



October 24, 1985

Vol 27, No. 43

50¢

workers world

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE!

X-523

Chrysler workers on strike: 'It's time we got ours!'

**AIDS and
California
prisons**

—p. 11

**Bosses cheat
millions on
minimum wage**

—p. 3

By Terri Kay

DETROIT, Oct. 16—Thousands of Chrysler workers yesterday couldn't wait to go on strike to defend what should rightfully be theirs—full parity with Ford and GM workers. Wildcat walkouts took place at three plants several hours before the old contract expired.

The Chrysler workers are showing a remarkable resurgence in auto militancy after years of concessions and setbacks for the union. The feeling from the assembly line to the skilled trades to the clerical and engineering depart-

Continued on page 9

Oct. 11 actions: 'Free Mandela!' —p. 5



Monica Moorehead of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network addresses crowd at San Francisco State University.

WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

FMLN pounds El Salvador army base

By Sara Flounders
OCTOBER 14—"From this moment we have decided to make war on the North American interventionists who are directing the war in our homeland."

This statement was released by the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation (FMLN) the day after they carried out a daring attack on the main training base for government troops in El Salvador. The large base at La Union was designed and constructed by the U.S. military. U.S. advisers also run the training camp.

In the pre-dawn attack, 40 Salvadoran troops were killed and 70 were wounded. But the most dramatic casualty of the well-coordinated and planned assault by 200 to 300 guerrillas was the carefully spun myth that the Salvadoran resistance is no longer

capable of launching a major initiative.

The massive U.S. aid of the past year has doubled the size of the air force. A policy of intensive aerial bombardment, which has displaced one quarter of the population, was an attempt to destroy the armed resistance movement and to undercut its deep popular support.

Growth of the armed resistance

Attacks on public transportation, bridges and roads and sabotage of electrical installations are now a daily occurrence. Three months ago a daring prison assault by several hundred guerrillas on La Mariona Prison, a maximum security installation, freed 200 political prisoners.

Two months ago a surprise attack killed four U.S. Marines at a cafe in

San Salvador. Last month there was the bold kidnapping of President Duarte's daughter, a 35-year-old businesswoman and real estate speculator who ran Duarte's rigged election campaign. Negotiations to win the release of 34 political prisoners in exchange for Ines Duarte Duran are continuing.

The U.S. media has also noted a resurgence of the mass struggle in urban areas, especially the recent series of strikes by hospital, transportation, banking and textile workers.

Thursday's attack marked the fifth anniversary of the founding of the united resistance—the FMLN.

War against U.S. 'advisers'

The U.S. media has called the FMLN statement, following the attack on the training base at La Union, a declaration of war against U.S. advisers. The

FMLN broadcast their warning to hundreds of U.S. military personnel stationed in El Salvador over Radio Venceremos, the clandestine radio station of the resistance.

The FMLN stated, "We have decided to take the war to whatever place and in whatever circumstance the North Americans are found. The government of Ronald Reagan must realize once and for all that we are not afraid of the intervention of its troops and that it cannot pretend to make war on our people without suffering and paying the consequences. . . . We are decided to vanquish North American intervention in our homeland."

Already, the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador has been so reinforced with concrete walls and a rocket shield that it looks like a giant bomb shelter. But as the Pentagon learned in Viet Nam and again in Lebanon, all this military might won't turn the tide of history. Consciousness and organization of an aroused and determined people is a mightier weapon.

Nicaragua goes on alert for increase in contra sabotage

By Joyce Chediak
OCTOBER 16—Citing an escalation in attacks by the Reagan administration, the Nicaraguan government yesterday issued emergency measures.

President Daniel Ortega Saavedra announced the emergency decree on Nicaraguan television. He said, "The brutal aggression by North America and its internal allies has created an extraordinary situation . . . In response to the terrorist policies of the United States, internal pawns supported by some political parties, news

media outlets and religious institutions have redoubled their actions to sabotage the defense forces of our nation."

He continued, "It is a fundamental condition for the lifting of these exceptional measures that the imperialist aggression against Nicaragua be stopped."

A spokesperson for the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington, D.C., told this reporter this morning, "The emergency declaration was issued because we have reliable information that President Reagan, in preparing for the

summit meeting at a time when the contras had suffered a major defeat, has instructed the contras to conduct acts of sabotage inside Nicaragua. Statements made by several Reaganite officials indicate this. These measures have been taken to keep the sabotage from happening. We have a right to defend ourselves at all costs."

The embassy spokesperson also pointed out that just last week the counterrevolutionaries received their first shipment from the \$25 million aid package approved by the Reagan administration.

BECOME A WORKERS WORLD SUPPORTER

Name.....
Address.....
City.....State.....Zip.....
W W 46 West 21 Street, New York, New York 10010

In This Issue. . .

MIDEAST CRISIS

While unleashing an avalanche of jingoism and chauvinism through its media here over the capture of four Palestinians, Washington has nevertheless been rebuffed abroad for this act of air piracy. What had appeared to be an impregnable political and diplomatic victory has instead triggered an inter-imperialist struggle revealing the weakness of the U.S. system of alliances and evoking a burst of revolutionary energy from all the Arab people. (Article by Sam Marcy, pp. 6-7.)

AIR ATROCITY

The U.S. Congress has awarded the Afghani counter-revolutionaries, who shot down a domestic airliner killing 52 men, women and children, \$280 million in arms aid to continue their wave of lynching and intimidation against that country's villages. (Page 10.)

IMPORTS ISSUE

It is the contraction of the capitalist world market and the overproduction of commodities for sale to make profits for the few, which has led to the layoff of workers. The hate campaign against foreign-made goods is just a diversion to direct anger away from rich bosses, who care nothing for the workers' well being. (Page 9.)



Sahu Barron in Philadelphia, Oct. 11.

WW PHOTO: J. PIETTE

SWEATSHOP ECONOMY

The Reaganite rhetoric about "cutting the red tape of government regulation and restrictions so that business enterprise and the magic of the market can have free rein," has meant leaving millions of workers without minimum wage protection. (Page 3.)

AIDS PRISONERS

Confined in cells with soiled linens, filthy floors and other sources of infection, California AIDS prisoners say, "It feels like we're in a holding tank waiting to die, and the medical staff doesn't care." (Page 11.)

BUS DRIVERS

Defeating attempts to strip them of job security and housebreak their union with a police-state type "criminal records check," 600 Boston school bus drivers have won yet another round in their seven-year battle for justice. (Page 12.)

WARDEN MEESE

Like the Gestapo chief in an old movie who snarls "You must confess. We have ways of making you talk," Attorney General Ed Meese says everyone suspected by the police must be guilty of something. (Page 9.)



Queens College, NYC, Oct. 11.

WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

OCTOBER 11

In cities from coast to coast, students responded by the thousands this week to the call by the African National Congress to observe Oct. 11 as a day of solidarity with South African political prisoners. (Page 5.)

Also . . .

- Chrysler strike 1
- El Salvador 2
- Nicaragua 2
- On the picketline 3
- Wheeling-Pittsburgh 3
- Coors protested 3
- ANC statement 4
- Chicago arrests 4
- Arab rights activist killed 6
- U.S.-Israeli aggression 7
- Arab world responds 7
- Afghanistan funds 10

Editorials

- Jackson Taylor 8
- Death of a steel town 8

Vol. 27, No. 43/Oct. 24, 1985
Closing news date: Oct. 16, 1985

workers world

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.

Bosses cheat millions on minimum wage

By Andy Stapp

OCTOBER 13—According to a well-cultivated bourgeois myth, capitalism may indeed have gotten its start in "the dark satanic mills" of the 19th Century big city slums, but today an impenetrable "safety net" has been lovingly placed beneath each and every worker to guarantee them a decent living. If challenged on this rosy picture, they will point to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, which mandates a minimum wage and overtime pay for a work week exceeding 40 hours.

It would appear, however, that this federal wage and hour law exists more on paper than in the everyday lives of the innumerable women and men who labor in textile mills, furniture factories, nursing homes, restaurants and fast food franchises, chemical waste disposal companies, foundries, window washer and porter firms and hundreds of other sweat-shop outfits.

The facts released by the government itself are damning enough. An investigation conducted by the General Accounting Office and published on Sept. 30 found that, according to records kept by its field offices in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City and San Francisco, "The Labor Department is deliberately neglecting a law requiring minimum wages and overtime pay for millions of American workers."

Not thousands, or even hundreds of

thousands, but millions of workers, cheated and defrauded, gouged by bosses who just laugh at the law and compel their employees to sweat and slave like a horse for double hours and half pay. The level of exploitation can be gauged when one understands that even a full-time minimum wage job only pays \$5,860 a year against a poverty line of \$10,178 for a family of four. And now the government admits that millions work for even less than this, calling it "a serious and continuing problem."

But if this were really viewed as such a big problem, why isn't the law enforced? For willful violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, a boss may be prosecuted criminally and fined up to \$10,000 for each offense charged in the information or indictment. A second conviction provides for his imprisonment.

Ever hear of a boss going to jail for paying too little wages? Then again, it is not exactly astonishing that a President who wants to lower the minimum wage for teenagers is indifferent to making sure it gets paid to adults!

Role of banks

This disgusting situation cannot be laid entirely on the doorstep of the cockroach capitalists who operate the thousands of illegal sweatshops and on the government inspectors who pretend not to notice anything wrong. The criminal liability must be fully shared by the big banks which extend

the business loans without which no boss, big or small, could survive. And the bankers do it with two thoughts in mind. First, they enjoy the profit such loans bring to their institutions. And second, they know that helping to keep millions of workers in a sort of peonage has the objective effect of stifling the class struggle by dragging down wages as a whole.

Clearly, since the ruling class is

prepared to go beyond the established norms of capitalist legality to uphold its social and political grip over the working class, forcing millions to toil under conditions of the greatest misery, the labor movement can only fight back by reaching out to all these same millions, documented and undocumented alike, to fight with every weapon available to build solidarity and a better life for everyone.



Coors bombs in Boston. Jeff Coors, one of the heads of Coors Beer brewery, was met in Boston Oct. 9 by an angry group of over 100 picketers. Coors Beer, renowned for its racist, sexist, anti-gay and union-busting policies on the West Coast, recently arrived in the Northeast much to the ire of progressives.

Jeff Coors was in Boston to announce the opening of a new brewery in Virginia. Along with Molson's and a Bavarian brewery, Coors is planning to produce a new beer called "Masters."

Coors' right-wing policies aroused opposition from a broad section of working and oppressed people as evidenced by the picket, organized by members of the AFL-CIO and the Boycott Coors Task Force. Marching together were representatives from AFSCME 402 and 1489, USWA Local 8751 Boston School Bus Drivers, Food and Commercial Workers, SEIU 509 and 285, Ironworkers, IUE Local 201, the All-Peoples Congress, El Comité Latino, Disabled Peoples Liberation Front, United Fruit Company (a gay men's group), Gay Community News, Church of the United Community, and a contingent of Boston University students.

WW PHOTO: PHEBE ECKFELDT

Union officials okay preliminary agreement at Wheeling-Pitt

By Gary Wilson

OCTOBER 16—As we go to press, reports indicate that the steel workers union international leadership has endorsed an agreement with the Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. If accepted by the membership, the agreement would end a work stoppage now in its 88th day.

The agreement, according to news accounts, includes a drastic wage and benefit cut, termination of the current pension plan and cuts in the workforce. The wage and benefit package is just 50 cents above severe cuts imposed by the company last July 20 with the help of a bankruptcy court order allowing it to tear up its legally binding contract with the union.

