

WORKERS VIEWPOINT

End the Criminal Rule
of the U.S. Monopoly Capitalist Class,
Fight for Socialism!

The Proletariat and Oppressed People
and Nations of the World, Unite!

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MAY 18-MAY 24, 1981

Bobby Sands' Sacrifice Inspires Thousands



N.Y. marchers target
British Consulate.

Sally Campbell

On Thursday, May 7, Bobby Sands was buried in Belfast, Northern Ireland, by his comrades in the outlawed Irish Republican Army. Thousands came to pay their respects, including his son, Gerard. Masked soldiers fired a salute from handguns, the very weapon for possession of which Sands had been sentenced to 14 years by a British colonial court.

According to the National H-Block Committee, there was a "100 percent response" in Irish Catholic districts to close shops and stay away from work. 200 supporters at Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital also stayed out, requiring the hospital to reduce meal service.

Sands' death was a spark for thousands of Irish and sympathizers for the Irish cause around the world. More and more are demanding that the lives of Ray McCreesh, Patsy O'Hara and Joe McDonnelly, who is carrying on where Bobby Sands left off, be saved. Sands' death has brought forth an upsurge in Irish nationalism determined to put an end to British rule through international pressure.

Support From East to West

The revolutionary government of Iran demonstrated its support of the Irish national liberation struggle by renaming a street in front of the British embassy for Bobby Sands.

There have been demonstrations across the U.S. John Lawe, president of Local 100 the N.Y. Transportation Workers Union, asked 8,000 bus drivers to drive with headlights on. Also in New York, 3,000 people have been marching and picketing the British Consulate every day since May 5, when Sands died.

Men in business suits, women pushing strollers, kids in T-shirts and jeans and wearing black armbands marked with an "H" carried signs naming Thatcher as the murderer and comparing the H-shaped prisons at Long Kesh and Armagh to concentration camps. The sound truck of the Irish Northern Aid Committee, which had to get power from a nearby construction site after the consulate had

the power source cut, led the chants: Brits Out! Butcher Thatcher Must Go! County Armagh Must Be Free! Bobby Sands Will Live On! Francis Hughes Must Not Die! Bagpipes played historic songs mourning the men who have given their lives to free Ireland from eight centuries of British rule. Also on May 5, the N.Y. H-Block Armagh Committee held a prayer service for Sands on the steps of St. Patrick's

Cathedral. Five hundred people, including blacks and Asians, heard speeches by the Rev. Danie! Berrigan, lawyer and former City Council president Paul O'Dwyer, and Ramsey Clark, who was denied entry to Northern Ireland to see Bobby Sands. After listening to Irish protest songs and a reading of Sands' poems, they marched on to the Irish Consulate, where

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We Charge
Genocide!

ATLANTA:
Day 658

NATIONAL NEWS

Washington Post : Disinformation Center

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On Sunday, May 3, the Washington Post carried a picture of a May 2 demonstration with a caption that was an outright lie. The caption described the protest as "... 100 demonstrators led by Communist Workers Party members ... against President Reagan's budget cuts..."

Although they later, under great pressure, retracted their statement on May 9, the complete distortion of the size, aim and organizers of the demonstration raises serious questions about the motives of the Post and its source of information.

As the Post itself reported the day before, the demonstration was organized by the D.C. Coalition Against the Reagan-Barry Budget Cuts, a coalition of local trade unions and community groups, organized primarily by leaders of the American Federation of Government Employees Council 211.

At least three Post reporters, including the city editor, had received press information from the coalition. In fact, Eugene Robertson, a Post reporter, attended the April 22 press conference announcing the May 2 action.

The Coalition Against the Reagan-Barry Budget Cuts, which includes all the AFGE local unions of federal and city workers, the greater Washington Central Labor Council, and more than 50 social service and community organizations is the broadest coalition ever pulled together in this city.

The Communist Workers Party is a member of the coalition, and, like other members, participated in the May 2 demonstration, but certainly didn't lead it.

The Post, by its article, attempts to discredit the coalition and narrow its support by the well-worn tactic of red-baiting. Why the attack on the coalition? The potential of such a broad coalition to organize resistance to the devastating budget cuts is clear. In addition to its local actions, the coalition has called for a July 28 national march on Washington — a national protest that crosses union lines and links community interests in a massive show of opposition.

An attack on the coalition is actually an attack on AFGE. AFGE is a fighting union. Last month, about 200 city workers demonstrated, demanding the mayor negotiate last year's pay raise. The Post article is an attempt to scare the local leaders and divide the coalition by red-baiting.

At the same time, in the classic carrot and stick approach, the May 5 Wall Street Journal reported "Mending Fences: The Reagan Administration Courts Federal Unions." Also, local union presidents reported receiving personal invitations from the mayor.

This attack on AFGE is nothing new for the Post. Most of us remember when the Post busted the Pressmen's Union. Most of us know the Post endorsed Mayor Barry's campaign for mayor. The fact that the May 2 action is also aimed at Barry's cuts was conveniently dropped from the Post article. Most of us know that the Post is a prominent member of the Board of Trades which certainly is not pleased with the coalition's demands for jobs, no tax breaks for the rich.

But, not as well known is the Post's long history of close associations and cooperation with the CIA. This relationship becomes particularly important in light of recent reports that the Reagan Administration hopes to ex-

pand powers of the CIA to include domestic spying.

In the May-July, 1981 issue of Counterspy, in an article entitled, "The Washington Post — Speaking for Whom?" John Kelly detailed the Post's association with the CIA from 1950 to date, including hiring a former CIA employee as an editorial writer and Catherine Graham's membership

on the Council of Foreign Relations "which acts as an interface between the corporate rich, the CIA, and their apologists." The article also reprints a supportive note sent by Graham to former CIA director Allen Dulles after he had been fired for the CIA's illegal invasion of the Bay of Pigs, Cuba.

"Dulles, at the time, was an object of world-wide criticism for his many

CIA crimes, including his sabotaging of the integrity of the press."

And, during the struggle with the President, Graham hired the CIA involved Wackenhut Security Corporation.

Perhaps Counterspy answers our questions about the motives of the Post and its source of information. □



"Reaganomics" No Solution To Crisis

Jim Davis

NEW YORK, N.Y., May 8 & 9 — In response to the Reagan Administration's proposed budget cut plan, 100 grassroots organizers from welfare, education, housing and many other struggles gathered here today to map out a common strategy to fight the cuts. The Community Labor Unity Budget Coalition, formed just a month ago, organized the conference. The long list of coalition members included the Brownsville Community Development Corporation, Coalition in Defense of Puerto Rican and Hispanic Rights, Coalition to Save Sydenham, Communist Workers Party, Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee, East Brooklyn Legal Services, Gray Panthers, Lower East Side Neighborhood Coalition, National Association of Social Workers, National Conference of Black Lawyers, New York University chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, Queens Legal Services for the Elderly, United Tremont Trades, Women for Racial and Economic Equality, the Association of Legal Aid Attorneys/District 65 UAW,

Committee of Interns and Residents, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, District Council 37 AFSCME, District 1199 and many others.

Many of the workshops focused on the impact of the Reagan cuts in public education, jobs, unemployment benefits, housing, welfare, legal services and other vital social programs. While different concerns were raised about the effects of the cuts on minorities, women, the elderly and the handicapped, all the conference participants agreed that the Reagan budget cut plan represented an attack on all Americans.

The Broken Promises of "Liberalism"

In his opening address, Cleveland Robinson, National Vice President of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists talked about how many Americans were disillusioned with the Democratic Party. Echoing the frustrations of many of those in the audience, he pointed out that people were fed up with the broken promises of Carter and the Democrats and either boycotted the elections last November or voted for

Reagan. The near collapse of Carter and the Democratic Party in the eyes of many Americans was the real reason behind the so-called "Reagan mandate." He concluded by saying, "We have got to unite now as we have never united before. We've got to really show where the majority is. If there is a moral majority, it's got to be us. Because when it comes to morality, we are for what is moral and just. We are for what is humane."

"We've got to set the timetable"

"As organizers in 1980, 1981 and for the foreseeable future we cannot talk about the domestic cuts unless we talk about the defense budget. We need to understand the kind of climate that's being created. It's not just El Salvador that brought thousands of people to Washington, D.C. last Sunday," explained Hulbert James, Director of the Center for Third World Organizers and a member of the Nationwide Action For A Fair Budget Coalition. He pointed out that the budget cuts was just part of the many attacks coming down on Americans. He briefly mentioned the recent attempts to repeal the Voting Rights Act and the creation of the Senate Sub-Committee on Security and Terrorism as other attacks that have to be beaten back. "Too many of my friends in Washington tell me if we don't act by April 15 or May 15 we're too late. Well I don't believe that. The budget timetable is their timetable, we must define the timetable. It's not just a question of going into the streets. We must be clear when to go in the streets. We must be clear on what the target is." □



Foods Stamps: Misdirected Anger

Jim Davis

"How I used to look down on those people who got food stamps. Now here I was waiting on line to get them. It wasn't very easy to swallow my pride and accept a 'handout' from the government. But what else could I do since my hours were cut in half at work. Pride doesn't put food on the table and it sure as hell doesn't go very far at the A&P."

Many others in line shared the same frustration. A young black woman in her late twenties chatted with her neighbor. Several times she would interrupt her friend to yell at her two children to stop playing on the waiting benches. It had been a long wait, nearly two hours and they were restless. "This is the f... third time that I had to come back... ain't it bad enough I got go through all this." Then resigning herself to the humiliation, she said, "I got no choice even without the stamps, my kids still got to eat and my job just doesn't pay enough."

Food Stamp Issue Ignites Controversy

There is tremendous confusion, frustration and misdirected anger surrounding this issue. Much of it is from the myth Reagan and the rest of the ruling class actively foster that food stamp recipients are "living high on the hog" while few are cutting corners to make ends meet.

"Cheats and chiselers" were just some of the descriptions by those people not on food stamps. One postal worker who had been working in the post office for eight years said, "Why should we pay for those people to be lazy, it's our tax money. they should just go out and get a job." An older black man in his early fifties added, "I worked hard to get what I have. I had to put up with a lot. I never took any handouts — why should they be able to?" Others had a similar view and didn't hesitate to say so.

Many of those I interviewed talked about abuse and fraud in the food stamp program but as I dug deeper I found out that inflation, high taxes and the economic crisis were the real issues they were concerned about.

Many postal workers earn \$20,000 and more a year. Until a few years ago that was considered a lot of money. Today the situation is drastically different. As one of them explained, "When I first got hired six years ago I bought a brand new \$70,000 house and a second car. I thought everything was set — now the mortgage payments and fuel bills are eating me up alive — why

should I have to dish out \$125 a week for groceries and these people get it for free?"

Like millions of other Americans he is frustrated and angered at seeing his standard of living drop so suddenly in the past few years. He makes "too much" to be considered poor by government standards and resents those who do qualify for help from the government. "To save some money this year, I'm going to have to take a week's vacation and do some work on my house. I can't afford to pay a crew of painters so I have to do it myself — I figured with all the money I make I won't have to."

After a while he can only tighten the belt and cut corners so much before the anger finally explodes. "They should get rid of food stamps, welfare and all these handouts. If the government gets on its feet maybe the rest of the country will. We're paying all these taxes and getting nothing back. It's a big waste. If we cut government spending maybe inflation will finally slow down." Confused and angered, he like many others have temporarily fallen for the Reagan lie that minorities and the poor are somehow behind the economic crisis.

One young white man didn't go along with this view. Recently hired at the post office, he said, "I can understand why folks go on food stamps. Until I got this job I was working a lot of different low-paying jobs. Sometimes I had to cut corners by cutting back on how much food or the kind of food I ate — I was lucky to get this job."

22 Million on Food Stamps

Luck will be hard to come by in the coming years for millions of Americans. When Social Security, food stamps, welfare, legal services, health benefits, safety regulations are cut to nothing or completely wiped out, there are few choices.

Presently there are 22 million Americans in the food stamp program. More than half are either children or teenagers. 70% of the eight million households on food stamps earn less than \$4800 a year. Only 3% have incomes above \$9000 a year. Despite popular belief, the majority of people in the program, over 84%, are unable to work.

"It's a myth that people don't want to work," explains Nancy Cash, administrator for community services in Berkeley County, S.C. Berkeley County has been chosen as one of the sites to

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National Chicano Student Conference

Two Roads for Chicano Movement

On April 4, hundreds of Chicano students from all across the country converged on Tempe, Ariz. for annual National Chicano Student Conference. I went as a MEChA representative from Los Angeles and I wanted to share with people what happened.

The conference tried to cover a lot of ground. There were workshops on everything from immigration to police brutality. The most important resolutions that were adopted concerned support for the struggle of the El Salvadoran people, and condemning the government's role in the Atlanta killings. These resolutions were significant because they drew the link between fighting the particular oppression of Chicanos with the larger attacks coming down on everyone. The best received speaker was Kiko Martinez, a long-time Chicano activist facing trumped-up bombing charges. He tore the covers off the American judicial system in a scathing indictment of capitalist courts.

There was another side to the conference, also. But to understand it, you have to first look at what happened at last year's conference in Albuquerque, N.M. In Albuquerque, a lot of struggle broke out over the role of one organization, the League of Revolutionary Struggle (which, years before, had literally wrecked the Chicano movement in New Mexico). The LRS, true to form tried to manipulate the New Mexico conference using every move they could think of. But people had had enough.

Jose Calderon and other Communist Workers Party supporters led the way in exposing the maneuvering and the reformist line of the LRS. Honest forces joined together and fought for a concrete plan of action which included building an anti-fascist network throughout the Southwest.

All LRS could do was try to slander and block resolutions. Finally, disgusted with their tactics, hundreds of students walked out of the conference before it ended. The conference's steering committee even circulated a position paper nationally to condemn their treacherous role.

This was a significant and historic breakthrough that turned the tide against the opportunist LRS and began to define new directions for the Chicano movement in the 80's. With the bitter memory of the Albuquerque conference fresh in their minds, students were vigilant this year to keep the LRS from pulling the same tricks.

