

# **CWP Statement by Jerry Tung Concerning Albany Arrests**

## **Communist Workers Party Release**

The arrests of Mike Young, Communist Workers Party member, and 3 other anti-apartheid activists in Albany in the 24 hours right before the planned protest against the South African Rugby team game is an attack on the American people, on all justice and freedom loving people. This is a government frame-up, a fascist tactic. It is an attempt to disunite the anti-apartheid forces and growing movement in this country, and only shows the fear that the government has of the movement. In fact, all along they have been orchestrating this — from allowing the South African Rugby team to come here, to Governor Carey calling it off, and then the courts saying the game is on again in order to try to throw the anti-apartheid movement off. These maneuvers reveal how deep their chauvinism and racism are, and will only bring about greater anger from the American people.

The Communist Workers Party is proud to be working with all the many individuals and organizations from all backgrounds and ages, church people and students, in the campaign to stop the South African Rugby Tour. Around this tour there's been a lot of talk about First Amendment rights, freedom of speech for sportsmen to play. But what about action? When people try to protest against racism and blatant discrimination, the government rounds up some of their leaders and throws them into jail right before the protest is about to begin. How come the government never talks about the death threats received by Richard Lapcheck (one of the leaders of the Coalition to Stop Apartheid Rugby Tour) and CWP leaders by the Klan and Nazis, those anonymous phone calls in the middle of the night?

These attacks by the government are consistent with Reagan's whole program of cutbacks, tax giveaways to the rich, and more money for the military. He's been able to get away with his reactionary policies on Southern Africa up to this point because the people have been divided and fighting separately. But now there are clear signs of the increasing unity of the American people to oppose him — for example, Saturday's Solidarity Day demonstration in Washington, D.C. and the growing anti-apartheid movement to stop the rugby tour.

Carey and Reagan will both be toppled, voted out of office, and we intend to help build campaigns to do that. The recent attacks on all workers and oppressed people will only fuel greater resistance to the government and its billionaire backers. The fact they have singled out the CWP will only draw more sympathy to us. □