Some 5,000 of the 8,200 workers affected had recently signed petitions delivered to the union leadership demanding that any agreement must be on the basis of returning to the contract that management had arrogantly torn up.

In addition, the big banks, led by Manufacturers Hanover Trust, are moving to have several blast furnaces at the Monessen, Pa., plant shut down and 1,400 jobs cut, according to the Wall Street Journal (Oct. 15).

Considering the strength of the rank and file, who in this work stoppage have shown a remarkable determination not to be kicked around, and considering the strong position of the union in relation to the company, which is indebted to the union for over \$500 million, this agreement would be a severe setback if the workers are pushed to accept it.

It would also be devastating for all other workers in the steel industry. As one steel boss has already gloated, the Wheeling-Pittsburgh settlement "is going to have a lot of other companies licking their chops. It certainly sets a downward trend." (See related editorial, written before this news break, on page 8.)

On The Picketline

Columbia strike set. October 17 has been set as the strike date for clerical and technical workers at Columbia University in New York City. The workers, represented by UAW District 65, are mobilizing for a walkout after months of negotiations, preceded by years of struggle at the rich Ivy League university. The battle against racist and sexist wage discrimination and for affirmative action has emerged as the key issue for the Columbia workers, along with a fight against takebacks in health benefits that the university unilaterally imposed in 1984 during the unionization struggle. Some 500 students, faculty and community supporters, along with chanting, clapping workers, staged a soli-

arity rally at Columbia on Oct. 10. At the rally along with the Columbia District 65'ers were two busloads of clerical unionists from Yale University and delegations of workers from New York University, Barnard College, Teachers College and Boston University, as well as representatives of other area unions and community groups.

Newspaper strikes. After 12 and 5 weeks respectively, the strikes by newspaper workers in Chicago and Philadelphia continue. The Chicago Tribune's most recent proposal, made at the end of September, still contains all manner of takebacks, especially in

the areas of job security, union rights and dividing the workforce into several pay and benefit tiers. The party demanding these givebacks, the Tribune, netted \$140 million in profits last year. Despite the Trib's clear union-busting intent, the strikers remain strong, and a drive to boycott the paper is growing among union and community supporters. And in the strike by 4,500 workers against The Philadelphia Inquirer and The Daily News, both owned by the giant Knight-Ridder publishing chain, money is reportedly the key remaining issue. The company refuses to meet the unions' wage demand, but they don't claim inability to pay. Union leaders charged Knight-Ridder with stonewalling. And in fact Sam McKeel, Philadelphia Newspapers, Inc.'s president, told reporters that if the strikers "persist . . . there's going to be a lot of pain for everybody."

Bath shipbuilders settle. After maintaining a strong strike for 14 weeks, the 4,500 members of Shipbuilders Local 6 have returned to work at the Bath Iron Works in Maine. The workers voted to accept a contract settlement in a meeting on Monday, Oct. 7. The new contract includes a three-year wage freeze with a \$2,000 "bonus" spread over three years, increased medical insurance charges to the workers, and a two-tiered wage system, with new employees achieving parity after three years on the job. Local 6 President Ray Ladd had led the workers throughout the militant strike struggle at Bath, against the parent conglomerate Congoleum and

against the Pentagon, which contracts with Bath to construct Navy ships and was behind the move to demand concessions from the workers. Ladd was one of three negotiating team members who voted against recommending approval of the settlement to the membership.

AFSCME AIDS education. In recent issues of the Public Employee Press (PEP), published by District Council 37 of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the union representing New York City workers has made an important contribution to countering the anti-gay hysteria over AIDS. A front page article titled "What City Workers Need to Know About AIDS" in the Sept. 20 issue pointed out, "There actually seem to be two AIDS epidemics—the disease itself and a wave of fear that goes far beyond the concern justified by medical evidence." Then, in several pages of clear, graphic information presented through a question-and-answer format, PEP addressed the fears and concerns of city workers, many of whom work with people with AIDS as health care providers. PEP emphasized the overwhelming medical evidence that these workers are in no danger, and urged compassion and caring in their work with people with AIDS. DC 37's leadership on this issue is an example to the labor movement of how it can stand up against the right wing's attempts to create an AIDS panic to stigmatize the lesbian and gay community.

—Shelley Ettinger

ANC demands stay of execution

FOLLOWING is a statement by Alfred Nzo, Secretary General of the African National Congress of South Africa on the planned execution by the racist apartheid regime of Benjamin Moloise, a Black South African poet.

Benjamin Moloise's life is being threatened by the Pretoria hangmen. Pretoria has announced that he is to be executed on Friday, Oct. 18, 1985, for an act that he did not commit.

In a statement issued on Aug. 17,

1985, the African National Congress (ANC) unequivocally reiterated that Moloise was in no way associated with the death of the Pretoria apartheid policeman, and as a result of the failure of the regime to capture the unit of Umkhonto We Sizwe responsible for that armed action, Benjamin is to be vengefully murdered by the regime.

Moloise is today undergoing a terrible psychological ordeal following the refusal by the racist President Botha to grant him a reprieve. Pretoria's judicial murder of Moloise is once again a demonstration of the intransigence of the Pretoria regime.

Why, in spite of our above mentioned statement, does Botha want to rob a man of his life? This is further proof that Pretoria is not in any way interested in the peaceful resolution of the South African problem. There is no doubt that the intended judicial murder of Moloise under the present situation in South Africa will lead to the hardening of attitudes.

Botha's talk of reforms is nothing more than a public relations exercise and attempt to dress apartheid in new garb and sell it both to the people of South Africa and the international community.

The African National Congress appeals to the international community, particularly the United Nations, the Non-aligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth countries, the Socialist International and all freedom-loving people to apply pressure on the Pretoria regime to stay the murderous hand of its hangmen. Even at this late hour, let us all work for saving Benjamin Moloise from the gallows.



WW PHOTO: PHEBE ECKFELDT

Boston, Oct. 11.



WW PHOTO: J. CATALINOTTO

Outside Citicorp headquarters, NYC, Oct. 11.

Chicago cops invade homes, arrest anti-racist activists

Special to Workers World
CHICAGO, Oct. 13—About 8 a.m. this Sunday morning, security officers of the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), accompanied by Chicago police, fanned out across the city to arrest five anti-apartheid activists at their homes for participating in a peaceful protest on Oct. 10.

On that date, about 25 members of the Divest Now Coalition (DNC) attended a public meeting of the University of Illinois Board of Trustees to protest their \$21 million holdings in South Africa-linked companies. When the Board refused to discuss their holdings, the protesters chanted "Free South Africa!" and "Divest now!" before obeying police orders to leave.

Although violence was not remotely threatened, the five were charged with "interfering with a public institution . . . with threats of force." Those arrested were handcuffed, taken to local lock-ups, fingerprinted, photographed and required to post 10% of a \$1,000 bond.

The "DNC 5" include student government Vice President Veau Barry, Dan Steiger, news editor of the Illini, the campus paper, and DNC activists Angela Matthews, Bob Kotter and Peter Kimball of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of the APC/PAM. Barry and Kotter, who were not taken into custody, plan to avoid arrest until a public press conference Oct. 16, to which local anti-apartheid leaders have been invited to speak.

One of the five said, "This is a real blunder by the university. The charges of force are completely groundless and will never stand up. Arresting people at their homes on Sunday morning is supposed to terrorize us, but really it's going to outrage students and quadruple the size of our movement. It will show everyone that if you invest in South Africa, you end up acting like South Africa."

Other activities

The DNC also conducted film showings, teach-ins and a rally during this week of city-wide anti-apartheid activity. Also this week:

- Rev. Jesse Jackson and an ANC representative and others spoke after a march by 500 supporters of the Free South Africa movement through downtown Chicago on Oct. 12.

- Five busloads from Northeastern Illinois University swelled the weekly picketline at the South African consulate to over 500 on Oct. 10.

- At the University of Chicago, which has \$100 million in South Africa-linked investments, six students conducted a hunger strike and 400 rallied to burn replicas of passbooks on Oct. 11.

- Students marched carrying crosses and coffins on Oct. 11 at Northwestern University, which will bring 41 students to trial in November for a pro-divestment sit-in last spring.

- Roosevelt University faculty voted to recommend divestment.



WW PHOTO: DANNY BETMAN

By Danny Betman

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 12—Two hundred and fifty activists and supporters of the South Africa liberation struggle attended a benefit concert here tonight for the African National Congress (ANC).

Built as a "Cultural Evening in Solidarity with the Freedom Struggle in South Africa," it was the first large public event this year in Washington, D.C., organized explicitly with the aim of providing concrete material assistance to the ANC, the oldest and largest liberation organization in South Africa.

Pam Parker, a leading activist of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network, which organized the activity, told Workers World, "The Network in D.C. felt that it was absolutely necessary that anti-apartheid activities include material support for those fighting for liberation. It is not enough to only oppose apartheid. What is needed is concrete material support for the revolution, which alone will destroy apartheid."

Sahu Barron, from the Network, emceed the program and Joseph Butler, chairperson of the D.C. Statehood Party, welcomed the participants. Leon Swain, a leader of AFSCME Local 1072, gave a rousing message of solidarity from the U.S. trade union movement and was joined by representatives of the Democratic Popular Movement of Chile, the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iraq and the Committee for a Democratic Palestine.

The Sechaba Singers, the cultural representatives of the ANC, and the All-Peoples Singers sang songs of struggle.



Students march through Atlanta on Oct. 11

WW PHOTO: J. MONTGOMERY



Maryland, Oct. 11.

WW PHOTO: SUSAN LESSER

Oct. 11 actions: Free Mandela!

Students in forefront of coast-to-coast demonstrations

By Zenzile

OCTOBER 11—Students from all parts of the U.S. came together today to observe the UN-declared Day of Solidarity with South African political prisoners.

The mobilization came as a direct response to a call by the African National Congress (ANC), the vanguard of the South African struggle, and was carried out on a city-by-city, region-by-region basis.

The overwhelming cry of this mobilization from the East Coast to the West Coast and from North to South, was "Free Mandela, jail Botha!"

The voices of thousands of students and others rising into the air demanded that South Africa's most prominent political prisoner be set free, as well as all others who are being detained or awaiting trial, or who are serving time in one of South Africa's notorious fascist jails such as Robben Island, John Vorster Square or Sanlam Center.

The nationwide actions also sent a very clear message to U.S. imperialist corporations and establishments which have a stake in the apartheid system through their investments to get out of South Africa. On many campuses, a major demand of demonstrations was that the university divest its holdings in corporations doing business in the apartheid state.

Following are reports from some of the many protests which took place across the U.S.

New York, N.Y.

By Neville Edwards

TARGETING Citicorp for its economic support of the fascist South African regime, demonstrators assembled on Oct. 11 in front of Citicorp headquarters on 53rd Street and Lexington Avenue.

Though labor unions, progressive and community groups were present, for the most part this was a multinational demonstration of students who had been organizing on their respective campuses, where many had held activities during the day before coming to the bank headquarters.

For example, Queens College students, with the help of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network, rallied and marched through their campus before boarding a bus for Manhattan. The Network also sponsored a rally at Hunter College, which was followed by a march to Citicorp. At Columbia University, students set up tables all day in front of the local Citibank branch.

At Citicorp, all speakers agreed with chair Tanaquil Jones, who was an organizer of last spring's Columbia University divestment blockade, when she said Reagan's "Constructive engagement" is really destructive engagement.