At the same time, however, certain

elements within the conference this year, tried to channel these students' genuine sentiment into an anti-communist witchhunt. The main proponent of this, American Indian activist Russell Means, read a long attack on Marxism, saying, "... in order for us to really join forces with Marxism, we American Indians would have to commit cultural suicide and become industrialized and Europeanized... I do not believe that capitalism itself is really responsible for the situation in which American Indians have been declared a national sacrifice. No, it is the European tradition. European culture itself is responsible. Marxism is just the latest continuation of this tradition..."

This kind of backwards logic set the tone for some of the workshops, feeding the die-hard narrow nationalist forces. To give you an idea of how they were able to influence honest students, let me give you an example of what happened in one workshop I attended. In describing the situation in El Salvador, I used the term "U.S. imperialism." Because I used that Marxist term, one person scoffed, "What does El Salvador have to do with the Chicano land question?" This is the kind of sick thinking that was whipped up by some of the reactionary nationalists.

I wholeheartedly unite with exposing the role of opportunists like LRS, but flipping into red-baiting is equally divisive. The blatant anti-communist, anti-white line of Russell Means isolates the fight of Chicano people from the larger class struggle. In doing so, they weaken the movement from within, by not utilizing allies of all nationalities in the fight against the common enemy — capitalism. Although these die-hard reactionary forces are small in number, they can gain influence in the absence of real communist leadership. That's why the CWP has to be out there, pushing out a real Marxist analysis of how to fight for Chicano liberation and how to beat back the stepped-up attacks on our people. Otherwise people will assume that groups like LRS are typical examples of communists. The Party has to develop positive programs of action, beat back the red-baiting and drive these reactionaries from our ranks.

The two roads are sharpening up quickly.

Be bold, comrades, take the lead.

Unidos en la lucha,
A student, Los Angeles

COMING NEXT ISSUE:

The Origins of the McCarthy Era

First of Three Parts

Only in Workers Viewpoint

N.Y. Mother's Day Demonstration

"Atlanta is All of Us"

Imoja

BROOKLYN, N.Y., May 10 — Over 300 people marched along Eastern Parkway in the heart of Brooklyn, to protest the killing of 26 black youth in Atlanta, Georgia. The demonstration was sponsored by the Coalition of Concerned Black Women and was endorsed by 54 organizations and individuals. The endorsers ranged from the National Conference of Black Lawyers to the Women's Caucus of the National Black Independent Political Party to the Communist Workers Party to the Trade Union Womens Study Program.

The militant march of about two miles to Washington Park, resounded with chants aimed straight at the U.S. government. "Reagan, Haig — You can't hide — We charge you with genocide!" The demonstration, held on Mother's Day, proclaimed "Mother's Day can't be the same — When our children are being slain!"

As the march entered Washington Park, it was welcomed by the militant music of the May Day Singers and Prof. Zala Chandler of the Communist Workers Party and the National Black Independent Political Party who was the moderator of the program. The speakers at the rally included Daphne Busby from the Sisterhood of Black Single Mothers; Camille Bell of the Committee to Stop Children's Murders in Atlanta; Roger Green, New York State Assemblyman from Brooklyn and the Rev. Herbert Daughtry of the Black United Front.

Speaker after speaker denounced the policies of "Reaganomics." Camille Bell, whose son Yusef was the fourth child found murdered, summed up the effects of the government's economic policies on all people. "To become nigger, all you have to be is poor." Cutbacks in almost every social program is the basis for charging genocide against black people. The most moving parts of the program were when Mrs. Bell's daughter read Langston Hughes' "The Negro Mother" and the May



Day Singers gave a special rendition of "Atlanta," a song they composed.

The theme of the day was "Atlanta is All of Us," and it is. The most significant message of the demo was that black, white, and brown — people of all color came together to protest not only the murders of 26 children in Atlanta but to also protest the economic policies of the U.S. government. Not only are these policies genocidal towards black people, but are genocidal towards all poor and working class people. □

Over 300 people marched on Mother's Day in sympathy for Atlanta's children. Camille Bell, mother of slain Yusef Bell, and a leader of the Committee to STOP Children's Murders in Atlanta, spoke to the gathering.

4,000 Cry 'U.S. Out of El Salvador' in L.A.

"Sign of the Times"

Eliot Chun

LOS ANGELES, CA, April 18 — Four thousand people surged through the Central-American community in Los Angeles, their voices ringing in the air: "No Draft! No War! U.S. Out of El Salvador!"

Responding to a call by the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES), people of all nationalities, young and old, workers, students and clergy, came together to celebrate the first anniversary of the Frente Democratico Revolucionario (FDR), the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador.

The march assembled in front of the Salvadoran Consulate and culminated in a spirited rally at MacArthur Park. Speakers included Victor Rubio of the FDR, actors Ed Asner and Mike Farrell representing the Screen Actors Guild, the local director of the American Civil Liberties Union and other labor and community leaders.

It was the first major mobilization for the rapidly growing Salvadoran support movement in Los Angeles. Organizers worked tirelessly for weeks, leafletting, postering and making educational presentations. The massive turnout and militant character

demonstrated the heightening anti-imperialist consciousness of the American people.

The political level of the rally was qualitatively higher than many of the anti-war demonstrations of the 60's. People were not just demanding "peace" in the abstract, they were throwing their complete support behind the guerrilla freedom fighters in El Salvador. Speakers, banners and chants linked the struggle in El Salvador with the fight against budget cuts, union-busting, immigration raids and other forms of oppression in this country.

Neo-Fascists Try To Disrupt

A group of about 40 followers of Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Worldwide Reunification Church (better known as the "Moonies") picketed the rally. They were protected by a ring of an equal number of police. Chanting "Commies, go home" they carried signs that read, "Support Duarte" and "USSR and Cuba Out of El Salvador."

When Ed Asner began the rally's opening speech a Moonie in the audience stood up and tried to interrupt.

Arms shot out of the audience and carried him away, kicking and screaming. A few minutes later another cult member jumped up and had to be subdued by the rally's security team.

This went on for nearly an hour as one Moonie after another popped up and had to be dragged away. Finally, one jumped up right in front of the stage and ranted, "You're helping out the commies in El Salvador!" Asner immediately quipped, "Keep it up, buster... That's the way Hitler started."

The presence of the Moonies at the rally only fed people's anger, but none of the speakers exposed the collusion between the cops and these reactionary cults. Had they not received full police protection, the Moonies wouldn't have had the guts to show their faces.

Background of Debate

As the motion for April 18 grew, heated discussion was also unfolding around the direction for the Salvadoran support movement. The L.A. CISPES Central adopted a policy barring any "endorsement by political parties." This policy, some argued, would keep CISPES from becoming a

battleground for the political views of "leftist organizations." They argued that endorsements by communist groups would scare off some supporters, such as ministers.

On the one hand CISPES should continue to organize as broad a united front as possible with all progressive forces. But it's a dangerous precedent to single out and restrict Marxist organizations in CISPES. This action will objectively feed people's fear of "communist infiltration" and open the door to red-baiting. It capitulates to the government's slander that communists are dangerous extremists who are unacceptable to the "mainstream."

Moreover, it denies the major role of Marxists in fighting the Duarte regime in El Salvador as well as in the support movement here. The CWP has joined with many others taking a stand against this resolution in L.A.

April 18: A Sign of the Times

The April 18 rally is further evidence of why the U.S. government is backed into a corner. As the FDR gains international support and charges forward to victory, Reagan cannot muster any support for U.S. intervention. The American people have made it clear that they will not support another imperialist war. Any move to intervene would blow up in the ruling class' face and further isolate the U.S. internationally. For the Duarte regime, and their U.S. backers, time is running out. The tide of history is irreversible. The people of El Salvador will win! □

Fr. Bourgeois Safe

Protest Whips U.S. Over Disappearance

Clair Holland

CHICAGO, Ill. — Father Roy Bourgeois, the Chicago Maryknoll priest and long-time activist in the cause of the poor, walked into the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador on May 6 after being missing for ten days. He had been in the countryside talking with the people.

Fr. Roy was in El Salvador as a translator for a WBBM (CBS) news team from Chicago. WBBM producer David Caravello asked the priest to accompany the team because of his knowledge of Spanish and to give a religious perspective to the news team's reports. Fr. Roy's disappearance from his San Salvador hotel on April 26 triggered widespread outrage when many feared that he had been kidnapped and murdered by the Salvadoran junta.

Outrage Over Priest's Disappearance

On April 29 for example, the Chicago Religious Task Force held a press conference where it called for a joint Task Force/State Dept. delegation to be sent immediately to El Salvador to investigate the disappearance. The group announced that a registered letter had been sent to Reagan, Secretary of State Haig, and the Illinois Congressional delegation urging that such an investigative team be formed, and that the Task Force was beginning to collect national endorsements in support of this. The group demanded that the national news media open the networks to full and on-going coverage of the Father's disappearance.

At the press conference was a display of photos sent by the priest from the Human Rights Commission in Mexico which Fr. Roy visited on his way to El Salvador. The grisly pictures of decapitated and mutilated bodies showed, in a way no words could, the atrocities of the El Salvador government that Fr. Roy dedicated himself to opposing.

On May 1, over 300 people picketed Chicago's Federal Building in support of the Task Force demands. Secundino Ramirez of the Human Rights Commission of El Salvador said, "I urge you very strongly to ask the American government to send the commission. The only thing that can save Fr. Roy will be very strong international pressure on the government of the U.S. and the security forces of El Salvador."

May 17 Notre Dame Demonstration

The Task Force and CISPES (Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador) called on all to demonstrate on May 17 at the University of Notre Dame campus. On that day, President Reagan will receive an honorary law degree. Notre Dame is also the alma mater of Duarte, the President of El Salvador. Duarte has been praised by Notre Dame head Fr. Hesburg as a "good Christian man."

At the May 3 demonstration in Washington, D.C., many people marched behind the banner of the Fr. Bourgeois contingent, and several speakers referred to his disappearance.

Bourgeois Criticizes U.S.

What Fr. Roy learned during his visit to the countryside prompted him to issue a statement just before he left El Salvador. "It hurts me deeply to know that my country, the United States, is supplying military advisers and arms to a repressive dictatorship at war with its own people." "After much reflection and prayer, I have

decided to join the poor of El Salvador in their struggle for justice and peace," he said. "While I recognized that the armed struggle of the Salvadoran people is justified, I personally cannot and will not bear arms."

Upon his return to the U.S., Fr. Roy apologized for the anxiety his disappearance had caused. "When I went to El Salvador," he said at a news conference held in New York City on May 8, "I had no intention of doing anything other than what I had been asked to do (translate and news commentary)." The Father explained that he faced a difficult decision when he was offered a chance to go to the countryside and speak with the people. Finally, he said, "I decided to go." He said that he had written a letter explaining where he was going and left it with someone with instructions that the letter be opened the following day. Fr. Roy could not understand why no one knew of the letter until the day he returned.

Also at the press conference was Fr. Noonan, the head of the Maryknoll order of priests. Fr. Noonan said that Bourgeois was wrong in not following the usual procedure of checking with his superiors before making any unplanned moves. However, Fr. Noonan said, because of Bourgeois' background, "no disciplinary measures will be taken."

U.S./Junta Credibility Low

But the large significance of all this goes beyond Fr. Roy's individual actions. The popular outcry after the Father's disappearance is an indictment against the U.S.-backed junta. It has created a climate of terror where no one can believe that even a priest is safe from the government on a journey into the Salvadoran countryside. The massive protest reveals a critical weakness of the junta and the U.S. government and press — they have little or no credibility left.

After Fr. Roy was reported missing, the Durate regime claimed that he had "joined the guerrillas," and a junta representative assigned to the news team said that Bourgeois had "gone for a walk to get medicine." No one believed them. The Chicago Religious Task Force commented, "We strongly suspect the story of Roy's leaving the hotel alone is a fabrication of persons who were assigned to accompany the TV crew by the Salvadoran government."

Moreover, Reny Golden of the Task Force held the junta responsible. "This is a classic case of blaming the victim. The only people responsible for Roy's disappearance are the junta... His disappearance has to be seen in the context of the country, of the persecution of the people of El Salvador, where the government is responsible for the deaths of 18,000 people since Jan. 1980. Anyone who takes the side of the poor is dangerous."

The Task Force also held the U.S. government accountable, "because of its military and economic support of the present repressive junta and we demand that all U.S. aid be cut off and withdrawn immediately and that the U.S. government take all measures possible as the major supporter and significant foreign presence in El Salvador to locate Fr. Bourgeois." The headquarters of the Maryknoll order in the U.S. also called on the government to end all military aid to the junta.

On April 30, a body thought to be Fr. Roy was discovered in San



Searching for the Roots of Poverty

How is it that Fr. Bourgeois came to identify so closely to the cause of the poor and oppressed the world over? While he was missing in El Salvador, a close friend talked about the clergyman. "Roy entered the Navy in 1962. He was an officer and a patriot. By the time he got to Vietnam he seriously began to question the U.S. role in Vietnam. In Vietnam, he worked with a priest who ran a Vietnamese orphanage. Roy saw the effects of the war on the children. This was a political conversion for him. He felt he could no longer represent a government that would allow this to happen. He left the Navy to become a missionary."

"From 1972-1977, he was in Bolivia, in La Paz. He rented a room for \$5 a month in the barrio and began a community center, a daycare center, and a literacy program. He worked with peasants, workers, and students. In La Paz, he was drawn to the prison where anyone who in any way demanded real accountability of civil rights was sent to prison. He began to minister to the prisoners and became imprisoned himself. He was tortured in prison; he still has razor marks on his chest. When he left Bolivia, the government told him not to come back.

"He returned to the U.S. as an activist of the poor and oppressed... He had heard of the suffering and persecution of the people of El Salvador and determined he would begin working in a concentrated way on El Salvador. He worked tirelessly, beating the prairies, speaking to little schools in Iowa, Michigan, and Indiana — anywhere he

could get an audience of 20 people... Roy placed himself among the poor and took their perspective."

In Dec. 1980, Fr. Roy was one of the leaders of a four-day hunger strike at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago demanding the archdiocese break its silence on El Salvador. "People of Latin America are saying there's a causal relation between the wealth and power that's concentrated here and the poverty of our brothers and sisters in El Salvador," Fr. Bourgeois said in an interview at the time.

A friend of Fr. Bourgeois at the Catholic Worker House in Chicago, believing that he was dead, summarized what Fr. Roy had lived for, "He was a courageous person, putting his own safety first. He wanted to get at the root cause of why people are poor."

