

**Editorial**

## Reagan sends 3,500 troops to Honduras

**O**n March 17, Reagan sent up to 3,500 combat troops storming into Honduras as a show of force against Nicaragua.

With this move, Reagan has brought this country one step closer to direct involvement in an unjust war.

Reagan announced his move on the same day the indictments came down in the Iran-contragate affair, in an effort to distract attention from the crimes of his own administration, and to create more pressure in Congress for contra aid. Just three days before the troops were dispatched, the White House announced it wanted yet another vote on contra aid.

The Reagan administration's action violates the Arias peace plan, which clearly states that the U.S. must stop military aid to the contras, and that Honduras must take steps to expel the contras from its territory. It also violates the will of Congress which has twice voted down contra aid since the beginning of the year. And most importantly, it violates the will of the majority of U.S. people, who have consistently opposed contra aid and direct U.S. military intervention in Central America.

What Reagan is doing in Honduras reminds the

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# Jesse Jackson surges to the top



UNITY PHOTO: LEON BUN

## Jesse Jackson carries Chicago, coming in a strong second in Illinois

**ELECTIONS '88**

### AMIRI BARAKA

*On Jesse Jackson & Super Tuesday*

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**Amy Weber**

**C**HICAGO — Coming out of Super Tuesday, Jesse Jackson went on to win Alaska and his home state of South Carolina, then finished a strong second to Sen. Paul Simon in the March 15 Illinois primary.

Jackson won 33% of the Illinois vote and carried Chicago at 53%, put-

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# SUPER TUESDAY ROUNDUP

## MASSACHUSETTS/ RHODE ISLAND

In New England, Jackson's momentum from Maine and Vermont helped him win a strong second to regional son Mike Dukakis, coming in at 19% in Massachusetts, with a solid vote in every congressional district, and winning 15% in Rhode Island.

Earlier, Jackson had won 30% of the vote in Maine and 26% in New Hampshire. Liz Blum, Vermont campaign coordinator, told *Unity*, "We won in towns where we didn't even know anybody." In Jay, Maine, Jackson's active support for striking International Paper (IP) workers brought out 300 people caucus night to give Jackson a big win. Gary McGrane, IP striker and chair of the Jay Democratic Committee, told *Unity*, "People saw that maybe we can elect a man who doesn't have millions of dollars but who stands with the working people."

Former Boston mayoral candidate Mel King told *Unity*, "People are voting for what they want, not what they are told they can get." May



Louie, New England campaign coordinator, stated to *Unity*, "The message of New England to the nation is that white voters are prepared to vote for Jesse Jackson in large numbers. The message of New England to the nation is that we can win the presidency!"

## IDAHO/ WASHINGTON

Bertha Edwards, NAACP leader and state cochair of the Jackson campaign in Idaho, told *Unity* she was proud of the all-volunteer effort which yielded Jackson 19% of the vote a state with a .03% Black population. Jackson did well among young people, and in Moscow, Idaho, a college town, he won 50% of the vote.

In Washington, voters select delegates through a mail-in caucus system. With 78% of the vote tallied at

*Unity* press time, Jackson is coming in a strong second with 35% of the vote. Washington has a 3% Black population. Jackson won Seattle. His support reached remote lumber towns like Okanogan, farm workers of Yakima Valley, and fishing towns like Port Angeles.

## NEVADA

In the Nevada caucuses, Jackson won 26.7% of the vote and came in a close second to Al Gore. State Sen. Joe Neal, head of the Nevada campaign, told *Unity*, "Jackson actually disappointed some of the political experts who didn't expect him to do so well." Jackson came in a close second in Clark County, which includes Las Vegas.

## HAWAII

The Hawaii Jackson campaign registered over 2,000 new voters, helping Jackson win 38%. In the 1st Congressional District, Honolulu, he lost to Dukakis by 14 votes. Jackson struck a deep chord among native Hawaiians based on his support for their rights and fight for the land.

Hawaii political analysts say Jackson could have won the state if not for a last-minute change by key Democratic Party figures. They had planned to go to the Democratic National Convention uncommitted, but just before Super Tuesday they endorsed Dukakis, after new polls showed Jackson in the lead.

## Super Tuesday . . .

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In rural Mississippi, Black farmers organized low-key support for Jackson which helped carry the state on Super Tuesday. In Georgia, Sister Nora, a white Catholic nun in Atlanta, drove people to canvas, telephoned, leafleted, and at day's end, brought homemade cookies to campaign headquarters. Joe Mansfield became a one-person canvassing/leafleting operation, while Glenn Herman anchored a round-the-clock poster silk-screening team.

In areas where this kind of work was done, Jackson won by large margins. Mike Alexander, state coordinator of the Mississippi campaign, told *Unity*, "If Jackson had the money other candidates had, he would have easily won 65%. This campaign just scratched the surface of the potential Jesse Jackson vote."

On that note, there are still some ten million unregistered Black voters, many in the South. They number more than Reagan's margin of victory in 1984, and if mobilized, could be decisive this November in routing the right wing from the White House.

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ting him in the lead of the popular vote nationwide. (But Jackson won just 21% of the state's 173 delegates, due to the undemocratic winner-take-all delegate selection process.)

In the first election since Mayor Harold Washington's death last November, Jackson won 90% of the Black vote, despite the continued divisions in the late Mayor's Black political base. The divisions arose over several Black aldermen's siding with the white machine in electing Eugene Sawyer as the new mayor — a move seen as a betrayal of Washington's reform legacy. On election day, the Black community also unseated four of the six Black aldermen who backed Sawyer in their elections for Democratic Party committeemen.

Jackson also increased his support among Latinos, winning 48% in Alderman Luis Gutierrez' heavily Latino 26th Ward in Chicago.

Nearly a quarter of union households voted for Jackson, including in white wards. Jackson's first rally after

Super Tuesday was at the General Electric plant in Cicero, where hundreds of workers facing plant closure gathered in 30 degree cold to greet Jackson.

Downstate in Bloomington-Normal, Jackson held a pre-primary rally with 2,000 striking machinists, Teamsters, rubber workers, and bakery, tobacco and confectionary workers from three striking plants. Jan Cox, a delegate to the Bloomington-Normal Labor Assembly, told *Unity*, "(Jackson) is the only candidate who is condemning union busting, mergers and economic violence."

### The future

The next two primaries are in Michigan (March 26) and Wisconsin (April 5). Though "conventional wisdom" says Jackson cannot do well in the industrial Midwest or states with small Black populations, Illinois and New England have proven otherwise.

Jackson is running strong in Michigan, and is expected to do well in Wisconsin. Jackson has walked the

picket line with striking International Paper workers in DePere, Wisconsin, and called national attention to Chrysler's announcement of plans to close its Kenosha, Wisconsin, plant. In Kenosha, 2,000 workers cheered as Mrs. Jacqueline Jackson, Rev. Jackson's wife, accepted UAW Local 72's official endorsement of Rev. Jackson on March 12.

Meanwhile, the media continues to ignore Jackson's front-runner status in the popular vote, while implying that his campaign is spoiling the Democrats' ability to emerge with a "clear front-runner." Paul Kirk, Democratic national chairman, is proposing a post-primary summit to unite around one candidate rather than allow a brokered convention, where Jackson would hold tremendous clout.

The more Jackson gains, the more he upsets both the right and the established Democratic Party leadership. These are further signs that it will be an uphill fight all the way — but Jesse Jackson can win!

## NEWS Analysis

# Illinois shows Jackson strength in industrial states . . .