down by 5 percent. Unemployment

in the economy presently exceeds 17 percent and is rising."

When a politician like Colon, whose career has been built on deepening Puerto Rico's colonial relationship to the U.S., is talking in these terms, the plight of the poor and exploited has to be desperate, indeed.

Cops gun down hungry Black man

NEW YORK, April 28—A 58-year-old Black man was recently gunned down by Dallas police after he allegedly ate a 10-cent pie from the shelf of the Alamos Food Mart.

Eyewitnesses report that the man, R.D. Moore, was outside the store when the cops arrived. A Chicano witness says he pleaded with the manager of the store and the police not to kill the elderly Black man, even offering to pay for the pie, but was told it was "too late."

Moore was felled by three police bullets.

The cold-blooded killing of the hungry man has unleashed a storm of protest from the Black and Latin communities in Dallas. A boycott picketline, organized by the Dallas chapter of the Black Panther Party and the Brown Berets, a Chicano community group, has been widely respected by shoppers.

After only 3 days of the boycott, organizers reported they were offered a bribe if they would call it off. The store manager was known to have admitted that his business had lost more than \$3,500 in 2 days

of picketing. The bribe was refused.

The boycotters also said that the Alamos Food Mart had paid thugs to disrupt the picketline, but that they had been unsuccessful.

The boycott leaders are demanding that the store be closed down completely and be replaced with a community food coop. They are also demanding the prosecution of the cops for murder, as well as an immediate end to police brutality and murder of Black people.

Daley, is engaged to marry the daughter of a crime syndicate hoodlum.

"John Daley and Mary Lou Briatta, both 28, have set their wedding date for June 26.

"Mary Lou's father is Louis Briatta, a downtown gambling boss for the mob... (he) was named in 1963 U.S. Senate Rackets Committee hearings in Washington as being among 388 men who devoted all their time to keeping Chicago crime syndicate operations running smoothly.

"John Daley earned more than \$100,000 in commissions in 1972 when the Mayor ordered more than \$2 million in insurance on public facilities shifted to the Heil & Heil Agency."

Incidentally, the Mayor's son, John, worked for Heil & Heil Agency at that time, and since then has devoted full time to keeping Chicago's insurance contracts running smoothly into his own agency.

MAKING A MOCKERY

The New York Times, April 21 (column by Anthony Lewis):

"Secretary of State Kissinger says darkly: 'We shall not forget who supplied the arms which North Vietnam used to make a mockery of its signature on the Paris accords.'

"That piece of bombast was presumably meant to make the gullible think that China and the Soviet Union sent more arms to North Vietnam than we did to the South. But that was never so in the long history of the war, and has not been since the 1973 Paris agreement. C.I.A. figures show that China and the U.S.S.R cut their military aid in half after the truce. Nor was there any Communist equivalent of the \$1 billion in arms that we rushed to Saigon just before the truce."

DECLINE AND FALL



FOR SOME IT IS THE END—FOR MANY, THE BEGINNING

The New York Times, April 21:

"Once, years ago, when there were 500,000 American soldiers in Vietnam, Dinh My Linh was the queen of Saigon's bar girls."

"'I had dozens of men at my feet—every night someone asked me to marry them,' she said recently, sitting on a stool in Mimi's bar.

"'In those days I owned my own bar. I had five diamond rings, 100 dresses, all from France, and 10 million piastres in the bank... But I was young and stupid. I lost

my money, and I could not decide which man to marry,' she said as 'Love Story' played on a jukebox.

"... In the meantime," the Times article continues, "life is not easy in Saigon. To try to prevent Communist terrorism the police two weeks ago ordered all cycles, or pedicabs, off the street. The assumption was that the cycle drivers, among the poorest of Saigon's more than two-million residents, were likely to be Vietcong sympathizers."

Yes, very very likely.

A DYNASTIC MERGER

Chicago Daily News, April 22:

"John Daley, son of Mayor Richard J.

DC rally—a militant beginning

60,000 cry out 'Jobs now!'

By T. MITCHELL
WASHINGTON, April 26—The 55,000 capacity RFK Memorial Stadium was completely packed on the lower tier and nearly filled on the upper tier for the "Jobs for All" rally called by the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO. In addition, thousands stayed outside the stadium.

Beginning at 11:00 a.m., a wide range of workers began taking seats or circulating around the many contingents—AFSCME and AFGE government workers, UAW autoworkers, IUE electrical workers, ACWA, ILGWU, TWUA clothing workers, Local 1199 hospital workers, USW steelworkers in hardhats, CWA phone workers, and many more, including the unemployed and workers without unions. Theirs were the faces of hard-working people united in their determination to win jobs now for all—bringing together old and young, men and women, and especially Black, Latin, and white as has seldom been seen before.

REAL SOLIDARITY

These were the people who mixed and exchanged stories with their brothers and sisters in other cities, other unions, and other locals of the same union. Many had made their own signs and these people were special centers of interest in the crowd.

In one spot there was a row of middle-aged men wearing "JOBS at home, not wars abroad" buttons, who had all made signs like: "Recession is when your buddy is out of work. Depression is when you are. Too many of my fellow workers are out of jobs today."

There was a boisterous crew of hardhatted steelworkers who were flamboyantly displaying their signs: "WORK WORK WORK" in red, white, and blue, and "FUCK U FORD" in stars and stripes.

Some groups were mostly rank-and-file, like the contingent sent by the IUE from Mansfield, Ohio, where they have been laid off by Westinghouse for 6 weeks now. Other groups like the ILGWU had mobilized out of the union office staff. Most of the demonstrators came from New York and the Northeast, but the turnout had representatives from the entire Midwest and the South.

By the time the official rally proceedings began at 1:40 p.m. the New York contingent marching over from the Capitol was still streaming in at the end opposite the speakers' platform, but those who had waited for hours at the stadium were already restless for action.

At the singing of the national anthem, there was a noticeable hesitation and many did not rise for the following invocation prayer. Since the sound system was mostly unintelligible, conversation quickly sprang up throughout the crowd. As Walter Burke read I.W. Abel's speech, the words "Jobs now!" came through and cheers and applause went up.

WORKERS SPRINT ONTO FIELD

A few minutes later, a rank-and-file CWA member burst onto the field waving a picket sign that said "I'm in the red." The crowd cheered their delight at his headlong rush before he was captured by guards. Seconds after he was led off, a spirited woman from the ACWA sprinted out from the stands

and outran a burly cop into the center of the field. When the guards handled her roughly, loud boos and shouts from all sides barraged them. The guards dropped their hold and she immediately broke away back onto the field.

Her spirit of struggle and audacity in making her voice heard captured the imagination of the rank and file who were unhappy that the AFL-CIO bureaucrats had organized the rally in a way that contained them passively as spectators.

Throughout the stands workers looked forward to the next wave of field demonstrators and soon workers were pouring onto the turf from all sides. In a spontaneous outpouring, all who were fed up with the useless phrases of the politicians took to the field. It was a mixed collection gathered on the field, including many AFSCME members who surged toward the speakers' platform, a contingent of 30 members of UAW Local 906 in New Jersey who headed up a march on the field, and four postal workers in uniform who paraded

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WW editorial comment

What happened in the stadium and why

The huge outpouring of workers, employed and unemployed, in Washington on April 26 for labor's march and rally for jobs marks the opening of a new chapter in American labor history. The solidarity displayed between young and old, Black and white, women and men, gay and straight, shows a rebirth of widespread class consciousness, a new unity of all workers against the parasitic capitalist bosses and their political servants.

Progressive trade unionists will be discussing this event for some time to come and digesting its significance. But in addition to talking about how momentous it all was, they will also be analyzing what happened in the stadium

itself. At least 2,000 people went onto the field and demonstrated; many assembled around the speakers' platform; capitalist politicians were booed down, and eventually the rally organizers adjourned the meeting.

WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY?

Was this a planned disruption, as some are saying? And if not, then what did it signify?

In order to understand what happened, we must put the day's events into the context of the general situation of the working class and how the labor bureaucracy has responded to rising unemployment.

In New York City, home for

many thousands of the demonstrators in Washington, the official unemployment rate has now climbed to 11.5 percent—an overwhelming figure in a city of this size. In many other cities that sent delegations to Washington, the crisis is as bad—or worse. Not only are the unemployed themselves in a desperate situation, but workers still on the job are deeply concerned that they may be next. There is a deep-burning anger among workers and unemployed that those who are supposed to represent them, especially the top labor bureaucrats, are insensitive to their plight and doing precious little about it.

When an April 26 demonstration was first discussed by some New

York and New Jersey unions, the leaders of the AFL-CIO were presented with an opportunity to call a truly mammoth demonstration in Washington—one that could have started at the Capitol, ringed the White House, and had thousands to spare. Without exerting themselves very much, Meany, Abel, Fitzsimmons, Woodcock, and the others could easily have called out a quarter of a million workers.

But the top brass of the bureaucracy wanted no part of it. They are afraid of a massive labor demonstration in Washington that would disrupt their cozy relations with labor's foes in the White House and Congress. This is the

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Why they came to Washington

By BILL DEL VECCHIO
WASHINGTON, April 26—The stories were all similar. After struggling for years to get a secure job, now they were laid off or waiting for the axe to fall. For most it was their first demonstration, a fact they were proud of. Before they didn't feel they needed to demonstrate, things would get better by themselves. Now they were saying that things will only get better if we make them get better.

"WE WANT OUR JOBS!"

I asked a Black woman in her fifties from Local 372 of District Council 37 if there had been any layoffs at Franklin K. Lane High School in Brooklyn where she worked, and why she came to the march. "There have been no layoffs yet," she answered. "That's why we are here, we are trying to prevent them. We want our jobs, period!"

"They always say that Black people are lazy and don't want to

work, just get on welfare. This is not true, we want to work. Beame says the city is so broke? Let him and some of the others give up their big salary. He's a bum."

Other members of Local 372 shouted back when asked why they had come, "When you want something, you have to fight for it. George Meany has his big car and salary. He doesn't care about the poor people."

"This is just the beginning, we've got to show them this isn't a fly-by-night thing," said Almeta Barnes, 1199 organizer in Boston. "I'm a working class person, I have six children, but I've always been involved. But now with this march working class people are getting involved, they're seeing that they have to stand up and be counted."

An older, neatly dressed white worker and his wife stood waiting for their long-haired son and his girl-friend, both in blue jeans, to find a seat in the stadium. He wore a United Steel Workers, District 19, armband. I approached him and

asked him where he worked and he said in a cigar factory in Phillipsburg, Penn., and they were expecting big layoffs. In answer to why they had come, he said, "Because we have to stop sending all that money abroad when we need it right here."

NEW VERSES

I marched from the Capitol to RFK stadium with part of the DC 37 contingent. Some of the older marchers, veterans of trade union struggle, tried to start everyone singing an old union song, "Roll the Union On." But the young people kept silent. The unions they knew didn't even hold meetings, let alone sing songs of struggle. But when the verse became, "If Ford gets in our way, we're going to roll on over him," they started to get interested, and when they got to Mayor Beame, they joined in with, "If Beame gets in our way, we're going to shoot him in the head, shoot him in the head, shoot him in the head." After that the AFSCME

marshals dropped the singing idea.

