

mass RESISTANCE

VOLUME 12
No 1

POLITICAL ORGAN OF THE M-L LEAGUE
P.O. BOX 513, TRIBORO STATION, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10035

Unite to Fight Racist Violence!

A massive wave of racist violence is sweeping the country. In New York City, 11 Black and Latino men have been killed since April, 1980. Four Black women were shot by the Ku Klux Klan in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Over 60% of all persons killed by police in Portland, Oregon are Black. A 15 year old Black youngster was beaten and lynched in Mobile, Alabama. Against this backdrop of national oppression looms the shadow of Atlanta where 22 Black children have been murdered.

This racist violence does not limit itself to just police brutality and murder, nor to the question of armed civilian aggression by national chauvinists (sic racist). Physical attacks are only the ultimate manifestations of a disease which is permeating the country.

†There is massive unemployment and underemployment affecting the nation

as a whole. This, however, is affecting the national minorities in epidemic proportions, to the point where over 50% of all Black youth is unemployed.

†Food stamps, welfare benefits, student loans, federal job programs are being cut in the name of fiscal responsibility, restraint and a balanced budget. In the meantime, the military budget is being increased by over \$50 billion over the next 3 years. Who's most affected by these cuts? You guessed it—Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Chicanos, Native Americans and other minorities. While all poor and working class people are affected, the fact that they affect national minorities most of all and in greater numbers makes the cuts inherently racist. When you add to this the fact that national minority sectors of the population are systematically disen-



A WAVE OF RACIST VIOLENCE HAS BEEN UNLEASHED IN THIS COUNTRY. THE 23 CHILDREN KILLED IN ATLANTA IS JUST ONE INSTANCE WE HAVE TO UNITE TO FIGHT AGAINST THESE ATTACKS.

franchized and thus have no effective voice in the bourgeois government halls fighting and protecting their interests, the question of national oppression becomes all the more apparent.

†Medicare and Medicaid have had their budgets cut. Hospitals such as Sydenham in New York's Harlem area, serving an overwhelmingly Black commu-

nity have been closed. Again another cut in an essential service area largely affecting Blacks and other national minorities.

The list is endless. Legal aid is being cut. Federal aid to public schools is being cut.

Continues on page 7.

A Rocky Road REAGANHOOD

Robbing From the Poor Won't Be That Easy.

"There is nothing wrong with America that we can't fix" R R (2/18/81)

Gas/gal	37	\$1 27
Auto (prod in millions)	8	6 4
\$1 in German marks	4	2

By the time of this issue of Mass Resistance President Ronald Reagan's second or third set of budget recommendations for 1982 will already be known (expected 3/10/81). The breadth and scope of his "Program for Economic Recovery" is about as easy to comprehend as the trillion dollars, 67 miles high he mentioned in his speech (which he miscalculated by 39 miles). While a full examination of his "less butter, bigger guns" budget is beyond the scope of this newspaper, we would like to speak to the idea that he and his cabinet "can fix" what is wrong with the American economy.

What these changes mean is that the U.S. economy has not been in such a shape since the Great Depression. Aid to U.S. workers laid off supposedly due to imports went up from \$319 million in '79 to over \$2 billion in '80. The auto industry took a \$4 billion loss in '80 with 1 out of every 3 workers laid off indefinitely. Chrysler and AMC will soon cease to exist as independent companies. Gas will be \$1.50 in '81 at the least. Food prices will go up at least 15 to 20 percent. In his nomination hearings for Sec. of the Treasury, Reagan has already said that the GNP will continue to fall in 1981.

PROBLEMS HE FACES

Inflation	'71 3.4%	'80 13.0%
Unemployment	5.9%	7.8%
Prime Rate	6.75%	21.5%
Oil/bbl	\$1.70	\$35

The general thrust of Reagan's 1982 budget will be mild compared to what he has in store for the 1983 budget and further.

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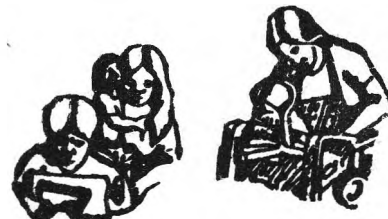
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WOMEN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY



Women and the Budget Cuts

One of the sectors of the population bound to be greatly affected by the Reagan Administration's budget cuts is women. Cuts in funds for public assistance programs, child care, food coupons, Medicaid, job training, family planning services, etc., are some of the more obvious ways in which women are affected. Although women are not the only victims of these cuts, undoubtedly, they will be particularly hit by them.

Women compose more than 67% of those living below poverty level, and they make up the bulk of those whose income is less than half the poverty level. That is, women are disproportionately poor in this society, and with the budget cuts that gap is bound to become even wider. The gains made after many years of struggle and sacrifices by courageous women fighters are now threatened.

Women of oppressed nationalities are, of course, the hardest hit. Their situation is aggravated by mounting racist attacks on their democratic rights and actual racist violence as that perpetrated by the KKK and other racists and right wing groups. These racist attacks are tacitly endorsed by the government, which does nothing to stop them, while doing a lot to engender them. Remember the 22 Black mothers in Atlanta. The capitalists' propaganda and policies point at oppressed nationalities as those responsible for the economic crisis and the problems facing this country, thus justifying the cuts and the racist violence.

As women are deprived of their rights and their overall conditions worsen, so do the conditions of the working class and all oppressed people.

In capitalist society, when one sector is attacked, kept down, all other oppressed

sectors suffer as well. Take for example the case of public assistance. Nationwide, the great majority of recipients of public assistance are women, families composed of single mothers with their children. These families depend upon their welfare checks and food coupons to cover for all their needs and expenses.

Everyone knows that the aid being received up to now by welfare families is definitely not enough. The Welfare Program is merely a way for people to survive by providing for bottom line needs. Obviously, this is a program urgently needing much more funds. Yet, welfare is the victim of cuts that run into millions of dollars. If we add to this the millions that will be cut to the food stamps program, the greater restrictions on Medicaid and Medicare, we will see how grim the future of welfare families is, especially women on welfare.

Adding insult to injury, Reagan wants to implement the so-called "workfare" which is nothing but slave labor and union busting. Under this plan, welfare recipients will have to work for their checks. Their salary would be the same amount they now receive as welfare. Obviously, this plan is designed to provide capitalists with another source of cheap labor, better yet, slave labor. How so?

Under regular conditions, a worker can demand better wages, better working conditions, vacations, etc. The chief form of struggle for those demands are the unity with other workers, organized in unions and the right to strike in defense of those rights. Could a person employed as part of the "workfare" plan exercise those rights? From the point of view of the administration "no way."

Already similar programs are in effect in different parts of the country. In New York, for example, some welfare recipients have been assigned to jobs, previously held by regular workers in government agencies and institutions. The welfare recipients are forced to take those jobs for wages way below those paid other workers in those same jobs.

When there are strikes, as in the New York City hospital strike three years ago, those welfare workers are put up against the wall because if they decide to support the strike, they will not only be penalized for the duration of the strike, but their public assistance case would be closed. If you can survive without aid for X amount of days, you can survive for the rest of your life, so the government reasoning goes. This is a tactic of the capitalists designed to split the working class. Using one of the sectors that is especially hard pressed economically—women—the capitalists expect women to work for lower wages, scab during strikes, etc.

But they have a very different thing coming.

Women have shown historically that they are natural allies of the working class and that they can be relied upon to struggle for their rights and the rights of the working class and oppressed people. Women are in fact getting ready to oppose the budget cuts as we will see.

There are other cuts which are especially hard on women. Reagan wants to put a "cap" on Medicaid, meaning by this that his administration will raise the requirements for Medicaid eligibility and will limit the kinds of services Medicaid will pay for. Of course, abortion is one of them. Many women have died at the hands of butchers, or have been forced to have un-

wanted children, because their right to free and safe abortions has not been recognized. Reagan is now trying to push women back after all the long, hard struggles waged for this right. And overall, the Reagan administration's cuts are going to deprive women of one of the most basic rights—health—which many women would not enjoy if it weren't for Medicaid.

Similarly, funds for child care facilities will be cut. Many women will be forced to leave their jobs and go back home to care for their children, thus being deprived of their right to a job, and forced to go back to the welfare rolls. This is the vicious cycle of Reaganomics: cut down on welfare, at the same time that those vital services needed to keep women off welfare are also reduced.

No doubt women promise to be one of Reagan's toughest opponents. As one of the most oppressed sectors of society and one of the hardest-hit by the cuts, women are a formidable adversary which Reagan will have to contend with. Already a broad coalition of national women's organizations has been formed to denounce the president's cuts and urge caution from Congress in dealing with the proposed cuts. Other sectors, such as civil rights and labor groups, have been opposing the cuts.

The broad coalition of women's groups is an encouraging sight of what is yet to come. We are confident in that the current wave of opposition to the cuts can grow into a powerful mass torrent coming from all sectors of the population in this country. As to the present, there is no doubt that women are definitely saying NO to those cuts. ■

"WE WON'T GO BACK!"