Many students drew a link between the repression of South African students and Reagan's attack on the right of students in the U.S. to bilingual education. "I support bilingual education in the U.S. just as much as I am against Blacks being taught in Afrikaans in South Africa," stated Andrew Wilkins of Bronx Community College.

Monica Mashandi of the SWAPO's youth section pointed out that South Africa's increased presence in Namibia coincides with the heightening of Washington's support for the fascist regime.

A call for increased pressure on the regime was made by Clare Mahafe of the ANC youth section and founder of the Congress of South African Students.

Cleveland Robinson, head of District 65-UAW and Rev. Jesse Jackson also spoke at the rally, as did other student organizers. Following the talks, over

2,000 people marched to the South African Mission to the UN, located several blocks away.

Besides the schools already mentioned, Lehman, Medgar Evers, Essex Community, New York University, Pace University, Rutgers, Florida State, Hunter High School and the PAM Youth League sent delegations. Other schools were represented by individuals.

Many students saw the demonstration as the beginning of the anti-apartheid struggle on their respective campuses. "We will not rest until Chemical Bank is off our campus, and the college administration stops buying IBM computers," said Darryl Johnson, president of Queens College's Black Student Union.

San Francisco Bay Area

By Jane Cutter

NEARLY 1,000 students participated in a two-hour-long rally and teach-in in the Student Union Plaza here, sponsored by the San Francisco State University Faculty, Staff and Students Against Apartheid on Oct. 11. All speakers emphasized that the struggle in South Africa is one for national liberation and self-determination, not for civil rights reforms.

Bill Wahpepah of the International Indian Treaty Council spoke on similarities between South African and Native people's struggles in the U.S. Jamal of the General Union of Palestine Students drew connections between South Africa and Israel. Monica Moorehead of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network and Kanika Ajanaku of the Southern Africa Freedom Committee of APC/PAM also spoke.

On Oct. 12, over 500 people marched from Oakland City Hall to Lowell Park. The action was called by the National Anti-Apartheid Protest Committee. There was a broad list of endorsers from community, student, religious and labor organizations.

On Oct. 10, 200 protesters at the University of California at Berkeley sat in and occupied the steps of Steven Biko Hall. The students slept in and blocked the front doors with banners as they returned to the site of last spring's 44-day sit-in.

The following day, 2,000 students rallied at Biko Plaza, hearing Clifford Sange of the ANC blast the UC Regents' refusal to divest its \$2.4 billion.

Following the rally, protesters marched to University Hall, the UC systemwide headquarters, surrounded the building and smashed windows. The demonstrators then marched to a nearby Bank of America, shutting it down.

Boston

HARVARD University students camped out for 24 hours in front of President Derek Bok's office on Oct. 11 in protest of Harvard's refusal to divest. Among the rally's speakers were Chris Snow of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network of the APC and Ed Childs of Local 26, Hotel and Restaurant Employees, representing the kitchen workers at Harvard.

Boston area students picketed the IBM building in downtown Boston also on Oct. 11. Represented in the picket line were students from Tufts, University of Massachusetts at Boston, Boston University (BU), Salem



Queens College, N.Y., Oct. 11.

WW PHOTO: NEVILLE EDWARDS

State and MIT.

When ANC Representative Themba Vilakazi was censored from speaking at a South African Awareness week sponsored by the BU Student Union and Students Activities Commission, members of the BU South African Task Force set up their own forum for him. Michael Kent of the Task Force said, "It's ridiculous not to let a South African speak on the future of South Africa!"

Members of the Task Force also built a "shantytown" on the lawn of the College of Communications. The structures drew attention to the plight of Black people under apartheid and protested the school administration's refusal to deal with petitions for divestment circulated by the students.

At 12:30 that night, BU President John Silber sent in cops to tear down the shantytown and to threaten students with arrest. Later that morning students relocated their protest to the front of Silber's house.

On the evening of Oct. 12, some 125 people answered the invitation of the All-Peoples Congress and came to the Emanuel Church to commemorate "Free Nelson Mandela and All South African Political Prisoners Day" with good food, speeches and music.

Chris Snow, a lesbian activist in the APC and a member of IUE Local 201, and Bob Gustafson, a member of United American Indians of New England from the Mohawk Nation, chaired the program. Both pointed out what lies at the essence of the APC—linking the struggle here at home for justice, equality and dignity to the struggle of people around the world for a life free from exploitation and oppression. As Gustafson said, "It is one struggle and we are one people."

Welcomed by a standing ovation, two representatives from the ANC, Aggrey Mberi and Saki Makazoma, spoke. Makazoma, who just returned from the Port Elizabeth area of South Africa, stated, "Even average people who are not associated with any political party are saying they will do anything in their power to make sure the government doesn't survive."

Referring to the attempts by the apartheid government to crush the UDF and its leadership, he added, "The struggle produces leaders every time one is detained. It only serves to intensify it. We are reconstituting society, not reforming it."

Washington, D.C.

THERE were demonstrations at virtually every campus in the D.C. metropolitan area on Oct. 11. Delegations from each campus went down to Lafayette Park in front of the White House, where about 300 gathered to demonstrate. Speakers included TransAfrica, the NAACP, the Student Committee Against Racism and Apartheid and most of the Black student unions at the campuses. The All-Peoples Singers

performed anti-apartheid songs.

There was a rally of about 200 at the University of Maryland. Speakers included Leon Swain from AFSCME, Mary Battenfeld from the University of Maryland Divestment Committee and Brian Becker for the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network. Ed Martin from the Black Student Union chaired the programs, and the All-Peoples Singers sang.

The week before the event, Becker and another Network member were charged with trespassing for leafletting on the campus grounds and charged under a repressive state law that forbids either of them to set foot on campus grounds under penalty of a six-month jail sentence and a \$1,000 fine.

This law was passed following the tremendous student protests in 1970 against the war in Viet Nam. It was specifically designed to bar well-known antiwar activist and Workers World Party member Gregory Dunkel from gaining access to the campus where he had been a student.

The student activists were outraged over this violation of the constitutional rights to organize against apartheid and invited Becker to speak at the Oct. 11 rally. The Network decided it was important to defy this repressive law and informed the university administration that Becker would be speaking at the rally in accordance with his constitutional rights.

Becker's speech got a resounding response, and the campus administration made no attempt to arrest him during the rally. Many students were prepared to be arrested along with Becker. The Network considered this a small but important victory in the context of the larger fight taking place on campuses throughout the country to overturn the hundreds of anti-free-speech restrictions and codes that are designed to curb student activism.

Atlanta

A CITYWIDE coalition of students called a demonstration that drew about 250 people on Oct. 11. They marched through downtown Atlanta, targeting some of the corporations that do business in South Africa.

At the rally, representatives from the various local colleges spoke, as well as David Ndaba of the ANC and State Senator Julian Bond, and Arron Two Elk of the International Indian Treaty Council.

There was also a dinner benefit for the ANC, where Ndaba and a ten-year-old South African youth were the featured speakers.

Syracuse

AT the University of Syracuse about 250 students and community people gathered for a rally and march that went from the campus through downtown.

Continued on page 10



Sister of slain Arab rights activist Alex Odeh comforted by friends.

Right-wing terrorists murder California Arab rights advocate

By Michael Bar-Am

OCTOBER 14—Alex Odeh, West Coast regional director of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), was assassinated by right-wing terrorists in Santa Ana, Calif., on Oct. 11. The murder occurred when a tripwire attached to the front door of the ADC office detonated a bomb as Odeh was opening it up.

In stark contrast to the treatment of the Achille Lauro seajacking incident, the Reagan administration issued a perfunctory statement only after Arab people bitterly protested Reagan's silence.

There were also no huge feature stories in the big business press detailing Odeh's life or telling what kind of man he was. In fact, most of the newspapers reported the murder in short wire service accounts, further angering Arab people and progressives.

The night before the assassination, Odeh had been interviewed on KABC-TV and called for the recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as a political organization. His views on other aspects of the liberation struggle were edited out of the broadcast. The way the station edited the interview had to be a deliberate move to stir up anti-Arab feelings. The coverage in effect gave the green light to the right-wing in its murderous attack. So much

for the so-called right to freedom of speech in the U.S.!

Reagan, media responsible

It is not known at this time who the terrorists were that planted the bomb. What is known is that it is the Reagan administration along with ruling class-owned-and-controlled newspaper and television industries that created the conditions for the bombing to happen.

According to the Washington Post (Oct. 13), the national chairperson of the ADC, James Abourezk, a former U.S. Senator from South Dakota, has accused President Reagan and television newscasters of "exacerbating the threatening atmosphere" towards Arabs and Arab-Americans by their comments on the hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro.

The bombing was condemned by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Congress, two mainstream Jewish organizations. It was praised by the Jewish Defense League, a right-wing racist organization. According to Richard Ayoob, the director of the National Association of Arab-Americans, Alex Odeh was "very committed to the idea of dialogue with the leading Jewish organizations." (New York Times, Oct. 13)

Alex Odeh, who was 41 years old at the time of his death, was married and had three small daughters. He was born in the West Bank Palestinian village of Jifna which has been under the iron fist of Israeli occupation for over 18 years. Like tens of thousands of his generation he was forced to leave his homeland.

Odeh was a writer, poet and teacher. He had recently been elected to the Academic Senate of Coastline Community College where he taught Middle East history and politics and was a member of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission. He was the author of "Whispers in Exile," a book of poetry published in Arabic.

The murder of Alex Odeh was a serious attack on the Palestine and Middle East solidarity movement. It is no accident that it comes at a time when more and more people are drawing links between the U.S.-backed settler states of Israel and South Africa and understanding and supporting the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people.



WW PHOTO: JOE P.

Recent Philadelphia demonstration protests Israeli terror raid on Tunisia.

What the hij

By Sam Marcy

OCTOBER 14—For over a week after the hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro, the leaders of the Reagan administration, with the full support of the ruling establishment and a monolithic capitalist press and media, operated on the false assumption that at last they had a firm grip on an unassailable issue, one which could be used like a lethal weapon to strike at the very heart of the Palestinian resistance movement and crush it once and for all.

Particularly when U.S. fighter jets succeeded in forcing down the Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers, the mood in Washington was exultant.

The euphoria began to disintegrate, however, as the days went by and their frenzied international bullying and the hysterical demands for unequivocal approval of their brazen military intervention fell flat. The very weapon that they had fashioned to use against the oppressed people was beginning to turn against them. Instead of appearing to the world in the posture of a hero fighting "terrorism," the U.S. was seen in its true role as the perpetrator of air piracy.

The ruling establishment here had thought it could utilize the alleged murder of a disabled passenger on the hijacked Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro to such inflammatory effect that it would blind the eyes of the millions of oppressed people in the Middle East, letting Washington carry out a brazen military intervention to serve the sordid purposes of U.S. imperialism and its Israeli puppet regime.

The recklessness with which the Reagan administration banked on this is shown by their wanton disregard of the rights of the Mediterranean countries.

This episode was a principal test of U.S. policy in a crisis situation with respect to the response of its imperial-

ist allies and clients. It indicated that hardly any could be relied upon, and exposed political weakness in the southern flank of NATO.

Unquestionably the architect of this policy had calculated that the alleged murder of this hapless passenger would stir up such a fury of condemnation against the oppressed Palestinian people that the U.S. would be able to go scot free with its own piratical policy in the area.

However, the strategy has foundered. It began to crumble as soon as it became clear that the U.S. had much more in mind than humanitarian considerations or the fate of a single individual, which is indeed ludicrous when one considers the hundreds of thousands who have died in the course of the liberation struggle in this area, not to speak of the rest of the world.

