The history of the multinational working class and oppressed masses in the U.S. is characterized by long years of intense struggles against national oppression, against the slavery, racial discrimination and brutal exploitation of oppressed nationalities. The special admission programs in colleges and schools, special hiring procedures in industries such as steel, and other "affirmative action" programs designed to increase the participation of minorities in educational, housing and employment opportunities were concessions forced out of the bourgeoisie through the struggle of the 60's. Now that the imperialists are waging a world-wide civil war, they are striving to make workers and oppressed people pay for that civil war by cutbacks in salaries, services and benefits gained. Affirmative action programs are one of their targets. They are currently under constant attack by the racist U.S. bourgeoisie, by cuts in funding, as well as by the complete elimination of such programs.

Bakke Decision

The California Supreme Court's decision of last November was a clear victory for the students and the thousands of minority applicants. Allan Bakke, a rejected white applicant, filed a suit against the university, alleging "reverse discrimination" and a violation of equal rights according to the 14th amendment of the U.S. constitution. The California Supreme Court upheld his claim against the "affirmative action" program, and the case is currently being appealed in the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Bakke decision is a heavy blow against the rights of minorities, and already thousands of workers and oppressed people throughout this country are waging a militant struggle to demand the overturning of that decision. Its effects are not limited merely to the guarantee of minority admissions to the Medical School of the University of California at Davis. It establishes the legal precedent for the elimination of many such programs throughout the country, not just in education, but also in labor contracts and in housing. The Bakke case, constitutes the stepping stone for far-reaching attacks against the hard-won gains of oppressed minorities in the U.S. The most reactionary sectors of the bourgeoisie are using Bakke's claim that he was rejected because he was not the best qualified as an example of these attacks.

Dare to struggle, dare to win!

The masses have freed Andres! After long struggles demanding the unconditional freedom of this Puerto Rican nationalist political prisoner held for 23 years in a Federal Penitentiary for his participation in the 1954 attack on the U.S. Congress. The firm stand against any collaboration with the State taken by Andres and the remaining four nationalist prisoners is an example of the courage and determination of the Puerto Rican people to win their independence from U.S. imperialism. We are certain that, like Vietnam, a small nation like Puerto Rico can defeat a big and powerful enemy like the U.S. imperialism — if only it dares to take its destiny in its own hands and dares to struggle, and dares to win!

Andres has come back to fully integrate himself in the struggle from which he was never absent. Surely the Puerto Rican masses, led by their vanguard party, will one day soon complete the task to which Andres Figueroa Cordor has dedicated his life and his freedom.

FREE PUERTO RICO NOW! FREE THE FOUR NATIONALIST PRISONERS!
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right to a decent job, and the right to quality education. The Bakke decision is one of the tools of the bourgeoisie to 

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