Father Roy's friends knew that a government that would brutally murder four churchwomen as the Salvadoran junta has done would certainly not hesitate to kill a man like Father Roy. The stark reality of the 1980's is that anyone would uncompromisingly seek the source of people's oppression, be it Father Roy or Communist Workers Party member Bill Sampson, a former Harvard Divinity School student, murdered in Greensboro on Nov. 3, 1979, is a potential target of government assassination. Yet, in the outcry after the Fr. Roy's disappearance, there lies great hope — when such people fall, thousands will take their place. □

Salvador. The face was so mutilated it was unrecognizable. Although the U.S. Embassy insisted that it was not the priest, the discovery of the body gave greater urgency to people's concern. "In El Salvador, they do not take prisoners," said Bill Kurtis, head of the WBBM news team.

With no one believing their lies, the U.S. ruling class and its government is totally on the defensive on El Salvador. With all eyes focused on the issue, any misstep could be deadly to the rule of the junta and its U.S. backers.

Mass Protests Prevent Bloodshed

The massive outcry over Fr. Roy's

disappearance has another, even more important lesson for us today. It is a clear sign that the American people will not allow any government to get away with murder unpunished. The protest is a powerful deterrent that not only ensured Fr. Roy's safe return, but also helps guarantee the safety of any who would go to El Salvador to learn the truth. Fr. Roy has returned alive and well, but thousands have already died at the hands of the fascist junta with the help of the U.S. government. We must strengthen our ability to respond to government repression abroad and at home to prevent further blood from being shed unnecessarily. □

LABOR NEWS

NYC Hospital Wildcat Striking A Blow For '82 Contract

Dave Young

During the week of April 6, 1981, the most important "non-profit" hospital in New York City ceased functioning. District 1199 hospital workers at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center staged a massive five-day wildcat strike against management's continual violation of the union contract and to defend their "sick days" benefits.

and non-1199 workers expressed their wholehearted support. The New York State Nursing Association, which represents the registered nurses at Mt. Sinai, issued a letter urging its members to join the strikers on their free time. Many medical students, interns and residents did the same. "It is even said that some supervisors stop-

are blocks of time which can last any number of days. "The new policy says that unacceptable levels of absenteeism are (a) five occasions in one year, (b) two occasions in one month, or (c) one occasion for three months in a row." ("Mt. Sinai Sick Policy — What It Is and Why We Must Fight It," District 1199 leaflet).

Mt. Sinai Disease: Short-Staffing

Mt. Sinai decided that it has the right to rip up the contract and tell workers when and how to get sick. Under this new policy, supervisors began to question workers why they were sick and when they returned to work. Doctor's notes were not accepted as proof of illness and supervisors began to call up the doctors. For example, in the Nursing Department, a 20-year worker was told her doctor's note was invalid until the supervisor confirmed it with her doctor. This has become a convenient and common pretext to write workers up and harass them.

This is Mt. Sinai's way of making the workers pay for its own cost cutting measures. Already the hospital is severely short staffed. In nursing units, there are not enough nurses and aides to cover when someone goes on vacation or calls in sick. As a result, critically ill patients who require constant attention are often completely neglected. Workers have to shift from one floor to another and do the work of two and three people.

Subcontracting to Bust Union

The level of exploitation of hospital workers has intensified. Hospitals have been introducing "time studies" in which workers must log their work. At Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx, N.Y., analysts follow workers with stop watches. Maids are being forced to do heavy mopping and other porters' jobs. Maintenance men must do construction work.

All of these practices are violations of the 1199 contract. Rather than hiring more workers, hospitals are bent on getting rid of higher paid union workers. In the last two contract struggles, the League of Voluntary Hospitals wanted to introduce "subcontracting," which would eliminate entire departments and replace these workers with outside companies who pay minimum wage and no benefits.

A union in Cleveland, Ohio recently lost an arbitration case similar to Mt. Sinai's "sick days" policy. These attacks drove home the necessity for workers to fight back. Hospitals are trying to destroy all forms of union protection. There was no choice. "It was an attempt to roll back the union," said a Mt. Sinai delegate. "Workers have to struggle." Only hard-hitting organized resistance by the rank and file can stop these attacks.

Pacesetting for '82 Contract

The implications of this "sick days" struggle go far beyond Mt. Sinai. Mt. Sinai, a multi-million dollar medical complex with 23 buildings, is one of the most prestigious hospitals in the country. Mt. Sinai Medical School is affiliated with Beth Israel Medical Center, the Bronx Veterans Administration Hospital, the City Hospital Center at Elmhurst, and the Hospital for Joint Diseases.

But its influence is not limited to these institutions. Mt. Sinai pacesets hospital policy in New York City. Its representatives are the key people in the League of Voluntary Hospitals, which negotiates the master contract

with District 1199. Whatever happens there will have a great impact on preparations for the upcoming 1982 contract.

Through the "sick days" policy, Mt. Sinai is testing the waters of resistance. If they can sail through without any opposition, the League will surely go all out to implement "subcontracting" and other major takebacks. Running smack into a wildcat strike is bound to give them second thoughts.

"This is a very important issue in this period," summed up a Mt. Sinai delegate. "The workers demonstrated very strong resistance to management. They won in the sense that they gave management the message that workers are willing to fight."

Administrators Sweat and Threaten

Even before the planned demonstration on April 6, Mt. Sinai was worried that something big would break out. On April 1, management put out a memorandum to all supervisors and workers, stating that any worker who took part in the demonstration and did not return to work would be docked.

Later actions by the hospital and the government revealed their fear. Intent on squashing the wildcat before it spread, they kept the news media in the dark. The courts threatened extremely harsh penalties. The judge ordered that 1199 pay a \$625,000 fine and \$10,000 for every hour if the Mt. Sinai workers did not return to work by 6 PM on Friday, April 10. Several days later, Mt. Sinai fired four of the most militant delegates and suspended 22 others.

Workers Reassess 1199 Leadership

Many of the Mt. Sinai workers who took part in the job action expected the 1199 leadership to back them up. But disillusionment was reinforced by 1199 Vice President Floris Saunders and other top union officials who had told the workers, "We will not lead you into a trap."

Under the pressure of massive court fines imposed, 1199 President Leon Davis caved in. He said he had no knowledge of events at Mt. Sinai. The 1199 leadership then agreed to settle the whole case in arbitration.

Many workers say they lost the struggle because they were docked five days' pay and management did not back down on "sick days." These feelings are the direct result of the union leadership's failure to back up their members.

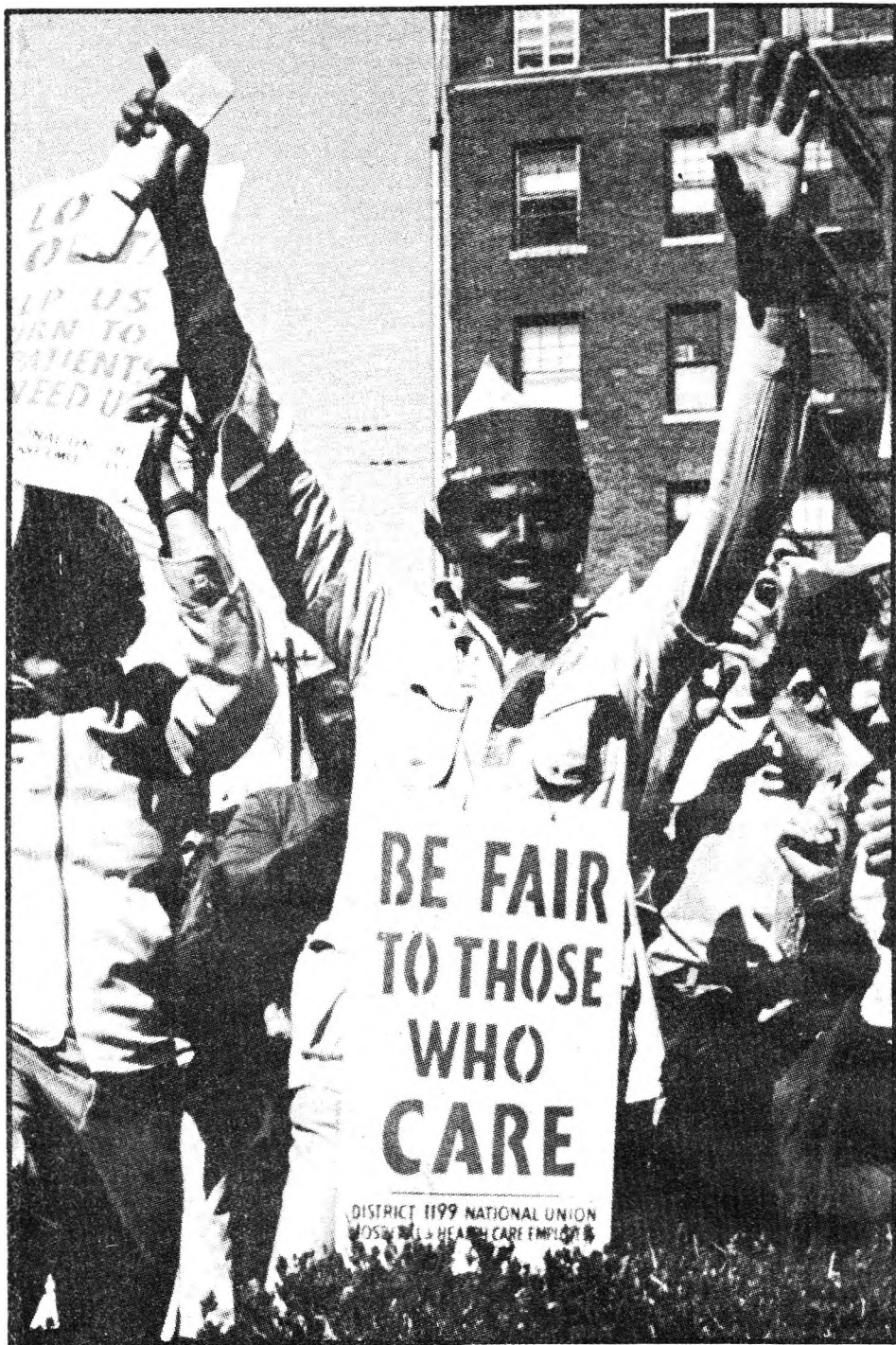
First, the leadership's stand laid the groundwork for Mt. Sinai to carry out its subsequent firings and suspensions.

Davis buckled under to the courts because he has grown blind to the workers' capacity to fight. He incorrectly perceived the strike as weak. Considering the unity of the Mt. Sinai workers and the strike's damage to Mt. Sinai, the workers were in a very strong position.

The 1199 leadership failed to raise a demand for amnesty for the strikers. Nor did the leadership mobilize support from 60,000 workers in other hospitals. This would have put the union in a position to beat back whatever reprisals the courts or management dealt.

However, the wildcat does not represent a missed opportunity. It brought into the open issues vital to the '82 contract. The fight around the "sick days" policy and amnesty for the strike leaders has just begun.

We must use them to unify the entire union membership and prepare for the upcoming contract fight. In this process, the rank and file must never lose sight of the vast potential for militant resistance among hospital workers. The Mt. Sinai wildcat is ample proof of the potential. □



The wildcat signals a dramatic turn towards rank and file militancy among hospital workers. It started as a planned noon-time demonstration in the hospital's cafeteria. District 1199 was asking its members to spend their lunch hours there as a protest against Mt. Sinai's new "sick days" policy. However, the workers' response caught everyone off guard.

Lightning Rod for Action

These are not ordinary times and any organized action can quickly turn into a lightning rod for the workers' pent-up anger. "I was sick and tired of management pushing us around," explained a Mt. Sinai worker. "We had to sit in. We were not going to take anymore." As delegates canvassed the floors for support, everyone from porters and maids, to lab technicians streamed into the cafeteria.

The wildcat was 80% effective, involving approximately 2,000 workers

ped working," commented one nurses' aide.

Hospital About to "Crawl"

Before long, Mt. Sinai was hurting badly. Management had to empty entire wards as the supervisory personnel found it impossible to take up the slack. The hospital closed the operating room and clinics and blocked all new admissions. It lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in revenues. "If the walkout lasted another week," said one worker, "the hospital would be crawling on their knees." Behind their stony silence management was desperate.

