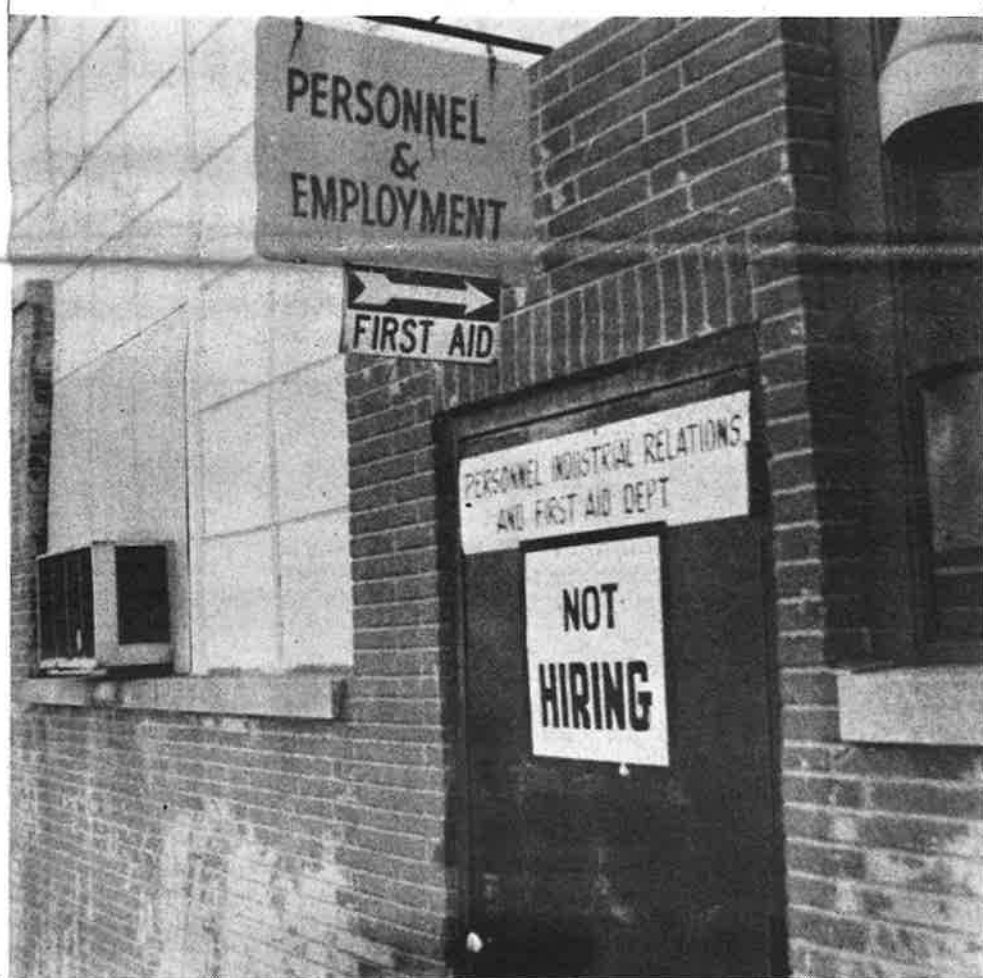


Labor Councils in 3 cities say 'Stay in Washington!'



The Demco plant in Detroit.

WW photo: Larry

Inside: Milwaukee, Rochester, and Washington, D.C., central labor councils say workers at April 26 rally for jobs should stay in Washington until gov't grants relief!

Reports from Detroit, New York, Chicago, and Norfolk on workers' actions for jobs and economic justice

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WORKERS WORLD EDITORIAL STATEMENT

Workers want jobs, not promises, NOW!

As tens of thousands of workers pour into Washington on April 26 to demonstrate for "Jobs for all!" both jobless and employed want this to be more than just a token protest.

Unemployment figures are running at an official 8 million—which means at least 11 or 12 million, if all the "discouraged" and "not registered" are counted. Many workers who need full-time jobs are settling for part-time rather than starve. Unemployment benefits are running out for hundreds of thousands, especially in the areas of concentrated layoffs like Detroit.

The U.S. Department of Labor now admits there are more people out of work than at any time in the past 34 years. This puts unemployment at levels equal to those at the end of the Great Depression—but today

things are getting worse, not better. Yet even these high levels of unemployment hide the fact that among Black, Latin, and other oppressed people the percentage without work equals the very worst depression figures.

FORD, ROCKEFELLER FIND UNEMPLOYMENT "ACCEPTABLE"

What is the government doing about this? They are talking about 6, 7, even 8 percent unemployment as "acceptable," "on target," and "predictable" for the rest of the decade! They are cutting back funds for welfare, which more unemployed are forced to turn to as benefits expire. While they urge Congress to spend another billion on the Indochina war, they cry poverty

when it comes to the critical needs of the workers and poor at home.

They are deliberately favoring economic policies that will guarantee a continuing high level of joblessness, on the excuse that the only alternative is runaway inflation. But the truth is that the big business bosses who dictate to the government see an advantage in the workers' misery. Their dreams of exploiting cheap labor in Southeast Asia have been cut short by the victorious struggles of the people there—so they are now hell-bent, with the same ruthlessness and contempt for human life, on creating that cheap labor right here at home!

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By VINCE COPELAND

APRIL 18—We said a few weeks ago that the first Henry Ford did not invent the automobile, and in fact did not really invent the Ford car itself.

That car was the immediate product of dozens of other inventors, with today's sleek models representing some hundreds of still other inventors. And if you go back to the origins of the storage battery, the gear, the gear-cutting machine, the shaft, the lathe to make it, the drills to make the cylinder holes, the first pistons, the roller bearing, ball bearing, etc.—not to mention the original carriage and the all-important wheel itself—some millions of people certainly invented the Ford car.

But if Ford did not invent the Ford, we have been asked—perhaps facetiously—who then invented General Motors?

Contrary to most industrial mythology, it was not the financial genius of the duPonts in 1919 that did it. The General Motors Company was really established way back in the year 1908 and it gathered many million-dollar corporations into its monopolistic

bosom even in that early and comparatively innocent day.

It was William C. Durant who started the corporation by, among other things, fleecing Louis Chevrolet and taking over the "development" of that popular car along with many others.

Frank Donovan says in his *Wheels for a Nation* (McFadden, 1966):

"Durant started Chevrolet. He put Buick on its feet (financially, of course—V.C.). Oldsmobile and Pontiac—then Oakland—would almost surely have passed from the scene but for Durant. Cadillac might have gone the way of Packard, Pierce-Arrow, and so many others that were then doing well.

"Durant brought Charles Nash into the automobile business from the Durant-Dort Carriage Company, and Nash went on to create the foundation for American Motors and the rebirth of Rambler. Durant gave Walter Chrysler his opportunity as president of Buick, from whence Chrysler went on to save Willys-Overland, which later brought forth the famous Jeep, and to create the Chrysler and

Plymouth."

In the course of Durant's wheeling and dealing, he financed a French racing driver named Albert Champion who had an idea for ceramic spark plugs and later turned over his 75 percent interest in what became the AC Spark Plug Division to General Motors without any personal profit.

OPENING TO THE BANKS

The growing empire becoming too much even for a really brilliant money dealer, Durant, during one of the depressions of those days, had to ask help from the Eastern bankers—led, of course, by J.P. Morgan & Co. This was in 1915.

Then about 1919, John J. Raskob, treasurer of the duPont Company, looking for a place to put the swollen war profits of the (originally) gunpowder company, recommended GM as the right investment for his masters.

DuPont ultimately acquired about 29 percent—much more than the Morgans had and far more than enough for the controlling interest.

The results of all this financial dirty work with the inventions and daily creation of millions of people

were these:

1) W. C. Durant ended up sweeping floors in a New Jersey supermarket.

2) "Canny Johnny Raskob" (so called in Ferdinand Lundberg's authoritative *America's 60 Families*) ended up as a very unlucky gambler on Wall Street in 1929.

3) Today the duPont family has around \$10 billion. It controls the \$20 billion GM corporation as well as duPont Chemical, Uniroyal Rubber, Phillips Petroleum, and a few others.

Not one of the duPonts could even manage this fortune or know when to buy or sell a company, much less know how to make an automobile after other people have invented it.

In fact, if any member of that family has ever created a better automobile, discovered a new chemical combination, or even turned a single wheel except in the pursuit of pleasure, it is a piece of news that has escaped even the most obsequious apologists of the capitalist ruling class.

Millions stolen yearly from wages

By T MITCHELL

On April 15, the Labor Department reported that 350,540 workers over the past 9 months had to go to the government to collect \$82 million in short pay from their bosses.

The underpayments included cases of wages below the legal minimum, not being paid time-and-a-half for overtime, and unequal pay for equal work discriminating against people of color, women, and the oldest and the youngest workers.

And these are just the cases that came to government attention, not counting the millions who successfully hassled with their boss to get the pay rightfully due them, and not counting the millions more who did not have the resources to press their case through the slow-moving government bureaucracy.

It's bad enough that everyone's wages get reduced by the parasitic profits of the rich. But the bosses, who know they are not paying the true value of the work that is done, take every opportunity to steal more off the sweat of others.

Every case of short pay verified by the Labor Department is a violation of the wages and hours and anti-discrimination laws of employment. But the bosses who

got caught didn't get punished in any way. They just have to recognize their "mistake" and return the stolen wages without interest.

Over the year, the Labor Department has half-a-million workers coming to it who have been robbed of more than \$100 million, but there are no front-page headlines for this very big-time crime. In fact, there is scarcely any mention of it in the news, only

a back-page filler.

However, with poor and working people caught between inflation and depression, hunger and hardship are gathering into a tremendous storm of protest. When it comes, the workers will not stop short at merely winning equal exploitation. They will take direct ownership of their workplaces and hire their own full-pay paymasters in a socialist revolution.

Who can live on 40Gs a year?

NEW YORK, April 19—U.S. government agencies say that a family of seven needs close to \$20,000 a year to live well. Many U.S. families with five children manage to exist on one quarter of that amount—or less.

But Owen McGivern, former presiding judge of the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court for the First Department, says his family can't "subsist" on \$40,000, and wants Ford to up the pay for State Supreme Court judges to \$60,000.

"Only a wealthy man could go on the Federal bench," Mr. McGivern said. "It's a deplorable situation.

Considering all deductions, there is very little take-home pay, perhaps \$2,000 a month, and it is difficult to subsist. When you have five children, a hundred dollars goes through the supermarket like Grant through Richmond."

It is true that a hundred dollars goes fast, but fifty, forty, or thirty dollars a week (which tens of thousands of large families must subsist on for food) goes even faster and has to be spread much, much thinner.