No support for U.S. air piracy

How interesting that after so much sabre rattling, with the U.S. assembling a virtual armada in the Mediterranean area, not a single Arab country, friend or foe, not even its most docile servitors and unscrupulous stooges, could be found to approve the U.S. military interception of the Egyptian plane carrying the four hijackers.

It must have come as a complete surprise to the Reagan administration's strategists that virtually every Arab newspaper was forced in one way or another to denounce the interception of the Egyptian civilian jet by U.S. fighter planes as brazen military intervention.

This was true not only of its staunch friend, the so-called moderate (meaning thoroughly corrupt) Saudi Arabian regime but also of Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and others fearful of becoming completely isolated.

The U.S. ruling class is once again learning what the older imperialist powers found out long ago: It is one

Arab world condemns U.S. 40,000 in Sudan hit Washington

By Joyce Chediak

OCTOBER 15—From the impoverished masses to U.S. client regimes, the response in the Arab world to Washington's hijacking last week of an Egyptian plane carrying Palestinian guerrillas has been one of universal condemnation.

For oppressed Arab workers and peasants, who have lived under the heel of U.S. imperialist domination since the end of World War II, the U.S. skyjacking has increased to fever pitch, in some areas, their justified hatred of Washington and its representatives.

Today in the Sudan, for example, 40,000 people demonstrated against U.S. and Israeli aggression. The protest was addressed by Yasir Arafat.

And in Egypt, on Oct. 12, only a few days after the Palestinian freedom fighters taken off the Achille Lauro were greeted as heroes by crowds in Port Said, 3,000 students staged a furious protest, the most significant demonstration against the Mubarak government to date. Cairo students demanded that Mubarak break relations with both the United States and Israel. Egypt is the only Arab country which signed a peace treaty with Israel, under U.S. brokering.

"The American people must know the truth about the Egyptian people," yelled a demonstrating engineering student at a reporter. "They have had enough of Mr. Reagan and American policy towards the Middle East and

the people of Palestine." The students chanted, "Hosni Mubarak, you are a servant of America!" as they burst through the gates of the university and into the streets and were joined by passersby.

When the defiant demonstration was mercilessly attacked by police swinging batons and lobbing tear gas, the students responded by picking up stones and fighting back, shouting to the hundreds of riot troops, "Are you the soldiers of Egypt or of Israel?" As the tear gas was clearing, small groups of students gathered up the canisters, labeled "M518 Riot CS, Federal Laboratories, Salisbury, Pa.," and their anti-imperialist rage grew.

This protest so shook the government that, a few hours later, Mubarak issued a statement denouncing the Reagan administration's action against an Egyptian plane as "an act of piracy."

Even Arab reactionaries denounce U.S.

While it is no surprise that progressive Arab governments have denounced the U.S. skyjacking, the Reagan administration's arrogant humiliation of Egypt, its most obvious client regime in the Arab world, has angered Washington's Arab client regimes as well. From the Persian Gulf to north Africa, the press in these countries has denounced the U.S. These regimes fear that the demonstration that shook Egypt last week may forebode protests

Hijack crisis has revealed

thing to get repeated affirmations of loyalty from one's own servitors. It's another thing for the latter to be able to disregard the flames of rebellion which at any moment could engulf and consume them, as has happened so frequently in this epoch of wars of national liberation against the crumbling edifice of moribund imperialism.

While they should have anticipated it, it must have come as a shock to the imperialists that the Mubarak regime of Egypt could not hand over the hijackers to the hated imperialist oppressors without arousing a veritable hailstorm of protest. Mubarak knew that his regime could very well end in the same way as that of Sadat.

The Mubarak regime therefore pursued a customary practice, in agreement with the Italian authorities, when it agreed to give the hijackers safe conduct out of Egypt and flew them to Tunis. The government there, however, having just experienced an unbridled act of military aggression with the Israeli bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis, turned down the request for landing rights. This made it easier for the Pentagon to pursue its military intervention and force the plane to land in Italy.

U.S. humiliated Italian bourgeoisie

Here we see another aspect of what the U.S. thought was an impregnable political and diplomatic position based on the NATO alliance. The Italian bourgeoisie has long been a lackey of U.S.-NATO imperialism. However, it could no longer disregard its own material interests with regard to neighboring Arab lands.

The Italian regime has to reckon not only with its material interests in the Arab world but also with broad public and working class sympathy at home with the oppressed people. No one wants to be put in the role of a flunky. But this is precisely what happened

when the U.S. brazenly violated its territory and sovereignty by force-landing the intercepted Egyptian plane in Sicily without prior consultation or permission from the Italian government.

How could the Reaganite strategists justify this in the eyes of bourgeois public opinion in Italy, how could they justify the humiliation of their own servitors, the ruling Italian bourgeois establishment?

The jurists of the State Department dusted off an old, thoroughly discredited theory to justify this brazen, piratical action. They reinstituted the old colonialist theory of extra-territoriality.

This was the excuse used many decades ago by the U.S., French, British, Japanese and other imperialists in their colonial days to justify their conduct in Asia, particularly in China. The imperialists divided Shanghai into zones where each of them exercised what they called extra-territorial rights. The aim was to establish their own courts, laws, customs and practices and impose their jurisdiction on the native people.

The oppressed people were tried in imperialist courts by imperialist judges under their rules, regulations and customs. It is by virtue of such discredited imperialist practices that the U.S. has attempted to justify its right to land the plane on Italian territory without notice to or consultation with the Italian government.

The State Department quoted a so-called hijacking treaty to justify its air piracy and military brigandage. But none of the Mediterranean countries saw any resemblance between the provisions of the so-called hijacking treaty and the U.S. act of military intervention.

Nor have any of them agreed that the Reagan administration has a legal right to extradite the hijackers to the U.S. This also is a considerable rebuff to its imperialist encroachments.

The hysteria raised in this country, however, over the alleged murder of

Leon Klinghoffer, the disabled passenger on the cruise ship, makes it absolutely necessary to consider the case dispassionately and not be taken in tow by the monolithic capitalist press and media.

U.S. demands extradition—to lynch law

Even according to U.S. legal customs and practices, the accused should be regarded as innocent until proven guilty. But this first and most elementary precept of law has now been so grossly violated as to make it utterly impossible to get any kind of legal hearing. The hijackers have already been convicted before even being arraigned or charged with the crime of murder.

Public opinion has been so saturated with anti-Palestinian propaganda that no one the least bit objective could ever believe that the aim of U.S. extradition was the pursuit of justice. Rather, the bourgeoisie is whipping up a lynch law atmosphere which absolutely precludes any judicial impartiality.

But this really begs the question, for the central issue of all the politics of the Middle East and of imperialist involvement in the area rotates around the right of the Palestinians, like every other people, to self-determination. Are they entitled to pursue their own independent destiny or are they to remain a cruelly persecuted and oppressed people, displaced from their native land by a U.S.-supported, U.S.-constructed and U.S.-maintained Israeli regime?

No problem in the Middle East of any significance can possibly be disengaged from this core issue. If the Palestinian people are entitled to their right of self-determination like any other people, then the issue of the hijackers must be viewed from an entirely different perspective than the one the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are trying to foist upon the rest of the world.

The right of self-determination includes not only the right to their own territory—Palestine—but also without

any question the right to pursue their own customs, practices and traditions, their own culture, their own legal system, their own criminal procedure. If the hijackers are Palestinians, they should be tried by the Palestinians.

The organization which is regarded by the rest of the world, the overwhelming majority of the human race, as the sole and exclusive representative of the Palestinian people is the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). It is they who should have the jurisdiction over the hijackers if they are Palestinians.

This was recognized by the Egyptian government when it allowed the hijackers to fly to Tunisia in the custody of PLO representatives.

Episode in a long liberation war

It is entirely probable that the hijackers took arms onto the cruise ship not to carry out a hijacking but with the intention of disembarking in Israel to continue the war of national liberation which the imperialists and their Zionist agents have forced upon them for more than 35 years.

Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians over the years have been mercilessly gunned down, bombed out, driven from pillar to post, subjected to savage assaults against the civilian population. Taking the lives of men, women and children, disregarding the most elementary human rights—is this not the history of the cruel occupation of the homeland of the Palestinian people?

What could be more probable than that young Palestinians would arm themselves and find a way to reach an area of conflict with the Israelis for the purpose of liberating their people and their country from one of the cruelest oppressions in the modern era?

It is from this perspective that the issue of the hijackers has to be regarded. Of course, if this alleged senseless act was carried out in the manner claimed by the U.S., it should be dealt with by the Palestinian people in an

U.S. air piracy

ton, Tel Aviv

against their own shaky governments.

For example, Okaz, a Saudi Arabian newspaper, used exceptionally strong language for that country when it accused Washington of "air piracy and behavior that international law does not condone." And in Oman, where Washington has been given permission to build huge military bases, the daily Al Watan said, "Had the United States dealt with the issue of the Middle East in a fair manner, then the whole world would have been spared the cycle of violence and counter-violence."

In Tunis, where the regime's long-time history of collaboration with Washington did not exempt it from a U.S.-backed Israeli bombing raid just this month which left 70 Palestinians and Tunisians dead, the daily As Sabah said, "We deplore strongly the acts of piracy undertaken by the United States which threaten the region with grave dangers, the least of which will be the widening cycle of violence."

The racist arrogant Reagan administration has given a clear message to even its Arab clients that Washington is calling the shots and that they are only oppressed nations and expected to follow orders. But such open imperialist contempt for 160 million Arab people will only give rise to a new wave of grassroots struggle that will force Washington out of the Middle East and sweep all of its puppets along with it.

U.S.-Israeli aggression spreads suffering through Middle East

By Robert Dobrow

OCTOBER 13—The capitalist media has saturated the air waves and newspapers with the grief and suffering of the family of Leon Klinghoffer, who died aboard the Achille Lauro.

No one would deny the personal suffering of the Klinghoffer family. But the people of the United States would better understand the roots of what happened aboard that Italian liner if some attention were focused on the grief and suffering of the tens of thousands of nameless families throughout the Arab world.

In Kafr Matta, Bhamdoun, Hammana, Shuweifat, Baalbek and scores of towns and villages throughout Lebanon, widows and widowers still grieve the time when U.S. bombs rained death on their homes, killing their loved ones.

A campaign of genocide

The world knows of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June, 1982. But the U.S. military also invaded Lebanon a few months later. It was called a "peace-keeping force." But from their airport garrison in the heart of Beirut and from huge warships off the coast in the Mediterranean, U.S. military forces, along with the Italians, French and British, assisted the Israeli army

in what can only be described as a campaign of genocide against the Lebanese and Palestinian people.

Throughout 1983 up until their humiliating retreat in February, 1984, the Pentagon poured M60 tanks, 155-millimeter howitzers, 16-inch artillery guns, fighter jets armed with 1,000-pound bombs, helicopter gunships and nuclear-armed battleships into Lebanon. It was the biggest military intervention of the Pentagon since the Viet Nam war. All against a country about the size of the state of Connecticut.

Its purpose was to back up the Israeli invasion and prop up the fascist Phalange as the government of Lebanon. The Phalange is a clique of right-wing killers and thugs who take their name from the Spanish fascist party of Generalissimo Franco. It was the Phalange, with Israeli complicity, who butchered hundreds of defenseless Palestinian men, women and children at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps—a worthy ally for the Reagan administration in Lebanon.

