



workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

X-523

Pentagon hides \$30 billion in illegal arms fund

While government cuts funds for social programs

Over 100 campuses to rally Oct. 11 for South African freedom —p. 3



WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Recent demonstration in San Francisco.

By Andy Stapp
SEPTEMBER 25—Under the cover of code names like "Theme Castle," "Omega" and "Seek Spinner," the Department of Defense is carrying out a massive weapons program which is both clandestine and illegal.

According to the Wall Street Journal (Sept. 25) as much as \$30 billion is "being spent on secret programs hidden in the Pentagon budget." Even the Congress doesn't know what's happening, how much exactly is being spent and what new armaments are being produced.

This is a clear violation of the U.S. Constitution's Article One, Section 8, which states that "no money shall be drawn from the Treasury" without "a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures." Why wasn't Congress even informed? Former Undersecretary of Defense Richard DeLauer says Congress has been left unaware because, "You can't trust them." So much for any pretense of democracy.

Presumably the only people deserving of "trust" in
Continued on page 10

Justice Dept. in new assault on affirmative action —p. 3

U.S. bankers seize on Mexico's tragedy —p. 3

Catsup capitalism

—Editorial, p. 8

Huge Philippines protest hits U.S.-backed dictatorship —p. 7

Michigan student paper won't take U.S. military ads

By Kris Hamel

DETROIT, Sept. 22—In the Sept. 3 editorial in Wayne State University's student newspaper, the South End, editor Patricia Maceroni took an unequivocal stand against the U.S. war drive in Central America and announced that U.S. military advertising in the paper would not be accepted for the rest of the 1985-86 school year.

This action is gaining nationwide attention as it challenges the Pentagon's increasing attempt to turn the universities into another extension of the military-industrial complex.

In her editorial, Maceroni expounded on the massive U.S. involvement in El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. "The U.S. government is instituting a policy of terror and sabotage not only on the governments of Central America, but on the people as well. If by refusing to publish recruitment schedules we save one person from being 'the few, the proud, the dead,' the campaign will have been worth it."

Less than two weeks after the military ban was made public, the Student Newspaper Publications Board met and demanded that Maceroni retract her stand. She has refused. The board will meet again next week and it remains to be seen what further action it will take on Maceroni's non-compliance with this ultimatum.

"They said I should have come to them first," Maceroni said. "The charter said the board is the publisher, but it also says I have the right to establish policy and am responsible for what's in the paper."

The board could fire her, suspend her for a period as editor, or make her publish an apology for not consulting with the board before making her editorial decision. But Maceroni said no military ads will appear in the South End as long as she's editor.

Student and faculty support

"The response on campus has been fantastic from both students and fa-

culty," Maceroni told Workers World. The Student Council passed a resolution in support of the new editorial policy against the military and students have been circulating petitions on campus as well.

"Every day the South End gets calls from students asking how they can help. We've received letters and calls from students on campuses across the country—the University of Alabama, Temple University in Philadelphia, Chicago, USC and others," Maceroni said. Her decision to refuse military ads has resulted in national media attention from the Associated Press as well as local articles in the Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press and an interview on WXYT radio.

The South End has a long history of militancy and of linking the student

struggle with the working class community. In the late 1960s the student newspaper was also the organ of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers.

Gene Cunningham, editor of the South End in 1972-73, refused ROTC ads in the paper and within four days he was drafted, unsuccessfully. Workers World spoke with Cunningham about the current struggle at the South End. "I'm encouraged by the way the base of support is expanding around this issue. Ultimately, community support will be the key thing," he said.

Messages supporting the South End stand against the military can be sent to: Patricia Maceroni, Editor, the South End, 6001 Cass Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48202.

5,000 hit the bricks against military giant

By Terri Kay

DETROIT, Sept. 23—Some 5,000 workers struck a blow Wednesday against one of the military-industrial complex giants, General Dynamics, when they walked off their jobs in a national contract dispute. Five plants of the General Dynamics Manned Systems Division have been struck in Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

The strong hatred felt toward the union-busting General Dynamics management was evident by the 2,400 workers in Lima, Ohio, who walked out when the national contract expired. Throwing rocks at the building and setting up their own picket lines, they showed their contempt for the tentative agreement made by General Dynamics and the UAW bargaining committee. According to Jim Coakley, UAW Local 1200 President, "They have not added one single penny to the agreement."

Among the workers' demands are: parity with the auto workers, annual wage increases, better cost of living provisions, and elimination of the

three year wage "catch up" for new hires. A demand of particular import is the right to strike over health and safety conditions. General Dynamics has earned quite a bit of notoriety on health and safety, costing the lives of several workers over the last few years.

The company has announced that it will attempt to meet production schedules for Army M-1 tanks using its supervisory personnel. With all the quality problems that have been exposed at General Dynamics in the last year, it doesn't take much imagination to picture the kind of tanks that the bunch of inexperienced, do-nothing supervisors could make.

General Dynamics thinks that it can afford to take such a tough stand against the union because of its allies—the generals in the Pentagon. They fail to take into account the allies the UAW workers can muster—the working class. A defeat against this military-industrial giant strikes straight through to the warlords at the Pentagon. This is why solidarity with the General Dynamics workers is so important.

Anti-war victims of bus attack acquitted in court

By Cheryl LaBash

DETROIT, Sept. 19—Anti-war activists Marie Stephens and David Sole were found not guilty today in a trial before Judge Rufus Griffin. Charges of disorderly conduct were brought against the two at a demonstration last June 12 protesting U.S. aid to Nicaragua's contras. The charges stemmed from an incident where a bus drove into the crowd which had filled the street in front of the McNamara Federal Building and blocked traffic.

What many demonstrators had suspected about this incident was confirmed today when Officer Cornelius Byrd testified that the police had ordered the bus to drive through the protesters, many of whom were sitting or kneeling in the roadway. A Channel 4 news video tape subpoenaed as evidence showed one demonstrator almost completely under the bus and

dangerously close to the wheels while others pounded on the bus windows shouting for the driver to stop.

At the time of the arrest, telephones at the offices of the Detroit City Council, the Metro Detroit AFL-CIO headquarters, and the Southeast Michigan Transit Authority were deluged with calls as Detroiters made known their outrage at this reckless assault on the demonstration.

This broad community support was also shown at the trial. Many witnesses came forward to testify on behalf of the two defendants, including Rochelle Lento, administrative assistant to City Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey. A large group of supporters, many from the All-Peoples Congress, including prominent civil rights and senior activist Nellie Cuellar, came and sat through the entire day's proceedings.

In This Issue...

FIVE BANKERS

The meeting in New York of the heads of the central banks of the five major imperialist countries reflected the desire of the U.S. ruling class to reestablish their preeminence economically and militarily. By Sam Marcy. (Page 9.)

PHILIPPINES

Thirteen years after martial law was declared, U.S.-backed Philippine dictator Marcos had to hide behind barbed wire from country-wide mass demonstrations and the growing urban attacks of an ever stronger guerrilla movement. A New York meeting hears Lydia Bayoneta discuss these events. (Page 7.)



ANGOLA

Behind the apartheid state's raid into Angola was the weakened position of the UNITA band of counter-revolutionaries, who despite their U.S. and South African backing were falling before the strongest Angolan offensive in a decade. (Page 6.)

UNDERWATERGATE

The French government finally admitted that the military, acting under orders, sabotaged the ship Rainbow Warrior in a New Zealand port to discourage protests of underground nuclear tests in the South Pacific. (Page 11.)

WAR ADS REFUSED

The editor of Wayne State's student newspaper in Michigan announced in an editorial that that paper would refuse to accept any advertising for the U.S. military in the 1985-86 school year. Students on campuses across the nation have demonstrated their admiration for this decision. (Page 2.)

INJUSTICE DEPT.

The U.S. Dept. of Justice stepped up its attack on affirmative action to a new absurd level by planning to harass schools which promote students from the Black, Latin and other oppressed communities. (Page 3.)



NUTRITION

A new list of government-approved minimum allowances for vitamins and minerals can have a devastating impact on federal food assistance programs as "catsup is a vegetable" Reagan can use these figures to justify cuts. (Editorial, page 8.)

ALSO . . .

Anti-war activists acquitted . . . 2
UAW on strike . . . 2
Earthquake in Mexico . . . 3
Boston El Salvador protest . . . 3

Bus drivers ready to strike	4
On the Picketline	4
Wheeling-Pittsburgh strike	5
Money raised for strikers	5
South Africa uprising	6
Oct. 11 anti-apartheid actions . .	6
Protests Philippine dictator	7
Changes in China	8
Repression in Bolivia	10
Working class in Chile	10
Sabra, Shatila remembered	10
San Francisco transit hike	12
Workfare passed in Calif	12

Editorials

Millionaire Congress	8
Catsup capitalism	8

workers world

Vol. 27, No. 40/Oct. 3, 1985
Closing news date: Sept. 25, 1985

Editor: Deirdre Griswold; Technical Editor: Lallan Stein; Managing Editors: John Catalinotto, Joyce Chediak, Robert Dobrow, Sharon Shelton, Gary Wilson; Contributing Editors: Bill Del Vecchio, Monica Moorehead, Carmen Roundtree, Andy Stapp, Jaime Veve; Prison Page: Diane Feinberg; Technical Staff: Sharon Ayling, Janet Betries, Mark Doran, Neville Edwards, Ken Franson, Marsha Goldberg, Dee Knight, Lyn Neeley, Rafael Ramos, Steve Schultz; Darkroom Staff: G. Dunkel, Mark Ellis, Fabian, Susan Rotgard; Cartoonists: Bill Haislip, Tom Shannon.

Workers World (ISSN-0043-809X) published by WW Publishers, 46 W. 21 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Editorial office (212) 206-8222. Business office: (212) 255-0352. Published weekly except first week in Sept.

Subscriptions: One year: \$10.00; 6 months: \$6.00. Address requests for bundles to WW Publishers.

Second Class Postage Paid at N.Y., N.Y.

Reaganites in new assault on affirmative action

By Carmen Roundtree

SEPTEMBER 24—The U.S. Justice Department has launched another attack on affirmative action, this time utilizing the Civil Rights Act, which was meant to protect the rights of oppressed people. According to the daily press, William Bradford Reynolds, the Associate Attorney General for Civil Rights, stated on Sept. 20 that the Justice Department was investigating "whether public schools were lowering academic standards to make it easier for minority students to graduate."

Reynolds is charging schools with downgrading their curriculums in order for large numbers of minority students to graduate and to avoid charges of discrimination. He also issued a call for "color-blind curriculums."

This latest attack by the federal government on minority education and on the public school system is an attempt to make it even harder for oppressed people to graduate. Already, according to Census Department figures for 1981, in the 20-24 age group

84.3% of white students, but only 76.3% of Black students had diplomas. And in some urban school districts like New York City, about half of all oppressed students don't get diplomas. These figures alone give the lie to the Justice Department's claims.

Keith Geiger, vice president of the National Education Association, the largest teachers union, strongly disputed Reynold's statements and called for more federal funds, especially for special education. He said, "I have a hard time throwing my arms open to an administration that is constantly cutting education programs, particularly for the disadvantaged."

Cutbacks caused school deterioration

Through the investigations, Washington is trying to pin the blame on affirmative action programs and on oppressed people for the deterioration of the schools. In truth, the huge slashes in federal funds for education has created a situation where students nationwide must deal with overcrowded classrooms, not enough teachers and

slashes in special programs.

At the same time, the inner-city schools which are more heavily dependent on federal funds than suburban schools, which raise much larger sums through property taxes, have been devastated by these cuts. In fact, through these cuts, the Reagan administration is doing its best to turn back the hands of time to when illiteracy in the poor and oppressed communities was the order of the day.

