Leftists Behind Harlem Protest
Step Up Work Under Close Eye

BY WILL LISSNER

The Federal Bureau of Investi-
gation and the special services
division of the New York Police
Department have moved to the
Harlem Defense Coun-
del and its sponsors, the Pro-
gressive Labor Movement.

The files show the movement, which organized yesterday's abortive "Freedom March," is
Left Communist group that has
infiltrated half a dozen labor
unions in the past few years it has
been operating.

The sources say the group is
paper organization, a catch-all
front set up by the Progressive
Labor Movement to oper-
rate out of the Harlem center
of the Hearst-owned Progressive
Labor Club.

The club is housed in a loft
with one desk, where group
members plan their next
flight up at 336-338 Lenox Ave-
ue over a store. It is on the east
side of the avenue near 127th
Street, in the club are 26 porous
rooms for meetings.

In 1963...

The Progressive Labor Move-
ment has had other centers at
227 East Third Street, 66 West
109th Street, 124 East 100th
Street and in Brooklyn. It is also
active in Buffalo, San Francisco,
Berk-
eley and Williamstown, Pa.

The activities of the group in
preparing literature and organizing
demonstrations, meeting rooms
on in flats in several parts of the
city.

Its financing is larger than
can be explained by donations
from its members, but it is
affluent. Most heavy expendi-
tures are in printing ideological
tracts.

The official Communists charge
that the movement is fi-
nanced by the Chinese Com-

dists through Cuba. The move-
ment's leaders admit an affiliation
with the Chinese Communists,
but deny any organizational af-
niliation. No evidence to sup-
port the official line.

However, the group's link to
the Chinese party was disclosed
on April 21 when the F.B.I. and
Customs officials seized
legally imported propaganda
film of the Communist Viet-
cong in North Vietnam at the
West Coast.

Known leaders of the Pro-
gressive Labor Movement in-
clude the following:

Milton Rosem, 38 years old,chairman of the group and
its chief ideologist.

Front Man in Harlem

Mort Scheer, about the same
age, vice chairman.

Fred Jerome, 25, editor of
Progressive Labor, the move-
ment's 16-page monthly maga-

zine.

Miss Genoveva Clemente, the
movement's first woman
member and a trainer of
integrated Workers Club and or-

ganizer of rent strikes on the
Lower East Side.

William Epton Jr., 32, former
electrician, was once called a
Negro. The others are white.

Mr. Epton is the movement's
front man in Harlem, where he
was first active at the same time
in the basement at 38-40 West
125th Street. He is the
sdefine, James Baldwin, the au-


tor lived on the second floor.

He is a native New Yorker. He
De Witt Clinton High School,