Mr. McGivern resigned his job on March 1. It paid not \$40,000 but \$55,266. He said that he must resign for family reasons and the

"educational costs" of five children.

Undoubtedly Mr. McGivern feels he must send his sons to a university and law school afterwards so that they too can become federal judges. If he has daughters, he most probably wants to spend enough money to educate them in the graces befitting the wives of federal judges.

It is these men, legally robbing the treasury of \$40,000—or \$60,000—a year, who send men and women to rot in jail for taking food from the supermarkets when they cannot afford to buy it for their families.

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workers
world

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DECLINE AND FALL



THEY'D RESTORE SLAVERY IF THEY COULD

Virginia Pilot, March 18:

"The Senate Judiciary Committee approved a measure Wednesday to restore full rights of citizenship to Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee."

UNEMPLOYED GET ASPARAGUS —BUT NOT TO EAT

Middletown, Del. (UPI), April 2:

The Green Giant Co. has announced it will hire unemployed Delaware residents rather than migrant laborers for 946 jobs picking

asparagus for \$2.25 an hour. Each job lasts 10 weeks.

"A daily charge of \$3.25 for meals will be withheld from each worker's wages, the company said."

SOCIALITES THROW RECESSION PARTY

The Village Voice, April 21:

"A wonderful time was had by all last Saturday night at a recession party held in the main dining room of the Westchester Country Club. The club's large and tastefully furnished lobby was decorated with signs reading 'Foreclosures,' 'Sheriff's Auction,' 'Liquidations,' and featured sacks of onions and potatoes to represent the cuisine of hard times.

"The dinner consisted of roast beef, ham,

turkey, beef Bourguignon, stuffed artichoke hearts and other vegetable delicacies, along with a dessert table offering mocha and chocolate layer cakes, honeydew melon, cream puffs and eclairs, mixed fruit salad and pears.

"The dining room was generously draped in stock market ticker tape."

VIGNETTES OF THE VICTORY

The New York Times, Phnom Penh, April 17:

"On Monday evening, at La Taverne across from the cable office, the barman was in an ebullient mood. It was a few hours after a defecting Government pilot had bombed the headquarters of the high command in the center of the city.

"They bombed the military headquarters," the barman said giddily. "You find that amusing?" one of the newsmen asked. "Yes," he replied, chortling again. "It's very amusing indeed."

"... People never know when they can

come out and shop for food. The Hotel Phnom Penh's shopping activities have also been curtailed. One night a guest was complaining about how many things were no longer available at the hotel restaurant—especially ice for his Pepsi-Cola. A French woman sitting at the table behind him listened to his hour and a half protest with sympathy. Finally she said with a heartfelt sigh, 'C'est la guerre.'

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT AN OIL SHORTAGE?

The Boston Globe, April 3:

"The aircraft carrier Independence dumped about 9,000 gallons of aviation fuel at sea because it was more efficient, safer and cheaper than unloading it at the ship's home port here, a Navy spokesman said.

"The Independence was en route from the Caribbean to Norfolk when the fuel was dumped 150 miles off the South Carolina coast, the Navy said yesterday. The Navy said the fuel was expected to evaporate without causing any pollution problems."

'They won in Indochina—and we can win here!'

By JOHN C. OTTO
NEW YORK, April 20—Last issue *Workers World* reported on a demonstration held in New York's Times Square by Youth Against War & Fascism and Workers World Party, hailing the victory of the Cambodian people. A lot of people in this country—the vast majority—are glad the Indochina War is coming to an end. But most of them are encouraged to think of it as a "defeat," a "loss," by the media.

The demonstrators in Times Square hailed the fall of the Lon Nol clique as a victory—not only for the Cambodian people, but for the workers and poor here, too. Why? This report attempts to answer that question.

++
TIMES SQUARE, April 14—Hundreds of workers and tourists, drawn by scuffles with the police, intently watch the demonstration. On the picket line veterans of anti-war activities march alongside veterans of the Vietnam war, all in solidarity with the imminent liberation of Phnom Penh by the United Front forces.

Spectators and taxi drivers, even a bus driver in the busy Seventh Avenue traffic, wave in solidarity with the anti-war sentiments of the demonstrators. But as the Reuters news service bulletins flash across the Allied Chemical Tower above the marchers, reporting defeat after defeat of the U.S.-backed forces, some wonder aloud how the marchers can be so enthusiastic that "their country" is being beaten.

Some from the line try to explain to those watching.

BEST FOR INDOCHINESE PEOPLE

Ken, now a taxi driver and still carrying shrapnel from an explosion in Vietnam, tells of what he saw there. "The people there had it miserable during the war," he said, "and they didn't like the Saigon government. They certainly didn't like the Americans with all the destruction we brought. Once I took a flight from my base to the Mekong Delta, and on the whole trip there wasn't one time I couldn't see at least 20 bomb craters in the ground. I'm glad the war's over now, and the natural productivity of Vietnam and Cambodia can be restored." A few heads nod, but no one joins the line.

HELPS US HERE TOO

A young clothing worker points out how some of the union fat cats play the bosses' game and organize against foreign competition, calling it cheap labor. "But instead of helping workers in South Korea or Taiwan fight against their slave-labor conditions, they want the government to eliminate trade. Well, the workers in Indochina won't be working for U.S. bosses any more, they'll be working for themselves, and no run-away textile plants will go there." She adds, "It should only happen in South Korea and Taiwan, too."

Tom, a Puerto Rican veteran who recently helped one of his fellow maintenance workers win his job back, compares the international events to union struggles. "The way I see it," he says, "if a union on the other side of town wins a 25 percent raise and

job security, it makes it easier for us to win a good contract too. In Vietnam the working people are winning everything, the land and the factories. This can only help working people here."

LON NOL AND 'OUR' CROOK

A student in the crowd under a movie marquee advertising two X-rated films is not ready to join the demonstration, but he is angered anyhow about the corruption of Thieu and Lon Nol. "They tried to run off with \$73 million in gold. And a New York bank has \$1 million that Lon Nol deposited. He's a crook." The student has a book on Watergate under his arm. "This book is about our crook," he laughs.

At least \$150 billion was poured into the Indochina wars by U.S. taxpayers. "Our crooks"—General Dynamics, Lockheed, Grumman, the military-industrial complex—pocketed billions in profits. Destruction rained on Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, with millions killed. Thousands of U.S. youth died fighting for "our crooks." This is ending, and its end is worth celebrating.

WE CAN WIN TOO

As the demonstration breaks up, small groups of those on the sidelines stop to talk with Ken, Tom, and others. A woman who spent much of the last 13 years on anti-war demonstrations excitedly says, "The struggle of the Vietnamese and Cambodians is an inspiration to all who have to fight for their rights. They started with bows and arrows and spears against helicopters. They withstood more bombs than fell in World War II. All the power and wealth of the U.S. bosses couldn't beat them.

"And what do we workers face here now? Unemployment at least 9 percent—and the bosses control the jobs. Bitter strikes, and the bosses control the police. They own the newspapers and the TV stations. But the Vietnamese and Cambodian workers and peasants have shown us that the U.S. bosses aren't so strong after all. Our brothers and sisters won in Indochina. And we can win here."



Newsweek, April 28, 1975: He rode into Phnom Penh on a Honda, and as the lone figure in black pajamas came to a halt before a line of Cambodian armored vehicles, it was hard to say who was more scared. Dismounting from the motorcycle, the rebel officer waved a Khmer Rouge flag in one hand and a pistol in the other, and fired three times into the air. "Hands up," he shouted. Nervously, a hundred soldiers in the

armored vehicles obeyed. Suddenly, a yell shattered the silence. "Hi," called out one of the soldiers, waving his hands. Then as the Khmer Rouge officer looked on in amazement, his other captives began jumping up and down shouting, "Peace, peace." Within minutes, the streets were filled with more black-clad rebels, hundreds of civilians and Cambodian soldiers, all embracing and shouting for joy.

Cambodians cheer liberation forces entering Phnom Penh

By ANDY STAPP
NEW YORK, April 22—On April 17 at 9 a.m. Cambodia's fascist dictatorship surrendered the capital city of Phnom Penh to the Cambodian People's Liberation Armed Forces. After 5 years of brutal fighting, including a massive U.S. ground invasion of their country and 1,000 days and nights of secret bombing by B-52s and Phantom jets, the liberation army has emerged completely victorious.

From the very beginning, the American government has systematically lied to the people about what was really happening in Cambodia. The CIA-directed overthrow of the neutralist Sihanouk government in 1970 was covered up. The corrupt and tyrannical regime of the U.S. puppet, Lon Nol, was generally depicted as a member in good standing of the "free world." The Cambodian anti-fascist soldiers were even denied their very nationality by the U.S. press and almost universally referred to as "North Vietnamese troops."

The capitalist media and politicians alike vilified the liberation armed forces as "terrorists." President Ford himself characterized these

revolutionary soldiers as "cruel fanatics who are likely to go on a killing spree, massacring their opponents in Phnom Penh" if they took power.

OUTBURST OF JOY

The truth, of course, is quite the opposite. Describing what really happened the day Phnom Penh was liberated, the *New York Post* of April 17 reported:

"The first Khmer Rouge troops came in from the north.

"From the sidewalks, windows and roofs, people cheered and waved white strips of cloth as the victors walked in triumph through the downtown streets.

"Crowds of cheering citizens surrounded small groups of the insurgent soldiers and followed them about.

"The Khmer Rouge soldiers parked their armored vehicles by the municipal stadium and walked south in groups of three or four along a boulevard by the Tonle Sap.

"People stood on the sidewalk waving their hands under fluttering white flags and banners.

"Unarmed soldiers in an armored carrier drove along Monivong Boulevard shouting 'Bravo' and 'Peace. Peace.'"

On the same day, the *Associated*

Press reporter in Phnom Penh wrote, "Crowds in the street cheered the black-uniformed Khmer Rouge forces as they entered the capital this morning. The victors hugged government soldiers and took them aboard their armored personnel carriers for a parade along the waterfront."

NO AMERICAN LAKE

The "fall" of Cambodia from the grip of U.S. imperialism is a colossal defeat for Wall Street's expansionist drive to convert the Pacific Ocean into an American lake. Over the past 75 years, the U.S. government has fought four major wars in the eastern Pacific, against the Filipino people at the turn of the last century, with their Japanese militarist rivals during World War II, on the Korean Peninsula in the early 1950s, and for the last decade in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. All these wars had as their single goal and purpose the domination of Asia for the profits of U.S. big business.