Montreal Conference

SOVIET ROLE IN THE THIRD WORLD

Over 1,000 people attended an international conference on the role of the Soviet Union in the third world, November 29 and 30 of last year. A representative from the Marxist-Leninist League attended and had the opportunity to speak with many of the participants and panelists. Spokespersons from numerous liberation movements described the Soviet's exploitation, armed aggression, splitting activities, etc. in countries from Afghanistan to South Africa, Kampuchea, Cuba, the Philippines and so on.

Many of the exposures of Soviet social imperialism's rapacious actions were from representatives of liberation movements who were directly facing U.S. imperialism. The Soviet strategy in these countries included trying to discredit the liberation movement, as in the case of the P.A.C. of Azania, or to actually aid the repressive U.S. backed regime as in the Philippines where pro-Soviet party fingers N.P.A. guerrillas for the Marcos dictatorship. The Conference was clearly aimed at both superpowers, and the participants produced a resolution condemning the El Salvador junta's brutal murder of the 6 F.D.R. leaders.

The following were some of the facts of Soviet imperialism's treatment of the third world that were revealed at the conference.

† Even though the U.S. is the main external enemy of Azania, Henry Isaacs

of the P.A.C. pointed out that "the role of the Soviet Union has been both decisive and manipulative." Mr. Isaacs stated that the K.G.B. has met with its Pretoria counterpart to make an agreement allowing the ANC and the pro-Soviet S. African C.P. to have greater freedom of movement in exchange for Soviet recognition of the apartheid regime. The Soviets, moreover, exploit the uranium and fishing resources of Namibia while claiming to support SWAPO.

† In Thailand, pro-Soviet forces have been working the anti-communist command units to help eliminate the Thailand C.P., who are self-reliant. Also, the Soviet Vietnamese backed Laotian government has signed an agreement with Thailand to help each other attack the Thai revolutionaries (George Hildebrand).

† Dr. James Endicott, formerly on the executive committee of the Canadian Peace Council (Soviet oriented) described his disillusion with Soviet actions around the world which led to his resignation from that body. He spoke of the Soviet Union's betrayal of national liberation struggles in the early '60s which they described as a "movement of dead people." Dr. Endicott closed the conference by saying "The anti-imperialist majority will be victorious," "Let's shove them off the stage of history and bring in a new people's world."

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El Salvador

Stop U.S. Intervention Now!

The United States is stepping deeper into a quagmire of intervention in El Salvador. While this Central American country is small and one of the poorest in Latin America, it is becoming a big issue all over the world. Big for the U.S. government which wishes to dig in its heels and hold on to what's left of its diminishing empire. Big for the vast majority in the world that support the right of a people to decide their own destiny and be free from outside intervention, in this case U.S. imperialism.

After only four weeks in office, Reagan announced increases in military aid to the junta which represents a tenfold increase from that given a year ago. Of course, the administration has a lot of military spending money from its \$50 billion cut in the federal budget, mainly from social services and welfare. The U.S. is giving El Salvador \$25 million on top of Carter's \$10 million for military aid. In March Reagan announced another \$25 million allocated for arms credits. This time around the military equipment is very different than Carter's "non lethal" aid. The list includes M 16's, Huey helicopter gunships, mortars, rifles, ammunition, etc. El Salvador security forces will be carrying U.S. M 16's, wearing U.S. helmets and uniforms, locating patriots with U.S. communications and surveillance equipment, strafing villages with U.S. helicopters maintained by U.S. advisors, and conducting missions planned by U.S. counterinsurgency teams. The U.S. advisors are pouring in. Their number stands at 70 as of late March, three times that of Carter's escalation in January. Included are the infamous counterinsurgency and terror experts, the "green berets". Moreover, the U.S. has trained in the past few months over 300 Salvadorean military personnel at its U.S. Army School of the Americas in Fort Gulick, Panama. This training represents what the recent U.S. State Department dissent paper terms "the largest training program ever sponsored by the U.S. for any Latin American country in a single year."

WHY MORE INTERVENTION UNDER REAGAN?

To some extent Reagan's increased intervention in El Salvador follows the trend established at the end of the Carter Administration. The massive aid increase and publicity campaign on "international terrorism", however, show that he is going beyond Carter's policies. These different policies represent two different approaches to dealing with the reality that the U.S. is a declining imperialist power. They are not just the result of the different "ideas" of two people, Carter and Reagan. Rather two different, but overlapping coalitions of the ruling class were backing the candidacies of Carter and Reagan for president. Reagan's bourgeois coalition and his advisors have their own contradictions, and differing material interests. Recent conflicting statements about whether or not the issue of El Salvador was being overemphasized or not is just one example of this.

In El Salvador policy, Reagan's backers want to make this small country an "example" of how to draw the line against further erosion of U.S. power. They are convinced that military methods are the best means to keep El Salvador within the U.S. sphere of influence. This approach is a reaction to what is perceived as a long series of Carter defeats in Nicaragua, Zimbabwe, Iran and so on and on. The tactic of seeking out and supporting "moderate" reformist, so-called centrist coalitions in third world countries as a method of maintaining U.S. influence has fallen in disfavor. Historically, imperialist tactics make use of reform and repression, which go hand in hand, though seldom in equal measures. Unlike Carter, Reagan is putting reform, in particular agrarian reform, on the back burner, while heating up the repressive apparatus in El Salvador. Reagan's



A MILITANT DEMONSTRATION TOOK PLACE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN NEW YORK CITY CONDEMNING THE U.S. INTERVENTION IN EL SALVADOR

Ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, has termed Carter's policies "socialist" and brazenly calls for the U.S. to back up "moderately repressive" regimes as in El Salvador.

Reagan's approach, if unchecked will mean more Salvadoreans will be tortured, starved and killed. It appears that the U.S. is trying for a "quick kill" in El Salvador, a rapid elimination of the popular resistance forces with a massive influx of arms and advisors. Even if partially successful, the genocide could surpass the massacre of 30,000 peasants which occurred during the 1932 uprising. In the last year alone, while Carter was President, 14,000 were killed by the junta's security forces and right wing death squads. With American advisors already present there is a good chance of U.S. casualties. This may mean U.S. troops to "protect" the advisors, more troops to protect those troops and so on. The dangerous consequences of Reagan's increased intervention cannot be overemphasized.

In general, the stance of U.S. imperialism has become more aggressive and war mongering under Reagan. Superpower rivalry is growing fiercer, as the U.S. seeks to stop Soviet advances in their mutual contention for spheres of influence in the third world. The defense budget's proposed increase is \$48 billion. One state department official was quoted as saying that war with the Soviet Union was inevitable, if they did not give up "their communism". Reagan's El Salvador policy must be placed in this overall context of the heightening contention with Soviet imperialism. Not because the U.S. is fighting Cuba or the Soviets in El Salvador. Reagan is attempting to repress a popular movement for national liberation. Such third world struggle against foreign domination have in recent history severely weakened U.S. imperialism, even when they have been openly anti Soviet, as in Iran. So with the U.S. gearing up for war, they cannot afford to "lose" countries that are seeking independent development, especially when they are in "our front yard" as Reagan said of El Salvador. To fight a war, U.S. imperialism needs all the raw materials, cheap labor, markets, strategic areas, sea routes, etc. that they now have or can get. Reagan hopes, moreover, to show America's new resolve to other third world clients (like South Korea, the Philippines, etc.), that they won't be "thrown to the wolves" (as with the Shah or Somoza) if the people rise against their repressive regimes.

OTHER U.S. INTERESTS

Reagan's main goal in El Salvador then is a political one, to prevent another Nica-

ragua at all costs, and keep the country within the U.S. sphere of influence. As the State Department put it "U.S. interests in El Salvador are based on wider interests—maintaining regional stability in Central America." The just victory of the popular organizations (FDR, FMLN) in El Salvador would help galvanize other movements in the region against U.S. domination such as Honduras and Guatemala.

El Salvador also plays a key role with the other Central American countries in the defense of U.S. strategic and military interests in Latin America. The Panama Canal and shipping lanes between the two Americas carry critical raw materials for U.S. imperialism such as Venezuelan oil and Chilean copper. To protect this sphere of influence, the U.S. has set up a string of military bases in the region from the Canal to the Caribbean. In addition, the U.S. has established a "defense" alliance of Central American countries, CONDECA. This alliance has a history of 'defensive' actions like their intervention during the Nicaraguan Revolution on the side of Somoza.

The U.S. has strong economic interests in El Salvador. Imperialism expands outwards beyond its borders in search of greater profits. In the case of El Salvador, U.S. investments there have been among the largest in Central America. The main reason for this are the large profits made off a labor force known to be paid the cheapest wages in the region, around \$2 a day. It should come as no surprise that the U.S. made an 18% net profit on its investments in Central America—the highest in all Latin America. The total U.S. investments in El Salvador have been evaluated at \$200 million. Some of the main sectors of the economy are dominated by the U.S. For example, the U.S. controls the export and price of coffee which is El Salvador's resource amounting for 50% of its exports.