The present racist administration is attempting to wipe away all that is relevant in the education of oppressed people. Aside from the basic reading, writing and mathematical skills which are difficult enough to teach and learn in classrooms that average more than 30 students, most inner-city schools are no longer teaching or have funding for Black or Latin history programs. And bilingual education was targeted from the very beginning as "ineffective."

The Reagan administration would like nothing more than to divide working people around the question of af-

firmative action and have people believe that it is just a "special handout" for a small group of people who are doing nothing more than playing on the sympathy of society because of their "unfortunate" history.

Yet it is this same history of struggle, that the ruling class in this country has sought to keep secret. They have tried to hide this proud history of determination through rampant miseducation and deception.

The Reagan administration is doing again what it has perfected in its five years in office—blaming the victims of a racist society for racism, blaming the victims who have been sent through an inferior education program for the problems in the schools.

It was through centuries of struggle and determination that the oppressed in this country won affirmative action, the right to be taught their history, the right even to go to school. It will take more than a Justice Department swipe at these hard-won gains to eliminate all that has been fought for and won.

U.S. bankers seize on Mexico's tragedy

While world community offers aid, IMF demands tribute

By Lallan Stein

SEPTEMBER 24—The heartfelt concern of people all over the world is directed to the people of Mexico following the earthquake which killed thousands and devastated Mexico City. Under the circumstances it is quite natural for most people to wish to help the Mexican people in their struggle for survival, that is, almost everyone except the top U.S. bankers whose predatory intent was exposed within hours after the disaster began.

Along with the first tragic news reports published in the New York Times on Sept. 20, 1985, there appeared this headline: "Mexico out of compliance with IMF plan."

According to this news story, banking sources were saying that "Mexico has fallen out of compliance with an austerity program established by the International Monetary Fund probably costing it more than \$900 million in IMF assistance and substantially complicating its relations with creditor banks around the world."

Mexico carries a debt of \$96 billion to U.S. and other imperialist banks. These are the very same banks which have exploited and gouged the Mexican economy. The size of the Mexican debt is second only to that of Brazil among all the developing countries.

As a condition of the debt, the U.S.-dominated IMF enforced an austerity program on Mexico which included demands for a drastic cut in social services for the people of Mexico. In addition to the drain of interest payments to the banks, Mexico has suffered from

the world oil glut which has caused a drastic drop in the price of oil, which is an important export for the Mexican economy.

The Mexican government's budget deficit is 8% instead of 5.1% as stipulated by the IMF austerity program. That was the reason that the banking sources gave, on the day of the earthquake, for the IMF penalizing Mexico by what amounts to one billion dollars.

No IMF exception for earthquake

The banking sources quoted by the Times said that "the costs of rebuilding the cities after the earthquake will only increase the size of the budget deficit, and the IMF almost surely will not make an exception because of the earthquake."

In the crisis of the Mexican earthquake the bankers and the IMF had sharply characterized the actions of their class as above and separate from the rest of society. The contrast was so brutally sharp that it drew criticism from other ruling class elements who prefer to be more discreet. One congressman noted that it "reminded him of the banker who waits until it is snowing before evicting the man, the woman and the children from their home."

As can be expected the response of the Mexican government to offers of "U.S. aid" was markedly reserved. Initially Reagan made plans to visit the disaster areas to estimate the damage and need for reconstruction with top Wall Street banker Walter Wriston and



While the Mexican people were still digging the dead and wounded out of the earthquake, U.S. bankers were already putting on the squeeze for debt payments.

construction magnate Stephen D. Bechtel Jr., chairman of the Bechtel Corporation. Bechtel, one of the world's largest construction corporations, based in California, has contributed top executives to the Reagan administration, including Secretary of State George Shultz and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger.

Based on the coolness of the administration of Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado it was decided that it would be more diplomatically expedient to send the President's wife, Nancy Reagan. Of course, she made all the demands of protocol on the Mexicans at a time when they were under the greatest pressure. However

all of Reagan's stageman of sympathy and neighborliness is a thin guise over U.S. plans involving Mexico's recovery.

These plans were hinted at in the Wall Street Journal on Sept. 19, 1985. Bourgeois economist Komal Sri-Kumar cited the disaster as "a good excuse" for the U.S. to pump money into Mexico. This is really money to be absorbed by the U.S. banks who can not afford to declare a loss in their foreign loans.

Almost as if he were describing a function of imperialism, which is to exploit the economy of a developing

Continued on page 5

2,000 in Boston say: 'U.S. out of El Salvador!'

By Susan Franzblau

BOSTON, Sept. 21—Some 2,000 people marched and rallied today to demand that the U.S. air war against El Salvador be stopped. The protesters, including many Latin people, chanted "Self determination for Puerto Rico" and "El Salvador vencera," linking the struggle in El Salvador with the movement for the independence of Puerto Rico. The demonstration was called to protest the war and to educate people as to its existence, a fact kept well hidden by the big business media. To date over 51,000 people have been killed by the U.S.-backed Duarte government and the right-wing death squads. Daily bombing raids are carried out against both civilian and guerrilla targets, incorporating the same terror tactics used by the U.S. against the Vietnamese people. The Stop the Bombing Coalition, which called this demonstration, included CASA, the Pledge of Resistance, All Peoples Congress, plus many labor, church and student groups. Anti-apartheid organizations also participated and the African National Congress was invited to speak at the main rally on the Boston Common.



WW PHOTO: SUSAN FRANZBLAU

Boston bus drivers prepare to defend their union

By Rachel Nasca

BOSTON, Sept. 24—Six hundred Boston school bus drivers, members of United Steel Workers of America Local 8751, stand poised and ready to strike to defend their union rights. They are facing a combined assault by the new school superintendent, Laval Wilson, the School Department, Chief Justice of the Superior Court Thomas Morse and two new bus companies—Transcom and National School Bus.

At issue is the drivers' right to a union contract and all the rights that normally come with a collective bargaining agreement. The School Department, which illegally fired 27 drivers, has refused to submit to arbitration on these firings as legally required by its contract with the union.

The School Department says it will not sign a new contract with the union, although the old contract expired on Sept. 4, unless the union gives up the arbitration. Since the right to grievance procedures and arbitration is the heart of every union contract, the union has justly refused to budge on this unreasonable demand.

For taking a stand in support of the legal rights of the workers, the bus drivers have become the brunt of an anti-union campaign in the newspapers and on TV and radio. The focus on the firings has been from a totally sensationalist and anti-union point of view without regard to the justice that is the right of every bus driver as well as the children who ride in the buses and their parents.

The firings were the result of a new policy by the School Department that was as arbitrary as it was unjust. Based on a so-called "criminal records check," which went back years and even decades in some cases, the School

Department fired anyone whose name came up no matter what the circumstances or whether or not they had been convicted of a crime. A driver could be fired for a 10-year-old motor vehicle offense occurring in their own car.

Many of these workers had worked as drivers for years and had top service records, including commendations from schools, superintendents and even company managers.

The union's contract with the School Department and the bus company, however, clearly states that the driver must have due process to determine if the driver should be removed from the job, a process that insures safety for the children and justice for the drivers.

The media, of course, has twisted this question of simple justice for all into an anti-union diatribe. In a vicious article in the Boston Globe, columnist Mike Barnacle even went so far as to build up a position that the drivers should be denied their right to a union. "Binding arbitration is great for brick layers, for teachers . . . for cops . . . for hotel workers and nurses . . ." Why not bus drivers? "This isn't a labor issue," he wrote.

But Barnacle and the Globe are wrong.

Working without a contract

The bus drivers have bent over backwards in seeking to settle this matter in a way that would be the least disruptive for everyone, especially the children and the community that they are serving. They have worked without a contract for most of the month and have worked hard to try to have a contract in place for the new school year with the new bus companies that were brought in.



WW PHOTO: CHRIS MYERS

Boston's school bus drivers won one battle against union-busting last spring. The war goes on.

The School Department has repeatedly brought in new companies each year as a way to try to break the union contract. But with the combined efforts of the drivers' union, the parents, community and labor support, on June 20, the union won a major victory in the struggle for job security as well as city-wide seniority. From this year on, no matter which companies have the school bus contract, they must keep the union drivers.

However, when the school superintendent and the School Department entered into direct negotiations with the union on Sept. 5, it became clear that they had no intention of trying to resolve the violation of the contract

but rather wanted to break the union.

On Sept. 17, with the union having made it clear that the School Department's refusal to submit to arbitration is a violation of the contract and a strikeable offense, the School Department got an injunction from Judge Morse against the impending walkout.

The next day, in negotiations in the judge's chambers, the local union made it clear that notwithstanding the threat of injunction the leadership would recommend a strike the following day.

The judge informed the union that the mayor of Boston, Ray Flynn, wished to speak to them. Fearing a

Continued on page 5

On The Picketline

Teacher strikes. Teacher strikes continue in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Washington. The biggest strike still going is in Seattle, where 3,700 teachers are on the picketlines in a battle that is primarily over issues of quality education and class size. The Seattle teachers, who are fighting to reduce what is now one of the worst student-teacher ratios in the country, have received considerable community support, with parents, students, and trade unionists joining them for mass picketing and rallies. The teachers' union in Seattle has vowed to defy any injunctions, which the state is threatening as a way to try to intimidate the strikers. Meanwhile, the militant school strike in Rhode Island is over, and the 53 teachers who were jailed for refusing to obey a court back-to-work order are free; teachers there won significant pay increases in their new contract. Strikes were also settled in Flint, Mich., a strong union town, and Charleston, Ill., a small rural town that witnessed its first school strike this year.

Boycott Treetop apple juice!

Treetop, the world's biggest producer of apple juice, is the target of a boycott called by the Teamsters based on its anti-worker and pro-apartheid actions. The Washington State-based company unilaterally cut wages of cannery workers when their contract expired on Sept. 16; the company didn't even claim financial difficulties, but merely said it imposed the wage cut to bring Treetop wages into line with the area

standard. IBT Local 760, which represents Treetop cannery workers, has also exposed the company's dealings with racist South Africa. Treetop imports apple juice concentrate from the apartheid state. Now, with the glare of boycott publicity spotlighting Treetop's South African connection, workers report that thousands of barrels of apple juice concentrate marked "Product of South Africa" are being warehoused in unmarked containers. Boycott racist, anti-worker Treetop apple juice!

S.F. comparable worth battle.

San Francisco city workers are locked in a battle with Mayor Dianne Feinstein over their right to equal pay for comparable worth. The workers won a new contract last month that would institute comparable worth raises totaling about \$27 million for 7,000 women, Black, Latin, Asian, and Native workers over the next two years. The city's Board of Supervisors approved the contract, Feinstein vetoed it, and the Supervisors voted for it again, overriding her veto. Now Feinstein is trying to block the contract by putting it up for a vote in a city-wide referendum, orchestrated with a propaganda campaign portraying the comparable worth raise as "so fiscally irresponsible" that it would bankrupt the city and "reduce services to the public." The three city workers' unions—United Public Employees Local 790, Hospital and Institutional Workers Local 250, and Social Services Union Local 535—filed a lawsuit against Feinstein

on Sept. 12, demanding that her attempt to circumvent a legal collective bargaining agreement be stopped.

UFW vs. pesticides.