But now in Cambodia the imperialists see the ruination of their colonialist plots and schemes. To their dismay, the last nation they invaded has become the very first to totally eject them and win its freedom.

U.S. drags out inevitable defeat in Vietnam

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD
NEW YORK, April 22—Nguyen Van Thieu resigned as President of the shrinking "government of South Vietnam" yesterday, but the Thieu clique remains in power as U.S. imperialism makes last-ditch efforts to salvage something out of its Vietnam debacle. With Thieu still ensconced in the Presidential Palace, while his former Vice President has become titular head of state, the possibility of a battle for Saigon remains.

The Peoples Liberation Armed Forces (PLAF) have ringed Saigon, taken Xuan Loc (just a week ago seen as a Thieu stronghold by the U.S. press), are shelling the nearby bases at Long Binh and Bien Hoa, and are acknowledged by all U.S. military

sources to be able to take Saigon in a matter of hours or days.

The remarkable thing is that they have not yet attacked. Yet this is consistent with their strategy throughout the war. In June 1968, for example, after a 76-day siege of the 26th Marine Regiment at Khe Sanh in which the Marines had been completely cut off from their supply lines, the Vietnamese liberation forces lifted the siege and then opened up a corridor, letting the Marines walk out to safety. U.S. observers agreed that the Vietnamese could have annihilated these American troops. But they didn't. They had made their point—that the U.S. could not turn back the revolutionary army, even with half a million men in Vietnam. Their objective was not

to kill as many U.S. troops as possible, but to force the Pentagon militarists to abandon their futile dream of conquering Vietnam by force.

The tactics of the Saigon puppet clique and their U.S. masters—if tactics is the right word to characterize their wild and frantic rout—seem to be just the opposite. Wanton killing and bombing go on despite the defeat staring them in the face. Seldom mentioned in the press here is that Saigon is nightly bombing the cities in the liberated areas. This was incidentally mentioned in a *New York Times* article on three "refugees" from Ban Me Thuot in the Central Highlands who, it turned out, were not fleeing communism but the

bombing raids of Thieu's planes.

Despite this, the forces of the revolutionary government are effectively reorganizing the liberated areas. *Time* magazine (dated April 28) reports that the new government is "preoccupied with getting the refugees back to their homes; bus service has already been established from Danang and Qui Nhon as far north as Hanoi."

In Hue, "Aging Queen Mother Doan Huy, 86, was treated with respect by the arriving soldiers, the reporter (a Swiss journalist) said; but part of her palace was converted into a hospital. Soup kitchens were set up in public squares and even bicycles were commandeered to bring in food."

'Stay in D.C.' resolution adopted in Milwaukee

Special to WORKERS WORLD
MILWAUKEE, April 17—The Milwaukee County Labor Council last night unanimously passed a resolution introduced by a delegate from the bakers' union encouraging the rank-and-file attending the April 26th march and rally for jobs to "stay on in Washington in order to receive a hearing before President Ford, the Congress and the proper governmental agencies and to receive redress to their grievances. . . ."

Milwaukee thus became the third central trades and labor council of the AFL-CIO to go on record for enlarging the one-day protest in Washington into a mass

struggle of labor over jobs and wages.

Earlier, both the Rochester and Washington, D.C., councils had passed similar resolutions on the initiatives of delegates from AFSCME and the United Federation of Teachers. The Washington resolution invited the demonstrators to stay on there, and also called on the National Executive Board of the AFL-CIO to give its approval to the plan.

The resolution passed here cited Milwaukee's official unemployment level of 12.2 percent in February and subsequent additional layoffs as responsible for "labor's outrage at the current level of unem-

ployment." It took note of the fact that "many of the unemployed are our own union brothers and sisters who have paid their dues to the labor movement" and that "we who are employed have a direct stake in the plight of the unemployed, because high unemployment is used as a club to lower the real wages of all workers, those in unions and those who need a union to raise their standard of living. . . ."

"Be it resolved that we . . . urge our affiliated locals to assist in sending the unemployed to the Washington, D.C., rally, and to utilize their union halls and facilities to aid the unemployed in their just struggle."



Chrysler workers from Milwaukee were strongly represented at the UAW rally for jobs in Washington on Feb. 5 WW photo

Detroit jobless suffer as SUB funds dry up

By KAREN PAULICH

DETROIT, April 17—For thousands of laid-off auto workers here, the last refuge from economic disaster is gone. Last week, the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB) for Chrysler workers were exhausted. Added to unemployment compensation, these benefits provided a little less than 95 percent of an auto worker's take-home pay for a 40-hour week.

Over 42,000 Chrysler workers on indefinite layoffs face having their incomes slashed in half due to the SUB depletion. The blow is an especially hard one for this city, as it affects 23,000 workers in the Detroit area. Since Chrysler Corporation owns more inner-city plants and employs proportionately more Black workers than the other auto corporations, the brunt of the crisis falls heavily on the oppressed communities here, where unemployment is as high as 62 percent.

The SUB funds for General Motors will also run dry by the first

week of May, it was announced by the UAW and GM. Out of the more than 70,000 workers who will be stranded without SUB pay, 54,000 of them will be from Michigan.

The collapse of the SUB fund spells real-life disaster for the thousands of flesh and blood workers behind the statistics.

"It's a very great loss,"

acknowledged Dennis Burnside, a Black Chrysler worker struggling to support his family since he was laid off in October. "It's really going to be hard now. It was hard

and are finding it difficult with \$165 a week in SUB pay now suddenly snatched away. That means a 60-70 percent drop in their income.

"We're going to have to watch our food budget very closely," observed Ms. Fry. "Our clothing budget is about zilch. I hope we can pay the rent. If it gets worse, it's not something you can simply cope with. You can't get around it. You have to eat, survive, and have shelter."

Even while the SUB funds were still "healthy" it was not easy for many workers. The SUB plan actually covers only a small percentage of the unemployed, mainly UAW members who have at least one year seniority.

Al Shannon, a Black Chrysler worker, was never eligible for SUB. Just before he had accumulated a year's seniority last September, Shannon was laid off for a week, called back, and then laid off again indefinitely. As a result, he was just one week short of a year's seniority and while the company maneuvered its way out of paying him SUB benefits, Shannon has been forced to scrimp on only unemployment benefits.

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT WON'T COVER

In Michigan, those benefits range from \$67 a week for a single person to \$106 a week maximum. In order to collect the maximum, an unemployed worker must have earned at least \$190 gross per week on the job, and must have at least four dependents. The maximum for the average auto worker with one child is \$89 per week.

Even these inadequate benefits are fast running out. The maximum period for which Michigan workers are eligible is 52 weeks. The layoffs have been of such long duration that many have already exhausted these benefits.

Repossessions, foreclosures, evictions, utility cut-offs, downright hunger—this is what hangs over the heads of millions of unemployed workers. While the auto companies are refusing to beef up the SUB funds and continue to create new waves of layoffs, they are still paying dividends to their stockholders. The Big Three have used the layoffs long enough to bolster their profits and should be forced to continue the SUB payments from their own pockets. Further, they could well afford to call back all the workers if they wrote off their high-salaried executives and their lucrative profits.



The corner of Cavalry and Fort in Detroit is virtually abandoned, as are many other streets in that city. WW photo: Larry

Coalition begins campaign to declare Detroit a disaster area

DETROIT, April 8—Local trade unionists and community leaders announced today the formation of a coalition to declare Detroit a disaster area and to demand \$50 weekly additional emergency relief for the needy of this city—the unemployed, underemployed, senior citizens, and workers forced onto welfare.

The Detroit Committee for Disaster Relief (DCDR) is calling for a massive march here on Saturday, May 3, to press these demands. The march will assemble at noon in Detroit's Kennedy Square, and the demonstrators will then march to the City-County Building.

Announcing the demonstration at the press conference were DCDR representatives Ivory Tillman, Executive Vice President of the Detroit Local of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU), Jeanie Carter, Chairperson of the Human Relations Committee of the APWU, Larry Carpenter, Chief Steward, Local 212 of the United Auto Workers, and Jean Bowdish, Vice-Chair of the Detroit Memorial Hospital Unit of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local 140.

The committee also includes officials and rank-and-file members of the United Steel Workers of America, the IUE, and other unions. Member of the Welfare Rights Organization, senior citizens groups, and Women United for Action are also part of the group calling the demonstration.

The group explained where they think the \$50 a week can come from. According to the DCDR, "The government never hesitates to come up with emergency funds for big corporations 'in trouble' or for corrupt dictators abroad like Lon Nol. With just four such emergency donations or their equivalent—\$387 million which went to Penn Central Railroad, \$250 million in unrepaid loans to Lockheed, the \$222 million Ford wants to hand over to Lon Nol, and the \$300 million he wants for Thieu—1,000,000 Michigan needy could receive \$50 a week in emergency relief funds for nearly half a year! Ford only expects his relief to Lon Nol or Thieu to last 3 months, and Congress plans to give the railroads \$7 to \$10 billion more."

The need for such emergency aid

is crucial. With unemployment tripling in the city of Detroit since November, the living conditions of the people are not easing but plunging headlong into disaster. According to conservative official figures for February 1975, overall unemployment in Detroit was 22.1 percent. Surveys by the local press show that in the central neighborhoods, the oppressed communities, unemployment is as high as 62 percent!

Even the mayor's office admits there are over 200,000 people starving in Detroit. The welfare lines and the food stamp rolls are swelling. With over one-third of Detroit's population eligible for food stamps, certifications for them increased 20 percent in the 3 months between November and January alone.

It is because of these conditions that the DCDR is making this appeal: "We believe that the people must stand up and demand that the money which is ours but is being spent to fight in more and more wars and to bail out huge corporations be spent on creating jobs at home and immediate emergency relief to the needy."

enough with SUB pay.

"The bills are going to have to be behind," explained Burnside, who is already lagging on his debts. "With the money I get, I buy food and just worry about the bills when they come. I've got three kids at home. They have to eat."

Pat Hart, another unemployed Chrysler worker, expressed a similar predicament. "I could pay the bills I owe, but I wouldn't be able to eat. Consequently, since I want to survive, I'm going to eat. I've gotten very little cooperation on the part of finance companies and mortgage companies as far as willingness to work out any kind of solution."

Hart, who is married and has both car and house payments to meet, has seen his income shrink to a third of what it was a few weeks ago. At the same time that the SUB funds ran out, his wife, JoAnn, also lost her job.

Like many of the Chrysler workers he knows, Hart is irked by the fact that the company conveniently axed the majority of the workers just before the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. This is traditionally a long vacation for UAW members and the holiday pay seriously drained the limited SUB funds. However, it saved Chrysler's coffers over \$14 million.