SUPPORT THE FDR AND FMLN!

"We have never maintained that this government has broad based support. It is not looking for such support!"

James Cheek, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter American Affairs
February 21, 1981

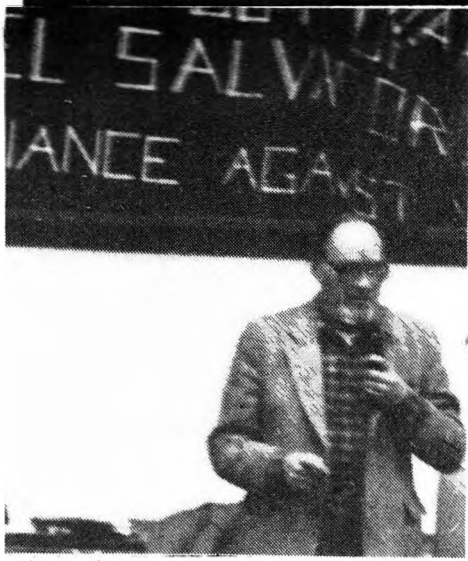
El Salvador is ruled by a junta headed by Napoleon Duarte whose only social base is the military, the oligarchy and a dwindling band of Christian Democrats. Since the overthrow of General Romero in October, 1979, every significant mass organization from all sectors of society has abandoned any hope of social change occurring through the junta and has joined forces with the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) or its related guerrilla wing FMLN. While the Reagan Administration terms the broad revolutionary forces, the "extreme 'left' or 'terrorists'", it is clear from the quote by James Cheek above, that they do not even believe their own propaganda. Even according to former U.S. ambassador to El Salvador Murat Williams "the heterogeneous left must comprise over 80% of the Salvadorean population." Why does the junta need so much military and economic aid if it enjoys the support of the population? If the revolutionary forces are so small and isolated why did the Pentagon report issued in early February say that the junta had "no hope" of defeating them? A just struggle creates mass support and no force, no amount of U.S. weapons is stronger than the people of El Salvador united, fighting to be free.

The FDR has enormous support in the third world and Western Europe. In some cases countries that have ties to the U.S. or are allies have taken independent stands in relation to El Salvador. The Organization of American States is split on the issue of who to support in El Salvador. The U.S. is trying to convince the European Economic Community not to send \$2 million in aid which it says will end up in FDR hands. West Germany, France and the Scandinavian countries are said to support the FDR. Mexico is also supportive, allowing the FDR to operate out of their country. World forces are reacting much differently to U.S. intervention in El Salvador than with similar cases in the 1950's and '60s. These facts are contrary to some views in the U.S. revolutionary movement which put forward that Western European countries and most of the third world are simple lackeys of U.S. imperialism. Superpower domination and interference by the U.S. brings about such independent stands and anti U.S. actions, even though these 2nd and 3rd world countries are proceeding from their own interests. Such factors are positive and can be united with as they objectively are aiding revolution as in the case of El Salvador.

Secretary of State Haig has called the people of El Salvador "terrorists" because they are fighting to control their own country. El Salvador has become the target area for Reagan's campaign against "international terrorism." The Legal Aid office of the Archbishop of El Salvador

Continues on page 7





MASS RESISTANCE PHOTO

(Dave Dellinger at the opening plenary of the "Threat of War" Conference)

"Mass movements in this country have worked to raise consciousness and raise our levels of resistance and affirmation. The levels of what we will accept or not accept are changed."

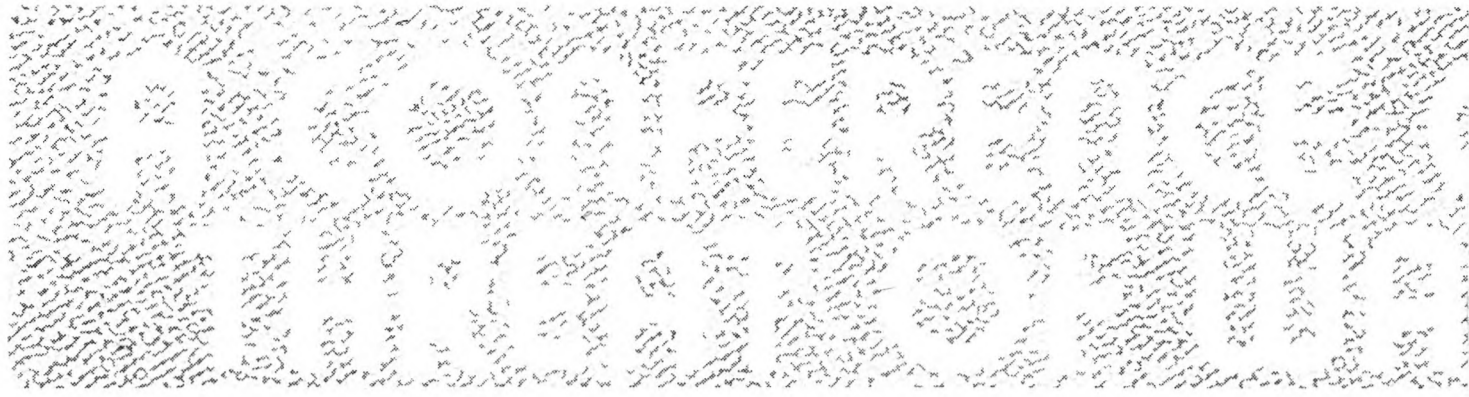
"In the mass movements today change is taking place, growth is taking place. It is not a period of defeat or failure. It is a period of activity and a period of preparation. We should not believe as we are told that this is a period of apathy."

"The politics of peace under capitalism are a continuation of the politics of war by other means."

"Limited wars are wars against third world countries and are wars against the American people. The anti-war movement must not only fight against the outbreak of large scale nuclear war, but must also fight against these daily, limited wars."

CENSORSHIP TAKES A RIGHTIST DIRECTION

During the build up for the Boulder conference (see main article on page 10), one of the main funders of the event, the Cultural Events Board (CEB) of the student government on campus threatened to withdraw funding based on their objections to this cartoon which was used on a poster announcing the event. Their explanation was that it was partisan and that they did not fund such things. We tried to explain to them that there was only a Republican president in office at this time but were unable to calm those on the CEB who have taken a rightist direction. Apparently, the cartoon was too "left" for them. For those who don't know, the cartoon was borrowed from the New York Times Book Review, not exactly a communist publication.



For the over 800 people who attended the "Threat of War" conference Feb 25-28th, the event was a significant part of the widening popular response against President Ronald Reagan's so called mandate. While some in the U.S. believe "the country is moving to the right" to be the whole truth, many others such as at this conference are working to strengthen the forces for peace and revolution.

Sponsored by the Alliance Against War, a coalition of 21 organizations, the conference dealt primarily with three topics: 1) the overall international danger of war, 2) Ronald Reagan's policies, and 3) the Third World struggles. Among featured speakers were Dave Dellinger (member of the Chicago 8), Carlos Vela (FDR of El Salvador), George Hildebrand (author of Cambodia: Starvation and Revolution), Winston Zusi (PAC of Azania), Frank Wilkinson (Committee Against Repressive Legislation), Janet Moose (Native Nevadans Against MX Missile), Felix Rivera (Black United Front), and Dorothy Healy (New American Movement), as well as dozens of local speakers and organizers. The speakers were a reflection of the composition of the coalition and the differing views represented among those organizations.

The Coalition was successful in maintaining a unity primarily built on their opposition to Reagan's plans intended to destroy the people's standard of living and upgrade the military apparatus. We tried to conduct a conference that would cover the spectrum of questions that concretely highlight the most important areas regarding war preparations. At the same time we also allowed for room for the political differences which existed among the coalition to be debated in a rational fashion. The four day event included plenaries and workshops on "Reaganomics", "Central America", "Kampuchea", "U.S. Preparations for War", "The Role of the Soviet Union", "Political Repression", and others.

The Coalition was made up of diverse groups which were partially drawn together by Reagan's policies and the heightened danger of war. The groups included anti-draft, anti-war groups (Alliance for Peaceful Alternatives), American Friends Service Committee, the Marxist Leninist League, the NLSSC, NAM, the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship and WILPF. In that sense, the Coalition was representative of the active groups in the Boulder-Denver area which have been involved in a variety of political arenas and questions.

While the conference itself was a great success as summed up by both participants and sponsors, it is worthwhile to first spend a little time explaining the success of the Coalition itself. It has been agreed that despite some difficulties and misunderstandings the Coalition members were able to maintain their basis of unity particularly in opposition to the war danger at the same time that differences were dealt with in an open way. For instance, one of the differences among the Coalition members was that on the role of the Soviet Union. While M-L League recognizes the Soviet Union as the greatest source of war and as one of the two main enemies of the world's peoples, other organizations in the Coalition are still not convinced of this and still regard it as a socialist country.