"WE NEED CHANGE"

Down on the field of the stadium among the crowd that had rushed down from their seats, I interviewed two young Black men from Westinghouse Elevator Division in Jersey City, where there have been major layoffs. They both had come with IUE District 3. I asked what did they think of the first speaker, and they said they had no idea what he said because they couldn't understand him over the loudspeakers. Why did people come down from their seats? One replied, "Because people are tired of sitting back and taking it, they want to show that we need jobs, we need food on the table."

The other added, "America was supposed to be the land of opportunity, now it's becoming the land of poverty." Why was Humphrey shouted down, I asked them? "He's part of the system. We don't need the system, we need change."

May Day: a day of international solidarity



May Day is the celebration of workers' struggles and solidarity. Here, members of United Farmworkers practice class solidarity by donating food to striking longshoremen in San Francisco.

By T. MITCHELL

What is May Day all about? How did it begin? Few American workers alive today know that this international workers holiday began in Chicago 89 years ago with a giant general strike and demonstration calling for an 8-hour workday.

Over 500,000 workers, native and immigrant, responded to the call for a demonstration in Chicago on May 1, 1886. Gathered in a tremendous mass in the central marketplace and united in their demand for a law restricting overworked and underpaid labor, these militant workers applauded speeches given in English, Polish, Bohemian, and German.

Their spirit of struggle and international solidarity is the spirit of May Day. But May Day is also in memory of those who gave their lives to win the right of workers to organize and fight.

THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS

At a demonstration called to protest the murder of six strikers by Chicago cops at McCormick Harvester just 3 days after that May 1, 1886 outpouring, a police

agent threw a bomb into the crowd at the end of the rally, killing several people.

For the crime, seven workers' leaders who had spoken at the rally were framed for murder and hanged despite worldwide protest. They are known as the Haymarket martyrs. The battle for the 8-hour day was finally won after years of determined struggle. In 1890, following a resolution passed by the International Workingmen's Association led by Karl Marx, May Day became the annual day for actions in cities all around the world.

But the history of the workers' struggle is kept from the American workers. Now large May Day demonstrations are limited to countries where there are strong workers' parties, especially in the socialist countries.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY TODAY

Still, in recent years there has been a reawakening of international solidarity under the influence of the great sympathy and aid given to the Vietnamese patriots against the genocidal U.S.

war machine. Among workers, longshoremen have been in the forefront because of their type of work.

During Nixon's Christmas 1971 bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong, Australian longshoremen refused to unload cargo made in the U.S. and representatives of 30 Australian unions urged U.S. labor

to press Nixon to sign the treaty.

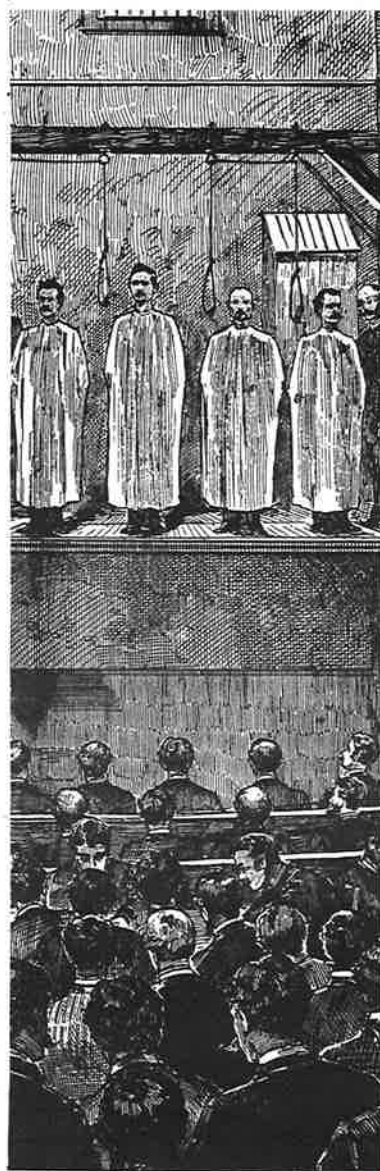
In 1972, when the International Longshore Workers Union on the West Coast struck against Nixon's Phase 2 restrictions, Japanese longshore workers refused to handle shipping of the struck companies. The Japanese workers had shown their concern for the welfare of Americans in the 1969-70 recession, when an entire Japanese city adopted Seattle, Washington, as its sister and sent aid to the unemployed.

Longshore workers in Italy and France have balked at unloading grapes not picked by members of the United Farm Workers Union.

Here in the United States, cargoes of Rhodesian chrome and South African coal have been the target of boycotts in support of the super-exploited African workers under minority white settler dictatorships. Particularly in Baltimore and New Orleans, all-Black union locals of longshore workers have taken the forefront in turning away these products of racist regimes.

It is these magnificent acts of international solidarity, in which the workers of one country combine their efforts with workers in other countries in mutual support and assistance, that will rekindle the spirit of May Day in the awareness of American workers, who today are trying to survive in what is developing into a worldwide depression.

Once again the slogan of the International Workingmen's Association will be held high: "Workers and oppressed people of the world unite!"



The Haymarket martyrs were framed up and hanged for their role in the fight for the 8-hour day.

Women pour out stories of job discrimination at rights hearing

NEW YORK, April 23—Working women testified over the past 2 days to job conditions of low pay, racism, sexual harassment, and unemployment at hearings on sex discrimination on the job held by the New York City Human Rights Commission.

Black telephone operators and Latin garment workers were particularly vehement in exposing the brick wall of racism used to degrade them on the job and to prevent their advancement.

PHONE CO. REFUSES TRANSFERS

New York Telephone has recently announced that operators with less than 5 years seniority will be put on a 4-day week effective June 1. At the same time, the company is hiring to fill vacancies in other departments.

Asked if they had put in for transfers to other areas, the panel of six operators all replied, "Yes, but we haven't received them."

Operator Helen Cousins said she had a 15-month record of perfect attendance and punctuality but was refused because of her "bad attendance record."

Gavrielle Gemma, a directory assistance operator who has read the fine print in phone company books for 4 years, was turned down for a frame-room job because of "bad eyesight."

Further testimony made it crystal clear the operators had no right to appeal New York Telephone's arbitrary disciplinary

decisions. This angered Commissioner Eleanor Holmes Norton who commented, "Five years ago we heard this same testimony. The affirmative action agreement signed with the EEOC has had no effect. What you need is a militant union!"

"COFFEE, TEA, OR ME"

In other occupations, Lily Gonzales, a young Puerto Rican secretary, told how in the law office where she worked for \$120 a week it was often "coffee, tea, or me." "I mean that quite literally," she said. "Single secretaries were expected to entertain clients in the evening."

Another young Puerto Rican woman supported her testimony. "Latin women," she said, "object to racist indignities like being called 'hot blooded.' But don't get me wrong—I like men. I worked for 2 years in Elmira State Prison. The inmates were the gentlest, most considerate men I've known. When men become bosses, that's when they lose their humanity."

Women testified about lack of advancement and discrimination in traditionally male-held jobs. One young West Indian worker, a welder, testified that she worked at the Brooklyn ship yard—until she was laid off.

LAYOFFS, LOW PAY

Unemployment among women workers is 8.5 percent compared to unemployment among male

workers at 6.2 percent. And if daycare services are cut, this may become worse.

Ann Schoenstein, a steward in district council 1707 of the CSAEU, which represents day care workers, spoke of the city's never-ending attacks on day care.

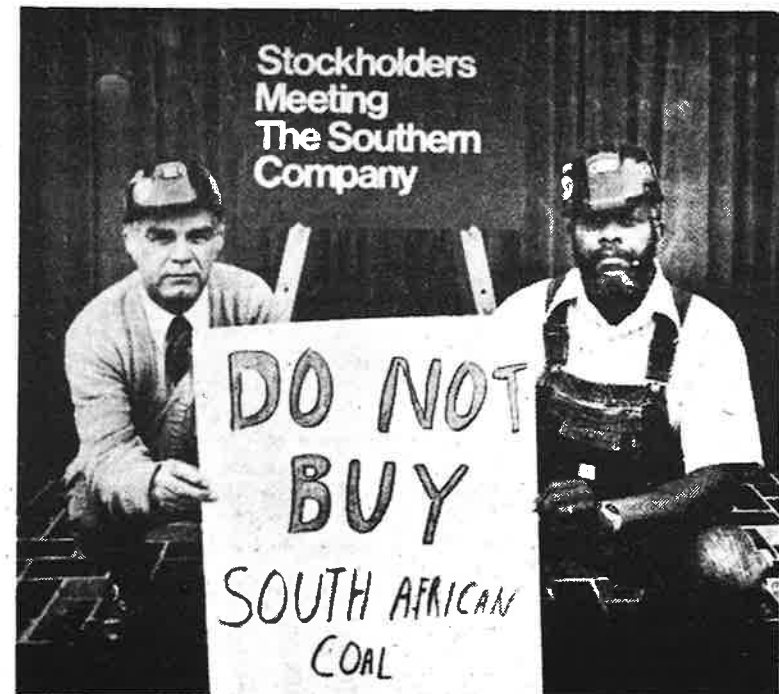
"First the fee scale was raised, then we received a ridiculous contract offer. I can tell you—parents and teachers are united to fight for a decent living standard and quality day care. An attack on daycare is an attack on a mother's right to work," she concluded.

Marcia Goldberg, a waitress, spoke of the need to raise the pay level of jobs women already hold. Waitresses receive \$8 a day from the boss, part of which may go to an employment agency, and have to make up the rest of their money from tips—paid by other workers. "The boss gets away scot free," she said.

Mary Pinotti, a spokeswoman from the Center for United Labor Action, testified on the unemployment situation. She reminded the commission that Mayor Beame had just proposed that 4,000 city jobs be cut and demanded that the city take responsibility for these workers.

"Pay wages first—then bank interest," she said.

Commissioner Norton closed the hearings announcing that a report would be forthcoming as well as new guidelines for enforcement.



International workers' solidarity: Miners in the U.S. urge boycott of coal from racist South Africa after refusing to unload it at the docks.

Angry parents unite to stop racist control of N.Y. School District 1

By M. WYNN
NEW YORK. April 15—What may fool some of the people some of the time, but not all of the people all of the time? If you put that question to parents of School District 1 down on the Lower East Side, you'll hear a resounding chorus of: "Racists in school board clothing!"

The board has nine members, five of whom have held tight racist control by forming a majority bloc. But the real majority, the 95 percent Black, Latin, and Chinese children who attend school there, and their infuriated parents and progressive white friends, are determined to eject these racists.

"These are our children, our schools, our hopes for the future," explained one parent, Ms. Zulma Zayas, "and it is we who will have to suffer if we don't take their education into our own hands where it belongs."

THE ISSUE IS RACISM

The issue is racism. The focus is community control of the schools.

These parents have seen the racist majority on the school board contemptuously remove principals they favored, dismantle their bilingual programs, use the school budget for political patronage, and

cut funds for instructional supplies while increasing the allotment for postage from \$1,600 last year to \$25,000 this year!