40,000 civilians killed

Over 40,000 civilians died during the U.S.-Israeli invasion. They were loved no less than Leon Klinghoffer was loved by his family. Their survivors cried no less tears. But the big business media in the U.S. didn't comment on

their pain. Nor did they inform the public in this country of the deep anger and hatred the Lebanese and Palestinian people feel against the United States.

Many thousands more Palestinians died during the Israeli wars of 1967 and 1973 and in the occupied West Bank, Golan Heights and Gaza Strip. The Israeli military could not operate for another week were it not for its U.S. subsidy. The country is the largest recipient of U.S. aid. This year the figure will top \$4.5 billion—enough to fortify the regime as a military outpost in the region and as a club against the anti-imperialist struggles of the Arab people.

The ultimate responsibility for the violence aboard the Achille Lauro must be placed squarely at the feet of the Reagan administration, which arms and supports the Israeli aggressors, terrorizes Lebanon, hijacks planes from Egypt, constantly threatens Libya, deploys its spy planes in the Persian Gulf, props up the most hated right-wing regimes, and sends its CIA hit squads throughout the Arab world to commit mayhem and terror. The real solution to "terrorism"? Get the U.S.—and its client Israeli state—completely out of the Middle East!

EDITORIAL

Jackson Taylor

DO YOU RECOGNIZE the name Jackson Taylor? Has it appeared in one headline or been spoken by one national newscaster in this country?

How many people have heard about the death of this 59-year-old grandfather? How many have seen the photo showing his last moments of agony? Why have there been no interviews with his next of kin, with the friends and neighbors who were shocked and saddened by his violent death?

Jackson Taylor was killed on Oct. 9, the same day that the media were full of news about the sea-jacking of the Achille Lauro. The national newscasts that night devoted at least half their programming to the story that an American had been killed aboard the hijacked ship.

None of them even mentioned the killing of Jackson Taylor that day in the city of Baltimore.

Millions in this country have a crucial interest in knowing the circumstances of Jackson Taylor's death. It touches their lives profoundly. Because Jackson Taylor died while standing up for union rights. He was killed in a struggle that is going on all over the U.S.—the struggle of workers to hold onto their jobs in the face of an all-out, relentless offensive by the bosses to slash wages and scuttle humane working conditions.

Taylor was one of a group of longshoremen protesting the unloading of a freighter by non-union workers paid \$5 an hour—about \$12 per hour lower than union scale! He was flung 20 feet in the air by a speeding police car intent on breaking up the workers' dem-

onstration. By the time he hit the pavement, he was dying.

Jackson Taylor was a few years short of retirement. He must have had dreams about the time he'd have to spend with his family once the years of toil were over. Probably nothing as elaborate as a Mediterranean cruise—few workers can afford that—but trips to the shore perhaps, or a little boat on the Chesapeake. We'll never know because the media just weren't interested.

It's hard to take, this phony concern for "American lives" cranked out by the capitalist media whenever it suits chauvinist purposes. In the long run it breeds cynicism, because everyone knows that the tears and sympathy don't apply to the lives of those victimized by police brutality, by racism, or by the poverty and hunger that inevitably follow in the wake of the profit system.

But there is another side to this story. And that is the very real concern and anger shown by the longshore workers over this killing, who don't need the media to tell them how to feel. Some 1,500 of them packed the funeral for Jackson Taylor on Oct. 12, while in 300 ports around the country dockers stopped work for half an hour in his honor.

The capitalist media don't tell you how these workers feel. It's too dangerous. There's too much anger close to the surface around this country, waiting for a focus. "The man died to save our livelihoods," said one of the longshoremen at the funeral. "That's one thing I'll never forget. None of us will."

Death of a steel town

IT MAY sound trite, but it's true about Wall Street, "Give 'em an inch and they'll take a mile."

Look at the latest development at the Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. In addition to all the regressive, wage-cutting, pension-cutting, safety-cutting, worker-cutting, you-name-it-cutting contract that the bosses have been demanding, the banks now want to shut down several blast furnaces at the Monessen, Pa., plant.

This is much more than just eliminating 1,400 jobs, though it will certainly do that. It would be handing a death warrant to the whole town of Monessen.

That's what U.S. Steel and the Mellon Bank have already done to so many towns. Take Clairton, Pa., as one example. Clairton was basically a company town. The workers and their families gave everything to the rich and powerful Mellon Bank which along with Morgan banks and other Wall Street institutions are the real powers behind U.S. Steel. The whole community was taxed to build the town which mainly benefitted the corporation. And the corporation paid low taxes while getting services at next to nothing for "giving" the

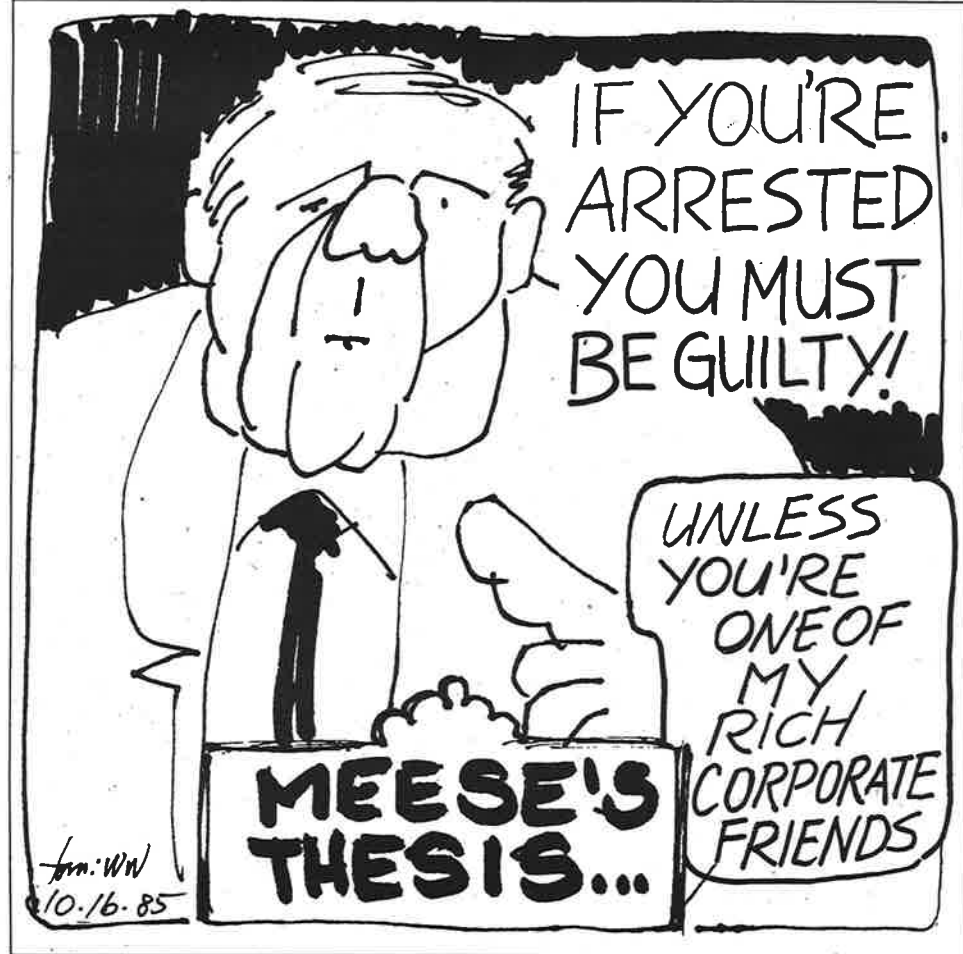
workers a job.

It was perfect for the bosses, and when they found that they could make a bigger buck in oil and other businesses, they quit Clairton and returned none of the millions that they had taken from the workers over the generations.

Today the town of Clairton is deeply in debt and has less than \$1,000 in its bank account. All fire fighters have been laid off. Homes worth \$50,000 cannot be sold for \$25,000. Street lights have been turned off.

This is what the Morgan bankers now want to impose on Monessen. Manufacturers Hanover Trust, one of the biggest Morgan banks, is calling the shots in Wheeling-Pittsburgh's union-busting. They are making a grab for what rightfully belongs to the workers.

As has been detailed many times in this paper during the course of this three-month-long struggle, the only thing that can stop the bosses and the bankers is for the union to take over the plants and declare their legal right of possession as the principal creditors under bankruptcy. That is the only way that the continued functioning of all the plants, the jobs and communities can be successfully defended.



LETTERS

Native peoples' sovereignty

THERE IS a story in Indian Country that when Crazy Horse was stabbed in the back by an Indian tribal policeman, an old Lakota man said, "So, Indian kills Indian. But who set the Indian on?"

The same can be said of the deaths of the Wyoming Eight. This is a personal note of appreciation for your article—especially the statement of principle in the section on what progressive people should do in support of Native People. Among other things, that ringing declaration will be useful to me in talking to selected Indian People about the party—to wit:

"Where does Workers World Party stand on sovereignty?"

"Here, read it for yourself, right from the Chairman."

I have come to expect no less from the pages of Workers World, but I want to say thanks anyway.

Bob Gustafson
Newburyport, MA

On Creationism

ANDY STAPP'S article on California's censored biology textbooks ("Is science a sin?" Sept. 26) is an excellent analysis of the religious right's pernicious influence on education in this country. And I'm writing to offer one further observation on how creationism serves the interests of the ruling class.

The biblical date of "creation" (calculated on the basis of biblical genealogies by Archbishop James Usher in 1650, and still accepted as fact by many Christian fundamentalists!) is 4004 B.C.—i.e., about the time when in reality, class society was becoming firmly established in many parts of the world; although its beginnings date back somewhat farther, its development was hardly an overnight phenomenon. Going hand in hand with the emergence of class society, of course, was the overthrow of mother-right and the increasing oppression of women ("thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee"). In saying that nothing at all existed before the fifth millennium B.C., then, the fundamentalists are in effect dismissing the hundreds of millennia that the human race was both matriarchal and communistic.

Their claim that God created the universe in six days? An ultimately futile denial of science. Their claim

that class society has always existed—and always will? An ultimately futile denial of history.

Linda Rutherford
Newburyport, MA

Peace and trade unions in New Zealand

THE AUCKLAND Trades Council Peace Office is intent on bringing out a regular bulletin that highlights International Workers action taken on the peace question.

It is our aim to get off the ground jobs that are for peace. We see the workers' peace link-up bulletin assisting us in this project.

By jobs that are for peace we mean unions recognizing peace to be union business, peace reports regularly raised at union meetings, peace delegates appointed who will liaise between their community peace groups and their job-based peace groups, unions interested in sponsoring "peace billboard advertisements," progressive peace resolutions passed at stop-work meetings and industrial action, such as bans, strikes, etc.

The list is endless and further ideas are welcomed.

We would be extremely grateful if your organization could assist us in this project and mail to us relevant material.

A. Dworniak
Peace Sub-Committee
Auckland Trades Council
New Zealand
Federation of Labor

Apartheid bail-out

I WANT to let you know that I was much impressed by the Sam Marcy story of the apartheid bail-out in the Sept. 12 issue.

The meetings of Volker, de Kock and other principals were reported piecemeal in other publications, but Marcy put the operation in its proper perspective with analytical clarity and detail.

Forrest B. Crumpley
Los Gatos, Calif.

WORKERS WORLD welcomes letters from its readers. Send all correspondence to: Workers World, GPO Box 948, New York, N.Y. 10116.

Imports bill no answer to job losses

By John Catalinotto

OCTOBER 14—As Representative James Broyhill (R-NC) pressed last week for laws to keep out foreign-made textiles, he claimed, "The issue here—it's jobs." This statement caught the essence of the fraud in the House debate over import restrictions.