Since our main task here in the U.S. is to deal with our main enemy, the U.S. ruling class, we felt it was correct in these circumstances to unite with other groups based on our opposition to the U.S. war policies. At the same time there was an agreement among the sponsors that such differences would inevitably arise during the course of the conference and that time should be allowed for the issue to be debated. Consequently, separate workshops were set up to air views on this, such as the "Afghanistan" and "Role of the Soviet Union" workshops. Even here it was agreed by the participants that the panelists should represent some kind of balance of views on the question. Even after an organization closely aligned with the views of the CPUSA, the

Colorado Peace Council, pulled out, this attempt at a balance was still maintained.

Despite some sectarian errors on the part of one of the speakers in one of the workshops, everyone agreed that the main purpose was achieved. In the main, these particular panels were able to serve as rational podiums for the airing of different political views. For this area of the country and most likely for many others, this in itself was an achievement. M-L League as well as the other members of the Coalition do feel that such an approach was correct and practical.

BUILDING ON OUR UNITIES

At the same time, the number of workshops set up in this fashion were the exception rather than the rule. The overwhelming majority of the conference was devoted to developing the unity of the sponsors and the participants regarding the role of the U.S. in the war preparations and Reagan's attempts to make the working people pay for the capitalist economic crisis.

For instance, the opening plenary on the "Reagan Administration: What's in Store?" which was composed of Dellinger, Rivera and Wilkinson provided a good example of the kinds of exposures needed to deal with the next four years. Wilkinson in the time allotted was able to give a decent overview of the series of repressive bills now in Congress which have some likelihood of being passed into law under the Reagan administration.

The "Reaganomics" workshop which featured local speakers and organizers helped to give people a brief look in depth at the mechanics and philosophy behind the so-called "supply-side economics" (See the Reagan article elsewhere in this issue for more about this.) The presentations gave both an economist's and historical view of the rise of Friedman economics. At the same time one of the speakers from one of the local trade unions was able to link up the need for the anti-war movement to become an ally of the working class movement.

NO CUTS, NO WAR, U.S.

REAGAN Got Roasted:

On the final day of the conference and that night at a 'Reagan Roast' fundraiser sponsored by the M-L League, participants were treated to a variety of multi-cultural performances.

Su Teatro performed an act (a skit) with songs including "We Won't Fight in Your War", which posed the need to oppose Reagan's war preparations and to support the national liberation struggles. The act showed how war affects people on a personal level and how we must learn from the Viet Nam anti-war era. It gave an optimistic view of the struggle against the rightist tendencies cropping up today and emphasized the unity of the people as the way to combat it.



(Ruthie Gorton from L.A. performing at the "Threat of War" Conference)

Ruthie Gorton, a cultural worker and singer from the L.A. area, sang a variety of songs about Nicaragua, El Salvador, the Palestinian people's struggle and anti-fascist songs from the WW II era. Before each, she gave a historical as well as personal overview of each song to help the audience acquaint themselves with the song and the purpose for which it was written.

Lalo Delgado, a long-time Chicano activist poet, gave a moving rendition of his work ending with a call to meet Reagan's actions with the people's actions. The night wrapped up with other performers on the congas and all participants agreeing that Reagan should be roasted more often.

MASS RESISTANCE PHOTO

DETROIT CARD Conference

The National Coalition Against Registration and the Draft (NCARD) Conference held in Detroit Feb 13-16 was another indication of the rise in the level of the anti-draft movement in the U S

The conference was attended by over 1000 people representing a wide variety of forces — church groups, pacifists, M-L forces, libertarians, social democrats, liberals, trotskyites. Despite the obviously great differences amongst many of these forces, there was a strong sentiment to reach unity among the participants. It was reflected in the adoption of the first principle of unity — CARD membership must be open to any individual or group that supports our program, regardless of political persuasion or other affiliations. We will represent many diverse political points of view, but we will be open to all and will unite with all who support our program, regardless of other differences."

It was also evident in repeated attempts to come up with wording and principles that all could unite with. While a handful of isolated organizations like the RCP and Spartacist League tried to use the conference for support of their particular narrow views or projects — like the Avakian support campaign, the majority struggled to find the common ground that all could unite around. And that ground turned out to be considerable.

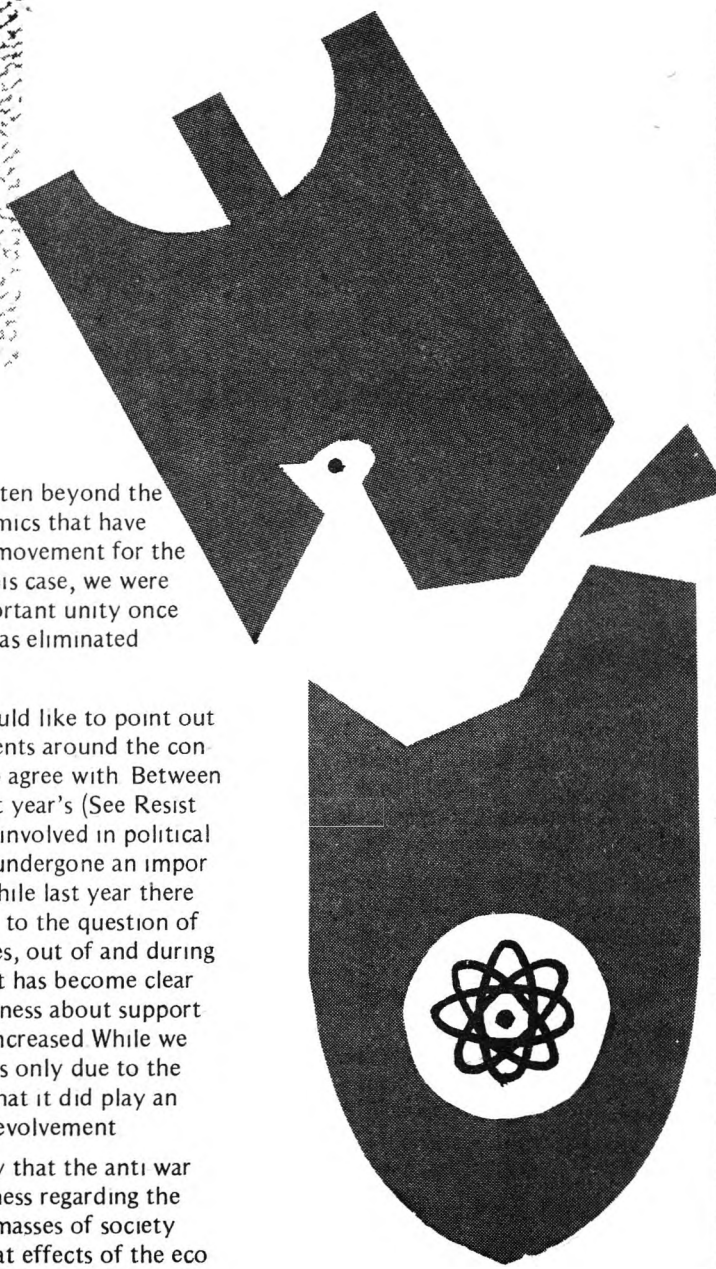
The principles of unity and action proposals dealt with areas that have been weaknesses of the present anti-draft movement as well as a move towards rectifying mistakes of the past anti-Vietnam War movement. Highlights of the resolutions passed

—A rejection of the draft and "any other form of mandatory national service" since such proposed national service is an attempt to split the forces of the anti-draft movement

— The importance of building "a large powerful, anti draft movement which can stimulate debate among people about the present dangerous U S military policy — this includes the labor movement, ethnic minorities, communities, women, veterans, religious groups and particularly the young among these groups who would be the ones sent to kill or be killed in future Vietnams"

—The importance of seeing the draft as part of the whole foreign policy of the U S which must be opposed, especially U S intervention in third world countries. "Therefore CARD must not only oppose the draft but we must also oppose U S military intervention in other countries"

(continued on page)



NOTE:

The authors of this article would like to point out to readers that this article may and does differ greatly from past articles written about similar events. For example, see the article in the 3/80 issue about last year's Teach In. Such changes represent many things including a new approach to writing for this newspaper, as well as different approaches used in building for the conference. It is important for us to get some idea from the readership as to whether such changes are the kinds that are needed to improve the newspaper and continue our efforts at ridding ourselves of past sectarianism, among other things. Please let us know. With that, we leave you with the Coalition slogan

exchanges have not gotten beyond the types of sectarian polemics that have characterized the M L movement for the past several years. In this case, we were able to achieve an important unity once the phrasemongering was eliminated.