The racist majority last year also suspended the parents' choice for Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Luis Fuentes, without the required two-thirds vote and without due process.

The fury of the parents over such illegal actions by the board has forced School Chancellor Irving Anker to rescind the also illegal appointment of Mr. Leonard Lurie as acting superintendent.

THE RESPONSE IS MILITANT ACTION

Having wrenched this concession from the school bureaucracy, 50 of the parents held a 3-day sit-in in the district office on April 7-9, to demand Fuentes's reinstatement. According to the New York Times of April 10, a flushed Mr. Lurie left the office "accompanied by a crowd jeering: 'Go home. You're nothing here.'...and with the crowd packed tightly around him, Mr. Lurie was pushed down the hall."

The persistent unity and struggle orientation of the parents have thrown the racist school board

majority into in-fighting and disarray.

One majority board member, Mrs. Carolyn Kozlowsky, who used to conceal a tape recorder in her purse to try and catch pro-community-control board members saying something she could use against them, and who was a hardliner for having board meetings only when parents were hard-pressed to attend, has fallen out with the majority. Among other things, an anti-Catholic statement by another board member, Adolph Roher (who set the secret meeting that ousted Fuentes), led to her defection. According to Mrs. Kozlowsky, whose own children attend a parochial school, Mr. Roher had told her there weren't any Catholic principals because, "there aren't any Catholics smart enough."

She has since accused him of corruption and political patronage, left the racist United Federation of Teachers-backed "Brotherhood" slate, and is running as an independent in the school board elections to be held this May 6.

But the "Por Los Ninos" (For the Children) pro-community-control slate is expected to win a majority on the board in the upcoming elections.



Parents and children in New York's School District 1 occupy the district office for 3 days, demanding the reinstatement of superintendent Luis Fuentes.

Gay mother in Buffalo fights to regain custody of children

By ADELLE SOBLE

BUFFALO, April 24—Although the gay liberation movement has made great progress in revealing the oppression of gay people and in making gay life more visible and acceptable, much ground is yet unturned. The economic crisis is increasing repression on all fronts and the blockage of liberal legislation on the gay issue is one aspect of this increased repression.

"UNFIT"

In a recent case in Western New York, a lesbian mother was denied custody of her three young children as a result of a court action initiated by her ex-husband. Mr. M. (the ex-husband) claims Ms. M. is an unfit mother on the basis that she is a lesbian and would exercise an "unhealthy influence" on her children. Mr. M. had no other claim against her fitness.

Nevertheless, the judge granted the father custody of all three children, aged 8, 5, and 3 with visitation for the mother only on weekends, provided her lover is not present. Mr. M. presented only two witnesses: the first was a psychiatrist who testified to Mr. M.'s stability and went on to make derogatory statements about homosexuals; the other was his fiancée.

OVERWHELMING SUPPORT

Testimony to support Ms. M. was overwhelming. Her mother, an

ex-employer, and a male friend of the family confirmed Ms. M.'s responsibility and warmth to her children. Clergy from Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish faiths testified to changing attitudes toward homosexuality in their congregations. A psychologist, a specialist in sexual and gender identification, spoke to Ms. M.'s fitness to handle both her love and maternal relationships. Even an anthropologist testified in her behalf. Yet the court decision was against her!

Ms. M. will appeal her case before the New York State Appellate Court in a courageous effort not only to regain her children but to set a precedent for gay rights in New York State. Buffalo gay activist groups have launched a long campaign to build support and raise much-needed funds for the case. Benefit socials, dances, and meetings have been given to publicize the case while still preserving the privacy of Ms. M.'s life.

FIGHT REPRESSION

Repressive legal decisions against gays such as this and the defeat of Intro 11 in New York City must be fought and turned around through the demands of all oppressed and working people to end the denial of basic human rights for all people.

Fight back! End gay oppression!

—60,000 demonstrate in DC for jobs

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with the American flag.

The field demonstrators were mostly younger workers, including many Blacks, in addition to several leftist groups. The bulk of the crowd stayed in the stands on their feet and watched carefully, some speaking in favor of taking to the field, others reluctant.

HUMPHREY SHOUTED DOWN

On the speakers' platform Hubert Humphrey was trying to carry on as those near the platform shouted and chanted for "Jobs not jive." A shaken and frightened Hubert tried to lead the chant: "We want jobs!" and then retreated off the stage.

Some of the protesters were lifted onto the stage and spoke without being heard very well on the field or in the stands. In a matter of minutes, the union officials abruptly declared the rally adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

With the official rally at an end, the workers in the stands and then those on the field flowed out of the stadium, dispersing to their buses. On their return trip, there was much discussion of the field demonstration and the rally as a whole, with mixed feelings expressed.

MIXED REACTIONS

All had come to the rally with a very serious purpose in mind, reaching out to each other and for leadership to organize and mobilize working people in the face of the economic crisis.

The union officials had only gathered them to listen to worn-out politicians, while the field demonstration had made clear the urgency of the demand for jobs, but there was no sense of serious leadership to be found in it.

In its issue on Friday before the rally, the Wall Street Journal had

insulted the demonstrators by saying they were merely coming to "vent their anger" and there was nothing to be feared from the rally. But indeed there was a concrete proposal for action that circulated everywhere at the rally and stood apart by its warm reception among all the literature that was distributed: the resolution passed by the Central Labor Councils in Washington, Milwaukee, and Rochester to stay on until the demands for jobs were met.

In the days to come, the workers will be thinking it over. The right-wing of the trade union bureaucracy, especially Meany who opposed the whole thing, will be strengthened in some quarters because the rally was aborted, while rank-and-file militants on the shop floor will be pulling for a larger mobilization that draws millions of workers into the streets of Washington.

NYC protest hits sexist harassment across country

FBI witch-hunt, grand juries aimed at gay communities

By CONNIE HARRIS

NEW YORK, April 26—On April 17, the Gay Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism participated in a demonstration here to protest the government witch-hunt against feminists and lesbians across the country. It was held at the Federal Courthouse in Foley Square to call attention to the fact that FBI agents and several grand juries are intensively questioning members of lesbian communities and the radical women's movement in a search for underground women fugitives, claiming they are being harbored by these communities.

So far, this woman-hunt has resulted in the arrest of Patricia Swinton, wanted in connection with a 1969 series of antiwar bombings in New York City, and Susan Saxe, a lesbian accused of participating in a Boston bank robbery during which a policeman was killed.

These are not the only women who have been arrested and jailed. Two women were jailed in New Haven, Conn., and four lesbians are currently incarcerated in Lexington, Ky., for refusing to testify before grand juries convened in these cities.

The grand jury is a tool of political repression. To induce a subpoenaed witness to testify, she is granted immunity from prosecution. If she still refuses to testify, she may be found in contempt of court and sent to jail for the term of the grand jury—as much as 18 months. The two New Haven women were released April 1 because of the expiration of the Connecticut's grand jury term, but have been resubpoenaed for May 6. The Kentucky grand jury's term does not end until April 1976, but all of these women refuse to inform on their sisters.

The gay community sees this

harassment and intimidation as part of a developing pattern of anti-gay and anti-feminist repression. In Boston, a city already tainted by racist hysteria, the mayor attempted to stir up anti-gay feelings by threatening to close down gay bars after a killing occurred in front of one of them. In New York, there is increasing harassment of gay people. Planners for the Gay Pride March, an annual event that takes place in June, report that the police and parks departments have threatened to deny issuance of march and park permits unless they pay a \$2,500 security bond, something never demanded before in connection with this march.

PATTERN OF HARASSMENT

The message of this pattern of repression is clear. The government is saying to gay and women activists, "We will use all means

available to crush your struggle!" The viciousness of this attack on women and gays was aptly expressed in the words of a police detective who, when confronted by the demonstrators on Thursday, said, "Now you've gone too far. You're not supposed to protest. It's our privilege to beat up faggots. That's our job."

The current attack on gay people is closely linked to the general effort of the bosses to find issues on which to divide the workers' movement. The capitalist press insinuates that gay people, by harboring "dangerous" fugitives, present a threat to every worker. The mayor of Boston implies that gay people are murderers who do not deserve the right to relax and enjoy themselves in the places of their own choosing. And the government of the City of New York suggests that a gay march is a threat to the community.

In so doing, they attempt to obscure the fact that gay people have the same desire for happiness and freedom from economic misery as all working people, that gay and straight people work side by side in every industry, stand on unemployment and welfare lines together, and that they pay the same high prices for food and other necessities.

The divisions between gay and straight, like those between Black and white and women and men, are a creation of class society, fostered in the attempt to mask the greatest division of all—that between the working class and the owning class. It is this conflict which is irreconcilable—this division, not any other, which is the source of the oppression of every worker. And only the unity of all workers in the struggle to overthrow the capitalist class will end this oppression.

Vietnamese triumph after 35-year liberation war

Inspiration to humanity

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, April 30—After 35 years of war, victory came to the heroic Vietnamese people today at 9:30 a.m. when the stillborn U.S. puppet government of Duong Van Minh unconditionally surrendered to the People's Liberation Armed Forces.

As thousands of soldiers in the fascist army threw away their weapons, hoping to fade into the civilian population, armed units of the Provisional Revolutionary Government entered the state radio station and broadcast the news that they had hoisted their red, blue, and gold flag over the Presidential Palace.

"CHEERS, SMILES, AND HANDSHAKES"

Early reports of the liberation of Saigon (now named Ho Chi Minh City) are incomplete but the New York Daily News (April 30) reported that "laughing, cheering Communist troops riding tanks into the city shouted, 'Hello, comrades,' to bystanders and newsmen." Today's New York Post added, "People strolled the streets, greeting the arriving communist soldiers with cheers, smiles, and handshakes. Vietcong flags appeared on many buildings. A jeepload of Vietcong drove up and down the Rue Catinat, the city's main street, waving as they sat with their rifles pointed in the air. Other Vietcong soldiers walked along the street, shaking hands with the people."

The collapse of the puppet regime came only 2 hours after the last U.S. marines escaped from the roof of the fortress-like American Embassy aboard a Ch-46 helicopter while embittered puppet soldiers fired at them from the street below. Peter Arnett of the

Associated Press wrote that as the final squad of marines abandoned the embassy, "they threw tear gas grenades into the elevator shaft," to keep their erstwhile "allies" at a safe distance.

In fact, most of the violence on the final day of the war took place in clashes between U.S. marines and the hapless puppet troops enraged at their master's pell mell flight. The New York Times dispatch covering this frantic evacuation stampede stated that when the first busload of Americans arrived at Tan Son Nhut air base, "Vietnamese guards fired at it." The English news agency, Reuters, cabled this story: "United States Navy fighter planes went into action over South Vietnam when two boats carrying the American consul general from the delta city of Can Tho reported that two helicopters with South Vietnamese markings were firing at his party. Later, the consul general was said to be stranded somewhere in the South China Sea."

SUITCASE STUFFED WITH GOLD

Several thousand high-ranking Vietnamese quislings did manage to make their escape in the final hours, in many cases bringing their loot with them. The New York Daily News correspondent observed that "One three-star general carried a suitcase loaded with gold." Four U.S. marines were killed in the retreat.