A year ago, Mt. Sinai came up with a new interpretation of the "sick days" clause in the union contract. According to the 1199 contract, workers are entitled to 12 sick days per year, to be taken as needed. Mt. Sinai now wants to abolish this by keeping track of absences with "occasions." Occasions

An Urgent Call to Stop the Railroading of The NASSCO 3

The Committee to Defend NASSCO Workers is asking everyone to send telegrams, letters, mailgrams, etc., around the three demands:

- (1) Stop the Railroading of the NASSCO 3
- (2) Fair Trial or Drop the Charges
- (3) Stop Government Cover-up—Full Disclosure, Open All FBI Files
- (4) Stop Government/NASSCO Union-busting

Send to:
Judge Edward Schwartz, U.S. District Court
940 Front St., San Diego, CA 92101

People are urged to help the NASSCO 3 defense by sending tax deductible contributions to:

Clarence Darrow Foundation/NASSCO
c/o San Diego Committee to Defend NASSCO Workers
P.O. Box 8383, San Diego, CA 92101
Defense Committee: (714)563-0149

Partial List of Endorsers:

(Organizations listed for identification purposes)

United Domestic Workers of America
Trade Unionists for Democratic Action,
Peter Fisher
Joseph E. Cook, AFGE, Local 41,
Washington, DC
Dave Johnson, BA-Financial Sec., Toronto
Building & Construction Council, AFL-CIO
John Donaldson, President, Int'l Assoc. of
Bridge, Structural & Ornamental Workers,
Local 721, Ontario, Canada
James E. Miller, Pres., Bakery
Confectionary & Tobacco Workers, Local
205, Madison, Wisconsin
Louis Gates, Pres., UAW, Local 600, Frame
Plant, Detroit
Rick Martin, pres., UAW, Local 600
Walter T. Corey, Pres., USWA Local 210
Sidney Lens, Labor writer
Jim Miller, Institute for Labor Studies,
Cornell U.
Mike Macguire, Organizer, IBM Workers
United, Johnson City, NY
Josephine Garris, Brown Lung
Association, Garysburg, NC
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Gil Dawes, coordinator, Theology in
Americas Project, Clinton, IA
Dan Luria, UAW Research Dept, Detroit
John Reiman, Recording Sec., Carpenters
Local 36, Building & Construction Trades
Council, Oakland, CA
Manual Sunshine, IAM Local 68 delegate,
SF Labor Council, San Francisco
Margie Clauser, Exec. Bd., CWA, San
Francisco
George Wong, Graphic Arts Union, Central
Labor Council, San Francisco
James Romanoff, People's Democratic
Club
Frank Wilkinson, Exec. Dir., National
Comm. Agst. Repressive Legislation
Larry McDonald, Hotel & Restaurant Local
2, San Francisco
Abe Feinglass, Int'l V.P. Amalgamated
Meatcutters & Butcher Workmen
Nancy Baker, IAM Local 685, Central Labor
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Jerry Newport, Seafarer Union, San Diego
Wren Osborn, Probation Workers Union
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Workers Local 2, Grievance officer, Bay
Area Coalition to Bust the Union Busters
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Mojados
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Dick Gregory, Activist
William Kunstler, Attorney
Mark Rosenbaum, ACLU, Los Angeles
Jim McNamara, Those United To Fight
Fascism
Rene E. Dubose, Co-chair, People United
Against Government Repression, Klan
& Nazis
Jerry Tung, Communist Workers Party
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Libby Grell, Save Our Democracy
Albert Germany, Reporter, WEAA Radio,
Baltimore, MD
Danny Valladolid, Chicano Moratorium,
San Diego Committee
Nancy Hegelson, Women's Resource
Center, La Jolla, UCSD

Barton: "I'll Say Anything" Fed/NASSCO Star Witness Flops

Erin White

SAN DIEGO, Ca. — The government's railroading of the NASSCO 3 — David Boyd and CWP members Mark Loo and Rodney Johnson — on conspiracy charges is being thwarted by the broad local support and growing national sympathy for the three National Steel and Shipbuilding Co. (NASSCO) workers.

The government had pinned its hopes for a fast conviction on the tape recordings and testimony of FBI stoolie Ramon Barton. Barton is the paid provocateur who infiltrated Ironworkers Local 627 and framed the three trade union fighters as part of a company/FBI conspiracy to bust the militant union.

Judge Schwartz gave a display of what capitalist justice is all about. On the one hand on May 6, Schwartz publicly tongue-lashed defense attorney Iredale for supposedly "using transcripts out of context." Yet on the other hand, the judge allowed Barton to constantly inject remarks like "there were violent communists," and "CWP is a violent communist organization" throughout his testimony. All Schwartz did was to strike remark after remark from the record and remind the jury to "disregard this statement."

Nevertheless, after the NASSCO 3 defense got through cross-examining Barton on May 7, he was so discredited that prosecutor Lipman didn't recall him to the stand the next day. Despite over 250 hours of government preparation, Barton backed off his claim that the "CWP was going to finance the bombing" and "the murder" of the labor relations supervisor at NASSCO. Barton admitted, "I'll say anything when I'm playing a role." The defense

showed that as far back as July 1980, before the NASSCO 3 were arrested, Barton said, "I want to get the commies out of the union." His testimony indicated that he believes all of the union's most militant leaders are communists.

The defense further showed that Barton avocated all kinds of violence to many different workers at the shipyard, and that in a television interview, he called for the murder of Miguel Salas. This occurred one week before Salas was elected Business Agent of Local 627.

With its key witness discredited, the government appears to be shifting its tactics. "In the coming weeks, we expect to see prosecutor Lipman disassociate his case from the shaky testimony of his provocateur Barton and step up redbaiting," said a CWP spokeswoman.

Under pressure of the momentum to support the NASSCO 3, influential publications such as Newsweek magazine and the Los Angeles Times newspaper admit that the case is a "political cause celebre" and "similar to government attacks on labor in the 30's."

The defense of the NASSCO 3 "has far-reaching implicatons," said Miguel Salas. "Throughout the country, labor unions are beginning to fight back against government repression, against the cut-backs that mean the end of OSHA and other programs which were set up to serve the workers in some fashion. Unless the NASSCO 3 are defended, no one can be safe from government interference, no one can be safe from government spying." □



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Greensboro Civil Rights Suit:

EXPOSE REAL TERROR

The Nov. 3, 1979 attack by Klan and Nazis on an anti-Klan demonstration that killed five Communist Workers Party members and wounded nine left another legacy: many people struggling to dig out the truth and see justice done.

Acquittals last November of the few Klan/Nazis tried, and the increasing evidence of government involvement in the November 3 murders have intensified the effort. Two major avenues are now being pursued: the demand for federal criminal charges against the Klan/Nazis and agents involved, and a civil rights lawsuit. Despite government efforts to block those avenues and prevent further exposure of the government's role, both are proceeding and gaining support.

The government's taking the position that it has no duty to protect or even warn the victims of right-wing violence and no duty to prosecute the criminals. This reflects policy at the highest level of the government. In the face of increasing fascist violence, this policy has deadly implications. It is part of a larger government strategy which includes increased government repression on the people's movement, and it reflects the overall, all-rounded swing to the right by the government. The government is attempting to re-define the meaning of, and step-by-step legalize, fascism.

Expose Attack as Union-busting

Waller v. Butkovich was filed in federal district court in Greensboro on Nov. 3, 1980, exactly one year after the murders of Jim Waller, Sandi Smith, Cesar Cauce, Bill Sampson, and Michael Nathan. The plaintiffs include the families of the deceased and demonstrators who were injured and/or arrested. The 50-page complaint names 27 defendants, including the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (BATF), its agent Bernard Butkovich (who attended Nazi planning meetings), Greensboro police, other government officials, the security director of Cone Mills textile company, and individual Klan and Nazis. The complaint asks for \$37 million in damages and an injunction (court order) against further government/corporate/right-wing terror and harassment.

The suit was brought under the federal civil rights act, as well as North Carolina law, and alleges that the Nov. 3 attack was one part of a conspiracy existing since at least 1968, between the government, corporate interests, and right-wing groups like the Klan and Nazis to disrupt and neutralize militant, anti-racist labor organizing in the Greensboro area.

The Nov. 3 victims were targeted because they were successfully organizing black and white textile and hospital workers into unions and leading militant struggles for better wages and working conditions in North Carolina — a "right-to-work" state with the lowest rate of unionization of any state and the second lowest industrial wages, where the Klan has historically been used to attack labor struggles by dividing black and white workers, spreading race-baiting, anti-communism, etc. November 3 was (among other things) government/corporate/right-wing collusion for the purpose of union-busting.

Investigation has already shown Klan harassment of union organizing at Cone Mills in the late 60's and close ties between the FBI, the city of Greensboro, and Cone Mills. Plaintiffs and their attorneys expect further investigation to show that Nov. 3 was a part of the FBI's COINTELPRO (Counter-Intelligence Program) operations.

City and State Ducking Suit

The city, county, state and federal government defendants are trying to get the case thrown out so that it does not proceed to the stages of discovery and trial, which would lead to further revelations about the government's involvement and its pattern of cooperation with the right wing. (Discovery is the process whereby each side can "discover" — i.e., force the other side to disclose — information and documents the other side has which are relevant to the case.)

Instead of directly admitting or denying the

charges, the government defendants at all levels have filed motions to have case dismissed, for reasons ranging from very technical to outright political. Greensboro District Attorney Michael Schlosser, for example, who set up the acquittal of the six Klan/Nazi murderers, has claimed immunity from suit — i.e., that as a prosecutor he can't be sued no matter what he did. (The idea that prosecutors are above the law is a legal doctrine stemming from the divine right of kings. As agents of the king, who rules by the will of God, they can't make mistakes!)

The city of Greensboro in its motion has interpreted the civil rights act so narrowly that it would not cover the Nov. 3 events, nor much else. For instance, the city claims that there couldn't have been any racial motive since four out of the five people killed were white! Court decisions in other cases have clearly stated that the civil rights act covers whites who are attacked because they are organizing or supporting blacks. The city, wisely, is not relying on questionable interpretations of the law. Immediately after the suit was filed, the city council passed an ordinance to broaden city protection for city employees who are sued for job-related reasons.

argument is significant for implications about government policy beyond this particular lawsuit, especially in view of similar developments in other areas of government policy, and for the green light it gives to right-wing terror.

Soon there will be court hearings on the motions to dismiss, with a federal judge deciding whether all or part of the complaint should be dropped against all or some of the defendants. Then the case will proceed to discovery and eventually to trial.

Too "Complex" for Justice Dept.

Since the acquittal of six of the Klan/Nazi murderers in state court in November 1980 (after a trial in which the role of the agents was not even considered), groups and individuals all over the country have called for the Justice Dept. to investigate and prosecute the Klan/Nazis and government agents on federal criminal charges for violation of civil rights. Lawyers representing the victims of Nov. 3 met with the Justice Department Civil Rights Division in Washington and the U.S. Attorney in Greensboro to urge them to prosecute and to assure them of the necessary cooperation of the victims.



Feds Deny Duty

The most reactionary response has been the federal government's. The Justice Department, on behalf of Butkovich, the BATF, the FBI, and the other federal defendants, said the 50-page complaint did not make it clear what they were accused of. The government ignored the charges that federal agents were involved in planning, executing and covering up the Nov. 3 attack. It is harder to ignore what is now public information — that at least three BATF agents knew in advance of the plans to attack the demonstrators.

But the official position of the U.S. government in the suit is that even if federal law enforcement agents had advance knowledge of a plan to attack the demonstrators on Nov. 3 and of police plans not to prevent that, the federal agents had no duty to protect or even warn the demonstrators or prevent the attack.

To succeed at their argument, the Justice Dept. will have to convince the court to ignore a whole section of the civil rights act dealing directly with the legal duty of those who know of conspiracies to prevent harm resulting from them. But whether or not the government succeeds this time, the government's

Although Freedom of Information Act requests for reports on Nov. 3 are denied ("The information you have requested pertains to an ongoing Civil Rights Division investigation"), the Justice Dept. says it hasn't decided whether to investigate Nov. 3, let alone whether to press charges, because it hasn't been able to decide the legal question of whether it has "jurisdiction" to get involved. "We're in the process of doing an investigation into whether or not the federal government has jurisdiction," U.S. Attorney Michaux said on April 1, 4½ months after the verdict and 17 months after Nov. 3.

Linda Davis, deputy chief of the criminal section of the Justice Dept.'s civil rights division, said recently: "The matter is still under review by us. It's a complex case with complex issues. As soon as possible, we hope to have it resolved."

Expert: "No Jurisdictional Barriers"

Not everyone agrees that the issue is so complex. The issue is clearly political and not legal. William Van Alstyne, Perkins Professor of Law at Duke University Law School, said he believes the lag in action is a bad sign: "It means they're slow. And it means they might not be doing anything," he said.

"I'm growing a bit skeptical. A four-month delay is inexplicable," Van Alstyne said. "I would have ex-

THE CRIMINALS

pected additional evidence could have been looked for two or three months ago."

Professor Van Alstyne, who has worked with the civil rights division and is considered an expert on federal statutes, said he told Justice Dept. attorneys of at least four federal statutes (laws) that would give the Justice Dept. "jurisdiction."

Other legal experts, including Professor Arthur Kinoy of Rutgers Law School and Vice-President of the Center for Constitutional Rights, share the view that the barriers are not legal. In a letter to U.S. Attorney Michaux dated March 23, 1981, Professor Kinoy urged him to proceed:

"We are firmly convinced that there is absolutely no jurisdictional barrier to prompt government action in this case. 18 U.S.C. 241, 242, and 245 were enacted for the very purpose of allowing the federal government to intervene in situations where, for one reason or another, the local courts have not been able to assure that the constitutional rights of political activists are fully respected. Our conclusion is based on an extensive analysis of the legislative history of these statutes... By failing to exercise the full prosecutorial authority of the federal government against those who violate the basic rights of citizens, the federal government negates its fundamental responsibility as the ultimate guarantor of those rights."

Gov't. Fails to Prosecute...

It is clear that the investigation is blocked because a serious investigation would expose the government's own wrongdoing, and would limit the ability of the government to use right-wing mercenaries to do its dirty work. U.S. Attorney Michaux, who is responsible for investigating and prosecuting violations of federal law, is one of those defending Butkovich and the rest of the federal defendants in the civil rights suit.

In practice, there is little new about the government's failure to protect against or punish racist, right-wing violence. Prof. Kinoy testified before the Subcommittee on Crime of the House Judiciary Committee on Dec. 9, 1980, about the federal government's pattern of non-enforcement of the civil rights statutes against racist violence.

Not only has the government been slow in prosecuting, but there have been many revelations of outright government complicity with the right wing.

... and Engages in Conspiracy

In the case of FBI informer Gary Thomas Rowe, the FBI knew Birmingham police would allow an attack on civil rights workers; the FBI took no steps to prevent it, and in fact covered it up. The FBI then covered up Rowe's murder of Viola Liuzzo, in the name of protecting his cover with the Klan. The FBI is still resisting federal court order to turn over its reports on those incidents.

A lawsuit now underway by the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation and Frank Wilkinson against the FBI has led to the release of FBI documents which show that J. Edgar Hoover ordered Nazi chief George Lincoln Rockwell and his group to physically attack Frank Wilkinson and disrupt his speaking engagements.

Recently Robert Ensley of the Justice Department Community Relations Service watched as Sheriff Attaway allowed armed whites to attack black demonstrators in Wrightsville, Ga. Ensley described this incident to his bosses in a report, a copy of which was obtained by the victims of the attack under the Freedom of Information Act. Ensley then refused even to testify to these facts in a lawsuit by the victims against Attaway, in order to preserve the Community Relations Service's image of "objectivity" and "neutrality."