The bill in question would reduce textile and apparel imports from a dozen countries by as much as 40%. It passed by 265-159, a margin too low to override the expected Reagan veto should it manage to pass the Senate.

If Congress really cared about saving workers' jobs, it could show this concern directly. It could increase unemployment compensation, allocate funds to train unemployed workers, and pass public works bills to build roads or repair the infrastructures of the decaying U.S. cities. It could pass a law for a shorter work week at full pay. These steps would create jobs.

And the Reagan administration, which opposes the protectionist bill, uses the equally fraudulent argument that it is concerned with the principle of "free trade" and with keeping low prices for consumers.

Both the Reaganites and the Democrats use phony arguments on this issue to hide their complete inability to counteract the crisis of capitalist overproduction that is behind the loss of jobs. The truth is that without an expansion of the world market, neither protectionism nor free trade will expand production or create jobs.

Also behind this cover of "saving jobs" is a conflict between the owners of different sectors of the U.S. economy. Some bosses, like those in textiles and steel, want import restrictions to allow them to sell at high prices and earn bigger profits. Other bosses and bankers, who rely more heavily on foreign trade, want to avoid taking steps which may curtail that trade.

An added irony is that many in Congress backing the protectionist bill complained of low wages in the foreign countries. Half of the countries named in the bill, south Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia and Pakistan, are military dictatorships which suppress the workers and which enjoy the full diplomatic, military and political backing of the U.S. government.

Imports don't lay off workers, bosses do

A look at key U.S. industries whose management is demanding trade protection shows that the drop in production has had less to do with imports than with the decline in the international market because of the capitalist recession. And the mass layoffs have been caused not by imports but by the greed of the owners for greater profits. It's not imports that lay off the working women and men, but bosses.

The textile industry provides a telling example. An article in the Oct. 11 Washington Post describes a major textile plant which was the scene of a vote for unionization last week, a drive which unfortunately failed.

The Cannon plant, in Kannapolis, N.C., was bought recently by a new owner, multi-millionaire David Murdock. His drive toward "modernization" and for a quick profit has already led to 2,000 layoffs from the original 13,000 workers, short time for those remaining and a speed-up which has workers running 13 high-speed looms instead of eight.

These methods are brutal to the workers. Instead of creating jobs, the speed-up cuts jobs. But Murdock has enormously increased productivity. Similar "modernization" has been typical of developments in textiles and has been the chief cause of the loss of 200,000 jobs since 1980.

Instead of creating jobs, protection-

ist laws would just allow textile factory owners to charge higher prices. With greater profits, they would gain more capital to "modernize" their plants, speed up the workers, and in a short period cut even more jobs. How can anyone argue otherwise?

Steel demand way down

The experience in the steel industry also shows how little the question of imports bears on the loss of jobs. Here the most important factor has been the overall drop in the steel market in the capitalist world due to the recessions of 1974-75 and 1980-82, modernization of equipment and the ongoing stagnation in demand.

This lesson is hidden by the steel industry barons who point to the growing share of internal steel market taken by imported steel, now up to 26%. But U.S. steel production figures show

that in 1973, there were over 150 million tons of steel produced; in 1983, the total was below 80 million tons.

The loss in production came not so much from a rise in total imports as from widespread closings, especially of older plants, and from the sharp decline in demand for steel. This decline was not restricted to the U.S., but occurred also in Western Europe, where 20% of the production capacity was eliminated, and even in Japan. The only increase in productive capacity came with new plants in countries like south Korea, Brazil and Taiwan, most of it financed by U.S. capital.

The severe drop in U.S. steel employment from 370,000 to 160,000 in the 1973-83 period came 58% from the decline in the market and 38% from the rise in productivity, and only 4% from the increase in imports, as was shown in data from the American Iron and

Steel Institute Annual Statistical Reports.

What is even more damning to steel management is that they have already shown that given the financial resources to improve production techniques in steel, they will just as soon find another way to make money. For example, when U.S. Steel accumulated vast sums through union concessions and tax breaks, instead of building new, advanced steel plants, they bought Marathon Oil.

The steel directors' goal was not to create jobs but to increase profits. It would remain the goal of the steel industry owners in using any windfall profits from protectionist laws.

For the U.S. working class, any fight against imports is a diversion from their real interests—direct demands for jobs at home and international solidarity with workers abroad.

Meese's contempt of the law

By Bill Del Vecchio

OCTOBER 14—While Reagan's jets were busy flouting international law by hijacking an Egyptian airliner, Reagan's attorney general, advisor and all around chum Edwin Meese was busy showing his contempt for the fundamental principles of U.S. law.

When asked why he opposed the 1966 Miranda ruling, which held that suspects must be advised of their right to remain silent or have a lawyer present before police questioning, Meese bluntly stated that suspects don't need to be advised of their rights, because most of them are guilty!

"If a person is innocent of a crime, then he is not a suspect," Meese told a reporter from U.S. News and World Report.

Since one of the most basic principles of U.S. justice is supposed to be that a person is innocent until proven guilty, Meese's claim that a person is guilty just because he has been accused

by a cop has once again raised speculation that Meese's law degree was obtained from one of those mail order houses that advertises in the back of Archie comic books.

Meese's statement set legal experts howling and Reaganite apologists apologizing. One University of Michigan law professor called the Attorney General's statement, "really incredible," adding, "If a first year law student said this, you'd give them a tongue-lashing."

A spokesman for Meese's office admitted that he was quoted correctly in U.S. News and World Report, but claimed, "That is not what he intended."

Kid glove treatment for corporate criminals

However, the actions of all departments of the Reagan administration show that Meese did say what he

intended to say.

Meese's advice to leave yourself in the hands of the police may be wise for good buddies of his like the executives of E.F. Hutton. Despite the fact that they stole millions from their clients, and stockholders through fraud, they escaped jail terms because of the sympathetic treatment of Meese's office.

But the same advice isn't worth a damn for Black and other oppressed people. It's been well documented that they are consistent targets for arbitrary arrests, arrests that are mere harassment and can't hold up in court. Should police have a free hand to beat, intimidate or even fool these victims of racism into false confessions? Meese says yes.

By stripping away the legal and democratic facade that U.S. capitalism has cloaked itself in for two centuries, Meese and Reagan are exposing the naked, brute force that is the real basis for the rule of the super-rich.

—Chrysler

Continued from page 1

ments is, "They owe it to us."

Chrysler workers, 70,000-strong in the U.S. and 10,000 in Canada, have made tremendous sacrifices over the last several years. They have borne layoffs and huge wage and benefit cuts.

Record profits

Now the company is swimming in the money. Last year's profits were a record \$1.9 billion, and the whole auto industry is riding high. In fact, the most recent figures on auto sales show Chrysler topping both Ford and GM in new sales. Chrysler's top boss, Lee Iacocca, was given a whopping \$4.3 million last year in stock options alone.

But the Chrysler workers have gotten nothing and instead are still behind the pay and benefit scales of GM and Ford workers. No wonder the most popular badge being worn on the picketlines today read, "Lee got his, we want ours!"

There are three contracts involved and two unions. The three contracts cover production and maintenance workers, the skilled trades and clerical and engineering. The two unions are the United Auto Workers of the U.S. and of Canada. The Canadian UAW was forced out of the U.S.-based union when the current international leadership refused to grant their right to autonomy.

For the Canadian auto workers, one

of the big issues is parity with U.S. workers. One of the concessions imposed on the workers in that country was to make their pay the same figure as that of U.S. workers, but in Canadian dollars. Since the Canadian dollar is worth about 30% less than the U.S. dollar, this meant a pay cut. The Canadian workers are demanding pay equivalent to the U.S. pay scale.

Chrysler demands more concessions

For the U.S. workers, when they learned what Chrysler was saying at the bargaining table, a righteous rage began to spread. The early walkouts took place at the Jefferson Assembly plant in Detroit, Warren Truck in Warren, Mich., and St. Louis Plant One.

And at Chrysler headquarters in Highland Park, Mich., clerical and engineering workers blocked the free-way entrance during the first hours of the strike, backing up traffic for more than six miles. The feelings are obviously running strong.

What is Chrysler offering at the bargaining table? According to the latest reports, management is demanding another concession-filled contract.

The company is offering three annual lump sum payments instead of a wage increase, no language on outsourcing (getting parts and services from non-union plants) and a three-year contract. In addition to wage parity with the other auto workers, the union is demanding a limit on outsourcing and a two-year contract which would expire at the same time as those with GM and Ford.

In its takeaway package, Chrysler is

also demanding less pay for new hires, "copayments" by workers for life and health insurance, and a gutting of the "30 and out" pension program. Chrysler also wants to eliminate most job classifications.

Chrysler has already shut down most of the plants it had in the Black community. The one large assembly plant remaining in Detroit, Jefferson Assembly, is slated to have the second shift eliminated next year, and will close its doors entirely by 1988, informed sources told this reporter. The company is also plotting to keep the union out of its new engineering facility under construction in Pontiac, Mich..

Chrysler recently moved production of the entire Dodge Ramcharger line from the Warren, Mich., Truck Plant to a non-union shop in Mexico, where workers are paid 50 or 60 cents an hour. The company located its new "Liberty" project in South Carolina and has already wrested an agreement from the UAW for lower wages, fewer job classifications, and other concessions, just as GM did with its infamous Saturn project.

And Chrysler just announced a joint agreement with Mitsubishi Motors to build the "Diamond Star" automobile in a non-union, virtually all-white area in central Illinois.

However, with Chrysler ringing up record profits and the company in hot competition for this fall's market, the workers are in a strong position to turn around the downward cycle of concessions that have plagued all the auto workers and win the first significant gains for the union in many years.

CIA rewards Afghan contras for air massacre

52 civilians killed by U.S.-made rocket

By Andy Stapp

OCTOBER 12—Only five weeks after Afghani counter-revolutionaries shot a commercial airliner out of the sky killing all aboard, the U.S. government is preparing to give the terrorists who did it a huge infusion in military aid, amounting to ten times as much as Reagan has officially obtained this year for his Nicaraguan contras.

In reporting the destruction of the Bakhtar Afghan Airline domestic flight by a United States-made ground-to-air missile while en route from the capital city of Kabul to the western province of Farah and the death of all 47 passengers and five crew members, the English news agency Reuters wrote, "The shooting down of the aircraft was among the more dramatic of recent attacks by guerrillas fighting the Government of President Babrak Karmal."

This sort of bland, ho-hum reporting typifies all the news accounts of the atrocity. The Sept. 9 New York Times quoted a right-wing Afghani as justifying the attack by saying that there were "no civilian passengers," but just "party people," and that made it okay. On Sept. 8 the Associated Press ran

a story quoting "a senior guerrilla official" as calling such commercial aircraft "a legitimate target." All this from a mass news media which rails so pompously and endlessly about travelers who are the innocent victims of terrorism!

Needless to say, the killing of these 52 Afghani civilians was not reported at all on the TV news, nor were there any editorial condemnations raising the familiar cry for a united effort by "all civilized nations" to aid in the capture, trial and punishment of the criminals.

Quite the contrary. Since the murderers are engaged in a U.S.-sponsored crusade which has unleashed thousands and tens of thousands of reactionaries into the territory of Afghanistan in an undeclared war, the U.S. must demonstrate a special show of thanks for those brave heroes who blasted the Bakhtar Afghan Airline from the sky and sent its 52 passengers into a terrifying plunge to their deaths.

\$250 million earmarked for counter-revolutionaries

And indeed, the reward for this "dramatic" act was soon in coming.