A United Farm Workers march of 1,000 in Delano, Calif., recently marked the 20th anniversary of the first grape strike, when 1,500 mostly Filipino grape workers walked out of the fields to protest low wages and extremely oppressive working conditions. The marchers, Latino and Filipino, carried a banner reading "Scourge of Pesticides," to highlight the UFW's war against pesticides; they also urged support for the new international grape boycott. The union is trying to have five deadly pesticides—Captan, Dinoseb, Parathion, Phosdrin, and methyl bromide—banned in California. After the massive spraying of watermelons with Aldicarb poisoned 300 people this summer, the union hopes that consumers will better understand the dangerous working conditions for farmworkers, and support their struggle. UFW President Cesar Chavez said at the Delano rally that farmworkers' overwhelming desire to unionize has been blocked by intimidation and threats by growers. He said, "We believe that with truly free elections we could gain an 80 to 85% vote. But how can we win elections when people are fired after voting day? How can we win when ballot boxes get stolen, when grower agents rush the voting sites?" Chavez reported that the new grape boycott is gaining wide support around the country.



Ideal New Mexico strike.

About 100 workers at Ideal Basic Industries, Inc., in Tijeras Canyon, N.M., walked out Sept. 10 to protest management's refusal to settle over 150 outstanding grievances. The plant, near Albuquerque, is New Mexico's only cement producer. Ideal workers, represented by Local 404-D, Cement, Lime, Gypsum and Allied Workers Division, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, have unfair labor practice complaints against the company pending suspensions, firings, working conditions, and overtime pay; they'd worked without a contract since May 1984. Ideal has hired 55 scabs, which is, according to Local 404-D's Jack Hammond, "a tactic to force us to accept their last proposal."

—Shelley Ettinger

Wheeling-Pitt shuffles top management

New attempt to squeeze concessions from workers

By Gary Wilson

SEPTEMBER 23—With no settlement of the ten-week long work stoppage at Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. in sight, the company's board of directors did some fast shuffling last week. The company has taken a beating in their attempt to break the United Steel Workers union (USWA) and their union-busting attempt has failed.

A major shake-up took place in the top ranks of the corporation's executives. The chief executive officer, Dennis Carney, and two-thirds of the board members resigned, forced out by the principal stockholders of the company, Allen Paulson and Nisshin Steel Co.

Paulson, chairman of Gulfstream Aerospace, a subsidiary of Chrysler Corp., appointed a former Ford Motor Co. executive, George Ferris, as the chief executive officer. Ferris is expected to run the day-to-day operations as well as to carry out negotiations with the union.

Typical of the press reports in cases where a big corporation has been stopped in its union-busting efforts by a militant and united rank and file, the problem at Wheeling-Pitt has been reduced by the media to one of the "unpleasant personality" of Dennis Carney. Descriptions of Carney make it

clear that he is an extremely arrogant and brash person who rivals Mussolini and Hitler in his management techniques.

These reports, however, go on to contrast Carney with Paulson who is now described as, in the words of the Wall Street Journal, "having strong people skills." Such descriptions are to be expected since Carney failed and the pro-business media are now trying to sell the new guy as being a friend to the workers.

Paulson's anti-labor background

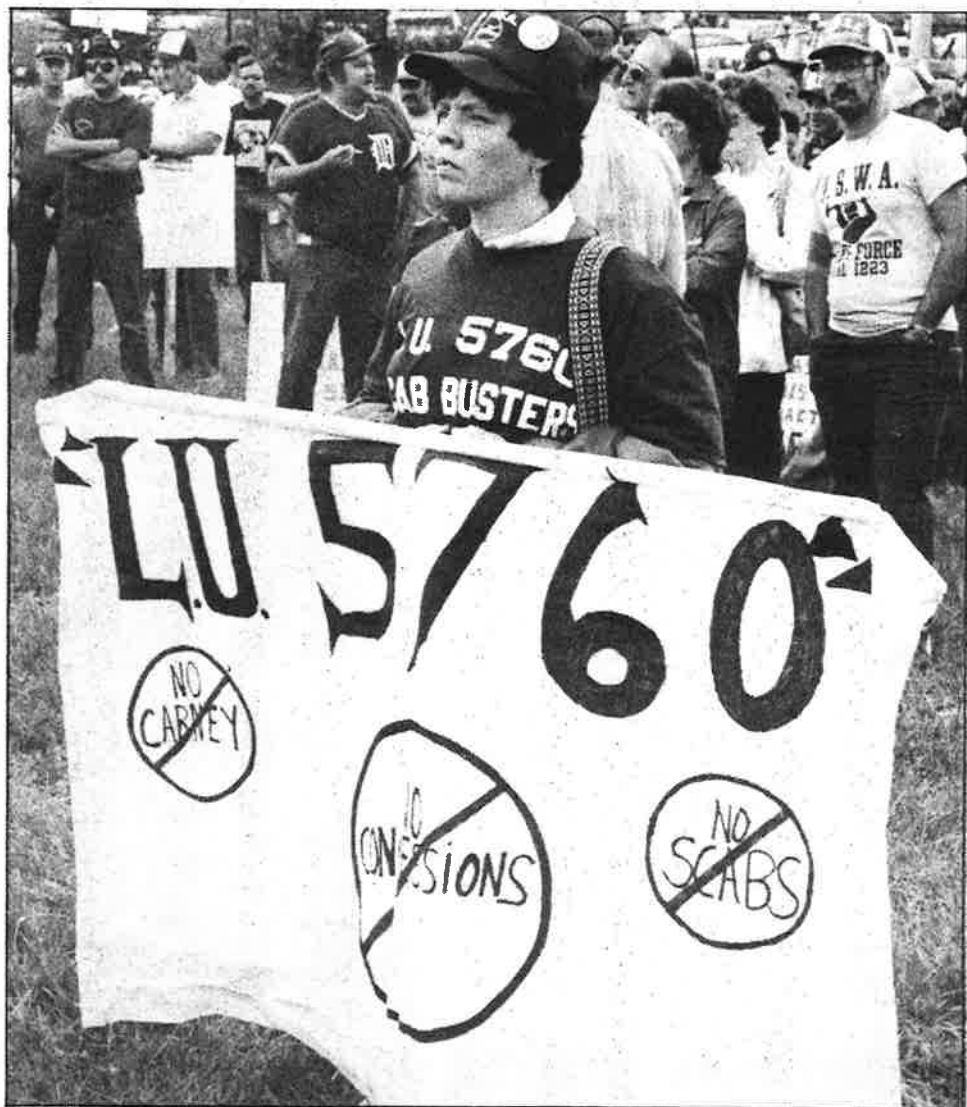
The reality will be much different, however. While Paulson will have to abandon the course initiated by Carney because the workers have stopped it on the picketline, his own background shows that he is no less hostile to the union. Paulson is closely linked with the Chrysler Corp. and its chairman, Lee Iacocca, who is notorious for the concession contract he forced on the workers there. The United Auto Workers union has yet to recover from the Chrysler setback.

In addition, appointing an executive from Ford Motor Co. to run the operations is also a sign that confrontations with the workers and their unions will not end with this new management team. Ford management has a long history of fierce resistance to the union and frequent violations of the union contract, as any Ford worker will testify. It is also where Iacocca spent most of his long career in auto management.

To show where Paulson stands in relation to the workers, his first act was to guarantee the so-called golden parachute for Carney and the other resigning executives. Golden parachutes are guaranteed severance payments for executives who leave a company, no matter what the circumstances. Carney, for example, is to be paid \$1 million.

The USWA, which is the principal creditor to the company with over \$570 million invested in Wheeling-Pitt, has demanded that this so-called golden parachute money not be paid to Carney and the other executives who forced the company into Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. Paulson's guarantee was clearly a slap in the face of the union.

Although nothing has changed



WW PHOTO: ALAN ROTH

Worker militance and broad solidarity have marked the fight to defend the union at Wheeling-Pitt.

since the corporation filed for bankruptcy last April for the sole purpose of breaking its legally binding contract with the USWA, already it is being said that because of the long lockout of the workers by management, the workers will now have to make concessions. It is amazing the number of reasons that keep appearing that supposedly make it necessary for the workers to make another concession.

The bosses at Wheeling-Pitt are facing an Oct. 15 deadline for filing a reorganization plan in the bankruptcy court. They intend to have a concession contract with the union as part of that reorganization plan.

Threat to shut down plants

In talking with Wheeling-Pitt workers in the Ohio Valley, it appears that rumors are being floated by management that since the company took such heavy losses during the work stoppage, the only way it can be profitably reorganized will be to shut down the Monessen and Beech Bottom plants. These plants have been the centers for some of the most militant picketline actions, with union members stopping the company from removing equipment and steel.

The threat to close the plants, if true, is a major challenge to the union as the principal creditor and its interests in protecting the plants and jobs of the workers. Such a shutdown would be

following the pattern imposed on the steel valley in Ohio and Pennsylvania over the last few years by the big corporations and Wall Street banks. If Wheeling-Pitt were to try to close down any of plants it would only be done to satisfy the Wall Street bankers who have played a key, if unpublicized, role in this union-busting effort by the company.

The company and the bankers are now putting tremendous pressure on USWA District Director Paul Rusen, who is leading the Wheeling-Pitt negotiations, to accept concessions as a part of the company's reorganization. Rusen had a secret meeting with Paulson last August and the USWA international leadership in Pittsburgh does not deny that such a meeting took place, while no one is saying what agreements may have been made.

The union's ranks have made it clear through a recently circulated petition that in any negotiations with Wheeling-Pitt management, their only position is no concessions. Numerous documents presented by the union's attorneys during the bankruptcy proceedings show that the current, legally binding contract with the union is in no way an obstacle to the survival of Wheeling-Pitt. And the tremendous struggle these workers have put up over these last months shows that they have the strength to win a no-concessions contract.

Autoworkers raise \$26,000 for Wheeling-Pitt workers

DETROIT, Sept. 20—Four hundred union members filled the United Steelworkers Local 1299 hall here tonight to show their support for the striking Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel workers. It was a crowd made up of steelworkers and autoworkers, teamsters and teachers, and many more Detroit area unions. A roar went up as USWA District 29 Director Harry Lester announced that over \$26,000 had been raised locally in just three weeks to help the critical strike. Retired steelworkers took the lead in organizing plant gate collections at the large Great Lakes Steel facility. They proudly took credit for getting contributions totalling \$5,400. These retirees told Workers World that they are veterans of the battles to found the steel union.

—Bus drivers

Continued from page 4

strike, the mayor assured the union that he and the president of the school committee supported the union's right to arbitration and that a settlement was forthcoming.

A union meeting was held that night of 400 angry drivers prepared to strike. Based on the apparent settlement, they instead voted to postpone any action unless the negotiations with the companies and the city reached an impasse.

But the following morning in a brash and blatant union-busting diatribe, the school superintendent said that he would never agree to arbitration.

The mayor's response? Publicly, "No comment." Privately, intense maneuvering to avoid a strike. Yesterday, after nine hours of negotiation, the school superintendent refused to back a settlement offer made by the School Department's own lawyers.

Mobilizing solidarity

The union has reconstituted its Community-Labor Solidarity Committee in an effort to mobilize and organize support for an upcoming strike. Thousands of letters to parents were sent home through the children on the bus-

es to explain the issue and enlist support.

Domenic Bozzotto, president of Hotel Workers Local 26 and vice president of the Mass. AFL-CIO, said, "I will do all in my power to organize labor in this state to support the struggle for justice for the Boston school bus drivers."

Stevan Kirschbaum, a shop steward in the bus drivers' local, said, "We understand that if a school superintendent, the courts or any other outside force can take away our union contract rights then no rights are safe. The companies will get the green light to violate our contract, to try to cut away at our wages and working conditions in this period of Reaganite concession bargaining. What is at stake in our struggle is the heart of our union, the union contract."

The Boston school bus drivers have struck four times in the past to win their union, their job security and their rights. They have defied court injunctions, cops and jail, federal mediators and strike-breaking goons. And they are prepared to fight again. As Jimmy Thompson, vice president of the local said last night, "If the superintendent wants to play tough . . . okay."