Last November, Tova Fry was added to the unemployment lines along with her husband Chris, another Chrysler worker who was laid off last October. They have an 8-month-old daughter to support,

Unions will march to demand

Workers want jobs, not promises, NOW!

(Continued from page 1)

Continuing high unemployment will bring down the wages of everyone, they reason. A large labor pool will make it difficult for the unions to even hold their own against inflation, while the unorganized will be forced to compete for jobs at whatever wages the bosses are offering. That's their "game plan."

It sounds foolproof. But it isn't. The brothers and sisters of the American working class have barely begun to fight.

Yet they hold in their hands the mightiest industrial machine in the world. What they have built with their blood and sweat has made Ford, Rockefeller, and their fellow millionaires and billionaires the richest, most powerful ruling class history has ever known. Yet because this vast productive power is useless without the muscle and brain of millions of American workers, it is the workers themselves who are ultimately the masters of what they have produced—and will be some day.

What are concrete steps workers can take to use their power so that a fight can be made now against the immediate crisis of unemployment?

THE ROLE OF THE UNIONS

The potential strength of millions of workers is presently organized in the trade unions. The march and rally in Washington, although organized to consciously limit the April 26th demonstration to mere protest, nevertheless attests to the fact that the trade unions have the organization and the means to bring out the masses of workers.

The very fact that the official labor movement—in this case, the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO—had to call this demonstration is living proof that the labor unions, no matter how misled and bureaucratically controlled, are in fact instruments of the workers as a class.

Even George Meany, the most sensitive of all the union bureaucrats to the pressures of the arch-reactionaries in Washington and the least sensitive to his own hard-working membership in the AFL-CIO, even he could not openly repudiate this gathering. (He did refuse to speak, though, to no one's

regret.)

The unions are objectively instruments of the working class—in spite of the misleadership of the bureaucrats. They were born in struggle, often bitter and deadly struggle of the workers against the capitalists. The bureaucrats themselves, no matter how much they may divert the struggle, can't turn the unions into non-unions or turn themselves into capitalists while they are still union leaders. If they did so, their function would be gone; their own reason for existing (and getting paid) would disappear. Much as they fear a militant policy, they can't absolutely or directly oppose it when the ranks are fighting for it.

Thus it is that thousands are going to Washington on April 26—and that contained in this one-day protest action is the promise of a much bigger, much more powerful mass struggle of the workers.

WHAT CAN BE DONE NEXT

Three central trades and labor councils have already endorsed resolutions presented by the delegates that show the potential for such struggle. The AFL-CIO councils of Rochester and Milwaukee have unanimously urged the demonstrators to stay on in Washington until their demands are met, and the D.C. council itself has taken the initiative to invite the thousands coming to the march and rally to stay in their city.

The occupation of Washington, D.C., by thousands of workers and unemployed is still at the idea stage—but what an idea! Even if this time it is only discussed, mulled over, and argued about, the direction has been taken so that next time the organized preparations for a prolonged stay—an encampment in Washington until Ford and the Congress meet the demands of the unemployed—will be on the order of the day.

All the unemployed really are asking is that the government obey its own laws. Because Ford, Rockefeller, etc. are bound by law to promote a policy of full employment, and it says so right in the Full Employment Act of 1946. Every day that Ford's economists deliberately pursue policies that keep the unemployment rate high,

they are in criminal contempt of federal law and of the American people.

And in addition to the legal right of full employment, the people also have the human right to work and support their families. An economic system that denies this right is criminal and must be changed.

UNIONS MUST ORGANIZE UNEMPLOYED

The interests of the employed and the unemployed, of the organized and the unorganized, are basically the same. Union workers can see that their own jobs are precarious as long as there are millions walking the streets, as long as the unorganized are forced to work at starvation wages. The unions themselves can be the vehicle to bring the unemployed and the unorganized together in the struggle. Militant pressure from the rank and file can pressure the existing union leadership to organize the unemployed in their

own areas; to provide the jobless with the means to combine their struggles with those of the unionized workers.

For the April 26th action, for example, militant rank and file trade unionists fought to get their union facilities and treasuries opened up so that the unemployed could go to Washington in force. It will take much more of that kind of solidarity, based on mutual need, to shake the giant corporations and their political servants.

These are the immediate struggles that lie ahead. They can and will be fought and won; thousands will descend on the seats of political and economic power and demand measures to ease the suffering of themselves and their sisters and brothers.

They will open up a new chapter in the history of the working class, a revival of class consciousness that will overcome capitalist propaganda so that the workers will once again recognize that the

enemy is not the Vietnamese peasants, not poor immigrants, not rebellious students, but the class of billionaire parasites. From fighting to make their unions into flexible instruments of struggle in the economic arena, the working class will go on to a contest with the capitalist class for political power.

FOR A WORKERS' WORLD!

A fight to do away with unemployment once and for all, to end racist oppression once and for all, to end poverty and degradation once and for all, is a fight for socialism. It is a fight of the masses of people to take control of what they have built and use it for the good of all. It is the fight of the millions against the few. It is a fight that requires a revolutionary workers' party to lead it to victory. It is part of the universal struggle of the workers and oppressed everywhere, and there will be no stopping it.



Before the revolution in Cuba, cane cutters worked only 3 or 4 months and were lucky if they could eat the rest of the year. Today, there is no unemployment in Cuba; there is even a labor shortage.

Photo: LNS

No unemployment? Where?

By BOB DOBROW

NEW YORK, April 21—As unemployment ravages the working class in the United States, the condition of life for working people in the Soviet Union, China, Cuba, East Europe, North Korea, and North Vietnam stands in marked contrast. In all these countries, full employment is a fact of life.

In the USSR, the right to a job is written into law in the constitution. Production has steadily risen, free from recession or depression. Last year, real income rose by 4.2 percent and with it the standard of living for everyone. Many of the necessities of life, such as medical care, transportation, and education are free. And rents are fixed at 4 percent of your income.

In a country like China, where before the revolution the masses lived in total poverty, socialist planning has done miracles. The standard of living has consistently risen since 1949, and services unheard-of before the revolution—such as medical care, education, and access to culture—are now virtually free. Rents average 5 percent of wages. All Western observers report that everyone has sufficient food in China today.

In March 1974 taxes were abolished in North Korea. For 20 years the 8-hour work day and full employment have been the norm. And just last year North Korea

recorded an astounding growth rate of 12.5 percent. This is at a time when the gross national products of all the major capitalist countries are plunging down.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN

Socialist planning has also opened up an avalanche of possibilities for women who are driven into the most menial and degrading work and semi-work in capitalist countries. A recent Wall Street Journal dispatch from Moscow reports, "Equal pay for equal work, equal promotion opportunities and access to managerial positions are all taken for granted by women here."

In the U.S. today, the 8-hour day has become a cruel hoax for millions who must work overtime or get a second job to meet the rising cost of living. This problem simply doesn't exist under socialism. In the USSR, for example, there is an absolute maximum of 12 hours overtime a month and all overtime beyond the 7- or 8-hour day is paid time and a half or double time, by law.

Life for the elderly in the U.S. can be a living nightmare. Workers pay for a large part of their own pensions through payroll deductions and now, with many businesses going bankrupt, even these are endangered. But a recent UPI

dispatch reports that in the USSR all workers receive state-paid pensions, granted to men at 60 and women at 55. The average monthly pension is 50 percent of the most recent salary.

AMERICANS RETIRING IN POLAND

There are now over 6,000 retired Americans living in Poland due to the economic advantages offered them there. One retiree told a New York Times reporter that "old people here still command respect . . . in the U.S., the senior citizen is a disenfranchised outcaste."

In the U.S., if a company decides it is not making enough profit it can close down and throw thousands of workers into the streets; or it can run away to an area where it will pay starvation wages to unorganized workers. This isn't possible in the socialist camp because under socialism, economic life is centrally planned for the needs of society as a whole, not by individual private corporations for the needs of their own profit margins.

In the U.S., with its enormous productive capacity and industrial base, socialism can offer the working man and woman their liberation from unemployment, liberation from degrading work, from poverty, from racism, from sexism, and from all types of oppression.



Juggled statistics hide real unemployment levels

By GREGORY M. DUNKEL
BALTIMORE, April 8—Official "unemployment statistics" do not tell us the number of working people without jobs because of the government's biased definition of "unemployed" and because of avoidable errors in the way these statistics are gathered.

The number of people without jobs is an important fact. It could show how sharply the depression is affecting working people. But the government and the capitalist press want to hide the effects of this depression, not expose them.

Earnings and employment data are collected because banks and businesses need them, however distorted, for their economic calculations. Another reason, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) admits, is that if the government doesn't publish "official" statistics, "unqualified and prejudiced organizations (like labor unions?) might magnify unemployment for their political purposes."

The government defines as "employed" anyone who worked an hour or more for pay in the past week. To be "unemployed" a person must be either available and actively seeking work within the past 4 weeks (as shown by the number collecting unemployment insurance), or laid off and waiting to be called back to work. Otherwise, he or she is not considered part of the "labor force." Thirty-seven percent of the population over 16 are not considered to be in the "labor force"—about 55 million people. Nobody knows how many of them are discouraged workers—or workers whose bosses didn't cover them with unemployment insurance, a growing practice among small businessmen who pay "off the books."

This definition of employment fails to take into account people who are forced to work part time when they want full-time work. It also has a less obvious flaw: it is "seasonally adjusted" to account for "normal seasonal changes in

employment, for example, the decline of construction work in the winter."

Using the official and complete BLS figures, we can adjust their January 1975 figures (the latest available) of 8,180,000 unemployed workers and an unemployment rate of 8.2 percent to get another 750,000 workers without jobs, or 8.8 million and an unemployment rate of 9.8 percent. Doing the same thing to the December 1974 figures, we see 6,666,900 workers were out of jobs and the unemployment rate was 7.3 percent.

Using these same BLS statistics, we can calculate that 400,000 workers dropped out of the labor force in this period, which means that altogether more than 2.6 million people became either out of work or out of the labor force in less than a month. Counting these dropouts as unemployed, we get an unemployment rate for January 1975 of 10.2 percent. The official unemployment rate for March is 8.9 percent but after corrections, this rate will probably be well over 12 percent.