Ensley is infamous for his role in disrupting community attempts at self defense against Klan/Nazis and against the government — e.g., in the anti-Klan struggle in Decatur, Ala.; and in Greensboro after Nov. 3 (by red-baiting and spreading rumors of violence); and now in Atlanta, derailing community self-defense efforts and trying to discredit and intimidate anyone who criticizes the government or organizes the parents.

continued on page 14

"Federal Agents Not Above the Law"

Plaintiffs in Greensboro Civil Rights Suit File Response To Government Motions to Dismiss

Today we file our response to the federal government's motions to dismiss the Greensboro civil rights suit, brought by the survivors of the November 3, 1979, Greensboro massacre. The immediate issue is whether or not the plaintiffs will be allowed to take depositions of government agents and other defendants and proceed to trial, that is, whether the facts will be exposed to the public and to a jury. But the stakes are even larger because of the defendants' extraordinary political claim that the executive branch of the government is above the law and can engage in conspiracies to deprive citizens of their constitutional rights with impunity.

Our suit charges that federal agents actively participated, along with state and local agents and others, in a criminal conspiracy to disrupt and destroy the work of southern labor organizers, including the murder of five labor organizers on November 3, 1979. The government had not even denied these charges.

The Justice Department has instead consciously mischaracterized our complaint as charging them with mere negligent failure to interfere with the police to prevent trouble on November 3. The government claims federal agents had no legal obligation to warn the victims or prevent harm to them. Even more serious, they claim that even if everything we alleged is true, they cannot be held to account because the federal judicial branch has no authority over the federal agents. They raise the frightening claim that the executive branch should be trusted to regulate itself. This is contrary to the law and flies in the face of historical experience, including Watergate and COINTELPRO.

Our 80-page brief addresses and answers the legal arguments of the federal defendants. Their arguments raise little of substance and most issues have in fact already been resolved against the defendants by the federal courts. For example the claim that federal officers are not subject to the Federal Civil Rights Act was disposed of by Chief Judge Gordon of federal court here in Greensboro in *Siith v. Barnwell*, 477 F.Supp. 970: "The court is of the opinion that the subsection (Sec. 1985(3)) would apply to federal defendants who participate in a conspiracy that would otherwise be proscribed by the subsection." Section 1986 of the Civil Rights Act directly contradicts defendants' claims that they had no duty to warn the victims or stop the conspiracy. And U.S. At-

torney Michaux has already stated publicly that the victims were labor organizers and that labor organizers are protected under the Civil Rights Act.

With the law so clear, why does the Justice Dept. put forth such feeble legal arguments? What is raised in the guise of legal technicalities is the fundamentally political claim that federal agents are above the law. The government wants to be free to commit wiretapping, domestic surveillance, COINTELPRO, black bag jobs and even first degree murder. The Justice Department is attempting to get the court to ratify its use of these tactics and at the same time it is attempting to legalize these acts by executive order and through Congress. For instance, it is trying to revamp the FBI charter to actually legalize murder by FBI agents. President Reagan's pardon of FBI agents Felt and Miller, convicted of violating the constitutional rights of numerous citizens, was a green light for the defendants in this suit to commit precisely those acts for which they are clearly liable under the Federal Civil Rights Act and for which they are here being sued. These developments have extraordinary implications for labor, minorities, women, anti-nuke and anti-draft activists, and all others who find themselves increasingly opposed to government budget cuts, war preparations, and political repression.

We are confident that the court will reaffirm its position that federal agents are accountable for illegal anti-civil rights conspiracies. We hope that BATF agent Bernard Butkovich, Greensboro police agent Ed Dawson, and other guilty parties will be criminally indicted for first degree murder and conspiracy and vigorously prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's office. We have heard the rumors that Mr. Michaux has at long last made some kind of recommendation to Washington. We have no knowledge of the content of that letter, but as legal experts have overwhelmingly advised Mr. Michaux that jurisdiction exists, we hope he has recommended prosecution. If the letter does not recommend indictment of Butkovich, Dawson and other agents, in addition to the Klan and Nazis, then it is merely part of the continuing cover-up of the government's involvement in the November 3 murders. We pledge to pursue vigorously our civil rights prosecution of Bernard Butkovich and other guilty parties and look forward to the opportunity to prove the facts of this anti-labor conspiracy to a jury.

Lewis Pitts
Gayle Korotkin
Staff Attorneys

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IRA Hunger Strike Continues: For a Free Ireland

Sally Campbell

Ray McCreesh, Patsy O'Hara and Joe McDonnelly are on a hunger strike in Long Kesh, Northern Ireland to demand political status for prisoners of war in the struggle for Irish freedom from British rule. Their demands include the right to wear their own clothes, to associate freely among themselves, to refuse to do prison work, to receive one letter and one parcel a week, and a 50% reduction in their sentences.

Recognition of these demands would greatly embarrass the British government, as it denies even holding political prisoners. But its role in Northern Ireland is becoming more exposed every day — it can no longer pretend to be a "peace-keeping force" between "Protestant and Catholic extremists." The hunger strikers are giving their lives to make the whole world know the truth of British oppression in Northern Ireland. The following gives a brief sketch of English occupation and dissects the various lies being spread by U.S. news sources. A more comprehensive history will appear in future issues. See related article on demonstrations.

The struggle of the Irish Republican Army in Northern Ireland is a struggle that has been going on for 812 years. Though the Irish Republic won its independence in the 1920's, England managed to partition the six counties to the north because it had heavily settled it with those loyal to the crown. The native Irish there were (and are still), persecuted in job opportunities, housing, education, social welfare programs, etc. The IRA has not given up the fight to end that persecution. For the last decade there has been an upsurge in IRA activity and it has grown, after loyalist paramilitary bands began attacking peaceful marches for civil rights.

Britain is determined to hold on to one of its last colonies. It continues to supplement the Royal Ulster Constabulary with British troops. This is the official endorsement of the loyalist paramilitary death squads, which are even listed in the phone book. Whenever the Ulster Defense Regiment or the Ulster Defense Association (two of the squads) kill or terrorize anyone, the cops look the other way. The IRA need only hold a rally and troops will attack. The squads and troops raid homes often, pulling out the fathers and sons and brothers and accusing them of membership in the IRA. Suspicion is all that is necessary to convict someone and send him to the H-shaped prison blocks in Long Kesh. (Armagh is the women's prison.)

Prisoners are beaten, tortured daily. The treatment they have received since 1972, when the category of "special status" was removed by an embarrassed British government, prompted the "blanket" protest. IRA prisoners refused to wear the prison uniform that would brand them "common criminals," refused to do prison work. For this they were denied permission to go to the toilets, thus forced to use a small pan in their cells. The prisoners protested this by refusing to empty them. But their main demands were for a reinstatement of "special status," which would force Britain to acknowledge the character of their

fight: a national liberation struggle for the freedom of Ireland.

U.S. News Media Promote British Propaganda

The U.S. press, fed British propaganda through American news services, has tried to paint Bobby Sands and the IRA as "terrorists." It maintains he committed suicide through the phrase "he starved himself to death," and it has portrayed the Irish national liberation struggle as religious, sectarian violence. It does not contradict British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's refrain that Sands was a criminal.

A few individual columnists have been able to break through this slanted reporting, notably Beth Fallon and Michael Daly of the New York Daily News. The reaction of the News' editors to Daly's columns to charges in the British press that Daly had his facts wrong (he was writing from Belfast, Northern Ireland), was to force Daly to resign. They used the recent hullabaloo about "credibility" and "responsible journalism" as a cover when they could not independently confirm his story. But Daly stuck by what he wrote, about a British soldier who participated in a street battle with Belfast youth.

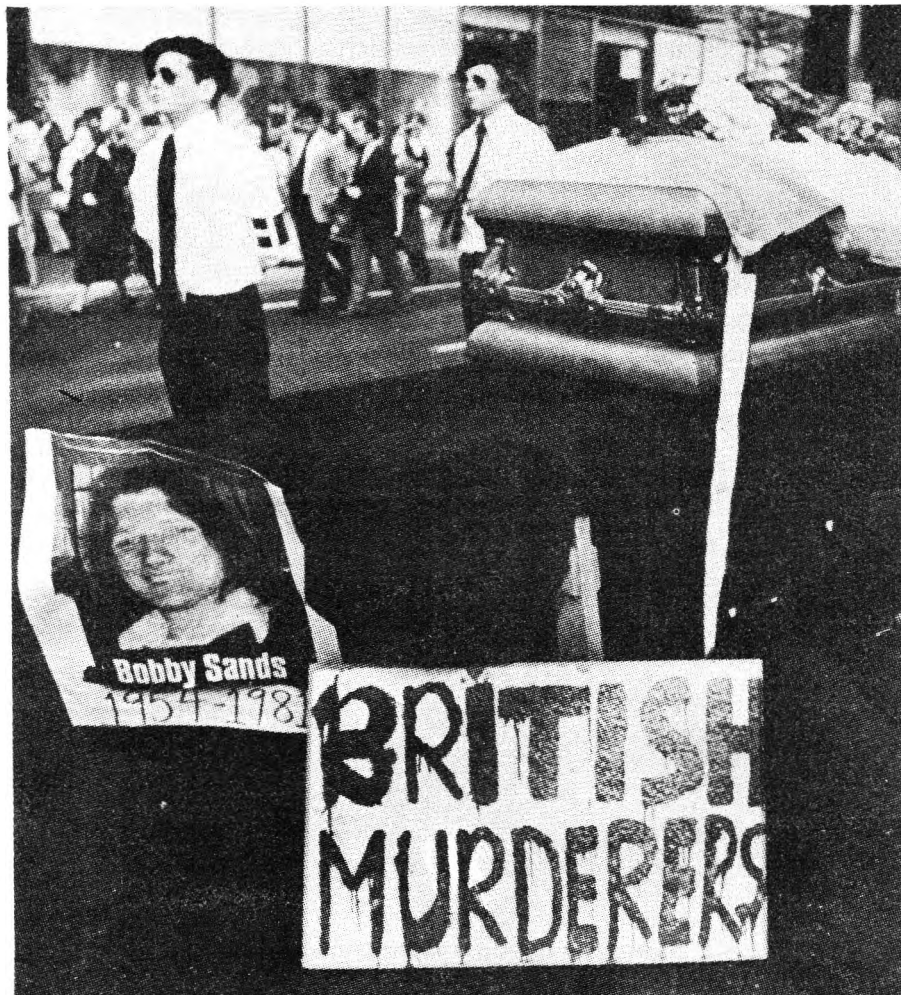
News Plays Up Ian Paisley

The New York Daily News has openly stated in its editorials that Margaret Thatcher should deal with the "terrorists" instead of just letting the hunger strikers die, thereby giving the IRA more ammunition to recruit. But in case you miss their editorials, their reportage does Britain an even greater service. When Bobby Sands died, they reported it, but they also talked about a Protestant policeman whose poor widow was grieving, and they played up pictures of his son. As if this were not bad enough, when Sands was buried, Ian Paisley, a leading reactionary, held a counter funeral across town. Harping on a consistent theme throughout the three major New York papers (The Times, News and Post), Paisley was quoted: "By a deliberate choice, (Sands) took his own life."

Marchers Know the Truth

At a demonstration in front of the British Consulate in New York on May 5, Irish Northern Aid Committee speaker Martin Gavin declared, "...the British would have allowed Bobby Sands to remain alive only at the cost of systematic daily torture and only at the cost of betraying the principles which are dearer to him and to any freedom-loving individual than life itself. To Margaret Thatcher, and all those who shout suicide, I shout back Margaret Thatcher's own words: 'Murder is murder is murder!' Msgr. Nicholas Bourke, giving a funeral mass for Sands on May 7 in New York, emphatically stated, "Bobby Sands did not commit suicide!" He pointed out that Sands had not taken his own life, but given it to serve the cause of Irish freedom.

The hunger strike has long been a legitimate political tactic. It was also the only recourse open to the inmates of the H-blocks, after the "blanket" protest did not achieve political status. It has historically been used in Ireland: Terence McSweeney's death by hunger strike in the 1920's set off the war that



An honor guard attends a coffin for murdered IRA prisoner Bobby Sands at military funeral by Irish Northern Aid Committee in N.Y. on May 9.

led to the Irish Republic.

By labelling his death a suicide, the imperialists hope to cut the political content out of Sands' heroic act and get themselves off the hook. But even when the masses commit "ordinary" suicides, these are indictments against the criminal system of imperialism. Suicide, particularly among idealistic youth, is a spontaneous act of protest against the moral and social decay and despair created by a system which cannot provide for its people. The tragedy is that most sacrifice their lives without knowing why or for what they are dying.

Bobby Sands' ultimate sacrifice is a highly conscious political act. During the Vietnam War, Buddhist monks set themselves on fire to protest the atrocities of the U.S.-backed South Vietnamese regime. None can deny that these acts, done out of extreme moral outrage, were conscious expressions of political resistance.

Bobby Sands was on a hunger strike, a more sophisticated and flexible form of struggle than self-immolation. Bobby Sands had no wish to die, but he was willing to risk death at the hands of the British so that the Irish people could live.

To those who maintain that Sands is a criminal, the Irish Northern Aid speaker had this to say: "The British have said that this man was a criminal. But criminals do not die such deaths for the freedom of their country. Criminals do not suffer such things for the freedom of their country. Is this man a criminal?" And the crowd responded with a resounding, "No!" The only people who view Sands as a criminal are those who do not recognize the cause for which he died: the freedom of an oppressed nation, the Irish people. Judging from the reaction of the crowd, who are turning out every day to support the remaining hunger strikers and condemn "Butcher Thatcher," there are very few who think that way.

The priests at the funeral answered Thatcher with, "Those who try to brand him a criminal stand convicted in the eyes of the world!" The cheers of a thousand supporters underscored this truth.

Two Views in the Catholic Church

Bobby Sands was given last rites

twice before he died. And there were two funeral Masses for him in New York. The priests who said these Masses did so in contradiction to Terence Cardinal Cooke, who stated, "Peace cannot be established by violence, even by the violent taking of one's own life." He refused to say Mass — instead offering a Mass "for reconciliation and peace" in Northern Ireland. This is in contrast to Msgr. Bourke asking for "peace and justice." Cooke saying that Sands took his own life adds legitimacy to Thatcher's position, while the courage of these priests in Northern Ireland and the U.S. to challenge the official position of the Catholic Church, shows that the faith of the masses is in what they know in their hearts to be true and just, and not in the mouthpiece of imperialism. No one, however, would malign the Pope, although he sent a messenger to talk Sands out of his hunger strike and did not condemn Thatcher. This is the same Pope who has tried to stop priests in El Salvador from aiding the peasants against the murdering National Guard, saying that priests should not be involved in "politics."