—Mexico tragedy

Continued from page 3

country through capital ventures, Kumar said, "The government may be able to send in capital disguised as earthquake aid."

The Wall Street Journal said that "bankers and economists already are speculating that Mexico is likely to be forced into agreeing to a new 12- to 15-month IMF (austerity) program that will open the door to loans from commercial banks and the World Bank."

Now more than ever Cuban Presi-

dent Fidel Castro's proposal for an organized moratorium on all Latin American debt seems appropriate. Cuba itself was once a U.S. neo-colony. Cuba, though light years ahead of where it was before the Revolution, continues to be a poor country because of the U.S. blockade. The Cubans deeply sympathize with Mexico. Poor as they are, they were among other poor countries who immediately dispatched supplies and aid which was gratefully appreciated by the grief-stricken Mexicans.

South Africa invaded Angola to stem collapse of UNITA puppets

By Monica Moorehead

SEPTEMBER 24—The racist regime of South Africa publicly admitted to violating "non-aggression" pacts with the frontline states of Mozambique and the People's Republic of Angola (PRA) by continuing to support its terrorist, reactionary puppets, the Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

Both of these counter-revolutionary groupings have been fueled and financed by the U.S.-backed South African regime in an attempt to overthrow both of these anti-imperialist governments.

The admission coincided with South Africa's latest raid into the southern part of Angola, where UNITA is headquartered. South Africa's thin excuse for violating the sovereignty of the PRA was that its troops were pursuing the guerrillas of the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO), the vanguard national liberation movement fighting for the end of colonial and imperialist domination in Namibia by South Africa and its allies, principally the U.S. Namibia has been



WW PHOTO: MONICA MOOREHEAD

**Secretary General of SWAPO
Andimbo Toivo Ja Toivo explains
South African attack on Angola.**

a colony of South Africa since the end of World War II.

**South African raid
staged to rescue puppets**

The real factor behind the raid, however was exposed when Jonas Savim-

bi, the leader of UNITA, stated that his band of ruthless mercenaries were under fierce attack by the strongest government troop offensive in a decade, following the liberation of the PRA from Portuguese colonial rule. Therefore, his South African backers were propelled to come to his rescue.

This admission was confirmed by the Secretary-General of SWAPO, Andimbo Toivo Ja Toivo, during a recent visit to the U.S. to educate people as to what is really happening in Namibia. Speaking to a group of anti-apartheid activists in Harlem, Toivo stated, "South Africa went into Angola for the specific purpose of helping its surrogates of UNITA who were under heavy attack. At the point of reaching UNITA headquarters in Jamba, so went South Africa's agreement with Angola as well as the hopes of Ronald Reagan. This is the position of SWAPO."

Toivo was referring to the agreement designed by the U.S. last year and signed by the PRA and the apartheid regime. This agreement, in essence, stated that South Africa would withdraw its troops from Angola if the PRA would cease from providing aid and a base for SWAPO guerrillas.

**Revolutionary Cuban assistance
worries imperialists**

Mozambique signed an earlier agreement, the Nkomati Accords, in March 1984 stating that South Africa would stop aiding the MNR only if Mozambique would oust the guerrillas of the African National Congress (ANC), fighting the apartheid regime inside of South Africa.

The U.S. and South Africa have attempted to concoct every maneuver to force internationalist Cuban troops to leave Angola. Cuban troops have been stationed in Angola for the past decade at the request of the government to assist in repelling any attempts to overthrow the PRA by South African aggression. The U.S. and South Africa have tried to link the Cuban troops in Angola with the independence of Namibia.

Commenting on this situation, Toivo stated, "These are two different issues. The withdrawal of Cuban troops from

Angola is a decision to be made solely by the sovereign states of Cuba and the PRA."

SWAPO looks to countries like Angola for material aid and sanction since it is banned inside of most of Namibia. However, SWAPO continues to be recognized by the oppressed masses inside of Namibia and the international community as the sole representative of the aspirations of the Namibian people.

This latest terrorist raid by Pretoria troops inside Angola as well as the repeal of the Clark Amendment by the Senate earlier this year, which had prohibited any U.S. aid to UNITA, exposes the desperate situation of South Africa and how the U.S. ruling class has found itself trapped with no place to go.

South Africa is slowly losing its control of the mineral rich territory of Namibia and the U.S. is afraid of losing its vast economic investments throughout Southern Africa and especially South Africa.

Hard as the imperialists and their South African cohorts may try, the PRA remains strong and committed in defending the gains made by their young revolution led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). Despite the tremendous obstacles faced by the combatants of SWAPO, they, like their counterpart the African National Congress of South Africa, are continuing an unrelenting struggle against their colonial and imperialist oppressors.

In the words of Mr. Toivo, "The exiles of SWAPO are fighting a war of national liberation with the encouragement of political activists around the world. We need your support politically, morally, materially and diplomatically. Whenever the struggle of Namibia is raised, these demands should be raised as well—stronger economic sanctions against South Africa, the dropping of linkage between the independence of Namibia with Cuban troops in Angola, the end of Reagan's constructive engagement with South Africa, the reinstatement of the Clark Amendment and the release of all Namibian political prisoners."

Frontline states urge greater sanctions against Pretoria

By Neville Edwards

SEPTEMBER 23—Leaders of 10 of the largest U.S. corporations in South Africa have formed a group that they say will lobby in South Africa "for an end to apartheid." According to the New York Times, Roger B. Smith, chairman and chief executive of General Motors and W. Michael Blumenthal, former Treasury Secretary and chief executive of Burroughs Corporation, announced the forming of the group called U.S. Corporate Council on South Africa.

The bare fact is that these corporations are looking to protect themselves and their investments in South Africa from the growing anger of the South African Black masses who are locked in an intense struggle to overthrow the apartheid regime. They are also attempting to deflect the anger of the U.S. anti-apartheid movement which is calling for these corporations to get out of South Africa.

Both Reagan and U.S. big business have long been opposed to economic sanctions, hypocritically claiming that it will "hurt the Black people of southern Africa." This professed regard by the profiteering corporations for the very Black masses they exploit is suspect and is in direct contradiction to the position of the African front-line states.

Last week leaders of Mozambique, Angola, Botswana, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe issued a call for the intensification of international pressure, including economic sanctions, against the hated apartheid regime. They called for the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners and praised the African National Congress for the "vast mobilization" of the Black masses in the uncompromising struggle to destroy apartheid.

IBM, Johnson and Johnson, Colgate-Palmolive, Mobil, Citicorp, Fluor Corporation, Caltex Petroleum, and Deere & Company are all fully aware that their weak criticisms will have no effect on their fascist cronies in the apartheid regime. This is not lost on the anti-apartheid movement in the U.S., either, which is calling for no-

thing less than the total withdrawal of all U.S. companies from South Africa. The divestment struggle on U.S. campuses is on the increase, and a broad coalition, including the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network, is planning anti-apartheid activities for Oct. 11.

Capetown youth battle police

Meanwhile, the struggle inside South Africa continues unabated. "It's no longer a question of just protest," said a Black youth in South Africa, "This is a revolutionary struggle for progress."

Last week saw running battles in the Capetown area between protesters and the police, who shot to death two people including a 10-year-old boy.

High school students along with their parents and teachers have been fighting to reopen schools that were closed by the apartheid regime. The schools were closed because youths had used them as organizing centers for the struggle against the regime.

Fearing the might of the Black masses, the racist regime has assigned Brig. C. A. Stewart to be police commander of the Eastern Cape region. Stewart was the commander in the region when, last March, 21 people were murdered by the police at Langa township.

In Atteridgeville outside Pretoria many youths were reported wounded when they fought with police after the funeral for 3-year-old Mitah Concilia Ngopbeni who was killed by a rubber bullet. Two of the racist police were seriously wounded by angry youths. One cop was struck with an ax and another was pelted with stones and seriously wounded when he tried to rescue the wounded cop.

Their organized and continued resistance to the heavily armed police and military bears testimony to the strength and determination of the Black masses of South Africa in their courageous march to victory. As United Democratic Front leader Rev. Allan Boesak said upon his release this week, "Our determination to continue the struggle for a free South Africa cannot be undermined."

Over 100 campuses to rally for South African freedom on Oct. 11

By Jean Bowdish

SEPTEMBER 23—More campuses and cities can be added to the list of areas participating in the nationwide call to make October 11—Free All South African Political Prisoners/Free Nelson Mandela Day. As of today, there will be activities on over 100 campuses and communities, making the week of Oct. 11 a time when many thousands will join the struggle for a Free South Africa.

For many years the African National Congress (ANC) has observed Oct. 11 as a day to show support for the thousands of Black political prisoners held by the racist apartheid regime. Many organizations across the country have taken up the call to build for Oct. 11, including the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of APC-PAM and the American Committee on Africa.

Campuses have been a major focus of organizing for Oct. 11 in solidarity with the fighting students of South Africa. Students from San Francisco State and UC Berkeley to Rochester Institute of Technology to Grambling

State Louisiana and Georgia Tech to Wayne State University Detroit and University of Michigan Ann Arbor to the campuses of the State Universities of New York to Temple in Philadelphia are planning rallies, teach-ins, pickets and meetings. Some student groups are calling for a boycott of classes; encouraging more people to participate in activities on campus and in solidarity with the students of South Africa, many of whom are boycotting their schools.

In New York City a coalition of Students, trade unionists and community activists are planning to march and rally on Oct. 11. The coalition is targeting Citibank which is the principal and biggest investor in South Africa. There will be a rally at the international headquarters of Citibank (53rd St. and Lexington Ave.) starting at 5:30 p.m. After the rally there will be a march to the South African Consulate at 48th St. and Second Ave.

To find out if something is going on in your area you can call the national office of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of APC/PAM at (212) 741-0633.

Anniversary of martial law in Philippines

Tens of thousands turn the table on Marcos' phony 'celebration'

By Sharon Shelton

SEPTEMBER 23—The U.S.-backed Philippine government tried to declare Sept. 21, the thirteenth anniversary of martial law, a national holiday celebrating "the birth of a new society that saw sweeping reforms under President Marcos."

But Sept. 21 found Marcos hiding in his presidential palace ringed by barbed wire, more than 2,000 troops and a dozen fire trucks as tens of thousands of angry demonstrators called for the end of U.S.-Marcos rule.

Simultaneous protests took place in the cities of Devao, Cebu, Iloilo, Bicolod, in Cavite Province and elsewhere.

The marches and rallies in Manila left at least 34 arrested and three injured. At one rally in the capital, the effigies of President and Imelda Marcos went up in flames, while in Quezon City, the two were convicted of high crimes against the people at a mock trial.

These crimes included violation of human rights, militarizing the country, encouraging prostitution and pornography, sabotaging the economy and stealing millions from the Filipino people.

On Sept. 20, sugar workers and farmers in Escalante in the economically depressed province of Negros fought with riot police in demonstrations called against low wages and a scarcity of food.

Twenty were killed and 27 wounded as Marcos' cops opened fire on the unarmed crowd. About this massacre the regime remained silent, except for the brutal Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos who merely termed the incident "unfortunate."

Guerrillas gaining ground

While the mass struggle to oust Marcos and his U.S. backers becomes more and more intense, as the Sept. 21 outpourings show, the liberation forces of the Moro National Liberation Front, representing the oppressed Moslem peoples, and the New Peoples Army (NPA) are also making new gains.

"We are now preparing, coordinating military action both above ground and underground. We are training, buying more arms," one Moro leader was quoted as saying recently (Ang Katipunan, September 1985).