REAL RATE FOR BLACK PEOPLE

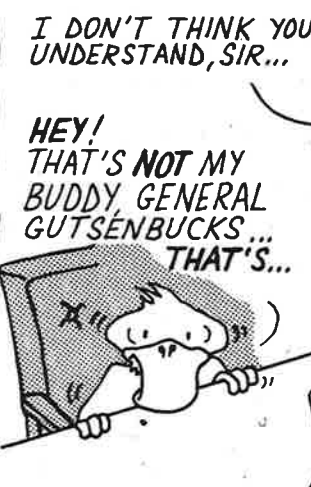
For some groups of workers, these corrections make a great deal of difference. The official "unemployment" rate for all Black workers in January was 13.9 percent. Applying these corrections, the National Urban League calculated a real Black unemployment rate of over 21 percent.

The capitalist press prefers to report the overall average unemployment rate, so the ferociously high joblessness of Blacks, youths, and women is balanced by the higher rate of employment for white male workers. It also ignores other important aspects of joblessness, like the length of time it takes to find a new job (over 10 weeks in February) and the reduction in income unemployed workers face.

The BLS has two main methods of gathering employment data: one is from "establishments," that is, from employers as they pay their Unemployment Compensation Tax; the other is a sample of approximately 50,000 households from all across the United States. The number of households interviewed in any particular area is proportional to that area's population in the 1970 census.

While there are probably some mistakes made in collecting the data, especially with Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, and Native Americans whose languages differ from English, these two methods should give two independent but roughly similar results. Even the

FOR THE BIRDS...



NY job program aids party hacks, not poor

By PETE PERKINS
NEW YORK, April 17—Have you ever noticed that bad housing and high unemployment seem to go together? Areas of high unemployment are usually areas of very substandard housing. Look around New York and you'll see.

Many people here in New York, often crowded into inner-city slums and ghettos, are forced to look to the municipal government for ways to improve their deteriorating neighborhoods. To try to pacify some of these people, Mayor Beame has set up an Office of Neighborhood Services in 26 locations around the city. They are supposed to be a model of city government's responsiveness to the needs of local communities.

CETA SCANDAL

They are a model of political patronage. The Office of Neighborhood Services is allotted 102 jobs for community relations trainees which are federally funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), an act which prohibits hiring or rejecting job applicants "based on that individual's political affiliations or beliefs."

Records of recent hirings show that the city of New York is in gross violation of these hiring provisions. This was documented by an article in the New York Times of April 9. According to the article, 11 of 16 persons hired on April 3 for trainee positions in the Neighborhood Services offices are

known to have direct political connections to Democratic Party politicians. Several are district leaders or co-leaders.

Further investigations show that this is just the tip of the iceberg as far as the scandal goes. But what makes it worse is that poor people, mostly Black and Latin, have been lining up in long lines in front of these offices to apply for CETA-sponsored jobs and all they have gotten is a runaround.

New York is supposed to get \$150 million worth of federal CETA money to be used by the Office of Neighborhood Services to improve the neighborhoods. So far, according to Beame appointee Fred Siegal, who is in charge of hiring, no one has yet been hired for any position.

People could be and should be hired right away to start work on neighborhood improvement projects. Union construction workers, who have a 50 percent unemployment rate in New York, should be hired at union wages to provide on-the-job training for the inexperienced workers hired under the CETA programs. This sort of setup is unquestionably feasible.

Gerald Ford just last week seemed to have an extra billion dollars on his hands that he wanted to use to prop up the toppling Thieu regime. New York and other deteriorating cities might be an ideal place to start spending some of it.

Jobs at home, not wars abroad!

BLS admits this. They do not give the same result. Take Western Maryland as an example. The household method, used by the federal government, gave a December unemployment rate of 4.9 percent, while the establishment method, used by the state, gave a rate of 7.1 percent. The difference on the Eastern Shore of Maryland was even greater.

Furthermore, the federal government's report on Western Maryland asserted that there were no large pockets of unemployment, though two plants had just laid off a total of 5,000 workers. In some Western Maryland counties, the number of people drawing unemployment benefits was greater than the number of people who were supposedly "unemployed."

As one state bureaucrat put it, "The federal government approach certainly makes a serious recession look mild, which is probably what they wanted."

Why was the federal survey so wrong?

WHAT THEY DO WRONG

Most probably because the size of the sample (between 24 and 36

households for 300,000 people) was far too small. Over the whole country, all the local sampling errors tend to balance out, but in any particular location the sampling errors are so large that any estimate of unemployment is much more likely to be wrong than right. This error could easily be corrected by taking a larger sample, one that was based on jobs, not population.

Another error stems from the racist nature of the welfare system and the U.S. census.

Ever since the 1960 census, demographers have realized that there was a 3-7 percent undercount in the census, concentrated among Black men aged 20 to 35. Many of these men avoid being counted by a government agency because the racist welfare system will throw their wives and children out into the streets if a man, a husband, a father is caught living with his family while they are collecting welfare. It's a question of their families' survival.

The household method is based on the U.S. census results and so systematically undercounts joblessness among young Black men which is already incredibly high, 30-50 percent.



YAWF demonstrators in downtown Chicago demand "Jobs at home, not wars abroad." WW photo

'Jobs, not wars' demand Chicago demonstrators

CHICAGO, April 5—"Jobs at home, not wars abroad!"

This was the theme of a demonstration held today in downtown Chicago by Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism. Over 40 people occupied State and Madison, the busiest shopping corner in the city, to express the anger of working people at steadily rising unemployment and their opposition to the war plans being drafted by this country's rulers.

Many speakers mounted a step ladder within the picket line to explain how the hardships being suffered by poor and working people spring from a system of production based on the private enrichment of a small number of big businessmen. They all agreed that workers must unite to defend and advance our interests against the corporations and their government, resisting all attempts to divide us by racism, sexism, or shifting the blame for the economic crisis to "Arab billionaires" or "illegal aliens."

A major concern of the

demonstrators was that the same capitalists who plotted the Indochina debacle will not hesitate to send us off to new wars, seeking to hang on to their empire and superprofits. Three areas of the international struggle were spotlighted at the demonstration as particularly dangerous possibilities for U.S. intervention: Indochina, where the great victories being won daily by the liberation forces are driving the U.S. ruling class frantic; Portugal, where the revolutionary workers' upsurge threatens the anti-communist NATO grouping; and the Middle East, where U.S. big business will stop at nothing to control the vast oil deposits.

The demonstrators made clear, and numerous passersby agreed, that poor and working people will no longer be used as cannon fodder for Wall Street's wars. They want the enormous wealth the workers produce to be used for the things the people need—jobs, housing, medical care, and education. The demonstration today was an initial step in the fight for such a society.



Employment agencies: grinding every cent out of the poorest.

WW photo: Julio

Agencies thrive off misery of jobless

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, April 21—"Hey buddy, I've got a job for you."

The young unemployed worker practically leapt from his seat and hurried over to the desk of the man who had called out to him.

"Maybe this is it," he thought. "After five weeks of looking, I'm bound to get something, even if it only pays \$90 a week."

The tie-and-jacketed man slouching behind the desk waved the youth into a folding chair next to him.

"Ok, pal," he grinned. "I told you I'd fix you up. Got a call here that they need some scabs for a couple of weeks. Pays pretty good. \$120. You'll start tomorrow morning."

Stunned, the young worker could hardly speak.

"A scab?" he said softly.

And then, much louder and angrier, "You expect me to be a scab!"

The grin faded from the employment agent's face.

"Get the hell out of here," he bellowed. "You take what we get you or you can get your ass out that door."

A scene from the great depression of the 1930s?

No. This actually occurred at a large New York City employment agency only 2 weeks ago and was told to us by the worker it happened to.

Was it some monstrous exception to the rule? Or is it typical

of the way most job agencies operate?

Even a one-day visit to "the slave market," as the unemployed call it, will show that such outrages are quite common.

These employment agencies are supposedly set up to help people get jobs. Their fee is usually one week's pay (half in advance).

The way it really works is quite different. The agent makes big promises and talks a lot about all the good jobs he can get you. Whatever you can do, he'll find an opening for you. And sure enough, pretty soon you're on your way to an interview (after leaving \$40 with your agent as a "down payment"). The "interview" almost invariably turns out to be nothing. Many times, over 20 other people have applied for the same job and usually it's filled before you even get there.

You go back to the agency and explain that you didn't get the job and you would like your "deposit" back.

"Look," says the agent. "I'm sorry you missed out on that one, but I should have something for you tomorrow. I'll keep the deposit for you, and you come back at 8 in the morning."

If you had insisted that your deposit be returned, you might well find that \$13 had been deducted for services!

But you didn't and at 8 a.m. sharp you're back and are told that "just five minutes ago" there was a "great job" for you, but they had to give it to another person.

"Take a seat," your agent advises.

Many people who "took a seat" weeks ago are still sitting there today. Every time the agent's phone rings, a dozen tense people strain forward, each hoping it will be good news for them. But most often it's just a call to get a couple of workers to do a 4-hour shift loading newspapers or something similar. "Your agent" picks two people out of the crowd and sends them over. And they're the lucky ones. They'll make enough to at least eat dinner later. The others just have to sit.

The racism in these places is both brutal and open. An agent says loudly to a boss over the phone, "I've got a couple of chinks for you." He calls a Black worker "stupid" for not being able to find a decent job. "Very clean" is a code word used to mean "white" when an agent talks on the phone. "He's an American" means "not Puerto Rican."

Many people sit for weeks without demanding their "deposit" back, fearful that the agency will throw them out if they do and all chance for work will be lost.

It's not unusual for a man or woman who has been sitting there for days and days to finally break down and be led sobbing from the room by other unemployed workers.

These agencies are grim and heartless places. They can be found in the poor sections of every big city, preying on those who are most desperate. They are despicable examples of the capitalist law that reduces human beings to wage slaves, to be bought at the lowest price possible. But try as they may, they cannot extinguish the spark of human indignation and wrath smoldering in each unemployed worker that will someday soon blaze up in militant, mass action.

Layoffs drive more workers to commit crimes of survival

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU

NEW YORK, April 9—The publication this past week of the FBI's 1974 "crime" statistics has launched a great debate in the ruling class press and news media about how the rich can better protect themselves and their property. Yet there is much in these statistics and the furor surrounding them which working and poor people can learn from.

CRIMES BY RICH IGNORED

Needless to say crimes like bribe-taking on a large scale, institutionalized racism, bugging campaign offices, bombing and exploiting foreign countries, price-fixing by monopolies, layoffs and industrial murder of workers, and various assassination plots—which many ruling class figures, not to mention the cops and military, are guilty—are not the FBI's idea of "crime."

The FBI only delves into "crimes" which poor people are forced to commit for sheer survival or are compelled to commit by the tremendous hardships, frustrations, and pressures which are part of everyday life under capitalism. The police agency gives no explanation of the social conditions, the economic hardships and unemployment which have caused these "crimes" of survival to increase.