SUMMATION

The M L League would like to point out several other achievements around the conference that others also agree with. Between this conference and last year's (See Resistance, 3/80), the forces involved in political work in this area have undergone an important transformation. While last year there was some time devoted to the question of the third world struggles, out of and during this year's conference it has become clear that people's consciousness about supporting such struggles has increased. While we cannot claim that this is only due to the conference, we know that it did play an important part in that evolution.

It is also noteworthy that the anti war movement's consciousness regarding the need to link up to the masses of society who are feeling the great effects of the economic crisis, has also heightened. Last year, the draft was the principal domestic question on people's minds. This year, in addition to several panels on domestic questions, it was also clear from many participants that they now recognize a greater need to speak to a broader audience than the existing anti war participants. This is especially important given the low turnout of people from national minority or working class backgrounds who attended the conference.

We also think it is important to keep in mind that a conference is simply another tactic in our arsenal of organizing tools. Though there was little time devoted to passing or discussing resolutions in this conference, there is no question that it did serve further organizing and mobilizing of forces in this area. (See box on this page regarding fruits of the conference). Too often conferences become ends in themselves and we lose sight of the fact that they can serve not only as educational tools or as tools for unifying but also as stepping stones to further and larger actions.

OUT OF EL SALVADOR!

What Next?

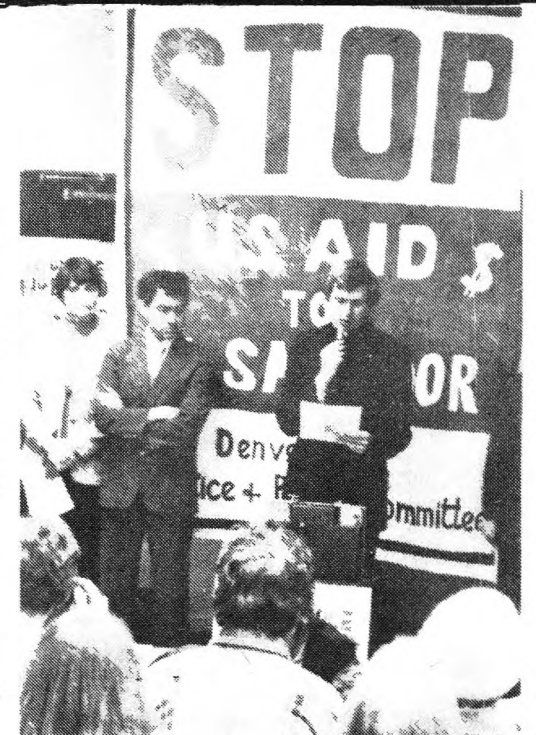
Another committee in the Denver area is building for a March 20th mass, march and rally in commemoration of the slain Archbishop Romero of El Salvador who was assassinated by the right wing government junta of El Salvador one year ago.

As with any conference, it is sometimes difficult to assess the conference's long term effects. At the moment it is clear that the conference organizers were correct in gauging the timeliness of this type of conference and that it has helped to move forward the political organizing in this area.

The atmosphere around this entire area is one of heightened political activity since Reagan's inauguration. Something about the man makes you want to learn more about American society than before. Some

thing about the man makes groups more willing than before to break with past sectarian attitudes about working together in united front efforts.

In San Diego, preparation goes on for Reagan's visit with Portillos of Mexico this April. A city wide coalition is being built to try to rally as many of the pro peace, anti war forces in the area. Such activity may well develop in the Boulder-Denver area as well. While such work is difficult, it is nevertheless necessary given the threat from Reagan and his backers. We wish all these forces well in their efforts, not only the places where we are working but all such places where Reagan's "country is moving to the right" scheme is meeting increasing resistance from the popular forces.



MASS RESISTANCE PHOTO

The final plenary of the "Threat of War" conference (see article above) produced one resolution that participants recognized the threat of Reagan and aspired to join in unity efforts around a series of actions that could qualitatively strengthen the forces for peace in this area. This was not so much any wording of a resolution as much as the spirit that pervaded the audience.

A week following the conference, several groups and individuals met to discuss the various tools available to them to unify the groups' work. Workings on a newsletter and phone network have been proposed while the question of action has concretely meant support for a series of rallies, marches and programs in support of the people's struggle in El Salvador. Because of the conference work and the timeliness of the issue, over 250 attended a meeting the following week to help establish a committee to build support work for El Salvador in the Boulder area.

Reaganhood....

Continued from first page

on if he has his way. He talks about fighting both inflation and the recession by 1) working towards balancing the budget, 2) cutting back the budget in the areas of social programs, 3) decreasing the federal budget deficit and 4) increasing the so called defense spending.

Supposedly this program will "create 13 million new jobs", "help us to gain control of inflation", "get our economy moving again," and "increase productivity growth." The list goes on with such promises that it might make some people wonder why we didn't make him President after his first Bonzo movie. But, however reactionary he is, all the right wing ideas in the world does not make him a magician.

The wand he carries is called "supply side economics" that comes greatly from an economist Laffer from UCLA who is part of the Friedman school of thought. The main points of this theory is to lower taxes (especially those of business), reduce government regulation of business and to allow the so called free market of capitalism to develop. In lowering taxes, it is then necessary to lower the government spending, primarily in the areas that affect the well being of the American people. The de regulation of business is seen as a way to increase the profits of the corporate America since they will have to spend less to guard the health and safety of workers and less to protect the environment. This economic theory is not the same as the 19th century "laissez faire" capitalism since this theory includes the necessity of a huge expenditure in military areas and since it is a 1980 reaction by corporate America to the present economic crisis "Supply side economics" has a heavy backing from corporations that are largely based within the U.S. as opposed to the multi national corporations with large investments outside the U.S. Such national corporations represented some of Reagan's strongest backers in his Republican primary and Presidential bids. (Bush the present vice president was Republican primary candidate with the most backing from the multi nationals.

Will the 10% tax reduction effective July 1 of 1981 actually lower our taxes? Will it mean "\$500 billion more in (our) pockets over the next 5 years"? If inflation remains near 13%, and there is little room to think it won't, then this tax reduction would still mean about 3% of inflation still cutting into our present incomes. In other words, we will still be paying more tax each year, inflation would still be eating into our remaining income and we will not be putting "more in (our) pockets", it just wouldn't be coming out as fast. And, we should remember that this "benefit" will only be received by individuals, not married couples, nor will it even begin to offset other points of inflation like the sky rocketing cost of gas for our cars.

And what about the "13 million new jobs" that would supposedly be created by his program? If we go by Reagan's fig-

ures that there are only 8 million unemployed in the U.S. (although there are more) and if no new unemployed are added to the present rolls, (though there will be more laid-off), and if no retired people need to find jobs (fat chance), and if no new young people enter the market for jobs in that next 5 years (maybe he can stunt their growth), and if all the unemployed the full 5 years to land a job, then there should be no problems. And this is all of course only possible if 13 million jobs do appear.

MORE PROBLEMS

The only place Reagan can get the kinds of monies he needs to decreasing the federal deficit, lowering the rate of inflation and increasing the military spending is by cutting back the budget in the areas of social programs. No one wants inflation to continue, no one wants the deficit to continue rising (except the banks to whom the deficit is owed). The part to his budget that we don't want is the cutting back of social programs and the increase in military spending. This part is aimed at the politics of the new Right, the old right, the military industrial complex and at the U.S. people who at the moment are under the influence of such ideas as a way out of the present economic crisis.

But resolving the problems that have led to this economic crisis cannot be accomplished by a simple 1,2,3 method. For instance, in order for U.S. goods to effectively compete with Japanese and W. German goods, U.S. productivity must be raised, machinery must be improved and this can only be accomplished at the cost of trillions of dollars among other things. (Just to add one more "if" to the list above, remember that "re-tooling" of U.S. industry means greater productivity, but that at the same time it means that fewer workers are needed to produce the same amount of goods.)

The kinds of trillions needed to bring U.S. industry up to par with world levels will not come out of tax breaks for business or some lower overhead to meet weakened pollution standards. Such trillions have to greatly come from the government in one form or another. National corporations that have been operating at a loss or a low margin of profit the last few years will not take this windfall from the Reagan administration and use it immediately to re-tool other plants. They will use it to pay-off old debts, to increase the dividends from their stock, etc. And keep in mind that such re-tooling cannot be done without bank loans and in the present economy, such loans are hard to get and have a high interest rate.

And, unfortunately for Reaganomics, such trillions in support from the federal government is in direct opposition to a basic law of "supply side economics." The national corporations that were Reagan's

biggest backers in the Republican primary are against such interference, since it inhibits their ability to compete within the U.S. market against the multi nationals. This is the third point of this economic theory that stands for allowing a free market to develop.

A recent example of how this works was covered in the Wall Street Journal on Feb. 10, 1981. Seatrain Lines, Inc. is a shipping, tanker and oil refining firm that has tapped the U.S. government for over \$389 million to avoid bankruptcy. It has gained favorable decisions from government agencies in order to avoid bankruptcy. Its main creditor is Chase Manhattan Bank. At least 10 other tanker operations are currently suing Seatrain and the U.S. Commerce Dept. over this favoritism.