In recent months, the NPA has staged bold attacks on urban areas, some involving company size formations of as many as 500 fighters.

According to Marcos' own Brig. Gen. Alexander Felix, regional commander

for the Cagayan Valley area, the NPA has 38 encampments, bases and training centers in the area. He complains that there are over 1,000 regular NPA guerrillas, 900 assorted arms, 12,000 support fighters and a mass base of 98,300 in this area alone (Ang Katipunan, August 1985).

The NPA won 95% of its 526 attacks from April 1984 to May 1985, according to Pulang Tala, a publication issued by the guerrillas. During the same period, NPA fighters took over 30 towns, averaged 10 military operations a week and doubled the number of weapons seized from Marcos' forces.

In the cities, the NPA has established armed partisans with their own network of supporters, and support for the NPA among mass organizations

in the urban areas is voiced publicly.

Meanwhile, the Reagan administration is frantically trying to shore up its loyal puppet Marcos. Despite a repayment crisis, the IMF and international banks devised a bailout of almost \$4 billion in August. And the Reagan administration and congress have gotten together a \$70 million military aid package to send to the dictator.

The stakes for the U.S. in the revolt sweeping the Philippines are high. Large U.S. multinational corporations such as Mobil Oil, Pepsico, Colgate Palmolive, R.J. Reynolds, Texas Instruments, IBM, Chase Manhattan, and others have long profited off the labor and natural resources of the Philippine peoples.

In addition, the Philippines fur-

nishes an important location for U.S. military bases, such as the giant one at Subic Bay. Strategically located within striking distance of Viet Nam, China, Peoples Korea and the Soviet Union, these bases are vital to the U.S. military machine in its efforts to protect its predatory interests in Asia.

Reagan and his U.S. capitalist backers would like to preserve the status quo, which has been so profitable to them in the past, in the Philippines. But for Filipinos that status quo means harsh repression, unemployment rates of 50% and unbearable poverty.

It is these conditions that are propelling the Philippine people into a revolutionary struggle that could dramatically alter the course of events of all of Asia.

WWP leader assesses growth of Filipino revolutionary movement

By Andy Stapp

NEW YORK, Sept. 21—"The most important development in the Philippines over the past two years is the growing strength and influence of the New People's Army which now has the support of millions in the armed resistance against the Marcos dictatorship, an alien force protecting only the interests of landlords and foreign companies."

That's how Lydia Bayoneta, a member of the National Committee of Workers World Party, assessed the growing mass movement shaking the U.S.-Marcos regime in her talk to tonight's Workers World Party Forum. Her declaration that the New People's Army could now hold its own in battles with government forces was greeted with enthusiastic applause from the audience, many of whom were veterans of years of activity in support of the Filipino people.

They had gathered on the date when 13 years ago Ferdinand Marcos had declared martial law, the anniversary of which has been commemorated in recent years by tumultuous protests in the Philippines. In 1985, Bayoneta said, "the demonstrations are occurring every week."

"The current mass discontent and growing militancy of the workers and peasants," she said, "is a direct result of the terrible poverty, exploitation and repression which imperialism has caused," in collusion with "the Filipino



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

Workers World Party National Committee member Lydia Bayoneta speaks on the Philippines struggle.

bourgeoisie and comprador bourgeoisie who have become partners with the U.S."

With "over one-half" of the total agricultural area controlled by landlords who keep the people under what she described as "semi-feudal" subjugation, "the penetration of U.S. monopoly capitalism makes the situation doubly oppressive." Bayoneta pointed to the activities of the Del Monte corporation, which acquired vast tracts of land after the declaration of martial law as typical of the firms exploiting "a growing rural proletariat."

More than 24 million people, "half

the total population," live in poverty, she said.

Bayoneta quoted a State Department document which said, "Our support is one of Marcos' largest remaining strengths," and she called attention to the two huge Pentagon military installations at Clark Field and Subic Bay on the island of Luzon. But she observed that there is "confusion and division among both the Philippine and U.S. ruling classes." Bayoneta also observed that as the Filipino President is "pounded by strikes and demonstrations" there is a "decreasing confidence in Marcos on the part of his U.S. tutors." They are, she continued, both afraid to hold elections and afraid not to. In any case, "elections held in a neo-colony like the Philippines do not in and of themselves provide any answers to the pressing problems facing society."

And while the imperialists wrestle with their dilemma, "the parliament of the streets" grows stronger and the New People's Army "operates along fronts covering 2,700 barrios, in over 200 towns and cities in 15 provinces," forcing landlords to lower rents, ambushing army patrols and "establishing an armed urban infrastructure that will be crucial to future insurrections and uprisings."

The forum, which was chaired by Trudy Rudnick, also heard a report from Johnnie Stevens on nationwide actions coming up on Oct. 11 in support of the South African people.

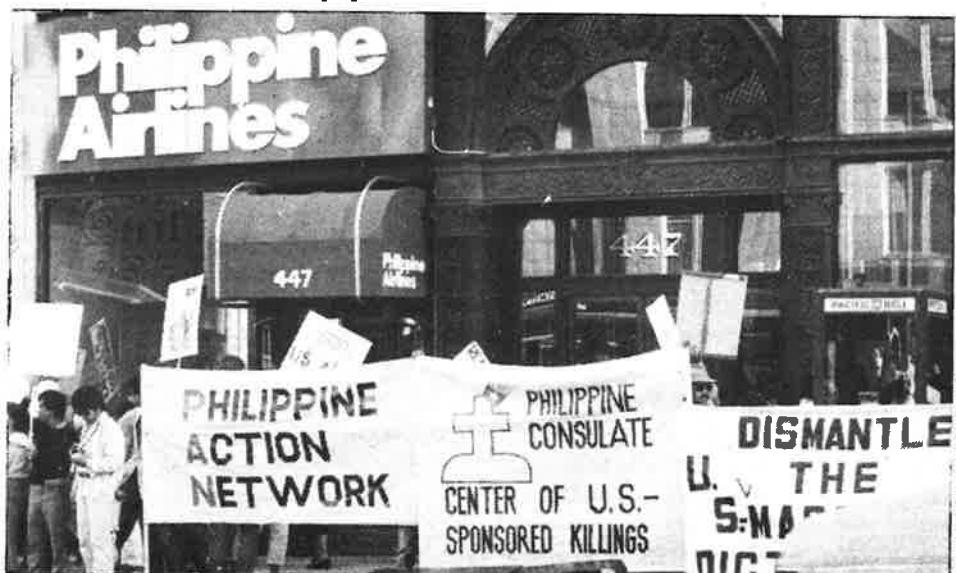
'Down with Marcos, U.S. out of Philippines!'



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

SEPTEMBER 20—"Down with Marcos, U.S. out of the Philippines" was the cry at protest activities today called in New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. to coincide with the thirteenth anniversary of martial law in the Philippines. In Washington, D.C., 150 people marched from the World Bank to the White House.

The New York demonstration (left) at the Philippine Consulate was called by a coalition of Filipino organizations including the Alliance for Philippine Concerns and the Philippine Workers Support Committee. A strong delegation



WW PHOTO: JANE CUTLER

from the All-Peoples Congress attended.

The Philippine Consulate was also the site in San Francisco for a militant protest (right) including members of the Philippine Resource Center, Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), League of Filipino Students, Young Koreans United, All-Peoples Congress and Nicaragua Information Center. On Sept. 19, a reception was held for Meynardo Palarca, a representative of Philippine Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU-May 1 Movement). Palarca spoke at the Local 2, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, attracting many unionists.

EDITORIAL

Catsup capitalism

WHEN IT FIRST came into office, the Reagan administration tried to cut the cost of school lunches by declaring that catsup could be counted as "a vegetable." The White House had to back down on that one, but it's back again with a new scam, this time with a claim that recommended dietary allowances for vitamins and minerals are too high! People should learn to get along with less minimal nutrition protection, according to a preliminary report from the government's National Academy of Sciences.

While many feel that the current government suggestions are too low, the report calls for a 25-30% cut in the recommended allowance for Vitamin A, a 33-50% slash for Vitamin C along with cuts in Vitamin B-6 and Iron. A deficiency of Vitamin C leaves people susceptible to infection. Not enough Vitamin B-6 can cause pellagra, and inadequate amounts of Vitamin A lead to eye diseases like xerophthalmia, as well as digestive and respiratory illnesses. Lack of sufficient iron causes anemia.

Lynn Parker, the senior nutritionist at the Food Research and Action Center says that the new guidelines have "potential devastating effects on Federal Food Assistance programs" because the lowered allowances can be "misused to prove that hungry poor Americans are not really lacking

in food." Over 30 million people in this country live below the poverty level, 13 million of them children.

"How it is used in setting policy is out of our hands," say the authors of the report. They know what's coming, and are fully aware that the Reaganites want to clamp down even more on the supplemental food program for women, infants and children, the food distribution program on Indian reservations and the nutrition programs for the elderly, as well as on food stamps and school lunches. The government would rather spend money, as they do now, storing 11 billion pounds of dairy products alone in government warehouses just to keep prices up, rather than to see that everybody gets a decent diet.

This is the mentality of a President who once called unemployment insurance, "a pre-paid vacation for freeloaders," and who in 1974 hoped for "an epidemic of botulism" following a free food distribution to thousands of hungry Californians.

In the world of Ron and Nancy and Ed Meese, the steaks are always thick and juicy and well-trained palates can easily tell the difference between domestic and imported caviar. This "shining city on a hill" they inhabit is beginning to look like another city in another place where the well-fed rulers said, "Let them eat cake."

The best House money can buy

FAR LESS THAN 1% of the people in this country are millionaires. Yet more than 30% of the representatives elected to Congress in 1984 are, with a number of them firmly in the multi-millionaire club.

The report from the United States Public Interest Project which released this information also notes that the number of millionaires among new members of the House of Representatives is 15 times greater than among the group who got elected only six years ago, attributing the enormous leap to a Supreme Court decision which ruled that no limits can be placed on how much a candidate may lavish from their own personal fortune on buying themselves high office. The Court reasoned that restrictions on personal financing of political campaigns would limit "free speech." This decision allowed Tommy Robinson (D-Ark.) to spend \$459,344 of his family pile on securing a seat in "the people's House." Hard to beat that. Arkansas per capita income

is \$9,040.

In the Senate, the price of admission is even higher, with each election costing millions. Only the super-rich members of the ruling class, men like John Warner (R-Va.), John Heinz (R-Pa.), Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Jay Rockefeller IV (D-W.V.) can afford this. The rest must sell their services to the big business lobbies like the National Association of Manufacturers, the American Petroleum Institute, the Association of American Bankers, to the defense contractors, chemical manufacturers, real estate developers, timber barons and other "disinterested parties."

Congress thus becomes a perfect reflection of all the capitalist property interests, and a sham for poor farmers, the unemployed and working people. Women and oppressed people fare even worse for less money commands less influence.

This set-up is what apologists for capitalism like to call "the greatest system in the world."

It is. For them.

BUILD THE WORKERS' PRESS

Workers World newspaper is a weapon against the war machine. Both its news and analysis is in the forefront of the organizing against Reagan's pro-Pentagon, anti-people policies.

The Workers World Supporter Program is a way that many of our readers help the paper continue to play its vital role in the struggle. Supporters give at least \$50 a year—or \$5 a month—and in return receive first-run copies of all new books and pamphlets from World View Publishers, five gift subscriptions to give to friends, and a monthly letter.

Workers World, 46 W. 21 St., NY, NY 10010



What's behind government reshuffle in China?