The Vietnamese have been fighting for their independence from imperialism ever since the French capitalists conquered Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia in 1887, but the liberation struggle did not take a great leap forward until Ho Chi Minh founded the Indochinese Communist Party in

1930. After the Japanese takeover of Vietnam in 1940, Ho Chi Minh led the guerrilla war against the occupiers. When the French colonialists returned in 1945, he carried on the fight against them also.

The first U.S. military "advisors" were sent to Vietnam by Truman in March 1950. By the time of the French defeat at Dien Bien Phu in May of 1954, the U.S. was paying 78 percent of the cost of the fighting to the Paris government.

After the French withdrawal, Eisenhower rigged up the Diem regime in Saigon. Diem refused to hold elections to reunify the nation, which had been divided into North and South, because he knew Ho Chi Minh would easily win. Instead he instituted a Nazi-like persecution of Communists and all others who opposed his dictatorial rule.

FROM GUERRILLA WAR . . .

In 1960 the people of South Vietnam rose up against him and began to wage a guerrilla war under the leadership of the National Liberation Front (called the Viet Cong by the capitalist media). In 1963 Diem was assassinated and the next year Lyndon Johnson fabricated the Gulf of Tonkin hoax to justify U.S. intervention, which began in earnest in the spring of 1965.

By 1968 the Pentagon had over a half a million men in Vietnam, but after the U.S. defeat during the year's Tet Offensive, the troops began to be withdrawn. After a number of further setbacks for the U.S. militarists and their Saigon puppets (the Laos debacle in 1971 and the huge loss of B-52's over Hanoi in the Christmas bombing of 1972), Kissinger and Nixon were forced to sign the Paris ceasefire on January 23, 1973.

By this time, U.S. public opinion

had swung heavily against more war. But because General Thieu, like Diem before him, continued to be nothing but a U.S. puppet and refused to hold elections (which were called for in the Paris accords), the fighting continued in South Vietnam.

. . . TO FINAL VICTORY

On March 18 of this year, the liberation army drove the fascist forces from the Central Highland city of Ban Me Thuot. By March 20 the freedom fighters had captured three provinces and a week later entered Hue. On March 29 Danang was liberated. The people's army continued to advance, freeing the cities of Nha Trang, Tuy Hoa, Xuan Loc, Bien Hoa, and finally Saigon itself.

The war has accelerated the decline of U.S. capitalism. When Johnson sent the first two battalions of U.S. Marines to Vietnam 10 years ago, the yearly inflation rate in America was only 1.7 percent. This year it topped 12 percent, even while millions were suffering mass unemployment. The New York Daily News (April 30) concedes that "The ultimate tax dollar cost of the war, including payments to veterans and their descendants, interest on the war-related debt and the like, could take the final cost to \$1 trillion (one thousand billion)."

This does not count the human cost: 55,000 GIs killed and 6,000,000 Indochinese dead and wounded.

Now that the war is over and the Vietnamese have finally won an unconditional victory, the U.S. government and media are calling it a "great tragedy." But the tragedy is past. April 30, 1975, will live in history as a glorious achievement of the masses and the beginning of the socialist reconstruction of South Vietnam.



Women liberation fighters carry to win victory in Vietnam was cap

-a workers'

(Continued from page 1) super-scientific radars that supposedly could seek out the presence of any human being in the swamps of the Mekong Delta?

How can the richest imperialist country in the world be defeated by a country of 35 million (North and South), who started their most recent revolution in 1961 and 1962 with home-made shotguns and weapons seized from U.S.-supplied police stations?

What is this U.S. imperialism, anyway? And how long will history give it to swagger and oppress the masses of its own country and the world?

That is the question forming in the minds of all the exploited and oppressed on hearing today's news.

And how logical and historically justified this question is!

There have been much bigger revolutions before Vietnam, but never a bigger blow to the prestige and arrogance of the modern masters—or self-styled masters—of the still-capitalist part of the world.

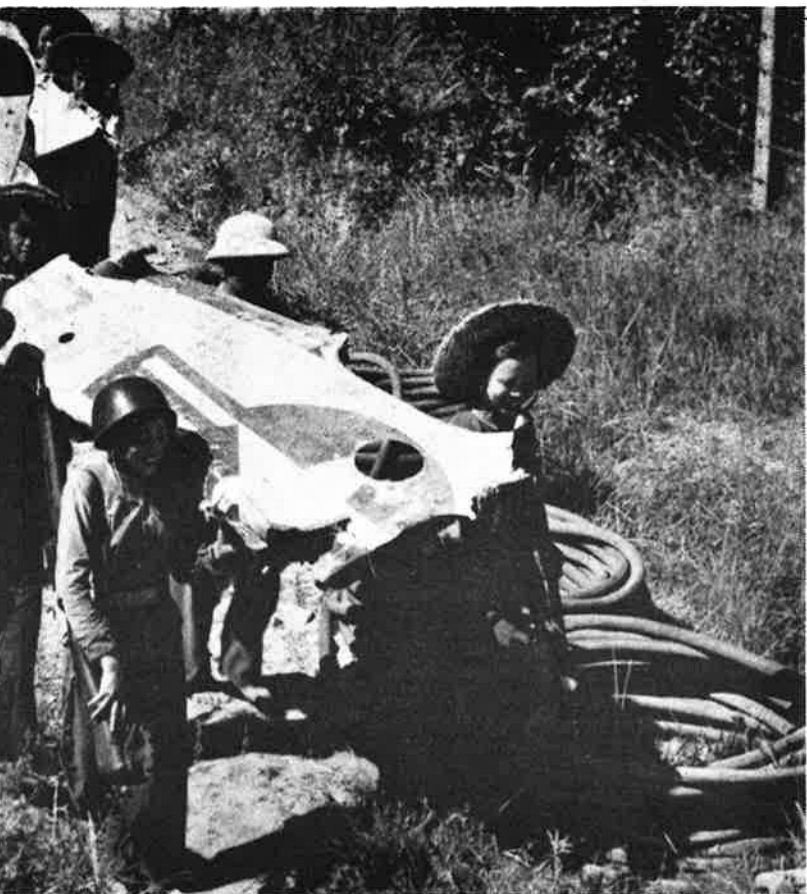
To consider the great Russian and Chinese revolutions, for example, both of these world



Defending their country against the worst aerial bombardment in history. This air defense unit of the South Vietnam People's Liberation Army near Hue in 1970 shot down 8 U.S. aircraft in one day. Photo: Hsinhua News Agency



1967 march on the Pentagon. As the U.S. against it.



...the wreckage of a downed U.S. plane. Much of the weaponry used captured from the U.S. aggressors. Photo: Hsinhua News Agency

Thieu regime a U.S. colony to the very end

By P. MEISNER

NEW YORK, April 29 (10:30 p.m., Saigon liberated)—No regime in the annals of history ever proved itself to be such a complete puppet of a foreign power (namely, U.S. imperialism) as the Saigon dictatorship did in its last weeks and last hours of existence.

INSTANTANEOUS COLLAPSE

And it came as no surprise that the paper-thin Thieu government would collapse quickly without the support of the mightiest imperialist state. In fact, it took less than 3 hours for that collapse to take place after the last U.S. Marine helicopter evacuated the last U.S. government personnel from South Vietnam.

Every lie, every deception of the Ford government fell flat on its face as the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) of South Vietnam approached this

hour of glorious liberation. Ford, Rockefeller, Kissinger, and all the war hawks in Wall Street and the Pentagon had pleaded for more U.S. military aid to the Saigon regime to "prevent a Vietcong bloodbath," or the "destruction of the city of Saigon."

But the cynical U.S. government propagandists never got their "bloodbath" or "destruction." All they got was a total collapse, without hardly a fight, of a brutal, cowardly, and corrupt puppet dictatorship. The brutality was committed by puppet troops and U.S. Marines "evacuating" themselves, beating and trampling on Vietnamese civilians. It was not committed by the PRG forces, as the U.S. capitalist media had predicted. One French Catholic priest living in South Vietnam for the last 20 years was an eyewitness to Da Nang's liberation. As told to Agence France-press on April 24, the priest said:

"There was no bloodbath when it was taken."

U.S. WAR PROFITEERS LEAVE

Beside the evacuation of U.S. military and government personnel, another "evacuation" really exposed the Thieu regime as a total colony of the U.S.—the evacuation of U.S. big business from South Vietnam. If anything confirmed the defeat of the U.S. and its Saigon puppets, it was the closing down of the Rockefeller's Chase Manhattan Bank in Saigon on April 24. On the same day, the Bank of America, the world's largest private bank, also closed its operations in Saigon.

The imminent defeat of U.S. imperialism in South Vietnam also forced the largest oil companies in the world (mostly U.S.) to abandon more than \$200 million of investments in offshore oilfields off the coast of South Vietnam. The gloom and despair of the giant U.S. oil monopolies was reflected in the words of the vice president of a contracting company working for Mobil Oil in South Vietnam. As reported in the Washington Post, the executive said:

"It's a shame. That whole part of the world looked like it was going to be the world's next oil province."

Other oil companies crying over "their" lost profits in South Vietnamese oil were Exxon, Sun Oil, Marathon Oil, Amerada-Hess, Shell Oil, and Cities Service.

"SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE," BETTER KNOWN AS MERCENARIES

Besides being exploited by the biggest U.S. corporations, South Vietnam was also exploited by smaller U.S. capitalist parasites, such as former U.S. Military officers turned into businessmen in Saigon. One U.S. retired army sergeant had an export business in Saigon and was one of the last Americans to leave. This is what he thought of the ending of the war and of the Vietnamese people, many of whom he had ruthlessly exploited, as reported in the April 28 edition of the New York Daily News:

"Yes, and think of all the money the U.S. is spending on evacuation—all that money spent on food and housing for Vietnamese dependents. They should spend the money on military aid."

This crude racist and oppressor of the Vietnamese people even boasted:

"I have an apartment with three bedrooms, a patio and a maid—it cost me 30 U.S. dollars a month—and I have filet mignon every night."

"I guess we were sort of like the British in India. If you're not Vietnamese, you're all of a sudden the upper class."

But despite the imminent end of U.S. imperialist oppression in South Vietnam, the Ford government tried, even in the last 24 hours, to "salvage" its puppet regime in Saigon. Ford even threatened to send U.S. planes to bomb positions of the liberation forces stationed around Saigon. Ford even convened an emergency National Security Council session last night to see what options were left. There were none. The heroic Vietnamese people had decisively defeated the U.S. imperialist colossus, and all of Vietnam is now free!

s' Vietnam

historic events took place as the aftermath of immense imperialist wars in which the U.S. was more or less bogged down on other fronts and was unable to concentrate great forces against them.