'CRIMES' OF SURVIVAL

The bulk of the "crimes" handled by the FBI's 1974 report were property offenses, which tripled from 6 to 17 percent of all crime categories. These offenses were

highest where unemployment reached peak levels, particularly in industrial centers such as Detroit where tremendous numbers of workers were laid off last year.

Without jobs, with no income for themselves and their families, and with nowhere else to turn, many of these unemployed workers and poor people obviously turned to burglary and theft just to survive.

The greatest increase in these "crimes" of survival was in the last 3 months of 1974, when layoffs were at a peak.

In addition, so-called violent crimes such as robbery, assault, rape, and murder rose from 5 to 11 percent in 1974. Assault often accompanies property offenses. Rape and murder, on the other hand, are the direct product of a decaying capitalist system which flaunts women as commodities and propagates a flagrant disrespect of life.

SOCIALISM ELIMINATES CRIMES OF SURVIVAL

The filthy rich billionaires are the ones who create and maintain "crime" and poverty among the masses by hoarding material wealth to themselves and employing the FBI, the cops, and the military to protect "their" property.

As these ruling class figures and their police lackeys debate over how to lower the "crime" rate, they consistently ignore the one proven solution to crimes of survival.

The planned economies of the socialist countries, where the private property of the rich has

been expropriated and full employment, free daycare, free health care, adequate food, clothing, and housing are the right of all, have just about eliminated crimes of survival and frustration by removing the economic basis for them. But then, to the rich, this very expropriation of the wealth they hoard is the greatest crime of all.

Utility cutoff prevented by Norfolk labor group

Special to Workers World

NORFOLK, April 11—Nancy Truett's gas and electricity service was due to be cut off today by the Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO), leaving her and her two young children without heat, refrigeration, or lights. But the cut-off was prevented when a dozen determined members and friends of the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) went in a group to VEPCO's Norfolk office, demanded to see the manager, and pressured them into cancelling the cut-off and agreeing to an unprecedented arrangement of partial payments from Ms. Truett over the next few months.

The previous night CULA had held a rally of over 100 people against the VEPCO rate increase. Ms. Truett had come to the rally as a last hope, after more than a month of arguments and negotiations with VEPCO officials, who insisted that she pay her entire \$185 bill immediately, or else. Ms. Truett, a disabled cabinet maker, has no income at the present time, due to bureaucratic confusion in the state disability compensation system. When she presented her problem to CULA and the audience, there was an immediate decision to get supporters together to go with her the next morning.

Margaret Green, one of the speakers at the CULA rally, visited 75 homes while doing door-to-door canvassing against VEPCO and found 25 had had their service cut off!

Margaret Green herself had been without gas and electricity for

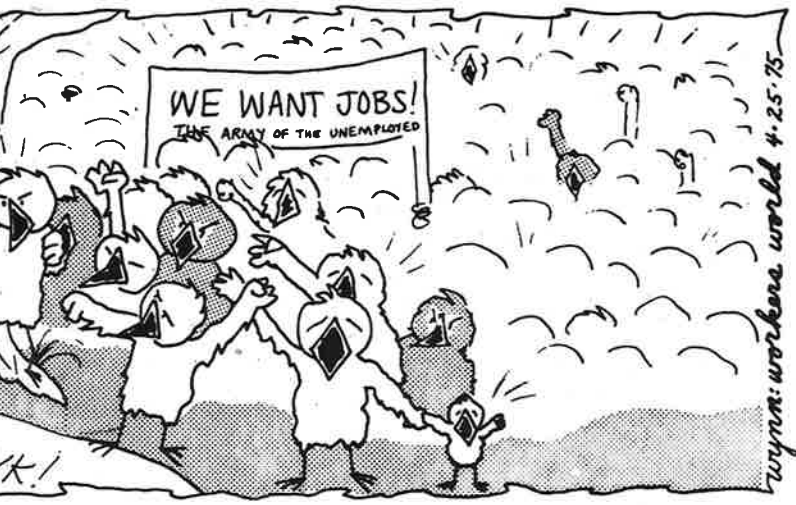
2 weeks, after VEPCO refused to accept a \$100 payment on her \$113 bill. They will not restore Ms. Green's service until she pays the entire \$113, plus a deposit of over \$200 and a reconnection charge. Ms. Green, a Black woman and the mother of four children, is on disability leave from her hospital job after undergoing a cancer operation. Her daughter was forced to drop out of high school to seek employment as a maid in order to help support the family.

At the rally Ms. Green pointed out, "The real fat cat behind all this is Rockefeller. Rockefeller owns VEPCO and he is getting richer and richer while we are getting poorer and poorer."

Another speaker, Herman Hunt of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, said: "It's the working class of people who are being really hit by all this, and the only way it's going to stop is when the working people unite, join with groups like CULA, and fight back against VEPCO."

Other speakers at the rally included Gerald Moody of the International Union of Electrical Workers and John Lewis and Dianne Mathiowetz of CULA. Lorraine Ferebee, a young Black mother who helped fight to keep Nancy Truett's service on, said: "I don't have a choice. When the weather is cold, my children have to do without food just so I can pay VEPCO to heat the house."

"Today was the first time people in this neighborhood have gotten together on something like this," Ms. Ferebee said after the victory. "It felt good."



Puerto Rican cement workers defy Ferre's slave factory

By JULIO GHIGLIOTTY

NEW YORK, April 21—As the economic crisis worsens in Puerto Rico, the battle lines between the capitalist and working classes begin to sharpen. In order to maintain profits in a continually rising curve, the industrialists and financiers are gouging more and more out of the workers. With each new attack, the workers fight back harder and achieve more unity among themselves.

It is in this context that the Puerto Rican Cement Company (PRC) strike has become the focal point, the front line, in this battle. Owned by one of the most powerful families in the island, the Puerto Rican Cement Company has unleashed a massive smear campaign against the Cement Industry Operators and Quarry Workers Union which has led the 2½-month-old strike in Ponce, Puerto Rico.

HIRED GUARDS ESCORT SCABS

The company's campaign against the workers has ranged from distorted news reports to actual armed attacks by a private security force, aided by the colonial police. One such incident occurred 2 weeks ago when company guards opened fire on the workers' picket line after driving through it with several scabs.

While the company claims that a couple of hundred workers have returned to work, the union reports that only 25 have crossed the picket line. Of those 25, 10 have managed

to escape what a worker described as a concentration camp which the supervisors and guards have made of the plant compound.

Carlos Gallisa, legal representative of the striking union and representative of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) in the colonial congress, said at a solidarity demonstration at the Puerto Rican Cement central office in Hato Rey that a worker who escaped from the plant reported that it had "been turned into a concentration camp where each of the workers who were deceived into entering is guarded by a Security Associates guard. No one is allowed to leave, and everyone sleeps on the floor." (Workers World translation.)

During the course of the strike, several explosions have taken place destroying plant equipment and material. Two scabs found that their homes had been firebombed while they were strikebreaking, and a truck loaded with cement was blown up. Just last week, a bomb was found next to a guardhouse where a number of PRC supervisors were sleeping.

The company has filed charges against the union with the Labor Relations Board claiming that members of the union have "threatened" plant supervisors and walk around "armed with clubs and pipes." But it is the company that has initiated the violence.

A report in Claridad, the PSP

newspaper, describes how Adolfo Mendez Rio, the public relations chief of the Ferre company, acquired a permit to carry arms "within a matter of hours," according to police sources, after talking to police superintendent Astor Caleor. Just to process such an application usually takes a week.

LABOR SOLIDARITY GROWS THROUGHOUT ISLAND

The striking workers at the Ferre-owned plant have appealed to all labor in the island for support and help in getting the truth out to the masses of people who only get a chance to hear what the controlled press has to say. And the response has been forthcoming.

The United Workers Movement (MOU), a federation of 40 labor unions and about 100 locals representing some 20 percent of organized labor on the island, launched a campaign to build support for the cement workers and has held solidarity rallies attended by thousands of workers.

The PSP has also been building support for the strikers wherever it has a branch and has been giving organizational aid.

Despite the many attacks against the union, the workers are determined to win the strike. The issue to them is simple. As one worker put it, "What we are asking for is justified. All they (Puerto Rican Cement Company) did was exploit the workers."

Corporate crime pays off

Connally beats rap!

By PETE PERKINS

NEW YORK, April 18—John Connally has always been a man of good fortune. He had the good fortune to become one of the richest and most prominent bankers in the state of Texas. Then he had the good fortune to become the governor of Texas.

But his acquittal in federal court today has to be the luckiest thing to happen to him since he survived the Kennedy assassination 12 years ago. His victory is a victory for corruption.

THE VERDICT

From the start the verdict depended on who the jury would believe, Connally or Jake Jacobsen, the prosecution's star witness. Jacobsen said Connally took a bribe and Connally said he didn't. The main difference in their stories was that Jacobsen's testimony was supported by about 30 other witnesses.

Connally's defense consisted of his own testimony plus that of some of his cronies as character witnesses. Some of the characters who took the stand on his behalf included Rev. Billy Graham, who deals directly with God, and former Secretary of War Robert MacNamara. The jury believed them and not Jacobsen.

The question of Connally's guilt or innocence was never really that important to begin with. The trial showed that what he and the others did was wrong, whether they took a bribe or did it for free.

PRICE GOUGING

What matters most to the people is that on May 14, 1971, the day on which Jacobsen claims to have paid Connally the first installment of a \$10,000 "gratuity," milk cost about 25 cents per quart and now it costs twice as much. How did agri-

business do it? How did they ram those increases through?

Back in 1971 big business was preparing for dramatic price increases on food items and other basic necessities. Towards that end they expected very little resistance from the Richard Nixon administration.

Surprisingly enough, there was one source of difficulty. Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin stood opposed to an increase in the milk support price. Hardin was inconvenient and had to go.

OUSTER OF HARDIN

To facilitate this the Association of Milk Producers Incorporated (AMPI) contacted Jake Jacobsen, an Austin Texas lawyer and old friend of John Connally, Nixon's Secretary of the Treasury. Jacobsen got a promise from Connally to speak to Nixon about it. Connally spoke with Nixon by telephone on May 23, 1971, a conversation that was taped and later revealed during the Watergate investigations.

Two days later Nixon signed an executive order that raised the federal milk support price levels and brought with it the resignation of Clifford Hardin as Secretary of Agriculture. In his place to this day we have Earl Butz of Ralston Purina, agribusiness's chief strategist who has cleared the way for all the dramatic price increases on just about every basic food item including milk.

Now Connally can laugh about how he beat the rap and agribusiness price increases keep going on. So does corruption in government. But what you can be thankful for about Watergate and the Connally trial is that now it is so much more obvious than it was prior to Nixon's reelection.