By Deirdre Griswold

SEPTEMBER 24—Does the removal of a sizable number of China's veteran revolutionaries from the Communist Party's leading bodies—the Central Committee and Politburo—signal a new and significant turn to the right in the world's most populous country? Or is it merely another step in the consolidation of political power by the conservative grouping in the party led by Deng Xiaoping?

It was announced last week by the Central Committee that 10 of the 24 members of the Politburo had been "retired," as had 64 of the 340 members of the Central Committee itself. Most of the outgoing members of these bodies had become Communists during the revolutionary war; some had participated in the historic Long March.

The press and media here are making much of this, seeing it as further proof that China is on the road to capitalism. A lengthy feature in this week's Time magazine is entitled "China: Moving Away from Marx."

Turn to right not new

Workers World newspaper was one of the very first to point out that the denunciation of Mao and his colleagues by their successors marked a dangerous turn to the right in China's domestic and foreign policy. Since then, the "pragmatic" Deng grouping has done much to reintroduce market incentives in China, disrupting socialist planning, enriching some at the expense of others, and eroding class solidarity. The communes, by which the Mao leaders hoped to develop China's economy on a socialist basis, have largely been dismantled.

Especially since Deng's visit to Washington in 1979, China has instituted an "Open Door" policy to attract foreign capitalist investment and technology.

With all this, however, the picture being painted in the imperialist press of a China on the verge of full-fledged capitalism is a fiction. There are contradictory social and economic forces at work in China, and the right wing in the Communist Party certainly has the upper hand. But the class struggle within China must be reckoned with, as well as developments in the international arena.

'Reforms' bring problems

Reports from China over the past year have made it clear that the "re-

forms" already carried out have been accompanied by big problems. The springing up of new entrepreneurs, some of whom mimic imperialist lifestyles, has evoked an indignant reaction from many workers and peasants.

And while the communes no longer exist, they have been replaced in most cases by a form of collective that is a far cry from bourgeois private property. The means of production in China are still overwhelmingly under collective ownership, and subject to central planning.

The expectation that Western capital would help China with needed development has also proven way overblown.

The latest five-year plan, just made public, is described as "cautious" in yesterday's Wall Street Journal. "A rational rate of economic growth must be fixed and blind competition and pursuit of increased output and output value guarded against," says the party's economic proposal. This is a big retreat from earlier euphoria that the "reforms" would spur rapid growth.

China has also found that markets in the capitalist world for its goods are limited. It is spending more on imports than it is receiving from sales abroad, raising the spectre of having to finance its growth with borrowed money—something Chinese planners are reluctant to do. If protectionist measures against textiles make headway in the U.S. Congress, China will have even more problems with its balance of trade.

So, as much as the imperialists would like to claim China as a convert to capitalism, some of their enthusiasm has to be seen as media hype.

There are several reasons for this. One is the perennial desire to show that "communism doesn't work," to convince people here who are fed up with capitalist unemployment, racism and poverty that there can be no other system, that capitalism is the "best of all possible worlds."

Another factor in the present rash of adulatory articles is that Reagan will be meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in two months. U.S. strategists would certainly like to see a speech by China at the current special session of the UN General Assembly that would be friendly to the U.S. and cold to the Soviet Union. Ever since the 1972 Shanghai Communiqué negotiated by the Nixon administra-

Continued on page 10

What was behind the bankers' secret meeting?

Protectionist demagoguery and the need for unity between U.S. workers and oppressed peoples

By Sam Marcy

SEPTEMBER 24—It is characteristic of capitalist democracies that some of the most important decisions which vitally affect the living standards of the masses are never brought up in the parliamentary institutions which are supposed to deal with them. Moreover, they are not even ratified by these institutions after the decisions are made.

Thus, over the weekend of Sept. 21-22, the principal imperialist bankers of the U.S., Japan, Britain, France and West Germany met in New York City in a conference shrouded by secrecy. At the end of their hurried session they issued a mystifying communique which only the insiders could or would decipher publicly.

Suffice it to say that it dealt with the devaluation of the dollar and how to handle the debt crisis caused by the huge loans foisted upon the oppressed countries. These have once again reached crisis proportions and the imperialist bankers are faced with a variety of challenges which are sure to be voiced by the oppressed countries at the UN General Assembly meeting.

Cuba in particular is likely to raise the issue of the cancellation of this extortionate indebtedness by the oppressed countries, as it has been vigorously doing for a considerable period of time.

The bankers are also plotting measures in anticipation of the political crises which are already arising in many of the indebted countries as the austerity measures being carried out to suit the bankers' demands result in desperate economic conditions for the masses.

One aspect of the conference is certainly an attempt to reach a new realignment of the imperialist currencies by lowering the exchange value of the dollar. Whether this is likely to influence international trade and commerce to any measurable degree cannot be ascertained as yet. Even if it does, the benefits will rapidly evaporate because it is an artificial stimulant which within a period of time once again gives way to even more depressing if not destructive economic dislocations.

A cheaper dollar will only bounce back

Monetary manipulation plays the same role in the epoch of monopoly capitalism as coin clipping did in the early stages of the commodity producing phase of capitalism before the introduction of paper money. The latter came into general use when gold was the form of payment and medium of exchange.

A monarch would call in his goldsmith and instruct him to ever-so-finely clip the coins of the treasury. With the clippings of gold he could mint new coins to pay his creditors. But the clipped coins would ultimately come back to the monarch in the form of taxes as a result of the process of circulation. So eventually the value of the coins in circulation would be reduced and the temporary benefit to the monarch would be canceled out.

The need for a common approach by the imperialist banks as against the oppressed countries was underlined by the catastrophe suffered in Mexico. The first earthquake hit just at a time when the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was on the verge of refusing a billion dollars in credit to Mexico unless it would accept more severe austerity measures directed against the Mexican people.

The bankers' meeting was convened at the behest of the Reagan administration because of its concern over the feverish protectionist drive in Congress. However, the real problem confronting the Reagan administration and Congress as well is how to project

the formerly preeminent U.S. economic power in the context of the contemporary world situation.

U.S. capitalism ain't what she used to be

In order to understand this it is necessary to see the role of American finance capital in historical perspective. In the early 1920s, following the First World War, and almost up to World War II, the U.S. pursued a protectionist policy. This was dramatically illustrated by the passage of the Smoot-Hawley tariff.

The other capitalist countries were also trying to raise all sorts of economic barriers, trade restrictions and tariffs. All the measures taken at the time by the U.S. and the other capitalists were calculated to ward off an economic crisis in their own respective countries.

The economic crisis set off by the Wall Street crash of October 1929 came, however, not because of the high tariff walls set up by the capitalist countries, but in spite of them. None of the measures taken by the various capitalist states were able in any way to stave off an economic crisis.

There were world economic conferences then just like the one held in New York City last weekend. None of them ever succeeded in their objective of eliminating trade barriers. At most they reduced them here and there, but only when it suited the individual purposes of each capitalist country.

At the end of World War II, however, the U.S. found itself in an altogether different position than at the end of the First World War. By 1945 Europe and Japan lay in ruins, as did much of the world at the time. The U.S., which had been free from military attack on its mainland, had preserved its industrial and technological apparatus intact. Utilizing the development of the atomic bomb and the destruction of the Axis powers, the U.S. was able to dictate the nature of the economic order that arose on the ruins of the war.

It was to the advantage of the U.S. to stimulate trade and commerce in the entire bourgeois world as a means of rehabilitating the imperialist system and safeguarding it against socialist revolutions.

Opening up markets to its former enemies as well as to its allies was a dire necessity in order to rehabilitate the imperialist system, which was on the verge of collapse after the war. It was then that the U.S. became a promoter of free trade.

It infused billions of dollars into the European economy through the Marshall Plan and other mediums. With regard to Japan, one of the understandings arrived at during the surrender period was it would become an ally of the U.S. in the struggle against the Soviet Union and China. In return the U.S. would open up its markets to Japan.

One is prompted to ask how all this could be forgotten in the present frenzied protectionist fever?

At that time U.S. imperialism felt on the basis of the partial collapse of the capitalist system abroad that it had little to lose and a great deal to gain by opening up its markets to not only its imperialist allies but its former enemies as well.

The U.S. was to a large extent regarded everywhere as the dominant political, economic and military force in the world. U.S. finance capital had gobbled up French, Dutch, Belgian, Japanese and British markets worldwide, especially in the oppressed countries. It was the period of the great ascendancy of U.S. imperialism.

The most urgent need during the early post-war period was to bolster



Bankers and foreign ministers of the five major imperialist powers after their secret meeting in New York. All the king's horses and all the king's men can't put Humpty-Dumpty back together again.

the weakened and debilitated capitalist structures in the former enemy states, as well as in the allies. Rapidly opening up U.S. markets to them was considered no great danger then, especially in light of the fact that the U.S. was taking control over the richest markets in the oppressed countries. Some of these became tremendous sources of raw materials like tin, bauxite (aluminum), and iron ore and of highly significant oil deposits. It should be noted that neither West Germany (FRG) nor Japan has any oil resources of their own to this date.

The U.S. also encouraged the formation of the European Economic Community, which bolstered the role of NATO as a military arm of the U.S. It did this not out of generosity but as a means of propping up capitalist Europe against the USSR and the workers at home.

The encouragement of free trade by U.S. imperialism flowed out of its need to restore a functioning capitalist system in Europe. It was also designed as an aggressive measure to block trade and commerce with the USSR and other socialist countries. Thus U.S. capitalism, which after the First World War had been for protectionism, turned free trader after World War II.

The turn in each of these phases of U.S. capitalist development was based on the needs of imperialist finance capital and was not at all related to any propensity or addiction for either free commerce or protectionism as such. Both were regarded strictly from the point of view of how they served the needs of the moment for the bankers and industrialists who governed over the U.S.—and still do, of course.

But the relationship of world forces began to alter dramatically after the 1950s. At that time U.S. industrial production constituted about 50% of world production. Gradually over the 1960s it was reduced to about one-third of world production and is now somewhere between 25-30%.

It should be noted that the U.S. share of world production did increase in the period of the Korean war as a result of military expenditures, and then again with the Viet Nam war, which continued the unprecedented military spending. It sagged immediately after the Viet Nam war and, after a brief upswing, fell again during the most recent capitalist crisis between 1979 and 1982.

Since then the unprecedented military appropriations during the Reagan administration have been a tremendous factor in raising the U.S. share of world production, notwithstanding the dangers this presents economically as a source of later depression and also as a risk of worldwide conflagration.

On the whole, however, the share of U.S. production in relation to the rest of the world has been in relative decline. Some of the countries which were formerly outright colonies have now developed industry, commerce and trade resulting from their new relatively independent status.

Thus some of the features of the post-war world in which the U.S. was dominant economically, politically and militarily have been slowly eroding. The relationship of world forces has begun to be dramatically altered.

The European and Japanese capitalist countries, having become resuscitated, are now formidable rivals and competitors. The old balance of forces no longer exists. Nevertheless, the U.S. seeks to retain the same economic, political and diplomatic relationship as existed before. But this has become untenable in the light of the new situation.

The hysterical protectionist cries of big business are completely out of kilter with the new balance of forces. It should also be noted that even when the U.S. agreed to the formation of GATT (the General Association of Trade and Tariffs), it still considered the old relationship of forces strong enough to permit a relatively free market into the U.S. But beginning with the 1970s it became obvious that not only capitalist Japan but West Germany and some other countries in the imperialist camp as well could compete with the U.S. in technology and other matters and come out ahead.

So that the free market, considered an advantage at one time, has become a disadvantage at another time—Reagan's sanctimonious invocations about the virtues of free trade notwithstanding. What was once a favorable opportunity for U.S. capitalism has turned into its opposite. Nevertheless, the U.S. is still pushing to retain its world commercial and economic supremacy on the basis of the old relationships.