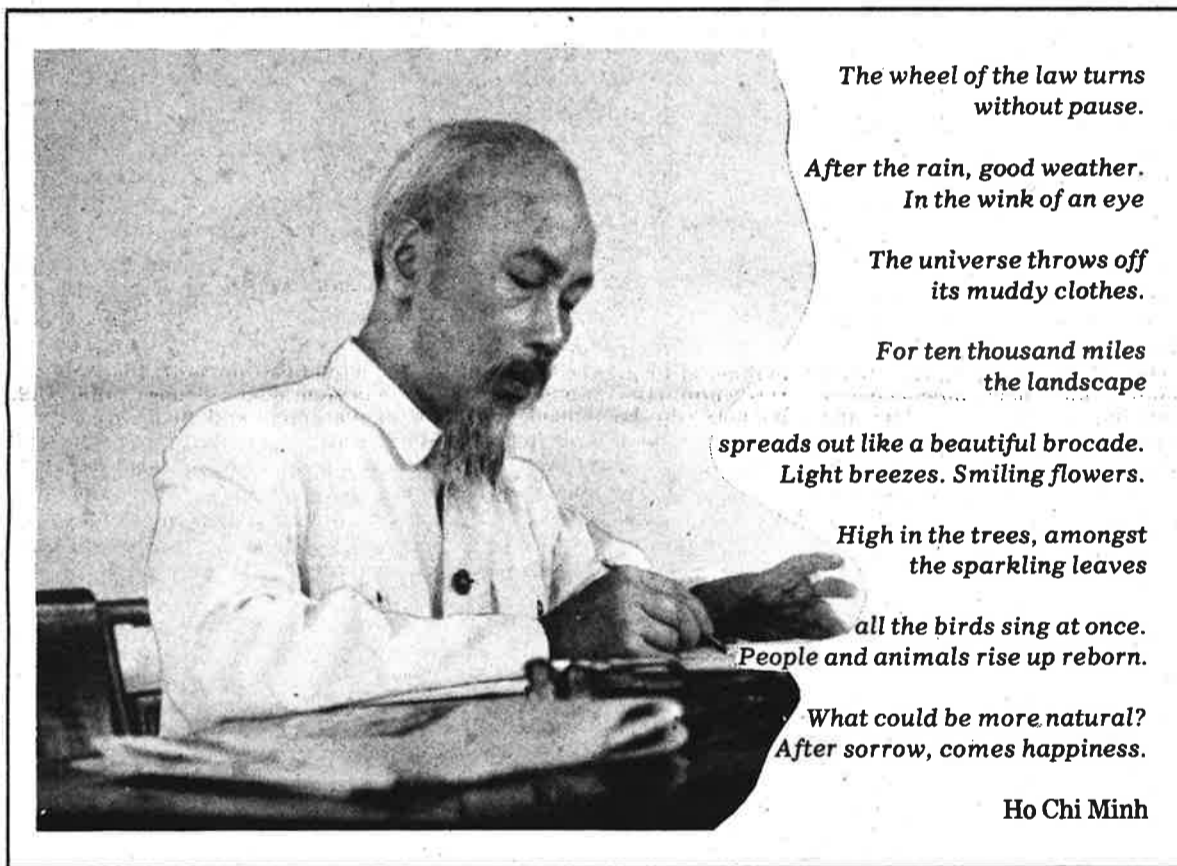
But Wall Street gave its undivided attention to Vietnam for years and years (a full 30 years, including the period it supported the French war on Vietnam). And yet it could not win its war; it could not gain another area for profits.

U.S. big business with all its military might could not beat this relatively small, but absolutely determined, people.

At the end of the First American Revolution and the surrender of the British at Yorktown, the defeated General Cornwallis ordered his band to play the tune, "The World Turned Upside Down."

That's how the imperialists here are feeling today. Their world of opulence and privilege amidst poverty, of power over the lives and destinies of millions, is being turned upside down in Vietnam.

But for the victims of their brutal class rule, it is finally being turned rightside up.



The wheel of the law turns without pause.

After the rain, good weather. In the wink of an eye

The universe throws off its muddy clothes.

For ten thousand miles the landscape

spreads out like a beautiful brocade. Light breezes. Smiling flowers.

High in the trees, amongst the sparkling leaves

all the birds sing at once. People and animals rise up reborn.

What could be more natural? After sorrow, comes happiness.

Ho Chi Minh

PSP protests kidnap of Vietnamese children

NEW YORK, April 22—About 100 members and sympathizers of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) today demonstrated in front of the Agency for International Development (AID) office here in the Veterans' Administration building at 252 7th Avenue, protesting the kidnaping of Vietnamese children by the U.S. through AID.

Similar demonstrations were held by the PSP in Los Angeles, California; Camden, New Jersey; and New Haven, Connecticut.

Response from the crowds, including disabled Vietnam veterans, was favorable. Several veterans made comments against the U.S. propaganda use of the Vietnamese "orphans" issue.



...the war in Vietnam continued to build up, so did the struggle in the WW photo



-In the stadium

(Continued from page 3)

key fact which must not be lost sight of.

A coalition of some of the more progressive trade union leaders in New York and New Jersey, headed by Victor Gotbaum of AFSCME, wanted a march. However, anxious to get AFL-CIO sponsorship, they decided to appease, not fight, Meany, and agreed to a rally in RFK Stadium on the outskirts of Washington. For a while, even the question of whether there would be a march to the stadium was in dispute! The intention was to hold a controlled, muted protest.

PROPOSAL TO STAY

At this point an unprecedented thing occurred. Three AFL-CIO central labor councils—those in Rochester, Milwaukee, and Washington itself—presented Meany and the rest of the AFL-CIO top brass with resolutions calling on the marchers to stay in Washington, D.C., until labor's demands were met! These resolutions, carrying behind them the weight of a true cross-section of some hundreds of thousands of workers in widely scattered parts of the country, were a striking indication that even moderate trade unionists were anxious that some effective action be taken in Washington. The unanimous approval of these councils for the proposal is all the more remarkable when it is recalled that nothing like this was ever passed by significant U.S. labor bodies before, not even in the days of the Great Depression.

This concrete and highly appropriate proposal, which had been introduced by militant rank-and-file delegates in the three cities, was pigeonholed by the AFL-CIO General Council. Had they acted upon it seriously, advising the marchers beforehand to prepare to stay and providing the wherewithal to make it possible, the whole character of the demonstration would have been changed into a militant, mass action with the purpose of forcing concessions out of the capitalist government.

Workers World Party is the only political tendency that supported this demand and widely publicized it.

But the top labor bureaucracy wasn't thinking at all in terms of militant, mass action. Meany didn't even want the rally in the stadium. And even those somewhat to the left of Meany, who wanted to appease the workers and unemployed with the rally, planned to contain their anger in the stadium while imposing on their patience with a list of speakers that included discredited and bankrupt politicians like Hubert Humphrey.

But that anger couldn't be contained. It spilled over onto the field, and Humphrey was booed down. The jeering of Humphrey and other capitalist politicians was tremendously symptomatic of the temper of millions, who know him as a hawk who supported billions for the Vietnam War but hasn't done a thing about unemployment.

SPONTANEOUS MOVE ONTO FIELD

Some of the labor bureaucrats have been joined by the CP's Daily World in charging there was a deliberate provocation to break up

the rally. As far as we have been able to ascertain, there was no planning by any so-called "ultra-left" groups to disrupt the rally in the stadium. What happened instead was a spontaneous move onto the field started by a few workers, who were joined after 10 or 15 minutes by many more workers and a number of radical tendencies.

It started when a worker with a sign opposing imports (provided by one of the more conservative unions) ran out on the field. The police tried to drag him off, but a Black woman raced out from the stands and carried the fallen placard to the center of the field. The crowds in the stand enthusiastically cheered the workers and booed the cops.

With the bad acoustics in the stadium making the speeches going on fairly unintelligible, more workers joined the action on the field. Soon different banners were being taken down there (some by members and friends of Workers World Party) and a large part of the crowd began to surge around the speakers' stand. It was largely composed of angry rank-and-file workers, as the photo on page 3 clearly shows.

DISRUPTION OF RALLY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE

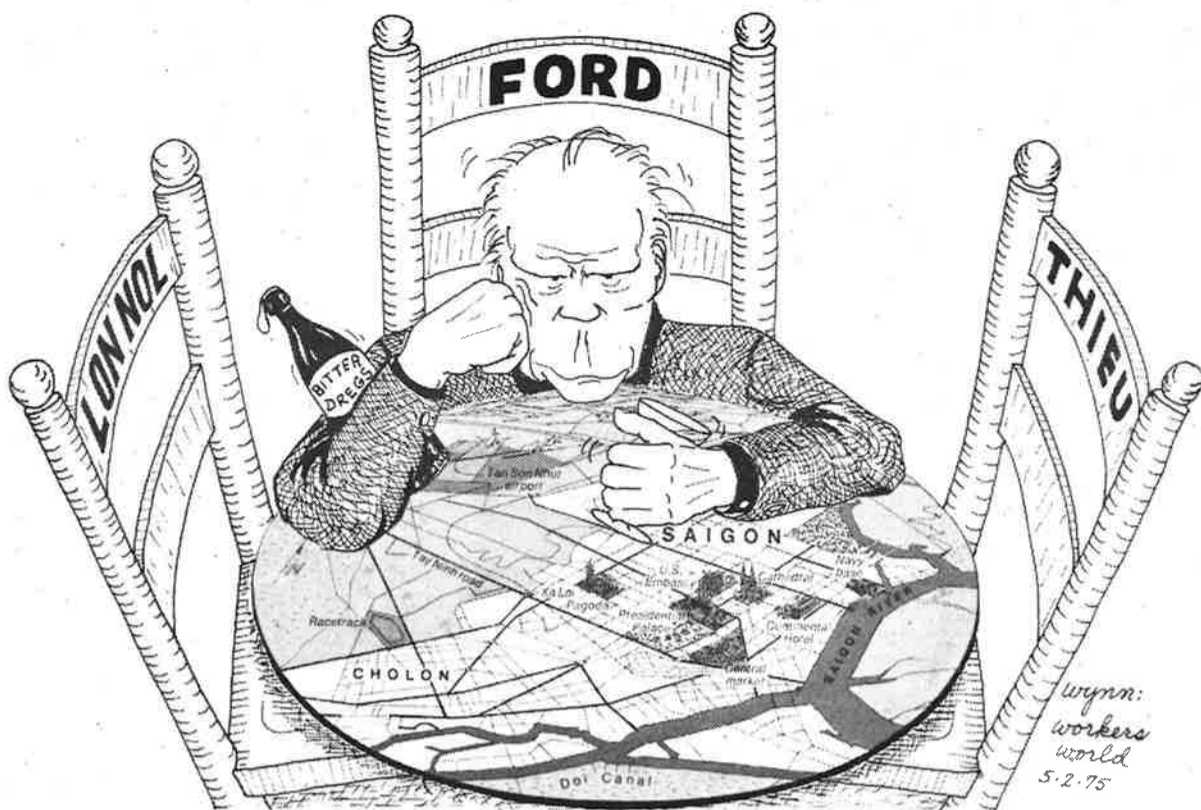
The disruption of the rally itself, as against the demonstration on the field, was counter-productive, for it was done without sufficient thought for the sentiment of the many tens of thousands of workers still in the stands who were confused about what was happening and had not even had a chance to make up their minds whether they were for the action. Had some of the organized tendencies been less demonstrative and anxious to preempt the leadership, many more workers might have participated, bringing out the overall political significance of this protest on the field.