Politicians Caught in the Middle

Sens. Ted Kennedy and Daniel P. Moynihan, New York's Governor Carey and House Speaker Tip O'Neill think they have done enough to satisfy their voters by sending a telegram to Thatcher on May 6, the day after Sands died. They "challenged" her "posture of inflexibility that must lead inevitably to more senseless violence and more needless deaths in Northern Ireland." Of course there was not one word of condemnation for the British presence in Northern Ireland in the first place. And of course they waited for Sands to die before saying anything.

The day of his death Msgr. Charles Owen Rice of Pittsburgh, Pa., said, "It's a scandal that Irish American leaders like Kennedy and Carey didn't speak out. Tip O'Neill never has much to say and Moynihan is an Anglophile [lover of England]. Kennedy — it was shocking that he would let this happen without saying anything."

But these prominent politicians had to watch their tongues for fear of

continued on page 13

women hold up half the sky

Abortion Rights

Women Mobilizing Front Line Fight

Sara Anderson

Six women face federal charges and \$500 fines and/or six months in jail because they believe women should decide for themselves "if and when they will have children." These women, members of the Women's Liberation Zap Action Brigade were arrested on April 23 for disrupting the Senate hearings on the Human Life Statute (S.158), a bill which would take away a woman's right to have an abortion. Before the dumb-founded gaze of the committee's reactionary chairman, Senator John East, they jumped atop their chairs, hoisted placards and chanted, "A woman's life is a human life. Stop the hearings!" One of the signs read, "This bill would put 1.5 million in jails, in hospitals, in fear." Before the week ended, Rep. Orrin Hatch, one of the main promoters of anti-abortion legislation was forced to drop his support of this bill.

"We've gotten very good support for the action," one of the arrested women, Stephanie Roth told Workers Viewpoint. "All the major newspapers carried the story, even the Fresno Bee. One woman told me, 'you're a voice for the voiceless.' People were outraged at the one-sidedness of the hearings." Stephanie is a member of the Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse (CARASA). The Zap Action Brigade was an ad hoc committee set up for the hearings and also included members from the Reproductive Rights National Network (R2N2) and Off Our Backs.

"We can't afford to beg anymore."

Color-splashed posters framing the struggle for women's liberation bedeck the walls of the crowded but neatly packed office shared by CARASA and R2N2 in lower Manhattan. Amid jangling telephones and women stuffing envelopes, Stephanie spoke of the dangerous attacks on women's rights taking place in congressional halls. "With the political climate today, the crisis nature of the country, we can't afford to ask or beg anymore," she said. "We need collective pressure and we've decided that we have no choice but to take more militant action."

Marjorie Fine, a member of R2N2 joined the discussion, noting, "The attacks are broad-based. The Family Protection Act is more serious than any of the other pieces of legislation. It's not just an attack on women and gays, it's an attack on everyone's civil rights. Among the bill's 38 provisions are: dropping of federal laws against wife and child abuse, legalizing discrimination against gays, and denial of federal school funds to states that prohibit prayer in the schools."

Marjorie called the so-called pro-family movement the "kingpin" of the "new right." Included in the enemy list are the old conservatives like Jesse Helms and their new faces — Jerry Falwell and his Moral Majority, along with the "right-to-life" movement.

"The new right started building their forces years ago and many of them are the old reactionaries, but they've changed tactics; they have a new face," said Marjorie. Drawing a comparison between the tremendous unemployment after World War II and now, she concluded that women are going to be forced once again out of jobs, forced to take the brunt of the crisis. "They glorify women's reproductive role, but in reality, they want women limited *only* to that role," she emphasized. "They want women back in the home, unemployed and powerless."

The Link Between Women's Rights and Needs

The link between women's political rights, and our right to a job, daycare and healthcare is getting drawn tighter and tighter as the economic crisis continues to take its toll on the lives of millions of women in the U.S. Through unraveling the demogogy of the right-wing's attack on women, all its threads lead back to the defense of capitalism, the woof and warp of women's oppression. As unemployment mounts, prices soar and budget cuts slash away at funds for education, medicaid, food stamps and welfare, it's clear who's causing the hardships and break-up of the majority of families. But because women and the women's movement have been in the forefront of fighting these attacks, the ruling class has been trying to discredit their leadership and counter their influence by attacking women's rights mainly through the abortion issue.

"People have underestimated, and still do, in fact, the impact of the women's movement," noted Stephanie. "Even women in the 'pro-life' groups

say they're for women's rights — equal wages, etc. There's no way that consciousness can be reversed." Linda Gordon in her book on birth control, *Woman's Body, Woman's Right* points out this contradiction in the "pro-family" movement. She says, "The right-to-life movement is not a mass movement and it cannot mobilize women in large numbers, particularly not working-class women who need and practice abortion in higher proportion than other women. Although the anti-abortion movement often appears strong in working-class neighborhoods, its leadership is always part of the top-down leadership structure administered through the church and the political-party machines. Furthermore, right-to-life groups nearly always line up behind other right-wing causes:"

Abortion Rights and Communist Movements

At the March National Conference of R2N2, many delegates argued that the abortion issue has to be linked with a broader, positive view on women's liberation that links women's oppression up with class and national oppression. Historically, the women's movement has found its strongest allies and staunchest defenders within communist movements.

In a recent issue of CARASA News, an article by Atina Grossmann sums up the abortion rights struggle in Germany during the 20's and 30's, particularly the role played by the German Communist Party. She says that the party was most successful in organizing a mass women's movement when it organized working class women on the issue that was deeply affecting them. Due to the severe economic crisis at that time, over one million abortions were performed on German women each year. She points out why women turned to the party for help: "The development of a struggle for sex reform, and reproductive rights in Germany was within the context of a highly

organized and powerful mass working class political movement that had access to party apparatus, journals, propaganda, funds, and infra-structure. Given a high level of anti-capitalist consciousness among the working class as a whole, the movement was willing to use abortion rights as a central CLASS ISSUE" (author's emphasis—ed.)

The Struggle Against Women's Oppression Is A Struggle Against Capitalism

Today, whenever and wherever women activists are fighting these attacks, they are fighting capitalism and the rise of fascism. The militant action taken by the Zap Action Brigade in Washington has set the pace for the women's movement and all progressive forces fighting against the ruling class' shift toward more repression. Women's groups such as CARASA, R2N2 and Dykes Against Racism Everywhere (DARE) swelled the ranks of the 100,000 people who demonstrated their support for the people of El Salvador on May 3 in Washington D.C. "We've been joining coalitions with anti-nuke and anti-war groups. We've been working with groups fighting budget cuts, and that's been good," said Stephanie. "But it's been a real struggle to get them to recognize the importance of the abortion issue and to take it up."

On May 16, women's groups around the world will be holding joint demonstrations called A Day of Action for Reproductive Rights. In New York City, the rally begins at 2 PM at Union Square. For more information, call the CARASA office at 964-1350. CARASA is also asking for help and donations for the defense committee for the six women who were arrested on April 23. Contributions can be sent to: **The April 23 Defense Committee c/o Smith 687 Sackett Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217**

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Saturday, May 16, 1981
March 12 noon from Bryant Park (6th Ave. & 41st St.)
Rally 2pm at Union Square (14th St. & B'way)
Speakers & Entertainment including:
 Emagene Walker, Coalition of Labor Women • Juanita Ramos, Downtown Welfare Advocate Center • Ted Weiss, Congressman • Ellen Willis, Village Voice

WOMEN DECIDE!

- ABORTION RIGHTS FOR ALL WOMEN
- STOP THE HUMAN LIFE STATUTE
- NO TO REAGAN'S BUDGET CUTS
- SUPPORT MEDICAID FUNDING FOR ABORTIONS
- MONEY FOR CHILDREN, NOT FOR THE PENTAGON
- STOP STERILIZATION ABUSE
- END LESBIAN OPPRESSION

May 18th Coalition: Bernard Abortion and Reproductive Rights Network • Bronx Coalition Against Sterilization Abuse • Brooklyn Women's Issues Coalition • Center for Constitutional Rights • Citizens Party of New York • Coalition of Labor Union Women • Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse • Committee of Lesbian and Gay Socialists • Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee • Feminist Health Works • International Socialist Organization • Lesbian Activists at Barnard • Mobilization for Survival—NYC • National Lawyers Guild (Reproductive Rights Task Force) • National Organization for Women—New York City Chapter • People's Coalition for a Better Alternative • Queens College Women's Center • Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights • Reproductive Rights National Network • Revolutionary Workers Headquarters • Womannews • Women Against Pornography • Women for Racial and Economic Equality • Women's Pentagon Action—NYC • Workers World Party

SPORTS

Zachary: Shotputting Justice

Anthony LaRusso

Last Saturday, I went to Baltimore, Md. and got two big thrills for the price of one ride. I got to see my first lacrosse game live and I met a young man named Zachary Cullen. The game was as exciting as any hockey game you'd want to see, but meeting Zach was the creme de la creme of the weekend. Zach is a third-year student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Up until a couple of months ago, he was the best shotputter (yet very modest about his status) on the varsity track team. At that time, he was suspended from the team and lost an entire indoor season. The reasons behind Zach's suspension are what brought me to Baltimore.

During a training session Ms. Cindy Stout, a trainer for the UMBC Athletic Dept., referred to two of the school's basketball players as "niggers." Angry over a poor showing during a varsity game which they eventually won, Zach heard her say, "You know what they are, niggers!" Outraged by Stout's disgusting racial slur, Zachery called her out on the spot with the entire track team present. "Never let me hear you say that again," Zach said. Athletic Director Richard Watts then stuck his nose in the matter by telling Zach, "You're nothing but white trash!"

Zachery immediately contacted the county NAACP, the Retriever (the school's student paper), local press and organizations including the Black Student Union (BSU). Watts demanded a meeting with Zach, but Zach refused to go without representation for himself and the university. For that he was suspended. Getting back on the team, throwing the shot just wasn't enough for him. He wanted justice. He wanted both racists fired. After hearing seven hours of testimony from all involved parties, Reginald Lawrence, the director of the Human Relations Dept. at UMBC, recommended to Chancellor John Dorsey that Stout be fired and Watts be given a reprimand.

To this day neither has lost a day's pay. The University's position is that action has been taken but it is unnecessary to disclose the action to the students. But that hasn't stopped Zach and his friends. They have originated a couple of great demonstrations. One organized and called for by the Black Student Union pulled out about 300 students.

When I met Zach, it was at the gate of the

lacrosse stadium and about eight or 10 friends were passing out leaflets around the two incidents, trying to rally support. It was just an informational picket; I could see that Zach was a little frustrated because not everyone was stopping to listen. But some were. Most took the leaflet and read it. There were two local papers and two local TV news cameras there. Then some of the picketers went into the lacrosse game where last year's No. 1 (Division II) team was playing, coached by, you guessed it, Richard Watts. The chants of just six or seven of Zach's friends could be heard above the cheers of the fans.

I was impressed. Not just from Zach's obvious influence on his fellow students but more so by the strong anti-racist stand he was taking. I mean the guy lost a whole track season for just demanding justice. Listen to a few of his friends. Greg is a senior basketball player who was also a rep for the team at the hearing. I asked Greg if this was the first time Zach had taken such a stand with and for his many black friends. Greg answered, "That's just it. This is not just a stand with his black friends. This is a stand with his principles. A stand against racism." Another friend: "He has been a rock in supporting the Black Student Union which has always been under attack by the University."

What Zach was hoping to accomplish was to unify black and white students against racism by exposing the source. For someone to sacrifice what Zach did and hang in so tough is farsighted and inspiring at the same time. It's no accident that Zach has been studying Marxism. The perspective Marxism-Leninism gives you is like a compass guiding you through unfamiliar woods. Zach is more than just a concerned student, more than just an anti-racist. He is a Marxist-Leninist.

When Zach, his friend Curtis from the BSU, and I left the field, I was tempted to ask him to throw the shot for me just once, but I chickened out. But I did ask him to tell me how he felt about the incident and the results. Zachary said, "Students, black and white, worked through the judicial process, we had a well-documented case, signed statements of blatant racism. The athletic director and athletic trainer were so blatant, they openly admitted to using these racial terms, one even on television. Their own investigative branch recommended firing one and the chancellor

disregarded that and both of them were kept on staff. The next time, do you go through the process or do you deal with it in your own way? The next time, I'm very likely to just deal with it in my own way. And that's what they're asking for."

When I walked around the campus, I was a bit surprised. I had heard that the UMBC campus was built to serve the people of the inner city of Baltimore. But almost all the faces I saw were white. Baltimore is 54% black yet and only 17.4% of UMBC's students are black. Is that serving the inner city? Is it serving the people of Baltimore if it's largest concentration of people are kept out of the school?

Hearing those figures and seeing it for myself made me understand how the racial slurring is only the tip of the iceberg. Racism starts right at the top. Deciding who is allowed to attend the university and who is not is not based on the needs of its community. While Baltimore blacks cannot get into UMBC, white kids from outside the city are being admitted. No, racial slurring is no accident. In fact, it is encouraged!

UMBC is not an isolated incident. Travel about 50 miles south of it to Washington to find the source of injustice and inequality. Reagan's budget calls for a \$914 million slash on student loans and grants. Poor families, white and black, are going to feel the pain of that cut just as sure as if it was their arm. The new budget calls for tax cuts... millions for corporations and crumbs for the poor. To get those crumbs the sacrifice will be food stamps, job safety (OSHA), welfare benefits, etc. While blacks are being murdered in every corner of the country, the government sits by idly and does nothing to stop it. While black youth face 40% unemployment, they are also being kept out of their own schools. The encouragement comes from the top all right. The top of the university, the top of the city, the state, and most of all, the top of the federal government.

Just as the budget cuts were met with a fight, Watts and Stout are in for 15 grueling rounds. It's a good thing there are people like Zachary Cullen around to put up a fight against this kind of injustice. I only wish I could have seen him throw the shot. Maybe next year? Maybe even under the guidance of a new athletic director and trainer? □

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—Blanche McCrary Boyd, *Village Voice*

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CULTURE & CLASS STRUGGLE

Stars Rap Drug Hearings

"Following in McCarthy's Footsteps"

Angela Brown

The near tragedies of Richard Pryor and Carol Burnett's daughter, the arrests of actors Flip Wilson and Louise Lasser on drug charges and musicians Don Henley and John Phillips for the same all made front page headlines this past year. These incidents and recent articles in TV Guide and other industry publications create a picture of an entertainment industry overrun by drugs. Last fall actress and anti-drug crusader Cathy Lee Crosby suggested that the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control hold hearings in Hollywood to correct this image.