Such bailouts keep a competitor alive in the way many of the national corporations see it. And the corporations that are profiting most from such federal subsidies are not the national corporations but the multi nationals like Chase Manhattan. It was on the crest of a wave of dissatisfaction with the superprofits and windfall profits of the multi nationals that Reagan rode into office and at the same time made certain campaign promises that will be very difficult to keep.

History itself is not on the side of Reaganomics. Government spending in the areas of social services did not develop except because of the failures of the U.S. capitalist system. Those failures were very evident during the Depression and showed that without government intervention there would be people starving on the streets, there would be businesses going bankrupt and without heavy spending for the military, there would be no U.S. imperialist power in the world. In this sense, the policies being advocated by the national corporations, "supply-side economics" and the Reagan administration up to now are economically reactionary. Such ideas went out with the end of the 19th century. No amount of right wing ideas will make such policies work in the 20th century.

We don't have the time here to go further into details to make this a more complete picture. The main point is that the economic crisis will not only not be greatly affected by Reagan but the plan is bound to fail "Mandate" notwithstanding. The differences that today appear within his cabinet in terms of domestic issues or overall fiscal policies will give way to the dominance of plans by the multinationals once these old-time economics falls flat on its face. With Haig on one side wanting more money for the military and Stockman the New Rights' boy on the other, it will not be long that Budget Director's office is vacant again.

Reagan will have to reconcile the following:

1) Cutting food stamps when Republican governors of Michigan and Ohio have thousands of laid-off auto and steel workers depending on them for existence. Dealing with the Food Market Institute (the super market lobby) who get 5% of their gross income from food stamp purchases while supermarkets historically run on a thin margin of profit of 3 to 5%?

2) Cutting school lunch programs and having to deal with the National Farmer's Union (the agri business lobby) which depends on such government purchases for a significant part of their income.

3) Lifting the ceiling on the price of gas and driving the price of gas up for everyone including the Moral Majority who already have a genuine fear of the oil monopolies.

4) Increasing defense spending on a grand scale when the multi nationals have already made it clear that such an increase would add to inflation.

The point we are making here is not that it will be impossible for such things to be resolved in some way or another by Reagan. The point is that Reagan's camp is filled with differences amongst themselves. His plan will also be weakened by the resistance of the U.S. working people. The next 4 years may turn out to be his last Death Valley Days performance, if we have our way.

WE PAY? NO WAY!

Reagan's budget is clearly intended to balance the budget and increase military spending at the cost of the health and welfare of the working people of the U.S. As he stated it, the total "savings" through budget cuts, user fees and off budget savings will be \$49.1 billion. "This will still allow an increase of \$40.8 billion over 1981 spending." The projected budget for the military may be as much as \$250 billion or \$54 billion more than the 1981 spending. Thus, as much as 91% of what he needs to increase the military budget is coming from kids lunch programs, miners black lung benefits and all of our pockets.

The U.S. economy and Reagan's "Recovery Program" will not be easy to keep tabs on. Economics itself is not as simple, much less predictable as some of this article may imply. But there is no doubt that in order for Reagan to declare war internationally, he first has to declare war on us.

I would direct a question to those who have indicated already an unwillingness to accept (this) plan. Have they an alternative which offers a greater chance of balancing the budget, reducing and eliminating inflation, stimulating the creation of jobs and reducing the tax burden?

We cannot answer this in any way that would save capitalism or in any way that would magically make the ingrown evils of capitalism more acceptable to the U.S. people. Nor do we care to conjure up such a fantasy. Yet, the American people can answer it in a way that leaves no doubt about our strategy:

NO CUTS; NO WAY!

Opposing the military increase and winning it for the expansion of social programs like for unemployment and daycare is what the American people can be won to.

FIGHT THE BUDGET CUTS AND THE WAR PREPARATIONS!

While the left in this country continues to expand its anti draft, anti war mobilizations, it can and must link up those 'non left' groups who will not tolerate Reagan's cut backs. We are two forces with the potential to "fix" Reagan. This is the answer to his question. ■



RALLY
RALLY
RALLY
SAT
April 18th
2:00 pm
DAG HAMMARSKOLD
PLAZA
47th St - 1st Ave
EI
Salvador
RALLY

El Salvador..

Continued from page 3

says, however, that the right wing death squads and the junta work hand in hand and have killed 80% of the 14,000 people who died in 1980. Former U.S. Ambassador White has stated that increased U.S. aid is going to

"be bolstering one of the most out of control, violent, blood thirsty group of men in the world. They have killed at a minimum—5,000 or 6,000 kids, just on the suspicion that they were involved with the leftists. The chief killer of Salvador rears is the government security forces" (Feb 26)

The recent S- adds congressional delegation confirms these facts of systematic terrorism by the junta. The U.S. government is lying about who the terrorists are in El Salvador because they are promoting terrorism against the whole population who reject their exploitation and interference.

The junta's much publicized and last remaining claim to any kind of "moderation" is their so-called agrarian reform. Recently, even the U.S. media is reluctant to praise the "land reform" which has been officially halted in El Salvador. The deceptive character of this program is much like the Shah of Iran's infamous "white revolution" or the "Land to the Tiller" program used by the U.S. in South Vietnam. In fact, the architect of that scheme which was implemented with the bloody Phoenix Program was Roy Prosternan, who also coincidentally designed the "land reform" in El Salvador. Just as in Vietnam, this land reform is a means of repressing the popular movement. The junta's program was declared on the same day as the state of seige, in El Salvador. The basic idea is to round up the rural population into the "co-ops" where they can be controlled and peasant leaders can be exterminated. Moreover, the "co-ops" also can be used as a counterinsurgency base for terrorizing the countryside.

This "land reform" excludes some 60% of the population, the poorest peasant who do not have any access to the land. Only 15% of the land is affected by this program and most of this land is unused or grazing land. The size of the plots given are barely large enough for subsistence. All the peasant organizations have rejected this sham reform. Archbishop Romero, before he was killed, declared *"Reforms that require the blood of the people are invalid"*

WHOSE OUTSIDE INTERVENTION?

Reagan and the U.S. media have been making a lot of claims about Soviet and Cuban intervention in El Salvador. Charges of training troops, sending arms, etc. are made by the same country that is pouring in millions of dollars of guns and advisors. If the U.S. really believes that interfering in the affairs of others is so bad, then what the hell are they doing there? The massive media campaign to focus world attention on "outside communist intervention" is a method of diverting attention away from the repressive regime the U.S. is supporting. Their aim, moreover, is to discredit the popular struggle and create a more favorable climate for intervention.

The State Department's "white paper" claims Soviet, Cuban, etc. arms are reaching the guerrillas. These countries, moreover, are coordinating the overthrow of the junta. However, it takes more than guns to make a revolution. If Cuba were to drop guns in the hills of Santa Barbara, California where Reagan's countryside estate is located, would there be a revolution there? Guns facilitate revolution where there is mass support, they do not create the conditions for revolution. "Outside communist intervention" did not create the 40% unemployment in El Salvador, nor the 75% child malnutrition rate, the 60% illiteracy, the 200,000 refugees, nor the fact that 2% of the population owns 60% of the land. It is, however, outside U.S. intervention which has profited from the above conditions, and generously supported the torture and murder of the population which has risen up to change them.

The people of El Salvador have been struggling against U.S. meddling for 50 years. Thousands of patriots in El Salvador were killed by a succession of brutal regimes before Cuba or the Soviets were brought into the picture as the cause of the "trouble", long before Reagan brought his grade B act to Washington, D.C. The nature of the conflict in El Salvador is not external, but internal, half century long history of social injustice to the people by a handful of wealthy landowners backed up by U.S. imperialism. The main task at hand is for the Salvadoreans to defeat the junta and kick out the U.S. The right of the people to self determination means precisely that they decide their own struggle, where they get their aid and support.

It is not surprising that Reagan chose to use the "Soviet threat" as a pretext for increased intervention in El Salvador. It is a common theme of inter imperialist rivalry that one superpower uses the other as an excuse for its aggression. Soviet imperialism invades Afghanistan, claiming CIA subversion, and gets one step closer to the Persian Gulf. U.S. imperialism steps up its intervention in El Salvador crying about Soviet Cuban encroachment, and

in New York City's Hunter College by the National Black United Front), and the petitions against the budget cuts or calling for the banning of the Klan are but a few of the actions taken which involved people at a very basic and rudimentary level. It raised the issues and challenged peoples basic assumptions and can serve to educate. However, more than this is needed.