U.S. military position an anachronism

The U.S. military position is based on the old, outmoded economic and technological conditions which prevailed during the post-World War II period. When at that time the U.S. promised Japan as well as West Germany a free market in the U.S., it reckoned that it could ultimately penetrate the Japanese economy and also use Japan as an adjunct to its military machine in the struggle against the USSR and China.

In view of Japanese reluctance to open up its economy on a more or less quid pro quo basis it would follow that U.S. capitalist interests would dictate forceful retaliatory measures. But

Continued on page 11

Bolivian junta orders state of siege on strikers

By John Catalinotto

SEPTEMBER 23—Stepping up its repression against the Bolivian working class, the recently elected rightist government of Pres. Victor Paz Estenssoro on Sept. 19 declared a state of siege and arrested over 600 union leaders who had been directing a general strike for 16 days.

Soldiers took up positions around the Bolivian capital, La Paz, in other cities and on highways. Meanwhile, riot policemen raided the Congress building, five union halls, a radio station, San Andres University and the state mining company offices in La Paz. Some 150 of the unionists were sent into internal exile, including the 18 members of the executive committee of the Bolivian Workers Central, which called the strike.

Soldiers also raided a textile factory in La Paz and fired on striking workers, wounding two. National Guardsmen used tear gas to disperse hundreds of student demonstrators.

Despite the disruption of the union organizations and the increased intimidation by the government and armed forces, workers stayed off the job in many areas of the country, remaining especially strong in the tin mines. The miners have traditionally been the most revolutionary section of the Bolivian working class.

Strike fought starvation wages

The general strike was a defensive action by the Bolivian workers to combat the new government's austerity program. To the Bolivian workers and poor, who already faced 15% official

unemployment and inflation of 14,000% annually, the new measures meant the threat of starvation.

The new plan raised food and gasoline prices 1,000%, froze wages until next December, and threatened to close four state-run companies, throwing thousands more out of work. The workers had no choice but to try to defend their livelihood.

The strike had shut down mines, railroads, domestic airlines, long-distance telephone service and Bolivia's biggest oil refinery since Sept. 4. Many schools and factories had also been shut down, with tens of thousands of workers involved in all.

The government austerity plan is in accordance with demands by the International Monetary Fund not to supply necessities to the workers and their families, but to pay back the imperialist banks. Bolivia owes more than \$3.6 billion and has made no payments on this debt since March 1984.



Union presidents leading this march in La Paz last May were arrested and sent into internal exile on Sept. 19.

Chilean resistance leader examines state of working-class resurgence

By Carl Glenn

NEW YORK, Sept. 21—There have been indications during the past three weeks that the working class of Chile, so brutally repressed by the combined forces of the fascists of the Chilean ruling class, U.S. business interests and the CIA in 1973, is in the process of staging a dramatic resurgence, according to a representative of the movement which is playing a leading

role in this turnaround.

Speaking at a trade union hall here tonight, Ernesto Castillo, on behalf of the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP), a coalition of leftist forces, explained that even though it was dictator Pinochet's stated intention "to bring the country back to Sept. 11, 1973" (the day the military overthrew the Allende government and began a reign of terror), he has been unable to intimidate the masses of working people of Chile.

In fact, the morale of the people, their will to resist and their level of organization have all continued to rise in spite of renewed repression and government violence, said Castillo. Following enormous protest demonstrations last September on the anniversary of the coup, the Pinochet government declared a state of siege. But a video-tape shown at tonight's meeting shows the dictator at a recent military ceremony with army troops in parade formation, while only yards away, hundreds of students and workers taunt him with shouted chants of "Pinochet, murderer!" and "The people united will never be defeated!"

Three weeks ago, the people of Chile marked the fifteenth anniversary of the election of Salvador Allende and the Popular Unity government with mass demonstrations throughout the country. These demonstrations were doubly significant, Castillo pointed

out, because they were called not only in the face of government opposition, but despite the pleas of the leadership of the Catholic Church to avoid an open confrontation with the government.

Leaders of the moderate and pro-capitalist opposition became so alarmed at this show of defiance and self-confidence on the part of the poor and working masses that a delegation representing the moderate opposition came flying up to Washington to meet with representatives of the Reagan administration desperately seeking support for a moderate "democrat" in an attempt to undermine the working class initiative. As Jorge Hales, a leader of the MDP which had called for the protests of Sept. 4, stated recently, "there are people who are afraid of fascism, but who are also afraid of the people."

The demonstrations were also supported by the National Workers Confederation, the largest trade-union confederation in the country. In addition to the massive political demonstrations, there have also been a series of armed actions carried out against the tyrannical Pinochet regime by the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front and the Militias of Popular Resistance.

Tonight's meeting was sponsored by Casa Chile Salvador Allende and the Chile Center for Education and Development.

Palestinian supporters mark Sabra and Shatila massacre

By Michael Bar-Am

NEW YORK, Sept. 18—Over 70 supporters of the Palestinian Revolution attended a meeting organized by the New York City chapter of the November 29 Committee for Palestine this evening. The event marked the third anniversary of the massacre of Palestinians at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon.

The meeting began with a political update by a member of the Committee for a Democratic Palestine (CDP). This is an organization of progressive Palestinians. In the spirit of internationalism, the CDP speaker asked everyone to stand up and applaud the heroic people of South Africa. He then filled in the audience on the heroic uprising which is taking place today throughout occupied Palestine, including areas occupied in 1967 as well as towns and villages that have been under occupation since 1948.

These events have received little coverage in the bourgeois press, although acts of resistance occur every day. The speaker explained that not since the

1930s have there been so many spontaneous acts of resistance by individuals. He also described the resistance as the Palestinian people's message of their determination to continue their struggle.

Enrico Melson, who worked as a medical doctor at Gaza Hospital in Beirut during the 1982 Israeli siege, spoke of his experiences. He described how Israel's first targets were food and fuel supplies, proof of genocidal intentions.

Adrien Wing, from the National Conference of Black Lawyers, presented a slide show of pictures taken in Beirut during 1982. They clearly showed the death and destruction which rained down on Beirut from the U.S.-armed, financed and equipped Israeli air force. They also showed the heroism of the Palestinian fighters as well as medical personnel, many of whom were internationalists from Africa, Asia and Europe.

A cultural presentation by Naomi Cohen and Phil Wilayto from the All Peoples Singers featured songs about Palestine.

—China shakeup

Continued from page 8

tion, U.S. presidents have tried to use the "China card" in their dealings with the USSR.

While the Deng leadership has dismayed progressives in the past with its willingness to discard socialist norms of conduct and coordinate with U.S. imperialism a reactionary foreign policy, especially with regard to Viet Nam and Kampuchea, it remains to be seen if this trend will continue or if a more sober attitude is not in the making toward the illusory "gains" of an alliance with imperialism.

The meeting of the Central Committee that removed so many old revolu-

tionaries just ended with what today's New York Times described as "an unusual airing of policy differences. . . ."

The "session ended on a discordant note," says the Times, "as Chen Yun, an orthodox Marxist, made a brusque speech that challenged the Deng line on agriculture, the play given to market forces in the economy, and the downgrading of ideological indoctrination."

Copies of the speech by Mr. Chen, who sits on the five-member Standing Committee of the Politburo, were distributed to the press, indicating significant support for his views in the party organization.

—\$30 billion

Continued from page 1

this increasingly militarized society are the military brass and their friends in the war industries.

This is an interesting concept to promote at the very moment when nine of the Pentagon's ten largest contractors, and 45 of the largest 100, are under criminal investigation for kickbacks, defective pricing, cost duplication, false claims, bid-rigging and bribery. These firms are only too willing to carve up \$30 billion in an atmosphere of concealment where everyone else is left in the dark. The more business they can obtain surreptitiously behind closed doors, the better they can work their frauds and swindles.

All this does, however, create something of a contradiction for the Reaganites, who preach the virtues of a lenten diet for the poor, the elderly and the hungry while gorging the appetites of every multi-billion dollar arms peddler that comes down the pike.

Forum to present current situation in Viet Nam, Kampuchea

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—A forum and discussion on the present situation in Viet Nam and Kampuchea will be held Oct. 6 at 3 p.m. at the Washington Square Methodist Church on West 4th Street.

Featured speakers are Chan Bun Han, a Kampuchean who has revisited his country several times in recent years; Karen Gellen of the Guardian newspaper, who traveled in Viet Nam and Kampuchea in August; and Clarence Fitch of the NY/NJ Vietnam Veterans Against the War. Don Luce of the Asian Resource Center will chair.

The forum is co-sponsored by the Committee in Solidarity with Viet Nam, Kampuchea and Laos and by the Guardian. The Guardian has recently revised its position on Viet Nam, after having initially criticized that country for having sent its troops into Kampuchea in support of the overthrow of the Pol Pot regime in 1979.

'Underwatergate' exposes French imperialism

Bombing of Rainbow Warrior shakes Mitterrand gov't

By John Catalinotto

TWO UNDERWATER demolition experts slipped noiselessly into the cool water of Auckland's Waitemata Harbor last July 10 and attached a small and large explosive to the hull of the Rainbow Warrior, flagship of the environmental group Greenpeace, which was planning to protest French underground nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

The explosives and the rubber dinghy the frogmen dove from had been transported 1,000 miles from New Caledonia by four more agents aboard the yacht Ouvea. Another three military personnel infiltrated the Greenpeace group in New Zealand, ferreting out the protest plans, finding out when the ship would be unguarded and overseeing the sabotage.

A few minutes before midnight, a small explosion shook the ship. Portuguese photographer Fernando Pereira, hearing the noise, climbed below to rescue his cameras. Then the second, larger bomb exploded, sinking the Rainbow Warrior and killing Pereira.

French officers charged

On July 12, the New Zealand police arrested two people connected with the bombing and allowed them a phone call. In a blunder worthy of Nixon's

Watergate plumbers, they contacted the Paris office of the General Directorate for External Security (DGSE), the French equivalent of the CIA, irrevocably implicating the French government in the crime. Exposed as French military officers, the pair are now held in New Zealand, charged with murder.

After more than two months of official denials in full Watergate style, including the elaborate but useless attempt to hide French complicity with the Tricot Report, French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius on Sept. 21 admitted that the entire operation was planned and ordered by the government. He still refused to say who ordered it and shielded the operatives from prosecution.

Defense minister resigns

The impact of what the media calls "Underwatergate" has already led to the resignation of Defense Minister Charles Hernu and the firing of the head of the DGSE, Admiral Pierre Lacoste. Responsibility for the operation is known to reach into President Francois Mitterrand's office staff, if not to Mitterrand himself.

French center and right bourgeois parties, who themselves have no compunctions against violating New Zealand's sovereignty to promote France's imperialist interests, are utilizing the scandal to attack the Socialist Party government. These rightists are trying to blame Mitterrand for "a political scandal aimed at the demolition of the army."

French Communist Party (PCF) leader Georges Marchais attacked the Mitterrand government for "state lies and state terrorism," adding that it was difficult to believe that the "high-

est authorities" had not been consulted about the operation.

Nuclear testing behind events

While the French Socialist Party and the rightists may squabble about the execution of policy, they all carry out the wishes of the imperialist French ruling class to build up its nuclear weapons systems. This means to continue testing in the South Pacific even in the face of the recent declaration of eight South Pacific nations that the area be free of such tests. Many prior U.S. tests have already poisoned hundreds of thousands of the people of these islands.

When the Mitterrand government took office in 1981, millions of French industrial and office workers hoped that this marked a turn toward more social justice at home and a peaceful foreign policy. In reality, after the first year when some significant domestic reforms were passed, the Socialist Party rule has meant austerity for the working class at home.