However, the disruption should not overshadow the significance of the field demonstration itself, which was a powerful protest against both the conservative labor bureaucracy and the capitalist government. Nor should it detract in any way from the importance of the march. The New York Times was quick to say that the "hooliganism that broke up the . . . demonstration in Washington confirms the judgment of George Meany . . . that the whole idea was a mistake." As if the Times is for any kind of effective labor struggle! Workers who have been laid off at the Times know, as does everyone else, that this is sheer hypocrisy.

SLANDER OF MILITANTS

Moreover, it is absolutely wrong and contrary to the facts to charge, as does the CP's Daily World, that the demonstration on the field was a "provocation" and to say that a "Watergate-style 'dirty trick' was being perpetrated." The Daily World also falsely claims that the demonstrators were mostly white and were "racist."

This slandering of genuine militants is merely a convenient way out for the DW to avoid criticizing the labor bureaucracy for the callous and insensitive way in which it organized the rally. Had the labor leaders gone ahead and



THE PARTY'S OVER

30 years since end of Nazi horrors

Zionism is not the answer

By B. LAPIDES

APRIL 26—Thirty years ago this past month, the ovens were closed down, the gas chambers emptied, the factories for converting Jewish flesh into soap, Jewish skin into lampshades discontinued, the bestial "experimentation" by Nazi psychopaths stopped. The steady, systematic executions, the random, unexpected sadism, the gross humiliation, the mental torture, the physical maiming, the sexual horrors stopped. The mass burials of bodies dead from bullets, starvation, gas, fire, electric shock, scalding, torture were finished.

Dozens, literally many dozens, of Jewish communities were so completely eliminated that it is sometimes hard now to think back past the camps at Auschwitz, Buchenwald, and Treblinka to more permanent homes the Jews of Europe had in France, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Greece, Rumania, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Germany. By the time the last concentration camp was liberated—Belsen on April 15, 1945—6 million Jewish people had been unspeakably exterminated.

One cannot discuss the situation

of the Jewish people today without beginning with the Nazi period. The pain of those years—surely one of the greatest crimes in history—the pain caused in the surviving two-thirds of the Jewish people has, of necessity, formed the way they tend to understand their history—and the way they view the present State of Israel. To put it simply, the Nazi period is by far the most important fact in the sense most Jews have of what it means to be Jewish, easily overshadowing for non-Israelis the importance they give the Zionist state.

The Zionists, it is true, have very skillfully tied the pain and oppression of the Jewish people to their unwarranted assertion of legitimacy for the Jewish state in Palestine. That state was created and exists at the expense of the Palestinian nation. Baldly racist within its borders, it is a garrison of Western imperialism in the Middle East, a wedge in the chest of the Arab people. But opposition to Israel and to Zionism must never be tainted with hostility or resentment toward the Jewish people. Nor should any weariness felt toward the continuous Zionist

barrage of mawkish self-pity and dishonest self-righteousness lead to doubting the long history of persecution suffered by the Jews. Nor should recognition that today American Jews are proportionately less economically oppressed than some other ethnic groups tempt anyone to dismiss claims of continued anti-Semitism in the U.S. as unfounded—or to discount the psychological pain many Jews have had burned into them by genuine past oppression.

The major atrocities and the long, long chain of more routine attacks against Jews are all too real. They are as real as the atrocities and routine attacks against the Arab people committed by the Israeli state. It's necessary to support not only Arabs against their oppressors, but also Jews against theirs. And it is important to win away as many Jews as possible from the influence of Zionism, welcoming them as comrades in the struggle for the liberation of all humanity.

WINNING JEWISH COMRADES

But Jews can be won away from a pro-Israel position and from Zionism only with sensitivity to what drew many of them toward Zionism in the first place—their sense of pain, of fear, of rage, and the longing to join with others in strength, to no longer be victimized precisely the feelings that, when undistorted and unconfused, have drawn others toward revolutionary politics. Zionism is not only an assault on the Arab people but a cynical manipulation of the Jewish people too not only persuading large numbers to migrate to what is very possibly a death trap for them, but reinforcing in them a distorted, false consciousness about themselves that weakens very much more than it strengthens them.

There are within the Zionist and pro-Israel ranks a great many whose private identification with the oppression of the Jewish people and thus with oppressed people, generally—would lead them to Marxism, were they able to be reached with both the strength of our analysis and the sensitivity of our fellow-feeling.



Washington, D.C. April 26

done what they should have—organized a really massive demonstration aimed at the White House and the Capitol—then no deliberate disruption, no matter how skillfully planned, could have had much attraction for the workers.

The step forward toward such a mass struggle can only be accomplished through a more con-

WW photo: Paddy

centrated effort by all militants to raise the level of consciousness of the broad masses. But it will also require presenting the workers with a concrete program for action—such as the proposal to stay in Washington, which provides the working class with a real weapon with which to force a capitulation by the capitalist government on economic issues.

The vote in Portugal: what does it mean?

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, April 28—On April 25, exactly one year after the overthrow of the Caetano fascist dictatorship, Portugal elected an assembly to draft a new constitution. The following day the results were announced; the Portuguese Socialist Party (PSP), 38 percent; the liberal Popular Democrats (PDP), 26 percent; the Communist Party, 13 percent; and the neofascist Center Social Democratic Party (CDS), 7.5 percent.

Over half of the voters cast their ballots for the left, a remarkable achievement for a people who had been continually bombarded by the former police state regime with virulent anti-socialist propaganda for almost half a century.

ANALYSIS OF CP VOTE

Nevertheless, the third-place showing of the Communist party is a disappointment, especially when one considers that the CP was the best organized workers' party in the country and undoubtedly carries great prestige as the main group which undertook the illegal struggle against the fascists in the grim 1926-1974 period.

It is undoubtedly true that the capitalist class, both in Portugal and internationally through NATO and the CIA, moved heaven and earth to keep down the CP vote. Vast amounts of money were poured into the coffers of the Portuguese Socialist Party by the pro-capitalist social democratic organizations in Sweden, West Germany, England, and France.

President Francisco Da Costa Gomes made clear his preference for a PSP victory in a speech only a week ago. Many in Portugal feared to defy the military, a majority of whose top officers, like Foreign

Minister Major Ernesto Melo Antunes, are known to be hostile to the Communist Party. It is clear that after so many years of military rule, a large number of people still feel somewhat intimidated by the armed forces, despite the purge of hundreds of fascists from their ranks.

ROLE OF CLERGY

Not the smallest factor in the election results was the role of the clergy, which had been feverishly boosting the anti-communist vote in the months before the country went to the polls. Time magazine of February 24 reported that "in northern Portugal, a closed, quasi-medieval society, the Roman Catholic Church is strong, priests tend to be reactionary, and typical graffiti are likely to be something along the order of Queremos a Deus. (We love God.) Priests have been threatening excommunication of anyone who plans to vote Communist."

In the election the bourgeoisie had hundreds of years of backwardness on their side, and they obviously used it to the hilt.

ERRORS OF CP

But the CP itself has made a number of serious mistakes over the past year. While the Portuguese economy was deteriorating with the world capitalist crisis, the CP was totally identifying itself with the policies of the government. It went to the extreme of coming out against a number of major workers' strikes, claiming that such walkouts hurt the "unity of the people and the Armed Forces Movement." Surely this false orientation must have lost the CP numerous votes on April 25.

Also the CP, only about 2 percent of whose members are peasants,

did little to win over the rural poor by its cautious agrarian policies. In the countryside, the Communist Party merely advocated limited reforms. Although the party belatedly validated land seizures by propertyless peasants, this was done only after the land had been occupied. The CP never advocated really revolutionary initiatives in the countryside that could have won them a greater following among the majority of poor farmers.

These CP policies, which tied them so closely to the Armed Forces Movement, enabled Mario Soares, the Socialist Party leader, to demagogically appeal to the masses on the basis that the PSP offered a real alternative to the current regime. The PSP pulled in

the middle classes and unsophisticated workers with its slogan against "both right and left dictatorships."

The large PSP vote ran the political spectrum, from members of banned organizations to the left of the CP (unfortunately the CP supported their suppression), to working people who mistakenly believed that a PSP vote was a vote for socialism (actually the PSP opposed even the recent bank and insurance company nationalizations), to some rightists who cast ballots for the PSP as the only viable alternative to "communism." As Workers World pointed out earlier, when the AFM banned the right-wing Christian Democrats in March, it strengthened and consolidated the

anti-communist vote.

Despite this setback in the election, however, the CP is still a powerful force in Portuguese politics. In both September and March of the last year two attempted fascist coups were physically crushed by the masses, mobilized in large part by the CP. The pivotal social weight the party has held at society's fulcrum since last April is in no way accurately reflected by the 13 percent it garnered in the voting.

And yet by making a fetish of this very election, the one area where it was weakest, the CP fell into the trap of glorifying the bourgeois democratic and parliamentary process—which is itself the biggest fraud of all.



In September 1974, Portuguese workers, mobilized in large part by the Communist Party, joined soldiers in crushing a right-wing coup attempt. Despite its prestige in the anti-fascist struggle, several factors combined to reduce the CP vote in the recent election.

After 25 years in People's China

Nationalist prisoners opt to stay

NEW YORK, April 27—As the people of Indochina settle accounts with their former masters, who are now in a final disorderly retreat, a news item emerges from the People's Republic of China to the north which adds a timely footnote to the revolutionary liberation of that great country.

It was reported last month that 293 war criminals of Chiang Kai-shek's counter-revolutionary army were granted amnesty and released from the prison sentences they had been serving since they were brought to justice 25 years ago following the conclusion of the civil war in China. Of these 293, 283 have chosen to live in the People's Republic. The remaining 10, all former high-ranking Chinese "nationalists," have been granted 6-month re-entry visas on their way to Taiwan.

Upon entering Hong Kong several stated openly their intention to return shortly, even declaring their hopes of persuading family members to return with them. (Those making these statements are understood to have put themselves in jeopardy with the anti-democratic Taiwan regime. And Taiwan now isn't even sure it will let its former compatriots in, explaining they may be a "security risk.")

Over and above the war crimes these men committed (most were high-ranking military men) was

the fact that they fought on behalf of the capitalist class, who even in peacetime daily wound and kill in the mines, the fields, and the factories in the quest for the profits of stolen labor. The fact that the U.S. still upholds Taiwan, a province of China, as the fictitious "Republic of China," is made the more ridiculous by the pathetic

handful of those amnestied wishing to defect to that bastion of exploitation.

And isn't the fact that 97 percent of these former war criminals have chosen to live out their lives enjoying the benefits of socialism eloquent testimony to the truly humane character of that social system?



One of the 293 counter-revolutionary war criminals recently released from jail in China arrives in Hong Kong. All but 10 chose to stay in the People's Republic.

Army discharges officer for long hair

By PETE PERKINS

NEW YORK, April 25—How straight do you have to be to get along in today's Modern Action Army? You have to be straighter than Lt. Matthew Carroll, formerly of the 130th Engineer Brigade at Hanau, West Germany.