On Oct. 9, the Associated Press reported that the U.S. Senate and House intelligence committees had "secretly approved about \$250 million in further covert military aid to the rebels fighting the Soviet-backed government in Afghanistan," including a "blowpipe portable missile system," with which they can massacre more air travelers.

"The money," the AP dispatch noted, "will be funneled to the Afghan rebels through the Central Intelligence Agency," that great friend of freedom and democracy. Not all the money will go to buying missiles, however.

Some of it will be used to buy ammunition, grenades and small arms to murder women who have dared to learn to read and teach others, or who have married without their parents' consent. Some of it will be used to kill poor farmers who have gone along with the government decree allowing them to occupy their absentee landlords' estates. (Back in August 1981, the New York Times observed that the counter-revolutionaries were "fighting in units commanded by their landlords.") And some of the aid will be used to assassinate "party members."

But not all the money will go to such "noble causes." Much of the cash will find its way into the Swiss bank deposits of rebel leaders like Sayed Ahman Gailani and his wife Rahila. Gailani, the former owner of the Peugeot auto dealership in Kabul, was always better known in London business circles than in his own country until Washington selected him to lead the fight for "a free Afghanistan." One virtue of Mrs. Gailani is that at least people in her country remember her. Rahila is the granddaughter of their late unlamented monarch.



Members of Kabul workers' militia of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

—Oct. 11 protests

Continued from page 5

town. Speakers at the rally included members of the NAACP, the Syracuse Peace Council, AFSCME and Larry Holmes of the U.S. Out of South Africa Network.

Rochester, N.Y.

IN a program sponsored by Students Against Apartheid and Black Awareness Coordinating Committee, about 200 attended a program at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Charles Moore and Chris Becker spoke for the All-Peoples Congress and the Network. Also on the program were Carlos Guzman of the Latin American Solidarity Committee of RIT and Rev. Richard Gilbert. Actions also took place at Monroe Community College and at Nazareth College, in Rochester.

Cornell, Ithaca

THE Progressive Youth Network and the Cornell Divestment Coalition held an all-day teach-in. Two days earlier about 50 students and community people were arrested for trespassing when they held a march and sit-in.

Connecticut

AT Wesleyan, in Middletown, Conn., 130 were arrested and charged with creating a public disturbance after they blocked the entrance to the administration buildings. The students were demanding the university divest itself of \$18.5 million in investments.

At Yale, in New Haven, 400 students rallied in front of the president's office and presented him with a petition containing 3,000 signatures calling for complete divestment of the college's \$250 million holdings in apartheid.

Wheaton College, Norton

ABOUT 500 students gathered on Oct. 9 to call for divestment at Wheaton College. Speakers at the rally included students, the college president and Zenzile of the U.S. Out of South Africa Network, who with the others called on students to support the ANC.

Detroit

DETROIT was privileged to receive on the eve of Oct. 11 Toivo Ja Toivo, the Secretary General of SWAPO. This great patriot and leader of the Namibian struggle had spent 16 years on Robben Island prison for his role in the struggle to liberate Namibia. He

spoke at Wayne State University. The following day, students from that campus marched from the student union through the campus to General Motors' headquarters.

Toledo, Ohio

SOME 300 students at the University of Toledo marched and rallied on Oct. 11 both in the day and the evening. Black and white marchers went from International Park across the bridge and through downtown Toledo chanting, "Free Mandela, jail Botha!"

Temple University, Phila.

AT A RALLY of about 200 at Temple University in Philadelphia, Neville Edwards of the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network spoke on the need to support the ANC.

Actions also took place in Texas, organized statewide, and in Cleveland, Ohio, where 600 gathered on Oct. 11 to hear ANC representative Shuping Coapoge and Nomonde Ngubo, the international representative of the United Mine Workers. The keynote talk was by Warren Davis, UAW Region 2 Director.



WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

San Francisco State, Oct. 11.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

- 1a. Title of publication: Workers World
- 1b. Publication number: 0043809X
2. Date of filing: Sept. 30, 1985
3. Frequency of issue: Weekly, except first week of September
- 3a. Number of issues published annually: 51
- 3b. Annual subscription price: \$10.00
4. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010
5. Complete mailing address of the headquarters of general business offices of the publisher: 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010
6. Full names and complete mailing address of publisher, editor, and managing editor: Publisher: WW Publishers, Inc., 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010; Editor: Deirdre Griswold, 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010; Managing Editor: Sharon Shelton, 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010
7. Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, its name and address must be stated.): Sara Flounders, 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010; John Catalinotto, 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010; Carmen Roundtree, 46 West 21 Street, New York, NY 10010
8. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities. (If there are none, so state.): None
9. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates.
10. Extent and nature of circulation: Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: A. Total number copies (Net press run): 8,875. B. Paid and/or requested circulation: (1.) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: 3,918. (2.) Mail subscriptions: 4,384. C. Total paid and/or requested circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2): 8,302. D. Free distribution by mail, carrier or other means, samples, complimentary and other free copies: 429. E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D): 8,731. F. Copies not distributed: (1.) Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing: 144. (2.) Return from news agents: None. G. Total (Sum of E, F1 and 2—should equal net press run shown in A.): 8,875.
- Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: A. Total number copies (Net press run): 9,000. B. Paid and/or requested circulation: (1.) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: 3,958. (2.) Mail subscriptions: 4,452. C. Total paid and/or requested circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2): 8,410. D. Free distribution by mail, carrier or other means, samples, complimentary and other free copies: 437. E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D): 8,847. F. Copies not distributed: (1.) Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing: 153. (2.) Return from news agents: None. G. Total (Sum of E, F1 and 2—should equal net press run shown in A.): 9,000.
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. (Signed) Hillel Cohen, Business Manager.

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

Philadelphia: P. O. Box 17116, Philadelphia, Pa. 19105 (215) 734-2088

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

Prison AIDS patients kept in squalor

By J. Marquardt

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 13—A prison sentence in any one of California's 12 state prisons is bad enough, but for prisoners with AIDS or ARC (AIDS-Related Complex) it is as good as a death sentence.

Prisoners with AIDS/ARC are currently housed in the same isolation ward with other inmates suffering from serious infectious communicable diseases, threatening the lives of the AIDS/ARC patients through exposure to their weakened immune systems.

Desperate for help, several prisoners with AIDS/ARC have written letters from the California Medical Facility at Vacaville Prison to local AIDS activist organizations and the gay and lesbian press.

Vacaville continues to operate without a state license and is under U.S. Department of Justice investigation of charges of unconstitutional confinement and medical care. Despite these and the inmates' charges of deplorable treatment, state officials deny all, contending their policy is designed to protect the health of all the prisoners. Officials stated that, in the nation's largest prison population, 48,736, there have been only six AIDS deaths and there are less than a dozen current cases in Vacaville, where all inmates with AIDS/ARC are supposed to be transferred to from other state prisoners. But the facts about the conditions at Vacaville and other state prisons contradict "official" claims.

In their communication with Mobilization Against AIDS-San Francisco, which has been instrumental in bringing the AIDS victims' struggle to public attention, prisoners with AIDS/ARC charge they are not only receiving inadequate care, but are being exposed to potentially fatal diseases like hepa-

titis by being housed in close proximity to other prisoners with infectious diseases.

The HTLV III virus which is believed responsible for AIDS severely weakens the immune system making the likelihood of death from infection many times greater for the very prisoners who should be housed away from instead of among other seriously ill prisoners.

'Feels like we're in a holding tank waiting to die'

One prisoner wrote: "I have to live here until I die because of my disease, and I want this place either shut down or improved." Another said: "It feels like we're in a holding tank waiting to die, and the (medical) staff doesn't care."

The prisoners with AIDS/ARC also report dirty linens and filthy shower rooms. Although each inmate on Ward G-2 is said to have his own cell, shower facilities are shared with other sick prisoners.

It has also been reported in local press that some prison hospitals in California lack written procedures for handling infectious body fluids, soiled linens and contaminated medical instruments. The special health threat to prisoners with AIDS/ARC is clear.

Prison AIDS/ARC patients have also charged the prison with completely inadequate care, having to wait hours, sometimes days, for medications. One inmate said that "if we're lucky, the doctor comes once a week."

Corlan Keller, one of the 11 confirmed AIDS cases in the California prison system, describes his struggle against AIDS as two-fold: to beat the disease and to get the prison system to cooperate.

"They won't use experimental drugs



because it's against prison regulations, but it's the only chance I've got," adding that the prison staff offers pain pills and other treatments he thinks are too little, too late. Particularly anxious to get treatment for Kaposi's Sarcoma, he said: "It's taken two weeks just to get an appointment for radiation. All it took was a 10-minute phone call, but it took them two weeks to make it."

Misdiagnoses keep AIDS statistics low

Not only are those known to have AIDS/ARC poorly cared-for, but many prisoners have suffered and died from AIDS, never having been properly diagnosed or treated. For example, Alexandria D'Allessandro, a 27-year-old woman prisoner from the California Institution for Women, died last Aug. 20 at the Riverside General Hospital.

She had persistent infections of the throat, vagina and spinal cord which prison officials agree are usually easily

treated, but when all three are combined, the immune system should be suspect. The prison staff failed to diagnose and treat for AIDS and not until she died at the outside hospital was she declared the first female inmate in California to die of AIDS complications.

Thomas Charles McGann, 38 years old, who died this past Aug. 27 at the California Men's Colony (prison) in San Luis Obispo was never confirmed as having AIDS, but had many AIDS symptoms: pneumonia, swollen lymph glands and fever, in addition to an AIDS antibody test showing he had been exposed to the disease. And there are many others who probably had AIDS, but were never officially recognized.

As if to compound the diagnostic bungling, medical records in general are a known mess in the California prison system. State records indicate medical histories are frequently lost, incomplete or inaccurate. Medical reports are essential when treating any infectious disease. A prison doctor who does not want to be identified stated recently, "The records are not worth the paper they're printed on."

The care and treatment of the inmates with AIDS, some of whom are oppressed as gays, remains a prime concern of Dean Sandmire, Co-chair of Mobilization Against AIDS, People with AIDS/ARC Caucus. Not satisfied with the state's response to the inmates' complaints, and determined to fight for their rights, Sandmire says, "This is not going to end here. These people are still human, even if they are serving time."

Special concern for prisoners with AIDS/ARC must be included in the demands for more funds for research against AIDS.

—Hijack crisis

Continued from page 7

appropriate judicial manner.

To add insult to injury, the U.S. has demanded that the Palestinian delegation sent to investigate the incident and escort the hijackers out of Egypt be themselves cast in the role of criminals and be extradited to the U.S. along with the hijackers.

It is as plain as daylight from this alone, as with the bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis, that the U.S. aim is the destruction of any and all Palestinian leaders. Indeed, the wholesale destruction of the resistance movement is what the U.S.-Israeli axis is aiming at.

This is what has to be understood: that the real aim of the U.S. is to blow the alleged murder incident all out of proportion and create an international crisis, in order to engineer military intervention and promote its predatory imperialist policy.

Yet how can the U.S. pose as a pillar of international law and order with any credibility when it is in the dock before the World Court because of its terrorist war against Nicaragua, and when it has walked out of that body rather than respond to the charges against it?

U.S. fears shift in region

Of course no one should be unmindful of the fact that there are very serious differences and internal conflicts within the Palestinian movement which leave it seriously threatened in light of the machinations of the U.S.-Israeli axis. All the more why progressive public opinion in the U.S. should not be hoodwinked into accommodating itself to the frantic maneuvers of the U.S.-Israeli aggressors or to pro-

moting their ends.