Abroad, Mitterrand ordered military intervention to protect French imperialist interests in Chad and the Central African Republic, and to check pro-independence uprisings in the French colonies of Guadeloupe and New Caledonia. And France's nuclear policy under Mitterrand has become even more closely in line with U.S.-Reaganite policy, with support for the new intermediate-range first-strike missiles in Europe and for development of the neutron bomb.

A series of recent position papers on nuclear strategy by both the SP and two of the rightist parties underlined that French nuclear arms are meant to serve as part of the threat by Western imperialism against the Soviet Union

and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe.

Blatant big-power nationalism

Along with their nuclear plans the French bankers and bosses, no less than their counterparts on Wall Street, wish to maintain military and economic footholds in the Pacific, the remnants of colonial pillage their apologist politicians like to call "grandeur."

In mid-September, Mitterrand paid a theatrical visit to the Mururoa Atoll where the underground test is scheduled. He made an unbridled chauvinist show of French ruling class arrogance not only to go ahead with the test but to tighten the grip on its colonial possessions in the Pacific.

The trip to Mururoa was also an attempt to upstage the French center-right, who had no choice but to support Mitterrand's blatant chauvinism, though they wanted to be the main flag wavers themselves. A succession of right-wing political leaders have themselves recently made the pilgrimage to Noumea, New Caledonia, to throw their backing to racist settler groups opposed to freedom for that territory.

Of the parties in parliament, only the PCF, which had taken a minority role in the SP-led government until a year ago, has given full support to the liberation movement of the Melanesian or Kanak people in New Caledonia.

Now that the Mitterrand government has been caught, their embarrassment will be seized by the French rightists as a weapon in the parliamentary struggle from now into the spring. The repercussions of the Auckland crime are far from over.

Join us in the struggle

Workers World Party (WWP) fights on all issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples in this capitalist society. All work together in this organization—Black and white, Latin, Asian and Native peoples, women and men, young and old, lesbian and gay, disabled, working, unemployed and students.

If you would like to know more about **WWP**, or if you would like to join us in these struggles, contact the branch nearest you:

Atlanta: 1257 Glenwood Ave., SE, Atlanta, Ga., 30316 (404) 627-3093.

Austin: P.O. Box 6322, Austin, Texas 78762

Baltimore: 424 E. 31 St., Baltimore, Md. 21218 (301) 889-9318

Boston: 295 Huntington Ave., Room 212, Boston, Mass. 02115 (617) 247-1778

Buffalo: 349 Niagara St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14201 (716) 855-3055

Chicago: P.O. Box 6510, Chicago, Ill. 60680 (312) 489-3829

Cleveland: 2012 West 25 St., Room 613, Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 861-6154

Detroit: 1947 Grand River, Room 201, Detroit, Mich. 48226 (313) 962-4979

Houston: P.O. Box 52115, Houston, Texas 77052

Jackson: P.O. Box 8783, Jackson, Miss. 39204

Milwaukee: 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53202 (414) 224-0429

New York City: 46 W. 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010 (212) 255-0352

Rochester: 898 Portland Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14621 (716) 342-5707

San Antonio: San Antonio: P.O. Box 1504, San Antonio, Texas 78295

San Francisco: P.O. Box 884313, San Francisco, Calif. 94188 (415) 826-4828

Seattle: 1327 Yesler Way, Seattle Wash. 98122 (206) 322-8272

Washington, D.C.: 3221 Mt. Pleasant St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20010 (202) 667-3957

—Behind bankers' secret meeting

Continued from page 9

what really stands in the way of an economic war between Japan and the U.S. is their military alliance against the USSR (and China, notwithstanding the prevailing so-called friendly relations between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China). The same could be said of West Germany.

Had it not been for the existence of the Soviet Union, China and the other socialist countries, an inter-imperialist war would have long ago taken place to redivide world markets, sources of raw materials and inter-imperialist relationships.

It is only the existence of the USSR and the other socialist countries and the fear of revolutionary struggles in the oppressed countries that have staved off an inter-imperialist war.

Thus, in order to maintain its military and diplomatic hegemony, the U.S. continually needs to strengthen its military establishment and foist military and diplomatic arrangements on many foreign states. But its object is to maintain an untenable commercial and economic position which history has bypassed.

It is thus daily faced with insoluble contradictions between its domestic policies and its struggle to retain and strengthen its military hegemony. For example, one of the principal bills in Congress would roll back textile imports to the U.S. from Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Pakistan, Indonesia, India, the Philippines, Thailand, Brazil and Singapore, to name just a few! But these are the very countries which the U.S. desperately needs from both a military and diplomatic position. Some it needs to influence by its diplomacy; others it needs to retain as outright puppets. There must be some

quid pro quo if it is to hold onto its relationship with them.

Even in a case like Turkey, where the U.S. has poured in close to \$2 billion in the last few years, the Turkish foreign minister on a recent visit here asked that in consideration of the military value Turkey has for the U.S. in "protecting NATO's southern flank," it should get some commercial concessions, as for instance helping Turkey improve its imports into the U.S.

Even U.S. concessions to the Eastern European countries are based not on economic considerations but on their political value, that is, on the ability this gives Washington to promote subversion or gain a strong hold on the economies there, as it has been trying to do in Hungary, Poland and Romania.

The wave of protectionism sweeping Congress is no more than an attempt to beat Reagan at flag waving. It's the old chauvinist way of trying to steal the flag, an attempt to go Reagan one better. It is of course possible that by banning some imports or limiting them severely, the textile, shoe, or possibly other industries will be aided. But will this help the workers? That depends upon whether the industrialists who control these industries will expand production or just raise prices instead.

Just last week U.S. Steel raised the price of flat sheet steel 10%. It did so because it had earlier obtained relief from import quotas. But this did not thereby create more jobs.

All those who are now vociferous proponents of protectionism in textiles, in particular—where have they been for all those years of struggle when textile workers have been trying to win

union recognition and better conditions? Most of them have been too busy sponsoring anti-union "right to work" laws.

Banning imports is a means for increasing profits. But whether that will redound to more jobs, let alone higher wages, is wholly dependent upon the so-called trickle down theory which both the Reaganites and the Congressional opposition of Democrats and Republicans are pushing. There is no direct help to the unemployed. There is only an assumption that if you help the bosses with higher prices, it will ultimately result in more jobs.

That doesn't necessarily follow. Moreover, it is well known that countries militarily and economically subjugated by the U.S. often employ retaliatory measures as a form of extreme self-defense.

All these measures—tariff walls, devaluation or debasing of the currency—are artificial means used by capitalist governments the world over in order to stave off a capitalist crisis, which results from capitalist overproduction.

There is an extreme glut of agricultural products which cannot be disposed of on a capitalist basis on the world market. The same thing is true of oil, coal, and steel and other manufactured products. No artificial measures such as monetary manipulation or high tariff walls can overcome the capitalist crisis. More likely they will aggravate and deepen it.

What is urgently needed is a united front of all the workers in this country with all the oppressed people and workers everywhere in a common struggle against imperialism and for a socialist reconstruction of the world economic system, which is long overdue.

'No transit fare hike!'

San Franciscans organize against MUNI profit-gouging

By Jane Cutter

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 21—A campaign is building here to stop a proposed fare increase for MUNI (the Municipal Railroad).

Over 100 poor and working MUNI riders mobilized by the All-Peoples Congress and the Grey Panthers packed a Public Utilities Commission (PUC) hearing here on Sept. 16. Some participated in an APC picketline outside the hearing. The hearing ignited the people's anger at being asked to pay more for less public transit service.

First, the PUC proposal would raise the adult fare from 60 to 75 cents, and the senior/disabled fare from five to 15 cents. Then, the PUC wants a new two-part transfer good only for two additional rides. (The current transfer is good for unlimited rides within a 90-minute period.) Finally, the PUC wants to eliminate 12 bus routes and cut back 12 more.

Already the poor people of San Francisco are scraping together their pennies to ride MUNI. How can the people pay more? As one speaker said, the real estate developers and the PUC commissioners don't know what it is like to panhandle for bus fares.

Compounding the MUNI riders' anger was a fact brought out by a widely-distributed APC leaflet. In 1981, a Transit Fee Assessment was made on the downtown developers of \$9.82 per square foot of office space. The assessment was passed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors at \$5 per square foot. Even at \$5/square foot, the PUC estimated that the assessment would bring in \$46.5 million for MUNI. However, MUNI has seen none of the money since the developers are suing to avoid paying.

These developers are drastically changing downtown with luxurious high-rise office, hotel, commercial and condo projects. They are part of the gentrification which is chasing the poor out of San Francisco.

"What I want to know is, who the hell decided not to collect the fee?" boomed Walter O'Donnell at the hearing. Ricardo Leons of the APC demanded, "Tax the rich, to them MUNI is a source of profit. To us, it is a source of survival." MUNI brings in the workers and shoppers who keep downtown ticking.

The PUC claims it needs a fare hike in part because federal transit funds are being slashed by the Reagan administration. Henry Clark of the APC demanded that the PUC should target the Pentagon budget into which transit funds are going.



The city has allowed San Francisco's downtown businesses and developers to avoid paying an assessment for MUNI transit. Here, All-Peoples Congress demonstrates against proposed fare hike.

WW PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Paratransit (van service for the extremely disabled) has been another victim of federal budget cuts. In this city there are 1,300 on the waiting list. The PUC tried to exploit this real need by linking a senior fare hike to increased funds for Paratransit. This idea, which is not even an official part of the PUC proposal, was greeted with angry jeers from the many seniors and disabled people at the hearing. Lawrence Marcelena of the National Federation of the Blind said the proposal pitted seniors against the disabled. "The money needed for Paratransit far exceeds the amount that can be extracted from low-income seniors."

The fare hike's impact on youth was also denounced. Irene Collier of the Chinese Teachers Association explained that the increase for youth from 15 cents to 25 cents would be a hardship to the many immigrant Asian children living in Chinatown.

The struggle against the fare hike has only just begun. The PUC announces its final recommendation on Oct. 2, after which the Board of Supervisors must vote on it. The APC is leading an outreach campaign to mobilize as many people as possible to stop the fare increase. For more information, please call the APC at (415) 821-6545.

Workfare scheme rammed through California legislature

By Bruce Bradshaw

SEPTEMBER 23—Right-wing Republicans and supposedly liberal Democrats joined hands in California on Sept. 13 to ram a workfare scheme through the state legislature.

Under the bill passed by the Assembly, 170,000 people on welfare are to be given some quick job training and three months to find employment or else. How they are supposed to do this with tens of thousands of jobless already pounding the pavements of Los Angeles, San Diego, Oakland, and other cities, is not clear.

Workfare is a pet project of reactionary politicians and rich snobs who don't work themselves but like to blame the poor for being lazy. California, the largest and richest state in the

country, has a lot of poor people, and Governor George Deukmejian wants to see them out there hustling.

When even the high-tech Silicon Valley is suffering layoffs, where is a welfare mother to find work? Nowhere, of course. The law will then compel them to take state jobs, working for less than other state employees, or be cut off welfare.

Deukmejian, who makes \$1,000 a week, thinks that will be good for their souls, not to mention the side "benefits" of undermining labor solidarity and threatening union jobs. And what does a welfare mother, forced by this law to leave her 7-year-old child all day, get for her forced labor? Certainly not enough to even rent a typical San Francisco studio apartment from one of the governor's landlord friends.

Workers World leader assesses Filipino revolutionary movement

—p. 7

SUBSCRIBE TO

WORKERS WORLD

☐ \$2 for a ten week trial

☐ \$6 for six months

☐ \$10 for a year

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____