Lt. Carroll was discharged in lieu of court-martial at the convenience of the government early this month. The pending court-martial would have had to rule on his long-standing contention that existing haircut regulations "infringe on the individual's constitutional rights and have no relevance to job performance."

Matthew Carroll is really just as straight as he looks. He is a graduate of the ROTC program at Texas A&M. His father was a career officer in the army. His only quarrel with the military is over being told to make his hair even shorter than it already is.

HONORABLE DISCHARGE

Lt. Carroll will receive an honorable discharge and all his military benefits as a veteran. This is a big victory on the haircut issue since he was facing 5 years at hard labor if convicted by a military court-martial of his alleged

"crime." Carroll's case is significant in that it marks a change of attitude on the part of the military establishment.

Can you imagine the army discharging anyone for long hair during the Vietnam invasion years? They would have lost millions of troops. Today the army thinks that GIs will be scared shitless of losing their jobs.

It's true that outside jobs are hard to come by. That's why the recruits enlisted in the first place. But that's not reason enough to make the haircut issue go away.

RECRUITERS LIE

Billboards proclaim "Today's Army wants to join you." But Matthew Carroll is living proof of how false that advertisement really is. If he can't make it, who in hell can?

The generals who command the army still picture their soldiers as all being twin brothers of Audie Murphy—when they say "invade Poland," like Hitler before them did, the troops will all blindly obey, just like robots.

Those days are over. The haircut trials of the past few years are just an incredibly futile attempt to resurrect the past, a past they can never recreate.

POLITICAL PRISONERS



ATTICA FRAME-UPS CONTINUE DESPITE PROTEST

BUFFALO, April 24— In defiance of a rising wave of protest against the further prosecution of the Attica indictees, the state continues in its attempt to railroad more Brothers to prison. A call for amnesty for all the Attica Brothers comes on the heels of more cover-up charges directed at the state, and knowledge of an FBI informer in the ranks of the Attica defense.

Mary Jo Cook, an admitted informer for the FBI, testified in court on April 21 that she had been feeding detailed reports on Attica defense strategy to the FBI for over a year. These included statistical materials of a fair jury project, courtroom and legal strategy, conversations between lawyers and defendants, and the internal structure of the Attica defense apparatus. In addition, she reported to the FBI on numerous progressive organizations in the Buffalo area and throughout the U.S. and Canada.

When an FBI agent was called to testify, he reluctantly confirmed that information on the Attica defense was received by the bureau and added under questioning that some of this information was turned over to state agencies. This new evidence bolsters the case of the defense which feels the governmental misconduct so far exposed in the trials warrants dismissal of the indictments. Motions have been filed to that effect.

EVIDENCE DESTROYED BY FIRE

On the evening before Mary Jo was scheduled to testify, her most recent residence was destroyed by a fire of suspicious origin. Investigators looking into the fire have termed it "definitely arson" and have said that many small fires were set throughout the house. It appeared as though holes were punched in interior walls, where flammable liquid was poured and then ignited. Cook told the court on April 22 that the fire destroyed notes which she had kept while she was an informer and

which would have assisted her testimony about infiltration into the defense.

This is only the latest in a series of fires of "suspicious" origin directed at progressive movements in Buffalo over the past few years. One such blaze occurred in 1973 when law offices containing important Attica defense documents were gutted.

The discovery of racist Nazi leaflets hanging throughout the Buffalo Police Headquarters coupled with the rash of fires leads many to suspect rightwing terrorist activity tacitly assisted by the police. A demonstration has been called for May 1 to protest the rising of police repression and to show that right-wing harrasment will not intimidate the growing support for the Attica Brothers

MORE COVER-UPS CHARGED

Meanwhile, more revelations concerning governmental misconduct came from Dr. John Edland who performed the autopsies on 27 of the 43 men killed at Attica. He stated that the prosecution systematically excluded medical information about the deaths of those shot by state police. The former special assistant state prosecutor for Attica, Malcolm Bell, stood firm in his accusations that the state covered up crimes committed during the retaking of the prison by state police. However, when Bell was called to testify here, Judge Kasler refused to hear the charges of a cover-up on the basis that Bells' testimony in that area is irrelevant to the trial of four Brothers now taking place in his courtroom.

At the same time, Brother Shango Bahiti Kakawana (aka Bernard Stroble) is on trial in another courtroom where the prosecution has already succeeded in eliminating all Black people from the panel of prospective jurors.

The mounting cover-up charges

and the surfacing of Mary Jo Cook have heightened public awareness of the corruption and misconduct of the Attica prosecution and calls



Marching through downtown Albany on April 28, 600 supporters of the Attica Brothers demand amnesty for all who participated in the 1971 Attica uprising. WW photo: Ken F.

INTERVIEW WITH MALCOLM JEFFERSON

RICHMOND, Va., April 28— Malcolm Jefferson and James Washington are Black prisoners on death row at the Virginia State Penitentiary. They were sentenced to death on framed up charges of killing a prison guard in 1972, and their case has become the focal point of a major struggle against the death penalty in Virginia. The following interview with Malcolm Jefferson was conducted recently by a Workers World reporter at the Virginia State Penitentiary in Richmond.

+ . . . +

WW: Why did the State of Virginia bring phony murder charges against you?

M.J.: The answer is obvious. The

officials know that since being confined here, I've been active in the struggle against inhumane treatment perpetrated against the inmates. They know I'm a revolutionary intent on overthrowing the system now governing this country. Anyone claiming to be a revolutionary has to be eliminated according to their warped way of thinking. Therefore this frame-up was the best available means of "eliminating" me through so-called legal channels.

What is the present status of your case?

The NAACP Legal Defense Fund is now handling my case. Appeals, briefs, etc., have been filed in my behalf, and my case is now in somewhat of a limbo, while the state courts wait to see what final decision the U.S. Supreme Court hands down pertaining to the death penalty and its constitutionality.

What conditions have you faced in the Virginia State Penitentiary?

The pigs here have confined me and James to our cells indefinitely and refuse to let us out for any reason except visits and showers. We have no access to exercise or any type of recreational periods. Our visitors are turned back at the whim of the pigs for no justifiable reason. Even though the federal court ruled that death row inmates have to be let out for some type of exercise programs, the pigs here refuse to comply with this ruling. They say that for as long as we're down here on death row, we will be confined to our cells 24 hours a day. . . Why do you think the government is presently making efforts to restore the death penalty?

First, it is no coincidence that although Blacks comprise only a small percentage of the total population in the U.S., the majority of people confined in prisons are Black and other minorities. By the recent disclosures of domestic spying by the CIA and the FBI, it is very easy to see there is a conspiracy against the radical

of all charges against the Attica Brothers.

RENEWED CAMPAIGN FOR AMNESTY BEGINS

A national campaign to further the demand raised by the Brothers in 1971 for unconditional amnesty has been launched and all people who wish to assist in the campaign are asked to contact Attica Now, 1528 Jefferson, Buffalo, N.Y. 14208; (716-882-0254

element in the U.S. In my belief, there was a conspiracy to murder Comrade George Jackson in California's infamous Adjustment Center, the prisoners at Attica, etc. At the same time, there has always been a conspiracy to murder revolutionaries in the "free" world.

So, in relating my oppression to the plight of Blacks in the U.S., I can only say that anyone who is brave enough to speak out against the system, advocates violence as a means of gaining our freedom, etc., is the target of systematic oppression by the ruling class. In prison, a revolutionary is eliminated through murder under the guise of "escape attempts," or framed-up murder charges, and given the death sentence (as I and James were). In the so-called free world, they are conspired against by the agencies just as Martin Luther King and countless others were. The methods are different, but the goal is the same—murder of all persons engaged in the struggle.

Because of the economic situation today, I think the U.S. Supreme Court will decide not to abolish mandatory death sentences. Because of the unemployment, Blacks and other poor people will have to turn to "crime" as a means of survival. As the economic crisis has developed, crime has already skyrocketed to an all-time high.

I think the Supreme Court will take measures to combat this by voting in favor of reinstating the death penalty. The ruling class never fails to let it be known that over half of the crime in the U.S. is committed by Blacks. But they fail to point out that Blacks are the ones most affected by the economic crisis and unemployment; therefore, they are the ones having to take to crime as an only means of survival. In effect, the death penalty will be handed mostly down to Blacks, as it always has been.

POISON GAS 'GOT THEM ALL'

By ELIZABETH ROSS

NEW YORK, April 29—While the U.S. government was piously sentencing German war criminals to death during the Nuremberg trials, it kept a deep secret of its own war crimes.

Now, 31 years later, a former Australian bomber pilot says he helped kill volunteer American prisoners in a World War II poison-gas experiment.

Captain John Hampshire of Sydney, Australia, said he never knew how many prisoners were on the barrier reef island when he and a number of other pilots "carpet bombed" the area in 1944, wiping out all life almost instantaneously.

"I was told later that prisoners serving life sentences in U.S. jails had been brought to the island as volunteers in the poison-gas test. They had apparently been told that if they lived through the tests their sentences would be shortened, but none of them lived," Hampshire told the Australian press.

"The bombing mission was led by a U.S. officer, Lt. Col. Jesse Crowther of the 5th U.S. Air

Force," the Australian pilot went on. "It was a couple of days after the attack that Crowther told me we had killed the prisoners and sheep and goats that had been put on the island in bomb shelters 30-feet deep."

Captain Hampshire and Lt. Colonel Crowther met in the officers' mess for a few beers.

The U.S. colonel, according to the Australian, said—evidently with much satisfaction—"We got them all."

"We got them all:" Goats, sheep, and men, they got them all!

The animals went to their deaths without any foreknowledge of doom or hope of escape. But the men voluntarily took part in this "experiment," knowing they could be killed, but hoping against a shred of hope that they would live (after all, they were 30 feet underground) and eventually gain their freedom, breathe the fresh air again, see the sun and stars once more, spend some part of their lives outside the hateful prison system of iron bars, sadistic guards, humiliating searches, and

the ever-present threat of solitary confinement.

They were wiped out as though they were vermin. Like an exterminator who has done a thorough job, the lieutenant-colonel said, "We got them all."

One of the reasons the former Australian bomber pilot told this harrowing story was that he knew there were 1,000 of his own countrymen who had suffered from a similar "experiment," when the Australian army fired poison gas at its own troops, and had never compensated them for the severe injuries they suffered more than 30 years ago. He said he felt he had to speak out now.

In answer to his charges and those of other army personnel, the Australian government admits that such experiments had taken place and has agreed—at long last—to give the injured men compensation.

The U.S. prisoners, being all dead, will not require compensation from the U.S. government. Washington must be very happy.

LETTER FROM EDDIE SANCHEZ

Eddie Sanchez, who has dedicated himself to exposing the inhuman practices in U.S. prisons, has spent the last 15 of his 26 years behind bars. The racist court system labeled him "in-corrigible" at age 11 because he showed independence of will and ran away from a juvenile center where he was unjustly confined.

Since 1972, Eddie has worked to expose behavior modification programs. He was highly instrumental in having the infamous START program at Springfield, Mo., discontinued.