Former FBI informer testifies State knew Attica defense strategy

By BRAD KANE

BUFFALO, April 16—Another major incident revealing the illegal practice of the prosecution in the Attica cases has come to light.

Mary Jo Cook, an admitted FBI informer, stated at an April 12 press conference that she had infiltrated the Attica defense and supplied the FBI with information on their legal strategy. Local FBI officials confirm that Cook worked as a paid informer and supplied information on the Buffalo chapter of Vietnam Veterans Against the War-Winter Soldier Organization (VVAW-WSO), of which Mary Jo was a member, but denied that she supplied information related to the Attica defense.

Mary Jo insisted, however, that the FBI spokesmen "are lying. . . I have an excellent memory, and I know there are written reports that I signed that exist." She went on to say, "I was made privy to information about the defense," and "I had a big mouth. I said a lot" to the FBI.

She said that the FBI was pleased with the information she gave on the Attica proceedings and encouraged her to continue. Mary Jo may be a possible witness in a coming investigation of the cover-up of crimes committed by the state and the subsequent lack of prosecution in relation to the murder of inmates and guards by state officials in the retaking of the prison, ordered by then-governor Nelson Rockefeller.

CHICKENS COME HOME TO ROOST

This comes on top of recent charges by former assistant at-

MARCH ON ALBANY


MONDAY, APRIL 28

12 NOON Assemble at

Manning Square in Albany
(Manning and Central)

For Info, call Attica Now in Buffalo
716-882-0254

Amnesty for the Attica Brothers!



torney general Malcolm Bell that the prosecution leadership, specifically chief Attica prosecutor and former FBI man Anthony Simonetti, covered up crimes committed by the state. A confidential report by Simonetti to New York State Governor Hugh Carey cited at least two specific cases in which murder charges should have been brought against state troopers involved in "suspicious" deaths of two inmates, Kenneth Malloy and Ramon Rivera. Bell contends that murder charges might have been leveled against troopers in these cases if he had not been prevented by Simonetti from calling witnesses or obtaining other evidentiary material.

Bell has been subpoenaed to testify at a pre-trial hearing in a case where four Attica Brothers are charged with kidnaping guards during the rebellion.

In a related development, Dr. John Cudmore, a surgeon serving with the National Guard at Attica during the rebellion, said on April 9 that despite his public disclosures

of seeing atrocities committed by guards, he was not questioned by state investigators until nearly 2½ years after the event. After this long period of time he said he could not possibly identify the state officials involved. After the prison had been retaken, Cudmore saw inmates struck "with blows to the elbows and genitalia." One inmate, he said, "had his leg fractured by such a blow."

These are all charges which the Attica Brothers have been making since the rebellion itself and later when 62 former Attica inmates were charged on 53 indictments while not one state official was charged.

MARCH ON ALBANY

A state-wide demonstration is being called for April 28 by Attica Now, an organization doing support work for the Attica Brothers. There, hundreds of supporters will be furthering the demand raised by the heroic Attica Brothers in September 1971 for unconditional amnesty for all the Attica prisoners.

Kahane sentenced to one year at NY hotel

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

NEW YORK, April 21—What happens to a person who is convicted of making bombs, gets put on probation, and then gets rearrested for the same thing? They get put away in a federal penitentiary for the rest of their lives, right?

It depends on which side they're on.

If they happen to be the leader of a pro-fascist group, attacking anyone who doesn't support U.S.-sponsored war against the Arab people, the punishment is not quite as severe.

In fact, if this is punishment—what do they give as a reward?

Since his rearrest for violation of parole, Jewish Defense League (JDL) leader Meir Kahane has been serving his 1-year sentence—not in a federal penitentiary but in a hotel on 31 Street and Broadway in New York City, a few blocks from JDL headquarters. He is free to leave the hotel for up to 7 hours each day and gets meal tickets to eat at the restaurant of his choice.

What's the reason for this special treatment?

According to the federal government, the penitentiary system can't provide Kahane with kosher

food. The only solution to this, of course, is to let Kahane wander the streets of New York with meal tickets.

Hundreds of Muslim prisoners, who mustn't eat pork according to their religious beliefs, have petitioned the courts but are fed pork anyway. Why is the federal prison system, which never gave a damn for the rights of any prisoners, especially Black, Puerto Rican, Native American, or Jewish people, suddenly granting special privileges?

Because Meir Kahane, who masquerades as a defender of the Jewish people, is really only a defender of U.S. imperialism. His organization has attacked with goon squads, high-powered rifles, fire bombs and pipe bombs, groups that have taken a stand in support of the Palestinian people in their struggle against Zionism and its sponsor, the United States.

As long as the Jewish Defense League attacks progressive organizations and Arab and Soviet embassies, instead of the Nazis, John Birchers, and Klan who base their ideology on anti-Semitism, the government will continue to look the other way, if not provide them with the weapons in the first place.

Strikebreaking cops arrest 3 workers supporting strike

Cops attack picket line at Buffalo Forge

By JOE PIETTE
BUFFALO, April 11—Three more workers were arrested, and one of them severely beaten by cops, for picketing at the Cheektowaga plant of the Buffalo Forge Corporation yesterday. This makes a total of 28 arrests in the 23 weeks that office, clerical, and technical workers in United Steel Workers (USW) Locals 8267 and 8269 have been striking for their first contract at Buffalo Forge.

This is the first time however, that strike supporters have been arrested, and demonstrates how much the company and the cops fear the growing support for the strikers.

The multi-million dollar cor-

poration (with seven plants in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico) was forced to recognize the union after fighting it tooth and nail for 2 years. It stalled 7 months before signing a contract and forced the workers to walk off the job this past November. The strikers, most of whom are women, were successful in stopping the use of the unemployed and "temporary labor" as scabs. Nevertheless, like maggots on rotting meat, a number of heavily protect scabs have been lured to Buffalo Forge.

POLICE—SCAB PROTECTORS
Cops (more accurately referred to as 'pigs' by the strikers) have

more than willingly served as armed strikebreakers. Some policemen were even moonlighting as scabs, until city-wide union pressure and mass picket lines forced the Police Commissioner to stop police scabbing. But he didn't stop their particularly brutal acts in protecting and escorting scabs through picket lines.

At yesterday's picket line, Joe Benbenek, a USW International Representative, Tom Comar, an IBEW member, and Bill Coveington, a cab driver, were charged with obstructing government administration, resisting arrest, and disorderly conduct.

Joe Benbenek was further attacked at the police station and suffered three fractured bones in his wrist and several bruised ribs.

COMPANY FEARS SOLIDARITY

Joining strikers yesterday were workers from an AFSCME local, members of an Operating Engineers Union Local (who have been picketing a scab sewer work site for 9 months), Center for United Labor Action members, IBEW members, and workers from Anaconda Brass, Bethlehem Steel, and other area shops.

This solidarity is especially encouraging, since the picket lines

are being crossed daily by Buffalo Forge production workers and Teamsters. (After honoring the picket lines for 3 weeks, the USW-organized plant workers returned to the job "as a gesture of good will to the company." Their contract expires in November.)

But the strong spirit of solidarity outside could very well spread to the plant workers inside and to the Teamster drivers.

That is why Buffalo Forge executives are worried. A united and militant labor force could take whatever it wanted from those businessmen, and they know it!

Transport Company wants 75 cent bus fare

Milwaukee workers fight bus fare hike

By JOHN SCOTT
MILWAUKEE, April 17—"Seventy-five cents is unfair" read one sign, while another read "Buses for people, not for profit." These slogans appeared taped to the walls of Milwaukee's Common Council Chambers as over 150 Black, white, young, and older people joined the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) April 2 to confront a hearing called by the Public Service Commission.

Milwaukee's infamous Transport Company wants to raise its fares to an unheard-of 75 cents.

(Bus fares in Milwaukee are now the highest in the country at 60 cents.) Since 1952, fares have gone from 15 to 60 cents, and now this same bunch of robbers wants to raise them to 75 cents.

The bus company pleads poverty while a small group of stockholders receives dividends of 60 cents on the dollar. A new bus has not been bought since 1965. On one bus, maintenance was so lacking that a wheel fell off.

Dan Pryzbela of CULA outlined the Center's position on the 75-cent

fare, calling for county takeover of the bus company because it does not provide the safe, adequate, and efficient service it is chartered to do. He explained the necessity of a transport board made up of bus drivers, workers, and members of the Black, Native American, and Latin communities who make up the bus ridership of the city.

Pryzbela also raised the demand that the industries, stores, and businesses that thrive off of the bus ridership be taxed to pay the costs of operating the bus system. As Pryzbela stated, "Maybe the only

thing the bus company will understand is a bus boycott—then they will know what loss of ridership is." This was met by loud applause.

During the noon hour, over 40 people from the hearing marched to the mayor's second-floor office to demand that he or his representative come to the hearings and take a stand against a 75-cent fare. Due to the pressure put on him by the people, a representative did come.

The Transport Company was

exposed under stiff questioning by a member of CULA for its utterly sexist and racist policies. Asked if the company had any women bus drivers, company vice president Larson answered "no." Asked if they could not find a woman capable of driving a bus out of 875 drivers, he said that he did not know. Continuing the questioning, he was asked why there were no Black supervisors among these employees. He refused to answer. Asked about cockroaches on the buses, Larson stated he felt it was the passengers who brought them.

Two Black people killed, five wounded

Ex-spy goes on racist shooting spree

By P. KIMBALL
WHEATON, Md., April 19—On Sunday, April 13, a former Army counter-intelligence officer walked down a busy street here, shooting and killing Black people at random with his service revolver. The white gunman, Michael Edward Pearch, killed two and wounded five before dying in a gunfight with police.

Witnesses described him as "smirking" while firing into cars stopped at lights. Though most of the drivers on the street were white, Pearch fired only at Blacks.

Killed were John Sligh and Connie Stanley, both chemists at the National Bureau of Standards. Mrs. Lorene Sligh is still in critical condition, as are two other of Pearch's victims, a high-school student and the mother of a 4-month-old child. Pearch, an expert marksman, apparently hit everyone he fired at; only one of the seven escaped death or serious injury.

Reports indicate that police, close enough to see the expression on his face, stood and watched as Pearch shot Bryant Williams of Rockville, Md., without attempting to physically prevent it. They then told him to "freeze," and fired at him only after he turned his gun on police.

POLICE COVER FOR KILLER'S RACISM

Though first news stories quoted a police captain as saying that Pearch "obviously passed up white persons who would be potential victims," this story changed. Police later issued a statement

saying that "there was no evidence that the victims were selected by race."