It is one thing to mobilize the national minorities against racist violence. And this is a real task which must be taken up. It's a question that has to be linked to the issue of self defense and a community's right to protect itself against violent racist attacks as some of the residents are doing in Atlanta. However, another side of this task and equally important is to get the Anglo-American population to op-

pose racist violence. To this end, united front efforts, both in dealing with the cuts and the racist violence, must be developed in order to unite the broadest possible number of people against national chauvinism and racist violence.

attempts to preserve the stability of its "front yard." Both superpowers refuse to accept the fact that modern history has been shaped by the rise of the third world which is delivering the sharpest blows to imperialism, as in El Salvador. The U.S. hopes to taint the Salvadorean people's resistance with the Soviet Cuban "connection" to discredit the idea that 3rd world countries should have an independent reason to rise up against U.S. domination.

We should be clear, though, that the Soviets definitely want to take control of national liberation struggles including the one in El Salvador. They pose as the "natural ally" of popular movements to serve their own imperialist ends. The Soviets try to move in under the cover of "socialism" to expand their sphere of influence in contention with U.S. imperialism. We do not, however, condition our support for just struggles such as in El Salvador, upon possible future Soviet, Cuban or any other imperialist influence. The Soviet Union has, in fact, to a large degree exposed its opportunism to revolutionary forces in El Salvador and world wide. After the overthrow of General Romero in October 1979, and after the new junta had killed over 100 revolutionaries with continued support from the U.S., the USSR gave its support to the brutal junta, stating in its weekly NEW TIMES (No 44, p 9) that the "overthrow of Romero is part of the historic process consistent with the interests of the people", and that "the junta intends to carry out a number of measures aimed at extending democracy." So much for the Soviet imperialists "fraternal solidarity" for the struggle of the Salvadorean people against the U.S. backed junta.

BUILD THE NON-INTERVENTION MOVEMENT!

Support for the struggle in El Salvador must broaden and deepen in the immediate future to have an effect on stopping further U.S. intervention. While the people of El Salvador are their own liberators the people in the U.S. are already playing a vital role in pressuring the government to stop its bloody involvement. A large mass involvement in El Salvador support actions is building across the country. In New York City over 2,000 people gathered for an El Salvador teach in and rally sponsored by New York CISPES. Workshops included the role of the church, agrarian reform and U.S. foreign policy. Among the speakers were the four Puerto Rican nationalists and Dave Dellinger. Over 1,000 people attended a mass at St. Elizabeth Church in Oakland, California on March 22 to commemorate Archbishop Romero's death. In Denver, Colorado a similar commemoration packed in over 800 people at St. Patrick's Church after a mass and march through North Denver. These are only a few examples of literally hundreds of actions happening nationally.

It is particularly significant that many

pose racist violence. To this end, united front efforts, both in dealing with the cuts and the racist violence, must be developed in order to unite the broadest possible number of people against national chauvinism and racist violence.

A good example of this type of effort is the upcoming 'March Against Racist Violence'. The call for the march was put out by the National Black United Front. On April 4, in more than 20 cities across the land, people will take part in massive demonstrations.

The effort in New York has broadened to a multinational coalition of more than 20 organizations of different political, social and religious persuasions, of which the Marxist Leninist League is a part. This coalition is carrying out agitation, educa-

tion and organizing in the local national minority communities, it is broadening its appeal to the general population as well.

It is our belief that efforts such as this need to be developed nationally. Further more, links between the anti-war, anti-draft movements, El Salvador support work, anti nuclear movement and the question of racist violence and oppression need to be drawn. All these movements have many things in common. In particular, they are directed against the racist, genocidal and warmongering policies of the U.S. government and in defense of the rights of the U.S. peoples and poor and oppressed peoples of the world (in the particular case of El Salvador support work).

National minority oppression must be part of the agenda at the upcoming national marches in May taking place in Washington. Only by linking up these struggle will we be strong. Only this way can the national movements and other movements be brought together and the separation and dichotomy which existed in the 1960's be avoided. Let us join together to defeat this racist violence.

unions are rallying to the support of the Salvadorean people, and supporting non-intervention. The International Longshoremen and Warehousemen Union has decided not to handle any military cargoes for El Salvador. The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers has stated the U.S. should end its support for the rightist junta. The ILGWU has approved a resolution condemning the "widespread and systematic campaigns of economic and political repression" by the governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Bolivia. Dozens of other international and local unions are taking similar stands.

These developments are vastly different from the role union leaders took at the time of past interventions by the U.S. in Korea and Indochina for example.

The groundswell of support in the U.S. can already be seen as having some effect. It has been reported that key members of congress are receiving hundreds of letters opposing U.S. intervention. A recent vote by a House Appropriations Sub committee voted \$5 million more in military aid to El Salvador in a close vote of 8 to 7. Only broad support and mass action can force any change from the government.

The El Salvador support work is a critical part of the general anti-war movement here in the U.S. to stop U.S. involvement in El Salvador, eliminate the impending draft, prevent the MX missile system and so on, all help to hinder the U.S. war preparations. The struggle in El Salvador itself, moreover, helps put off war. An independent El Salvador out of "our" sphere of influence, would weaken the base economically and politically of U.S. imperialism.

The more third world countries deny the U.S. geographical areas, bases, raw materials, etc., the worse position the Administration will be in to launch a war. Those who say they oppose "all wars" should keep in mind that the fighting of oppressed people against larger superpower aggression can actually help put off the most dreaded confrontation that of world-wide nuclear war. It is struggles of the 3rd world like the one in El Salvador that are sweeping the globe and ultimately will bring revolution closer in this country. That is only natural since we are fighting the same enemy—their victories are our victories.

The organization which is currently coordinating most of the El Salvador work around the country is CISPES, Committee in Support of the People of El Salvador. We urge people to join or form CISPES chapters in their area. For information on El Salvador support actions:

CISPES
1322 18th St NW
Washington, D.C.

Phone NO 202-887-5019

Racist Violence..

Continued from first page

The outcry against these and other proposed cuts has been loud but as of yet it is basically a war of words. The need exists to take to the street and actively oppose these cuts. It must be pointed out that little has been said about the racist, chauvinist nature of these cuts. This fact needs to be emphasized. It is linked to the wave of racist, police violence and the chauvinist, armed physical attacks on the Black community such as those in Buffalo and Atlanta.

The green ribbon campaign, the hearings, the people's tribunals on racist violence (such as the one held on February 7

in New York City's Hunter College by the National Black United Front), and the petitions against the budget cuts or calling for the banning of the Klan are but a few of the actions taken which involved people at a very basic and rudimentary level. It raised the issues and challenged peoples basic assumptions and can serve to educate. However, more than this is needed.

It is one thing to mobilize the national minorities against racist violence. And this is a real task which must be taken up. It's a question that has to be linked to the issue of self defense and a community's right to protect itself against violent racist attacks as some of the residents are doing in Atlanta. However, another side of this task and equally important is to get the Anglo-American population to op-

Join Us In A March Against Racist Violence!

SATURDAY, APRIL 4th, 1981

MARCHERS WILL ASSEMBLE AT 11:00 A.M.

In Brooklyn: Fulton & Court Streets (Boro Hall)
In Harlem: Sydenham Hospital - 124th St. & St. Nicholas Ave.

Rally at 34th St. & Broadway (Manhattan) at 2 P.M.



BUILD THE NATIONAL MOVEMENTS!
END RACIST VIOLENCE
AND OPPRESSION!
BAN THE KLAN ACROSS THE LAND

M-L LEAGUE TO CELEBRATE 1st CONGRESS

Eight months ago CORES (MLM) and LPR (ML) merged into a single organization. Our merger was a principled one, based on fundamental unities on the crucial questions facing our movement. We completed it in the course of open struggle for unity and a campaign to rectify our past errors. However, becoming a single, democratic centralist organization did not happen automatically, despite all our unities and the hard work in preparation for the merger.

We were faced with a very concrete task—that of resolving the minor differences, the day to day struggles, that would now become clearer as we settled down to the work of a single organization. There were differences in style of work, in views and in line, in the areas of work we were involved in, in our histories. And to complicate matters further, we functioned from different areas of the country.

Our task would have been much easier if we were not so determined to become a democratic centralist organization, that is to say if we had chosen the road of one organization swallowing the other, thus imposing one line, one style, one leadership, over the other. But we chose the more difficult, correct way of democratic centralism.

We made errors in carrying this out. We tried to implement absolute equality between the two former organizations. For example, the newly elected Central Committee was composed of exactly the same amount of members from the two former organizations. They were to operate from different cities except when in session and in this way "lead" the whole organization. Similarly, the Editorial Board of the newspaper had members from both former organizations and they, too, were to operate from different cities.

These problems in the leadership of our organization resulted in serious internal crisis. We were not able to move forward as decisions were often deadlocked without a mechanism to resolve differences. We were not able to coordinate the mass work being done, weakening thus the effectiveness of this mass work. The newspaper was not to be seen as article after article had to be rewritten or scrapped. There was no central direction and focus of the organization resulting in the cadres taking the direction they saw fit. This created a situation in which not single line dominated in the organization, particularly around matters which arose after the merger, e.g. changes in the domestic situation, in the

international situation and in the communist movement, etc. In a nutshell we were still functioning as two separate organizations.