Eddie is presently being tried for allegedly taking a guard hostage on July 31, 1974. He faces up to four life sentences plus 70 years. All this stems from his attempts to expose another behavior modification program, CARE, at Leavenworth, Ks. The following is a continuation of Eddie's expose on Behavior Modification.

For more information, contact: Committee to Free Eddie Sanchez, 912 E. 31 Street, Kansas City, Mo. 64109; (816) 931-2093.

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In the April 13, 1975 issue of the Washington Post it stated that Dr.

Martin Groder resigned his post as head of the National Behavior Research Center in Butner, N.C., and that he is now functioning as the mental health co-ordinator at the U.S. Medical Center in Springfield, Mo.

Dr. Groder brought behavior modification into the federal prisons. He was one of the designers of the infamous START program and also of the transactional analysis programs in a lot of federal prisons. He was the designer of the infamous CARE program at the U.S. Penitentiary, Marion, Ill., and recently appointed warden to the controversial neo-gestapo facility in Butner, N.C.

Now he is supposedly resigned and working at the U.S. Medical Center. The facility in Springfield, Mo., has also been reported as one of the most repressive prison camps in the U.S. The facility is both a prison and a hospital and they have combined physical beatings in with drug assaults and experimentation to use on rebellious prisoners.

What will Dr. Groder's true functions be at Springfield? Federal prisoners around the

country fear that Groder is up to his old tricks: that he will be doing backroom psychosurgeries and drug experimentation on prisoners kidnaped to Springfield from other prisons. Indeed, as long as this mad scientist is allowed to roam in federal prisons it is like putting a glutton in charge of the icebox or Nixon in charge of the Watergate tapes.

We on the Federal Prisoners Coalition will not rest until this so-called doctor is fired from all federal prisons. We have viewed enough of his 1984 experimentations into the field of dehumanization.

We urge your letters to Norman A. Carlson, U.S. Bureau of Prisons, Washington, D.C., stating that if he is truly halting behavior modification in federal prisons, then get rid of Dr. Groder. Fire Groder. Also send letters to Robert W. Kastenmeier, U.S. Congress, Washington, D.C., telling him to use the Judiciary Committee to fire Dr. Martin Groder, the behavioral scientist, from the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

Eddie Sanchez
Federal Prisoners Coalition

HARASSMENT OF GAYS IN LEWISBURG

LEWISBURG, Pa., April 15—I am contacting you in your full support of the National Gay Prisoners Coalition (NGPC) and National Gay Coalition Church for Gays in prison. As Chairman of the NGPC I am asking that any Gay brother and legal defense group contact the officials at Lewisburg, U.S. Prison, and U.S. Bureau of Prisons—Norman A. Carlson, Washington, D.C., 20034, and U.S. Attorney General Levy of Washington, D.C.—as I am in great danger here at Lewisburg.

Right now I am being forced to live confined behind steel doors under the filthiest conditions where I receive hardly any food, and am not permitted fresh

clothing. I have been assaulted, attacked, threatened, and intimidated by guards. They injured me, and let me lay here without medical treatment. I fear this is a set-up similar to the one in which my friend and the Vice-Chairman of the NGPC was murdered in Leavenworth in 1973.

The NGC Church for Gays and NGPC are battling in court for absolute freedom of religion and culture as well as education-parole programs for Gays. Several sexual privacy programs are under way also.

I need support for all Gay Brothers in jail to rid us of the discriminations so much forced on

us—including death.

As for myself, I have been shifted from one place to another, and my life has continually been placed in jeopardy since the government set up the murder of my friend. I need to get out of the hole so I can organize. In order to help me, I urge you to contact the above-mentioned officials and the warden of Lewisburg.

To all my Gay friends I send my love and faith, Tear down the prisons and help build a real Socialist World, and Unity for all.

Love, Peace, in Struggle,
Johnny Gibbs
No. 86976-132
U.S. Prison—Lewisburg
Lewisburg, Pa. 17837

ED POINDEXTER TO APPEAL

OMAHA, Neb., April 11—Attorneys for Ed Poindexter will appeal his conviction of first degree murder in the U.S. District Court in Lincoln, Neb., on April 21 and May 2. Poindexter, along with David Rice, was charged in the booby-trap bomb death of Patrolman Minard in August 1970. His supporters charge Poindexter was arrested because he was Chairman of the Omaha chapter of the National Committee to Combat Fascism (NCCF). In April 1971, he and Rice, NCCF Minister of Information, were

convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

The Committee to Free Rice and Poindexter has pointed out that Duane Peak, who was 15 years old at the time of the bombing, admitted planting the bomb and then calling the police to the scene. Before his arrest, Peak told his sister that he had acted alone. The record suggests that Peak implicated Poindexter and Rice only after being threatened with death in the

electric chair. He was allowed to plead guilty to a lesser charge in exchange for implicating the NCCF leaders.

Although Rice's conviction has been overturned, he is still in prison. By appealing the decisions, the State of Nebraska has delayed following court orders to release or retry him. Poindexter hopes the upcoming hearings will result in his conviction also being overturned, but freedom still comes far off if the State decides to follow the same appeal procedure.

MURDER IN ALABAMA!

(BULLETIN) BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 28—As we go to press, it has been learned that Frank X. Moore, one of the Atmore-Holman Brothers, was found dead in his cell last Saturday morning in the Escambia County Jail, Brewton, Ala.

The Atmore-Holman Brothers are a group of Black prisoners who have been charged in two prison rebellions in Alabama. Most of the Brothers singled out

had been active in a struggle for changing the inhuman prison conditions.

Supporters of the Brothers believe this death may be one more episode in the long history of racist brutality and murder against outspoken prisoners by Alabama authorities. Moore had served his original sentence, but was awaiting trial on the rebellion charge. More details will follow in the next issue of Workers World.

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



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Workers of all lands have special reason to celebrate May Day this year. For the significance of this day devoted to international workers' solidarity, see page 4.

Detroit jobless worker speaks out on protest for disaster relief

DECLARE DETROIT a DISASTER AREA
MARCH for \$50/WEEK EXTRA BENEFITS



Attending the press conference that announced the formation of the Detroit Committee for Disaster Relief and a march on May 3 were: Larry Carpenter of Local 212, UAW; Jean Bowdish of Local 140, AFSCME; Ivory Tillman, vice-pres. Detroit chapter of APWU; and members of the Center for United Labor Action. WW photo

Shirley Moore was until recently a vice president of Local 932 of the IUE. She is an active Black trade unionist and one of the sponsors of the Detroit Committee for Disaster Relief (DCDR). In this exclusive interview with Workers World, Ms. Moore tells why the DCDR was formed: to call for a massive demonstration on May 3 to demand that Detroit be declared a disaster area because of its severe unemployment and economic crisis. The committee is demanding \$50 a week additional benefits in emergency relief for all the needy of Detroit, a demand which could easily be met if just a tiny fraction of the handouts to the military and big corporations were diverted for such purposes.

The Detroit Optometrics Center, where Ms. Moore works, was recently on strike for 5½ months. At the conclusion of this strike, she was laid off for 5½ weeks.

WW: What were your reasons for sponsoring the DCDR?

Ms. Moore: At the time I was unemployed. Actually, I would have been involved if I hadn't been unemployed. Take the situation now, as far as unemployment in this city. The SUB (Supplemental Unemployment Benefits) benefits ran out for Chrysler, and a lot of other people will soon be losing their SUB. What you get for unemployment compensation for 2 weeks is not enough to survive on. You have utilities, house notes to pay, and when you go to the store, you can spend your whole unemployment check for 1 week's worth of food, with prices so high. Then you might not even have food for the next week.

I became involved in this because it was something that would benefit the people. I know what it's like to go through an unemployment line. A lot of times

you have to stand around for hours. You're so tired and disgusted by the time you get up there and get the check, and when you look at it, it's nothing.

They holler about Detroit being the crime capital. Well, when a man is hungry and doesn't have any money, that puts him in the situation. If he doesn't have food, he's going to get it the best way he can.

If you're working today, that doesn't mean you'll be working next week. For instance, there is a possibility that a lot of city workers will soon be laid off. More and more people are being pushed onto layoffs.

When and how was the DCDR founded?

The first meeting was March 22. A coalition of trade unionists and concerned citizens got together and formed a committee. It was the combined effort of common

labor people, some laid off, and some still working.

What are the goals of the DCDR?

The goal is to get more money for the unemployed, senior citizens, those on welfare, the underemployed. Some of the money that people have earned over a period of time while they were working is coming back to them in benefits now, but it is not enough. This money was taken out of our paychecks through taxes. We earned it. But you just can't manage on the amount of money that people are getting, you get yourself deeper and deeper in debt.

Do you think this action has a broader national significance beyond its obvious importance for Detroit?

I would think so. The AFL-CIO had a march on Washington April 26, it was a jobs rally, and the UAW had one not long ago. The basis for these rallies and ours is the same,

they are all about unemployment. The working man needs help, either a job or more money. The reasons for us doing something here in Detroit, is that when the layoffs hit Detroit, it affects the whole nation. If the auto companies lay off, then other industries will soon follow. It affects people who make different parts for auto, it affects stores, and everything else, because people are spending less. It is a chain reaction, and half the country is affected. Detroit is the hardest hit, with the highest unemployment rate in the country.

What happens after May 3?

We are hoping it will pick up momentum among other groups and that they will help continue the effort. May 3 will not be the last effort, it will be the first effort. I don't think one action alone will accomplish our goals, but we will have to work continuously until it is done.

In Milwaukee 'Food Day' action

Women United calls for food, jobs for all

By SUE BREITENBACH
MILWAUKEE, April 19—On Thursday, April 17, Women United for Action (WUA) held a march and rally against high food prices in downtown Milwaukee. The action was scheduled as part of Food Day activities.

Approximately 50 people gathered at Zeidler Park to begin the march, which proceeded down Wisconsin Ave. Chants of "We say NO to high food prices" and

"Profits up, prices soar, we won't take it anymore" were met by applause from shoppers and office workers on their lunch hours.

The group converged on the Federal Building for the rally where a 15-foot-long scroll was unrolled that listed the women's demands: 1) Rollback food prices. 2) Expand the food stamp program. 3) Cut military spending and use the money for human needs. 4) Expand aid to the elderly

and food programs for school children. 5) Support the UFW and their boycott of Gallo wines and non-UFW lettuce and grapes. 6) Implement the Full Employment Act of 1946.

The crowd then heard several speakers discuss Food Day, the food stamp program, and how the U.S. uses its "Food for Peace" programs as a weapon against under-developed countries. Ellen Miller, spokesperson for WUA,

expressed the group's position when she said: "The real cause for high food prices, poor nutrition, and world starvation is monopoly control of the food industry by agribusiness giants who put their profits before the needs of the people."

The Food Day Committee, a broad coalition, generally approached the problems of hunger on a liberal bourgeois level and

patterned its activities after Earth Day of a few years ago. The march and rally called by WUA were the most militant and progressive of all scheduled Food Day activities, most of which centered around nutrition education and discussion. WUA sees the problems of high food prices, poor nutrition, and world hunger as needing continuous action until the day when there is adequate and decent food for all at reasonable prices!