So recently Congressmen Tom Railsback, Robert Dornan, Larry Denardis, and Chairman Leo Zeffretti of the committee called for a "probe" of the Hollywood drug scene. Entertainment people from MTM president Grant Tinker to actress Cathy Lee Crosby now vehemently refuse to testify fearful to be asked to finger others, dividing the entertainment industry.

Word of the hearings prompted some like Ed Asner (Lou Grant) to remark that "There are other ways to serve the drug problems than the drug hearings. They're following in the footsteps of McCarthy." Why has news of the committee created such a furor in Hollywood?

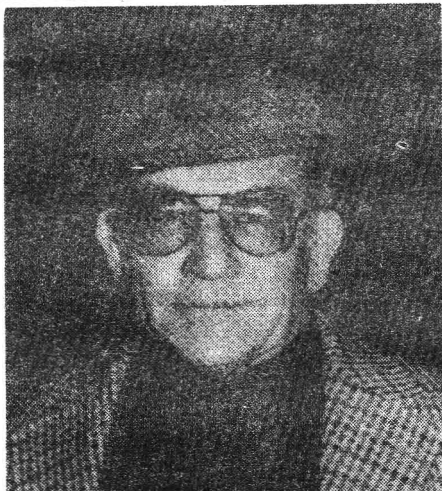
In the 50's when our government wanted to destroy the progressive movement in this country they went after the public opinion makers — Hollywood, the press, and other communication industries — first. In 1947 the Hollywood 10, progressive and communist screenwriters, directors, producers who were also union leaders, were imprisoned. The government then proceeded (in 1949) to lock up the leadership of the Communist Party. Naming names became part of the game for actors and actresses of the early 50's. An atmosphere of fear and informer-as-hero hung over Hollywood. With hundreds of careers destroyed (John Garfield), interrupted (Zero Mostel) and unions busted (the CSU) the 50's go down as the bleakest in Hollywood.

It's easy to see why fears of witch-hunting and blacklisting still haunt Hollywood. And now Los Angeles

Rep. Dornan, arch-conservative Republican friend of Jerry Falwell, has let the cat out of the bag. He claims many of the liberal actors who supported his opponent Carey Peck in the Congressional elections "use drugs behind their giant oak doors, then they write into their scripts a permissive attitude towards drugs."

According to Dornan, all the committee needs now is "volunteers, we need a few heroes." Once again the government is testing the waters. But when he was accused of resurrecting McCarthyism in Hollywood, Dornan immediately became defensive. Claiming that the hearings were designed only to find out about the stars' drug habits, Dornan protested (just a bit too loudly) that he wanted no one to rat on anyone.

Ed Asner expressed the sentiment of many of his fellow entertainers when he said that "maybe it's time for Hollywood to investigate Congress." Mike Farrell, star of M.A.S.H. said that before Congress comes poking its nose into Hollywood they should investigate themselves for alcoholism. Congress is highly sensitive to the least challenge, especially from such a nerve center as Hollywood. The suspicion and out cry raised by Dornan's proposed inquiry was too much: the hearings were cancelled, at least for the present. In Hollywood entertainers are fighting back these attempts at repression by refusing to participate in committee hearings. □



"We can't blow the whistle on Comies anymore, so we blow the whistle on people who snort." — Ed Asner

...Free Ireland

continued from page 10

alienating Prince Charles, who stopped by for a visit, and certainly couldn't contradict the official position of the Reagan government, which is basically to let Thatcher do anything she wants to do. However, the demonstrators in New York were clear that members of the so-called Friends of Ireland were the kind that stab their friends in the back.

Thatcher is rapidly getting boxed into a no-win position. To give in to the hunger strikers would acknowledge

that Britain is in Ireland as an occupying army, that it does take prisoners of war when it arrests freedom fighters. Moreover, it would show the Irish and British people that Thatcher's repressive tactics can be beaten back. If Thatcher does *not* grant political status, she will be signing her own political death certificate, for as one hunger striker after another dies, thousands upon thousands are rallying around the IRA, willing to give their own lives to rid themselves of the British once and for all. □

NOW AVAILABLE A documentary film on the Greensboro Massacre



RED NOVEMBER, BLACK NOVEMBER

"Finally, after all the months of distortions, after seeing Jim and my other friends turned into faceless ideologues and terrorists, and so many things they weren't, finally there is something that begins to tell the story. I hope everyone sees this film. It's all there: it's angry, it's thoughtful, it's beautiful, it's tragic and ugly, it's hopeful, it's even funny. But most of all, it's about real human beings fighting and dying for something they believed in. And it's about what those deaths mean for all of us."

Signe Waller,
widow of Jim Waller,
killed Nov. 3, 1979

"The government always wants its victims to remain faceless, nameless. That way, it's easier for people to write off the years of unjust imprisonment, the shattered families, the ruined lives, even the murder of innocent people. RED NOVEMBER, BLACK NOVEMBER makes sure those people who were killed on Nov. 3, 1979 will be remembered as husbands, friends, fathers, brothers and sister. The American people must see that this tragedy belongs to all of us, not just those who lost someone they love. As long as we don't speak out and fight against this kind of thing, who knows who will be next?"

I expected to be depressed by RED NOVEMBER, BLACK NOVEMBER. I expected it to be a eulogy for the dead. But it's really a film for and about the living. It's very hopeful. I hope everyone who feels "overwhelmed" or confused or depressed sometimes about where this country is heading has a chance to see this film. It has a lot to say that we need to hear."

Anne Sheppard, Wilmington 10 Defendant,
Present Co-convenor of the Triangle
Area Greensboro Justice Fund Committee

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Look For Showings in Your Local Area

"Thief" Hits

Diamonds? Stealing? If you thought "Thief" was about breaking and entering you are in for a surprise. Certainly, that is the man's occupation, however, the suspense of this movie is house-to-house handgun combat played to the melodies of hard rock.

James Caan is Frank and Tuesday Weld is the beautiful woman he meets and marries after spending eleven years in jail for a \$40.00 hold-up. Undue punishment? Frank couldn't abide by prison rules and that is why we love him. He is defiant. He is fair. He fights for his rights in the face of a realistic Mafia boss and a pay-off police force.

"I'll never give a pinch to a mother... grease-ball," he spits in the face of five cops after they interrogate him black and blue.

It is apparent that Mr. Caan took lessons on how to handle a Colt .45 for his magnificent performance. We are spellbound and thrilled by the display of his skilled maneuvers, as well as his electronic expertise in de-bugging his phone, car and house.

Handgun sales soared in 1980, and the weapons that sold best were not designed for target shooting. Reported in the April '81 issue of Next magazine, a spokesman for a handgun-industry publication just completed his survey for 1980. "The biggest sellers," he says, "are the biggest bores — .45's, .44 magnums and automatic weapons. They're for self-defense, for stopping people in their tracks. I know one shop that customizes .45's. They say they'll never catch up with their orders."

The increase in crime is well documented in print and on television. Yet, sociologists reveal that the presence of additional stress is behind the handgun boom. Soaring inflation coupled with costly energy and careful consumption in the nation's heartland are considered primary contributors to what we all know as "high anxiety."

The weapons industry is not the only profiteer of economic crisis. From his Columbia, South Carolina home, Fred Muller wrote a book, "America's Coming Nightmare Inflation, Economic Collapse and Crime Revolution." "I've got orders and reorders coming in every day now. I open the mail and every morning there's more than \$1,000 in there for the book. And we haven't really begun to get going yet."

There is little doubt that the violence in "Thief" is riding on what some label as the "Fear Boom." Yet, James Caan is the criminal and he is the hero. Even Willie Nelson has gotten off his horse to play the serious role of Frank's adopted father in prison, the Master Thief. Why do we feel the identification?

Hear Frank's story of going over the edge, of living on borrowed time; he can't move fast enough; listen to the Mafia tell Frank they own his wife, his kid, his house, him. It's the mortgage, it's the bills, the manager, the government. THIEF. □

... Suit

continued from page 9

The effect of this government hands-off policy toward racist, right-wing violence is to leave people at the mercy of the terrorists. Attacks are growing in number and viciousness.

Gov't. Dropping Neutral Facade

The significant change is the government's stating its position openly instead of maintaining its image as protector of people's rights, or as a neutral enforcer of the law. To appreciate this, view it with the historical backdrop of the post-civil war and Reconstruction era, and the civil rights movement — years when the federal courts were presented as a way to supervise the states.

In those periods of mass resistance, the Justice Dept., using the civil rights act, would come in to enforce constitutional rights like voting rights, and protect the rights of minorities when the "system" didn't work on a local level. They attempted to restore faith in the "system" and divert mass resistance into legal channels.

In the last few years the federal courts have also been used for litigation to expose government misconduct. Many of the exposures about COINTELPRO and the conspiracies against Fred Hampton (a Black Panther leader murdered by the FBI in 1969) and Martin Luther King have come through suits against the FBI and CIA, often under the Freedom of Information Act.

The suits have been notably unsuccessful in stopping misconduct but have helped publicize it and educate people. Their usefulness has always been limited by the tremendous resources required, since the government has always had more lawyers, more money, and nothing to lose by stalling endlessly.

Congress Legalizing Terrorism

The government, right up to the Attorney General, can defy court orders without serious threat of punishment for contempt of court. The suit by the family of Fred Hampton has gone on for 10 years and must now go to trial again. Now the government is trying to limit this already-limited means for people to obtain redress against the government.

This is a significant change in the facade of liberal bourgeois democracy. And most of the effects of past suits are being wiped out by White House or congressional decisions legalizing the illegal conduct which was exposed. After a suit (filed in 1973) by the Socialist Workers Party against the FBI exposed 40 years of government spying, infiltration, burglaries, and other types of illegal conduct, the government adopted the position it can surveil any group it

wants, no matter how "legal" the activities of that group. The FBI and CIA charters proposed by the President would legalize many of the illegal acts committed against the SWP, Black Panthers, and the anti-Klan demonstrators in Greensboro.

Same Line: Congress, Courts, White House

Developments in the other branches of government parallel the change in the role of courts and civil rights litigation. Instead of checks and balances, there is a steamroller to the right.

Decisions of the Supreme Court are trampling the rights of criminal defendants.

President Reagan is attempting to enlarge the powers of the CIA simply by executive order. He pardoned FBI officials Felt and Miller, who were convicted of authorizing illegal break-ins against leftists — legalizing all the misconduct in the name of "national security," as if Watergate and Nixon had never happened.

And Reagan attempted to nullify OSHA by sending his representatives into the Supreme Court to ask the court to disregard OSHA's cotton dust regulations as too costly for employers, although the cost for thousands of workers is increased brown lung.

At the same time a number of repressive measures have either been passed by Congress or are being considered this term (after being proposed and barely defeated during the Carter administration):

- FBI & CIA charter acts which legalize acts like murder by agents in the course of duty
- Exemptions of the CIA & FBI from the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act
- Names of Agents Bill, which would make it illegal to reveal the names of covert agents
- Re-establishment of the government witchhunting committees
- The Blitz Amendment, banning communists and others with unacceptable political viewpoints from government-funded jobs and other programs
- Preventive detention
- Re-establishment of the federal death penalty
- Criminal Code revision bill (grandchild of S-1), which targets anti-war, anti-draft, and anti-nuke organizing.

Redefine Justice, Legalize Fascism

The government's position with regard to the civil rights suit and demand for federal criminal charges in the Nov. 3 murders is neither accident nor an isolated event. It is part of an overall government strategy: (1) refusing to investigate or prosecute racist, right wing attacks on minorities, activists, or anyone else; (2) denying court access to victims of violence or government miscon-

duct; (3) legalizing government misconduct; (4) restricting the right to and even making it illegal to expose, criticize or resist the government; (5) pardoning illegal conduct by government agents even if the courts convict, putting it above the law.

It adds up to an all-sided, all-rounded attack on people's resistance to economic and political repression and war preparation. Terror is sanctioned and resistance is criminal (and is labeled "terrorist"). It redefines justice and legalizes fascist measures — if the government succeeds.

The first targets are the leaders, especially the CWP (as in NASSCO & Greensboro), but it is aimed at silencing everyone.

The non-prosecution of the right has a particular purpose. It is an official sanction for racist terror which allows the government to strengthen its repressive apparatus with mercenaries, like the Klan and Nazis who attacked the Greensboro demonstrators, while still disassociating itself from acts which are hard to justify even by its terms.

The government then has a whole range of tactics against resistance — from "legal" means like McCarthyite hearings and anti-communist legislation, to the police, the military, the FBI/CIA spy network (unleashed by the pardons) and the mercenaries.

People's Strategy: Expose Real Terrorists

The government's attempt to impose its fascist plan can only be defeated by mass resistance. Support for the Greensboro civil rights suit is part of this resistance and is coming from many different quarters as people ask questions: If the government is not protecting demonstrators against right-wing violence, then who does it protect? If the courts are not prosecuting the right-wing and government misconduct, then what are they doing? Despite government attempts to isolate Greensboro as a "CWP issue" or "provocation question," women, minorities, trade unionists, Jews, and civil libertarians see that the issues affect everyone.

Recently the NAACP and ACLU held a benefit for the suit in California. Representatives of the National Organization for Women have endorsed the suit. Progressive clergy have formed the Ministerial Alliance for Greensboro Justice. They are all supporting the suit because it is the only way left to expose the truth of the government's role in Greensboro, and thereby help to educate and organize people so that the government's fascist nightmare cannot become a reality. Contributing to the Greensboro Justice Fund for the support of the suit is one of the concrete ways of taking a stand against fascism. For more information, and to send contributions, contact the Greensboro Justice Fund, Southeastern Bldg. #302, 102 N. Elm St., Greensboro, N.C. 27401; (919) 275-6589. □

Food Stamps

continued from page 3

test the Reagan Administration's workfare program. The program is similar to the one adopted in California several years ago when Reagan was governor. Under the program people would be required to work to "earn" their stamps. But there's one big hitch to it. According to the government's own General Accounting Office, over 88% of food stamp recipients nationwide are ineligible to take part in the workfare program. Many are either too young, too old, handicapped or are already working full-time jobs but make too little. In Berkeley County only 170 of the 10,000 people in the food stamp program are eligible. "Most people prefer to work than live on welfare," concluded Miss Cash.