Rumors that Secretary of State Weinberger was opposed to the military interception should be taken in the historic context of the struggle of U.S. imperialism against the Soviet Union. To the extent that the rumor is true, Weinberger is motivated not by the desire for a more liberal, less aggressive attitude toward the peoples of the Middle East but by fear that an outburst of revolutionary energy, particularly in Egypt, might influence regimes like that of Mubarak and others to normalize relations with the USSR, if not diplomatically align themselves in a manner similar to that of the Nasser days.

This rumor has nothing to do with any desire on the part of the U.S. to achieve more normal relations all around, but is in the context of achieving a coordinated diplomatic and military front against the USSR in order to deprive it of any influence in the Middle East.

Some of the frustration felt in Washington is due to the fact that they couldn't draw the Soviet Union into this incident and somehow turn the whole thing against them. Instead, it became an inter-imperialist struggle that revealed the political weaknesses in the U.S. system of alliances.

The hijacking and its aftermath were the second time in the space of one year that the U.S. has unilaterally tried to impose its will in the Middle East. The last time was in Lebanon where, without consulting anybody, the people of the area least of all, the U.S. proclaimed it would close the Beirut airport. No country abided by this arrogant imposition.

It did not learn from this very in-

structive experience. Now it has embarked upon a military adventure with the expectation that all the Mediterranean countries, and especially the Middle Eastern people, would abide by its military aggression. The Pentagon will not learn from this experience either.

It is only the mass of the workers and oppressed who can assimilate the appropriate lessons from all this and utilize the experience to achieve an overall socialist emancipation, not only from imperialist military adventurism but from monopoly capitalism as a whole.

Combating chauvinism in the U.S.

How to deal with the issue from the point of view of its effect here is another matter. One may ask, is it not more convenient to pass up the entire incident, since it is only a fleeting moment and sure to disappear from the headlines within days?

But it is precisely such incidents, such fleeting moments in a period of long struggle that are the acid test of a revolutionary working class party. Incidents like these which are sure to occur and may even multiply have lasting significance.

The reason lies in the fact that they leave behind an avalanche of jingoism and chauvinism which takes on a cumulative effect as time goes by. This jingoism and chauvinism are a weapon in the hands of the ruling class which it uses in a larger political and military theater to fortify its economic, political and diplomatic aggression worldwide.

The ruling class exploits all human sentiment and turns love of home, love of one's own land, of one's own country into jingoism and chauvinism. It needs to do this in order to fortify its class rule over the mass of the workers and oppressed people. It must be remem-

bered that there has never been a reactionary war where the ruling class has not found some vulnerable area to exploit, an isolated incident such as the hijacking of a ship, in order to let loose a barrage of racist or other forms of attack like the one on the Arab people.

The U.S. capitalist press extrapolates that which is incidental and episodic and turns it into a cause celebre, while in the meantime carrying on its predatory war against an oppressed people in the Middle East and the oppressed in this country.

There will never be a protracted war of national liberation, such as the one the Palestinian people have been conducting for almost 40 years, without its share of counter-productive, tragic and senseless incidents, some of which can only help the enemy of liberation, but which are nevertheless part and parcel of a long struggle whose fundamental cause is oppression and super-exploitation.

The principal cause of the struggle in the Middle East is the effort of the U.S. to convert the Mediterranean into a U.S. lake, to dominate all the vital arteries, to make its military strategic position predominant and supreme. It tries to turn all the surrounding states into its minions, control all the waterways, and garner in the fabulous riches from the oil in order to fortify the dominion of U.S. finance capital.

Isn't that why they are supporting the Israeli puppets in general, and against the Palestinians in particular? Would this whole hijacking incident have occurred in the first place if the U.S. were not stubbornly insistent on controlling and dominating the area?

The Palestinian revolution will win. It is the duty of the working class in the United States and all progressive humanity to aid and encourage them in their struggle for liberation.

Boston school bus drivers win due process on firings

By a member of
USWA Local 8751

BOSTON, Oct. 15—After many months of a concerted effort to bust their union by the School Department, two successive school superintendents, two new bus companies (Transcom and National School Bus) and the courts, the 600 Boston school bus drivers, members of USWA Local 8751, have successfully held off an anti-union and witch-hunting attack and scored several victories in the process.

As this article goes to press, the momentum built up by the unwavering resolve of the rank-and-file drivers has forced the School Department to agree to a settlement which would accord justice to the drivers and the union and which could avert a promised strike on Oct. 16.

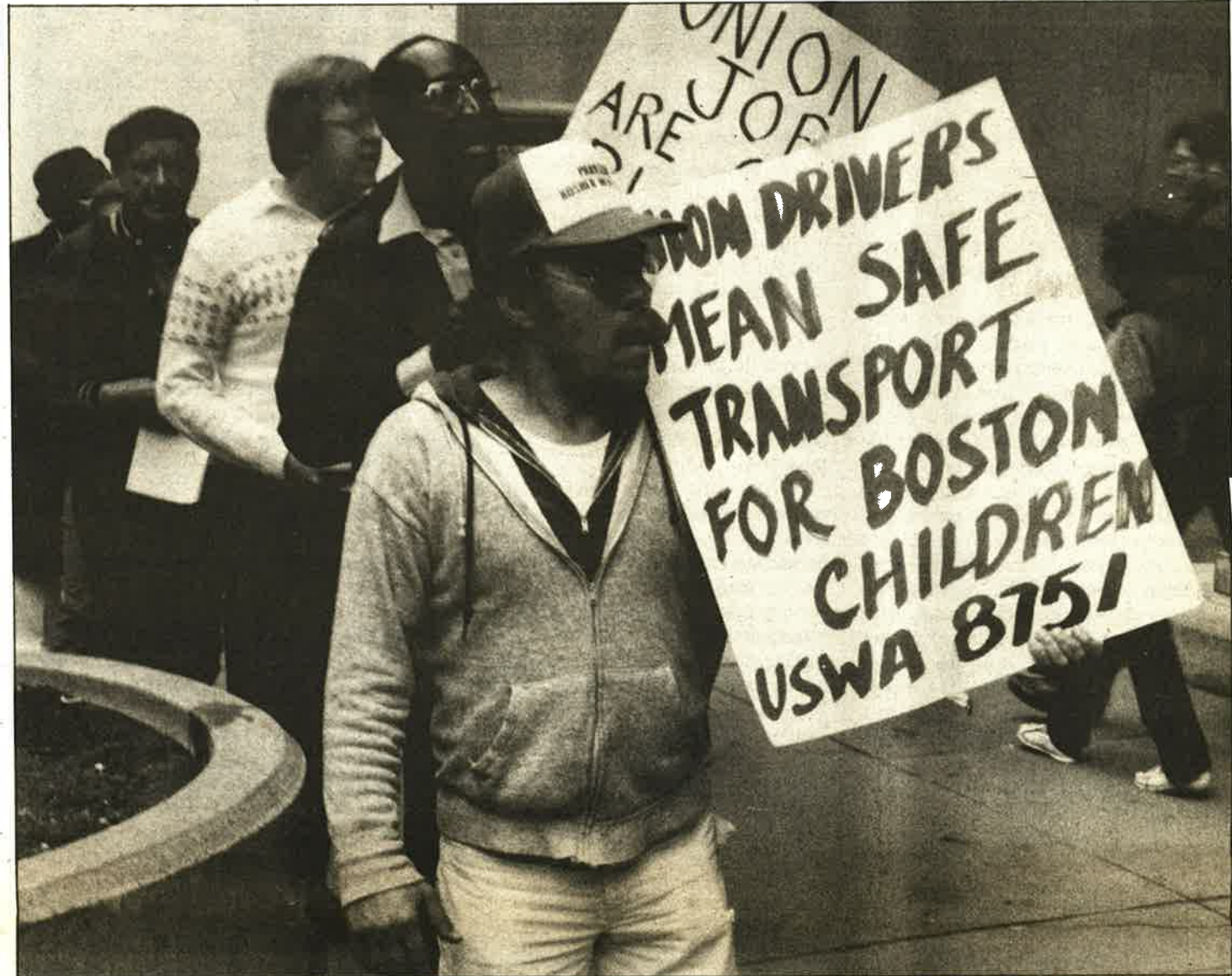
The final issue in this long struggle, during which the drivers have defeated attempts to take away job security and to housebreak the union through unfair work rules, has been the unjust firing by the School Department of 27 drivers with ten more on the firing line after a witch-hunt style "criminal records" check.

Attempts to whip up anti-union hysteria

The School Department illegally intervened and refused to allow grievance and arbitration on these firings as required by the union's contract with the bus companies, thus discarding the very heart of the union's contract. By creating the absurd and unconstitutional notion of "equivalency of conviction," initiating a slander campaign in the media against the union and refusing to take into account the exemplary work records of those fired, none of whom ever committed a crime on the job, the School Department has attempted to create a hysteria in the community against the union and force the drivers to relinquish their rights.

These actions by the School Department have also emboldened the bus companies to disregard the union contract, including paying 1984 wages, denying seniority and bidding rights, harassment of drivers by management and calling in the cops to threaten union officers distributing union material.

The drivers, however, who have won four wildcat strikes in the past seven years, went on the offensive and demanded that justice for the drivers be the top priority on the agenda of Boston's public schools. On Sept. 26, after working for a month without a contract, they unanimously voted to walk



Boston bus drivers in struggle against School Committee last spring.

WW PHOTO: CHRIS MYERS

off their jobs on Oct. 16.

In the following weeks, they distributed 30,000 leaflets, which refuted point by point the lies about the union being perpetrated by the School Department. The drivers organized many media events, and 150 drivers packed School Committee chambers on Oct. 8 to demonstrate their resolve to strike.

Organized in truth squads, the drivers confronted Laval Wilson, the new school superintendent who has threatened to PATCOize the union if they strike and who has led the slander campaign against the drivers at school forums across the city. In one face-to-face confrontation, driver Bob Traynham publicly let it be known that "when there is a strike on Oct. 16, the responsibility will lie squarely on your shoulders."

Union demands accepted

This organized resolve of the rank and file finally forced the School De-

partment, in a position of growing weakness, to call in a state mediator just two working days before the strike was to begin. The union presented them with a list of demands that would provide justice, due process and compensation for all the fired drivers.

Fearful of a strike which would cost them hundreds of thousands of dollars, the School Department was forced to accept these demands and to finalize the rest of the union's contract on Oct. 15, just one day before the strike deadline. To guarantee that this type of witchhunt will never happen again, binding arbitration for all future cases has been agreed to in the union's contract and in a signed side-agreement with the School Department.

In this period of rabidly anti-union policies in Washington and concession bargaining in industries across the country, management everywhere from the Bath Iron Works to Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel to the Boston School

Department is taking the green light from Reagan and his corporate allies to go on a union-busting frenzy. In Boston, however, their plans have met with absolute failure at the hands of a small but organized and determined local union of bus drivers.

In the past six months of having to fight for even the very existence of their union, the Boston school bus drivers have strengthened their union immensely, winning job security for all future bus contracts, protected wages and working conditions for the next two years and justice not only for the fired drivers but for every union member as well. Their victory is thus a victory for all unions in the struggle against union-busting, and the drivers continue to stand ready to defend their rights and their union. Most importantly, this struggle has developed a unity within Local 8751 and a solidarity with the community that can't be measured in dollars and cents.

SUBSCRIBE TO

WORKERS WORLD

☐ \$2 for a ten week trial

☐ \$6 for six months

☐ \$10 for a year

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