It was only natural that in the midst of all these problems demoralization set in. And this in turn further affected the quality of our work. However, conscious of those unities that did bring us together, and our genuine commitment to revolutionary struggle, our Central Committee has moved to correct this situation. A special meeting of the CC of the Marxist Leninist League was held early this year for this purpose. Following are highlights of the results of this meeting.

A NATIONAL CONGRESS

The special meeting of the CC did not in itself solve matters. Its aim was to create the conditions so that matters could be solved and that it did. First of all, it resolved to take the discussion and the decisions that have to be made to the general membership. A call to hold the first Congress of the M-L League this summer was the most important resolution adopted in this respect. In the present period, prior to the Congress, the whole organization will be engaged in the preparatory work necessary to make the most correct decisions on the fundamental questions we are faced with.

The CC acknowledged that the M-L League was confronting a "major internal crisis" that was affecting its capacity to function as a single, democratic centralized, Marxist Leninist organization. In a position paper presented at the meeting, this internal crisis was described as the manifestation, on the one hand, of a "lack of organizational, ideological and political consolidation", and on the other, of a "very loose organizational structure that doesn't establish real methods of leadership, division of labor, the application of the mass line and most important of all, the running of the organization in a democratic centralized fashion." (From 'The Present Situation and Possible Ways to Move Forward')

The paper pointed to the need to pay attention to the important changes that have occurred nationally, internationally and within the U.S. communist movement recently and the need to consolidate our ranks on a correct political and ideological line that allows us to move forward under the new conditions.

As a result of the discussion of the CC, it was decided that the Congress will focus

on the consolidation of our line on those three areas (domestic, international and communist movement). Special attention will be given to the domestic situation in light of the mounting attacks the Reagan administration is carrying out against the working people and oppressed nationalities, women and all poor and oppressed. Attention will be given to the shift that has occurred in the U.S. Foreign Policy (a shift towards a more aggressive and war mongering stance).

To make preparations for the Congress and to run the day to day functions of the M-L League until that Congress, a Political Commission was appointed from within the CC. This body is empowered to make the daily decisions that are to lead the M-L League forward in the period prior to the Congress and it is composed of former members of both organizations in an odd numbered basis. The entire body will be located in a single city to facilitate its coordination and communication.

The Political Commission is a very positive and important step forward in dealing with our internal crisis. Up to then, the M-L League had been run by a CC of equal representation from its former organizations. This was the way in which, at the time of the merger between CORES and LPR, both organizations felt was the best way to guarantee equality in the new organization. But it proved incorrect.

The even number of CC members, added to the fact that there was no national leadership body that was empowered to make timely, day to day decisions between CC meetings, was creating serious problems for the organization. Sometimes there would be a deadlock in the CC and no way to resolve them. Discussion over the phone or the writing of letters proved to be incorrect ways to deal with the problem. And it was idealistic to expect the CC to lead the organization under such conditions.

Thus, the establishment of a Political Commission, with odd numbered representation, and based in one city, is definitely a step forward in the correct direction. Decisions are made on a timely basis, and in an atmosphere of trust, which helped the willingness to forego "equal" representation and to transfer to other parts of the country. Of course, we are very aware that that this will not be the panacea that will solve all our problems, which in the last analysis are a reflection of the lack of poli-

tical and ideological consolidation within our ranks. This will only be a beginning to set conditions for the solution of such problems, and it will definitely help organize the internal discussions among cadres on those differences that still exist or that will always come up in the course of struggle. At the same time, it will allow for the smooth functioning of the organization as a whole in a unified way. It will help avoid organizational chaos in which each district and sometimes even each cadre, do things their own way, applying the line as they see fit, or the other extreme of becoming a debating society that is reduced to endless discussions about what is to be done, meanwhile, nothing is done.

Another decision taken at that meeting was to establish a temporary Editorial Board for MASS RESISTANCE located in one city. Previously, the Editorial Board was also composed of "equal representation" and was spread in different cities, making it immensely more difficult to produce a regular newspaper. During this period of internal discussions within the organization, the Editorial Board will strive for unity to be reflected in the newspaper. However, if such unity cannot be achieved, we will be printing individual views of cadres in the newspaper, thus aiding the internal discussions towards a single correct line for the whole organization.

FORWARD WITH RECTIFICATION

Finally, it was stressed that there is a need to continue the rectification campaign while preparing of the Congress. Former LPR members presented a sum-up of main deviations found in their rectification campaign and former CORES members are in the process of completing this task. At the Congress we expect not only to consolidate ideologically, politically and organizationally, but also give a single, central direction to the deepening of our rectification process.

At present, we are enthusiastically preparing for the M-L Leagues first Congress, confident that the problems we are confronting are the birth pangs of our new organization, and that we will not be deterred by them in the task of struggle towards our revolutionary goals which brought us together in the first place. We welcome from comrades and friends all comments and suggestions which they may consider helpful to us in preparing for our Congress and moving forward in the tasks we face.

Anti-Draft...

(A resolution passed in support of SWAPO the national liberation organization in Namibia, pointed out the difficulties in uniting all forces in the present movement. Language in the original resolution calling for the Conference to support "the right of oppressed peoples to wage armed struggle and to win their independence by any means necessary" put many groups, particularly Church and pacifist groups in a position of not being able to support the resolution. It was an indication of the spirit of unity and the desire to find a common ground that the SWAPO representative withdrew the resolution and replaced it with a much better one focusing on the role of the U.S. government and multi-national corporations in Namibia, and pledging support to the struggle of the Namibian people.)

—Support for the people of El Salvador. One resolution made the demand for "U.S. out of El Salvador" a primary demand in all future CARD activities as well as support for CISPES. A representative from the FDR, Arnaldo Ramos, spoke to the Conference explaining how Reagan had decided to make El Salvador a test case for defeating third world liberation movements. The solidarity of participants with the El Salvador

people was evidenced by the repeated standing ovations given Ramos and the spontaneous chants of "NO DRAFT, NO WAR, U.S. OUT OF EL SALVADOR" throughout the duration of the conference.

Resolutions proposed by a "third world caucus" formed during the conference and accepted were NCARD's facilitation of a "third world" (national minority) anti-draft conference, development of bilingual draft counseling for Spanish speaking communities and anti-draft materials that will relate to oppressed nationality youth, to work with organizations and leaders of such communities in any activities. NCARD engages in. In separate resolutions the Conference voted to support activities of local anti-Klan groups.

—A strong position against drafting of women and eloquently exposed the fallacy of the argument that equality of women requires women being drafted along with men. "We must oppose the drafting of women as well as of men. We must state clearly that being drafted is not a 'right' to be extended to women. Rather, the draft represents oppression and we do not support the extension of this oppression to women. To those who say the draft is a 'responsibility' to be shared by all, we say it is irresponsible to draft men or women to militarily intervene in other countries. A free people do not need to be forced into

fighting for their true vital interests. We demand that the current congressional law that keeps women from being drafted be extended to men."

—The question of what the primary tactics in the movement should be. While a few groups urged particular forms of struggle, such as civil disobedience and non-compliance, as being the method of stopping the draft, the Conference voted to support the "many forms of draft resistance, including non-compliance and civil disobedience, as well as educating, organizing and mobilizing. We can all resist the draft, whether or not we are personally subject to the draft law, by joining and building the anti-draft movement."

—The link between high levels of military spending and the reduction in spending for the needs of the people of the U.S. "The current excessive and wasteful level of military spending undermines human prosperity at home and abroad. Arms spending increases taxation, destroys jobs, contributes to inflation and diverts vital productive resources from human needs to destruction."

—Recognition and condemnation of the "current political and economic conditions which push minorities and others into the all-volunteer force."

Recognition and condemnation of the racist nature of the draft. "It is impossible

to wage a principled and effective struggle against the draft and war without recognizing the relationship between militarism, racism, sexism and other forms of oppression. Thus CARD will fight against discrimination on the basis of ethnic origin, race, sex, age or sexual preference."

—Support for GI's particularly those who organize in opposition to U.S. intervention, who attempt to exercise their constitutional rights to unionize and to resist racist violence in the military.

—Support for the call for 'unconditional amnesty for the three quarter million Vietnam era resisters and victims. The roughly 700,000 veterans who were given punitive bad paper discharges must have their discharges upgraded and their benefits restored.'

—Support veterans needs including the demand for "better educational benefits, decent housing, job training, an end to the administrative discharge process, effective health care, particularly the testing, treatment and compensation for Agent Orange poisoning."

—Other decisions were for mobilization of a national anti-draft demonstrations for May 9th in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco focusing on "U.S. out of El Salvador." The proposal and date was the result of the combining of 3 separate mobilization efforts for national demonstrations. ■