The actual amount of abuse which the Reagan Administration has so consistently harped on is also quite insignificant. In Lake County, Indiana, the welfare department's assistant director recently pointed out that only 2% of current recipients were ineligible. But if Reagan's budget cut plan is passed, 5000 of the county's 53,000 residents on food stamps will be taken off the program. According to the office of Budget Management, more than 400,000 families would be cut off from food stamps as a result of the proposed \$1.8 billion cut in the program.

Food Stamps: Handout or Necessity?

Why do people go on food stamps? More than half of the people applying for them were reluctant to speak about it. One young white woman expressed

her fears that her parents might find out she was applying for food stamps. "It's like going on welfare to them. My parents were never on welfare. They never took anything for free. Everything they had, they worked to get," she told me. She explained how things were so much more difficult for her today compared to what her parents had to face. "They (her parents) would never understand. Things are a lot different today. I went through four years of college and I've got nothing. I'm here because my sales job doesn't pay enough."

A young black couple was upset at the proposed new eligibility guidelines. The angry wife explained, "We have two kids and we both work. Now they're telling us they might cut our food stamps because my oldest son is in the school lunch program and my youngest is in daycare." "It doesn't make sense," added her husband. "We're making the same amount of money but we'll be getting less."

In the coalfields of West Virginia, Kentucky and throughout the nation, 160,000 miners are striking. They are fighting for their families and their union. Last month thousands flocked to special centers to apply for emergency food stamps. Like them, millions of other Americans are in the same boat. They are not looking for any handouts but just a way to feed their families. If Reagan and the ruling class have their way, less will be able to get food stamps and those who do have them will have food taken off the table. Reagan calls everyone on food stamps a "cheat." In the next few years that could amount to several million more "cheats." □

... Sands

continued from page 1

they called on the Irish government to expel the British ambassador and remove all British troops from its borders with Northern Ireland. They also targeted the British Airways Office, in a call to boycott all British goods and services to hit the imperialists in the pocketbook. After they joined the group in front of the British Consulate, which now covered three blocks three lanes wide, there was a candlelight vigil. Earlier, marchers had cheered when an effigy of Margaret Thatcher and the British flag went up in smoke.

Priest Holds Funeral Mass

Led by Msgr. Nicholas Bourke of New Jersey, over a thousand people attended an outdoor mass near the UN after a funeral march from the British Consulate on May 7. A coffin was draped with the green, white and orange flag of the Irish Republic. Msgr. Bourke gave an emotional speech decrying British imperialism and oppression in Northern Ireland, and was cheered when he stated, in the face of news reports and the position of Cardinal Cooke, that Bobby Sands did not commit suicide, but gave his life so that others in his country might live.

Buses had come from Long Island and New Jersey, and a woman on crutches was in the lead of the marchers. Among the mourners was a youth from Trinidad, who sympathizing with the Irish cause because his own land had been colonized by the British. And a Filipino couple trying to oust

U.S. imperialism from their country were there for the same reason.

Military Funeral

At another funeral on Saturday, May 9 in the same spot, Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza on 47th Street, an honor guard of six men and two women, straight and serious in white shirts and black berets stood around the coffin. A rosary was said in Gaelic and in English, with many in the crowd responding in Gaelic. Another fiery speech was given by Martin Gavin of Irish Northern Aid. He blasted the N.Y. Daily News for firing columnist Michael Daly, who has written sympathetic pieces on the struggle of Northern Ireland, which oppose the News' editorial policy. The demonstrators marched down to the office building of the News and shook their fists at the men looking out the windows: Bring Daly Back! Bring Daly Back! Bobby Sands Will Live On!

"Another Murder for the Crown"

Update: Within minutes of word of Francis Hughes' death, men, women and children poured out of their homes in Belfast, Northern Ireland to pelt British occupation troops with rocks and homemade bombs. A thousand people in the Irish Republic to the south responded by attacking the British Embassy while Hughes' brother declared his words to Thatcher would be that she has "the blood of my brother on your hands." He also quoted an old Irish protest song, saying his brother's death meant "another martyr for old Ireland, another murder for the Crown."

LETTERS TO THE CWP

What is the "New McCarthyism"?

Dear Friends,

Briefly I'd like to bring up for discussion a concern I have with the use of the expression "New McCarthyism." I'm afraid that the expression gives people a false sense of security. The oppression that is being pushed on the people today is and will be far more reaching than when Joe McCarthy was holding hearings and the oppression will be at a higher level. The second concern that I have is that this expression (seemingly) ignores the continuous oppression that minority people currently experience in this country and that there is no "new" McCarthyism for minorities just more of the same.

I am sympathetic to the response that this expression gets from people. It's an immediate response and perhaps this is the best we have available to us to move people forward or at least alert them to the dangerous situation that exist. Please let me know your thoughts.

Also I'd like to say how pleased I am that the paper is beginning to address cultural issues, like THE CLASH!!

Fight for Freedom,

D.Y.
Ohio

Dear D.Y.:

Thank you very much for your letter. For the past several months we have been writing about the new McCarthyism; but we haven't comprehensively put forth our views on it. You are not the only one to ask us why we use the phrase "new McCarthyism" and if we think it will be a repeat of the fifties. Your letter provides us with an excellent opportunity to address this point and engage our readers in a discussion of this crucial point of the class struggle.

Our use of the term "new McCarthyism" proceeds from where the American people are at. McCarthyism stinks. One woman who lived through this period and who is not especially politically active said, "I'm glad McCarthy died of throat cancer. So much evil flowed out of his throat. He died a just death."

Everyone recognizes this. Anti-communist liberals and other holdovers from the cold war, sensing a gut reaction against the new witch-hunts, try to dress them up in something new. Michael Ledeen, a liberal supporter of the Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism hearings said this to soothe people's fears:

"But the governmental critics of the "Terror Network" (Claire Sterling's book) and of Secretary of State Haig have not been content to withhold their conclusions, they have felt compelled to tell inquiring journalists they disagree... I would like to suggest that at least part of the explanation lies in the unfortunate political history of this country in the early 50's, when that intense anti-communist wave known as McCarthyism hit the front pages. As a result of the deplorable excesses of Senator McCarthy and his ilk, it became virtually automatic for educated persons to equate anti-communism with 'McCarthyism.' And a kind of simple syllogism was developed in the popular culture: McCarthy was anti-communist; X is anti-communist; therefore X is a McCarthyite. In other words anyone who took an anti-communist position was branded a McCarthyite, and that was the end of it. It was considered bad manners, reactionary, and generally poor form.

"I suggest that a good deal of the hostile reaction to those who are call-

ing for a serious examination of international terrorism, is due to this conditioned cultural reflex."

Different class and political forces mean different things by "new McCarthyism." But as inadequate as this slogan is, it does draw forth a mass response. The slogan is just a starting point for us; filling in the gaps and drawing both the similarities and dissimilarities between the fifties and today is an important part of our propaganda.

You are correct in pointing out that the oppression and political repression in the 80's will be more extensive and severe than thirty years ago. Not only will the "legal" maneuvers to liquidate communism (congressional hearings, anti-communist laws, frame-ups like the NASSCO 3, etc.) substantially increase, but direct repression (like the attacks on the Black Panther Party, the assassination of the CWP 5) will, too.

You are also right in saying that "new McCarthyism" means more repression for minorities. Here, too, it is easy to see that attacks on minorities are more severe than ever before. Racist violence as in Buffalo and Atlanta and the rest of the country is on the increase; it is at a higher pitch than Hitler's anti-Semitic attacks were at the beginning of fascist Germany. In addition, slasher Reagan's budget cuts will harm the lives of many thousands more.

But aside from the broader, heavier attacks today than in the fifties, there is one other important difference. The ruling monopoly capitalists are attacking from a fundamentally weaker position now than in the fifties. This time around will not be a rout as was the case in the McCarthy era.

Less than six months in office, the Reagan administration is already being backed up. Soon after he took office, the ruling class began a short-lived offensive on international terrorism. But their choice of a target — El Salvador — was a big mistake.

Few in this country actually believe that the plight of the great Salvadoran people is caused by "terrorists" (nuns, other clergy and the people themselves). Hundreds of thousands of

Americans from all walks of life have demonstrated their opposition to U.S. aid to El Salvador, culminating in the 100,000-strong May 3 march on the Pentagon.

The majority of Americans are against helping the Salvadoran junta — every opinion poll shows that. The swift response to the report that Fr. Roy Bourgeois was missing in El Salvador is further proof of this and of the people's distrust in the government's explanation of his disappearance (see related article elsewhere in this issue of WV).

The U.S. government is definitely on the defensive as far as its foreign policy goes. This is further shown by the fact that Alexander Haig recently brought the bankrupt "human rights" policy back from the grave.

In the week before the big May 3 demonstration, militant women demonstrators disrupted Congressional hearings on the reactionary Human Life Amendment. This action, splashed across the country on network news, was warmly received by people around the country. Not only has it set the pace for the women's movement in the eighties; it put the scare into the ruling class. Arch-reactionary Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah withdrew his sponsorship of the bill after the demonstration.

The government efforts to set up a new witchhunt committee, the Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism, was met with less than favorable reviews. Few believed the stated purpose of the committee was to investigate international terrorism; even Newsweek magazine said the real agenda of this committee was to investigate domestic political opposition. Tom Wicker, the liberal newspaper columnist for the New York Times, declared his opposition to the witch-hunt. Not too many people saw the need for hearings, he said. And it would only damage the press' already shattered credibility to cover them.

None of this existed in the fifties. There was little opposition to the Korean War and the masses generally supported U.S. foreign policy. A large grouping of civil libertarians who were

willing to fight government political repression did not exist. Today there are large numbers of these folks; anti-repression organizations are blossoming as never before.

The American people, after the experiences of Vietnam, Watergate, and the current economic crisis, are not disposed in favor of the government. These three examples show that the American people will respond to the government's attacks. This time around the American workers and oppressed will not be put to sleep as happened in the fifties.

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NEWSPAPER OF THE COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY

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MAY 18-MAY 24, 1981

Scab Coal Stopped — New Leaders Elected **STRIKE SHAKING UP COAL FIELDS**

In the seventh week of the UMWA-BCOA contract fight, there have been three developments. One is the reopening of negotiations between the BCOA and the UMWA. Second, the union district elections look like spring-cleaning — incumbents being swept out of office and replaced with rank and file miners. Third, union miners have been so successful in stopping the flow of non-union coal in West Virginia and Eastern Kentucky that the court and state police have become more active in support of the companies.

In the negotiations begun on May 7, UMWA president Church said that although seven non-economic issues are on the table, he is focusing on two issues. These are: subcontracting (the demand that jobs in union mines go to union members) and the non-signatory coal provision requiring BCOA companies to pay royalties on non-union coal they sell and process. Both these demands were traded away in the last contract Church negotiated. But Church must readdress these issues because of the rank and file's thumbs-down reaction.

Contract Supporters Get Boot

Two other issues considered very important by the rank and file are the abolition of the Arbitration Review Board and its precedent-setting deci-

sions, and the 45-day probationary period, suggested by the BCOA for new miners before they can join the union. In the rejected contract, Church kept these provisions.

In the coal fields, the rejected contract continues to have ramifications in union district elections. Members of the union negotiations teams and district leaders which supported the first contract proposals are being booted out of office in Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

Even before the first contract proposal, this trend was evident in Ohio, where a pro-Church man and ex-Stearns organizer, Lee Potter, was defeated in an election against the union dissident, Ed Bell.

Church is trying to counter this vote by calling for the resignation of Ed Bell on the grounds that he publicly opposed Church's negotiations tactics. Church is also keeping the defeated candidates on the negotiations committee like Suba of Southwestern Pennsylvania. The newly elected men aren't able to influence the contract at the negotiation table.

Scab Coal Slowed Down

In other strike activities, miners continue to shut down non-union operations. Two railroad bridges leading to coal mines were dynamited, roads

travelled by scab coal trucks were strewn with nails, and union men continued to picket non-union mines.

Since the ambush of a coal truck convoy in Eastern Kentucky, scab truckers and coal companies have hesitated to move coal. A few have started though, like the coal convoys coming out of Triple Elkhorn Company near Banner, Kentucky. They run 16-truck convoys to and from their mine. To get the convoys through, the company has to hire gun thugs for protection. The company places them in trucks at the beginning, middle and end of the convoy.

Official Help for BCOA

Kentucky State Police ride along with the truckers. But it costs so much money for extra guards, helicopters, and for replacement of smashed-up coal trucks, that most non-union mines stay shut down.

In May, Kentucky Governor John Y. Brown, who ran his campaign as friend of the union man, has given his go-ahead for Kentucky State Police to get more actively involved in the contract strike. On May 5, Kentucky State Police began a new harassing technique in approaching a union picket at a non-union mine. The cops demand the miners show their ID's, take the miners' names, and photograph them and their cars.

On May 2, Virginia State Police ar-

rested 23 union miners on a picket line at a non-union mine. On May 2, a U.S. District Court put a restraining order requested by the National Labor Relations Board on the UMWA West Virginia-based District 17. It said that all picketing must be stopped at a mine construction site using non-UMWA construction workers.

Rank and File Hangs Tight

But all the State's legal and illegal harassment cannot push the UMWA rank and file to accept a lousy contract. Even though the UMWA has sustained major membership layoffs, and the opening of large non-union mining operations in the West in the last three years, the rank and file refuses to go along with the take-backs grabbed by the coal operators and accepted by their union leadership.

The UMWA rank and file fought during the early 70's in the Miners For Democracy movement for organizational reforms which have protected them against the union's leadership's abuses. These structural changes are the right for membership to ratify the contracts and the right for membership to elect district officials. These two provisions and the miners' collective fighting spirit have put them in a good position to hold out for a good contract. □

Fed/NASSCO Star Witness Flops 7



Leonard Weinglass, one of the NASSCO 3 defense attorneys, addressing the jury. See page 7.