One of the victims, Ralph Gomes, a social psychologist and professor at Howard University, disagreed. "It was racially motivated," he exclaimed. "He passed several white couples, including one that was driving next to me." This declaration was printed by the Washington Afro-American, but not by Washington's major papers, the Star and Post.

Whites who had been present fully confirmed Mr. Gomes. All facts exposed the police's belated "no racism" statement as a flimsy fraud.

PRESS JOINS IN COVERUP

One of the first news stories to appear in the Washington Star quoted a friend of Pearch as saying "He didn't care much for colored people, I'll say that."

But that was changed, too. Later stories went to great lengths to portray Pearch as being "totally unprejudiced" and an active anti-racist. News profiles described him as a sensitive young artist full of concern for the environment, and attributed his bloody spree to a brain tumor—or to his sadness over his fiancée's death—or to some other unexplainable factor. Their point was that the Wheaton Massacre was the result of pure chance and in no way preventable.

In fact, Pearch had been a U.S. Army counter-intelligence officer in Germany with a forged passport for 3 years. The press did not describe what he did; one can



The army trained and indoctrinated its soldiers in racist genocide in Indochina. Is that training now a threat to America's Third World communities?

imagine. He brought back Nazi books and regalia to the U.S. ("just souvenirs" said the press). He kept a small arsenal in his room, and was a trained sharpshooter. He had gone back to Germany for a year as a civilian (?), among other reasons to bring back more "souvenirs" (!).

Pearch had received Vietnam war training at Ft. Holabird near Baltimore. His mother recalled him talking about practicing with a mockup of a "Viet Cong village" and speculated, "Maybe he was reenacting his training." This is certainly plausible; other officers trained there went on to massacre non-white unarmed civilians in

Indochina.

THE REAL ISSUE

This murderer's individual psychology is hardly the issue here, and hardly matters now. But how about the actions of the police and the press? Why did police watch while Williams was gunned down? Is there any doubt that had it been a Black man who had just shot six whites and was aiming at a seventh he would have been blown away immediately?

How many other officers graduated as trained racist killers from Fort Holabird—or from army spy work—and now pose a danger to Black and Third World people?

Why this cover-up from press and police, trying to deny that there was anything racist about the selective killing of Black people? Compare this to the way the so-called "Zebra killings," involving white deaths, were handled. In that case, the press and police stooped to the wildest tales to inflame hysteria and whites' fear of Blacks.

This evasion, this cover-up, is an admission of guilt—a confession that a racist system has seven more victims to answer to. "Mad killers" don't just happen. They are products of racism, of militarism, and of the capitalist system.


 EDITORIAL

New York City: debtors' prison

Mayor Beame of New York City has just given the ax to 22,000 city workers, most in essential services like schools, hospitals, sanitation, and the fire department. He has announced the closing of 43 schools, four hospitals, four fire battalions, two child health-care centers, and 8 to 10 libraries. The mayor himself called the cutbacks "the most stringent in the city's history," claiming they were necessary to reduce the projected deficit in the city budget.

If any one politician can be blamed for this disastrous situation, it is Beame himself, since he was City Comptroller before becoming mayor, and was therefore the man presiding over the growing deficit. But Beame is really only small potatoes, a political batboy for the men who have really milked the City of New York dry: the bankers.

Beame intends to save \$188 million with these drastic economies. But at the present time, the yearly carrying charges on the city's debt amount to \$2 billion—or more than 10 times this saving. So in effect, thousands of workers are losing their jobs so that the bankers can be paid their blood money.

Besides the workers laid off and their families—altogether about 60,000 people who are directly affected by this meataxe to their livelihood—the millions of poor and working people of New York City are being made to suffer. The already bad conditions of the schools, hospitals, streets, libraries, and parks will become even worse. As always, the cuts will be felt most by the poor.

The president of the Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association said about the layoffs, "The rip-offs of the city treasury by some of the commercial bankers will not be borne on the shoulders of sanitation workers." Nor should they be borne by any city workers. New York is bursting with the wealth of the big banks and corporations; it is literally the Fort Knox of U.S. capitalism. Let Beame suspend his payments to these bankers instead of throwing city workers out on the streets!

Proud of our record

The resignation of Nguyen Van Thieu in Saigon and the evacuation of U.S. personnel and their South Vietnamese collaborators make it clear that the long war in Vietnam is now in its final stages. Short of some mad adventure by the U.S. military (which should never be absolutely ruled out), it is safe to say that the flag of Vietnamese liberation will soon be flying over Saigon and all the rest of South Vietnam.

The Vietnamese workers and peasants have earned this victory many, many times over. Their almost super-human sacrifice enabled them to defeat the greatest military power on earth which concentrated its forces for over 10 years in an effort to bludgeon Vietnam into the status of a neocolony. The full implications of the historic victory of the people of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos are yet to be felt here.

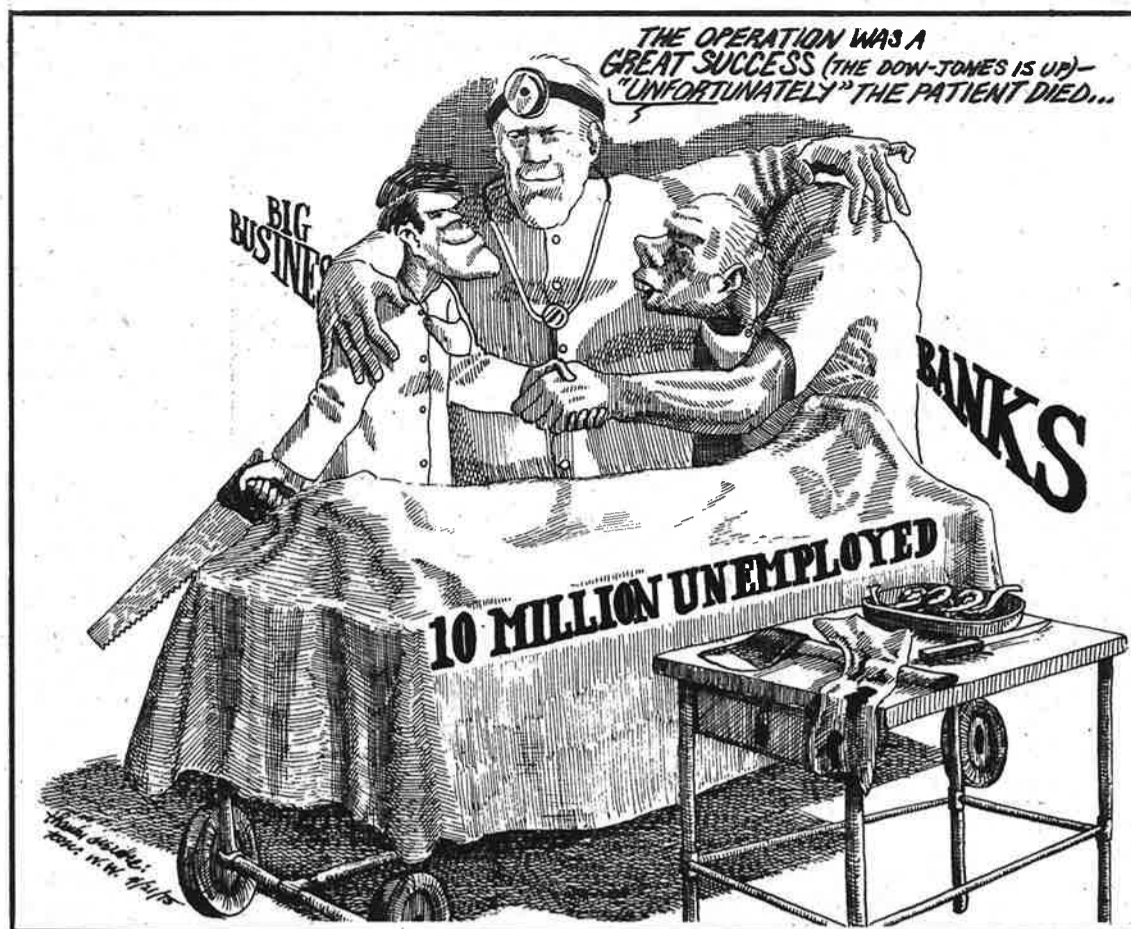
Workers World is proud of our record in this history-making struggle. Workers World Party, together with Youth Against War & Fascism, organized the very first U.S. demonstration against the Vietnam war, back in August 1962. We have supported every progressive struggle against the war, from draft resistance to mass demonstrations, from GI struggles to militant street action. While our comrades were in the front lines of these struggles, our paper was explaining to the working people how the U.S. imperialists were making them fight and die in a war to make Vietnam safe for corporate profits.

When we first raised the issue of the Vietnam war, most Americans had no idea where it was; many had never heard of the country. Today, Vietnam is a ringing call to millions of poor and oppressed around the world to struggle until victory!

Immigration waivers for all

Without batting an eye, the Justice Department has announced plans to "waive" immigration restrictions on 130,000 U.S. collaborators from Vietnam and Cambodia. Thousands of military officers, businessmen, politicians, police, and their families have already been flown out of Indochina.

The right-wing papers that yesterday were screaming about "illegal aliens" are strangely silent today. When refugees entering this country are running away from U.S.-sponsored police states like those in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, and Chile, they're "illegal." If they're escaping poverty created by the exploitation of their countries by United Fruit or Esso, they should "go back where they came from." But if they've amassed fortunes from war profiteering, bombed and napalmed their own cities, and tortured their sisters and brothers—all in cooperation with U.S. advisers—then the barriers to immigration are waived. The least that all the hard-working immigrants now being harassed by the government deserve is equal treatment.



3 anniversaries of the people

Heroic rebellion in Santo Domingo ten years ago

APRIL 24—Ten years ago this very day, the Dominican people revolted against U.S. imperialist rule and puppet forces within their country. A nationwide rebellion began within progressive elements of the Dominican military and spread within hours to the broadest sectors of workers, the poor, and all anti-imperialists.

In less than 24 hours, the puppet regime of Donald Reid Cabral, General Wessin y Wessin, General Imbert Barreras, and other flunkies of U.S. imperialism was overthrown by a now-armed people. The rebellion was led by Colonel Francisco Caamano Deno

and other lower echelon officers, Constitutionalist supporters of former president Juan Bosch, and the Revolutionary June 14th Movement (a Marxist group influenced by the Cuban Revolution.)

But on April 28, 1965, U.S. President Johnson landed thousands of U.S. Marines to prevent the Dominican people from consolidating their revolution. Ultimately, more than 40,000 U.S. troops were necessary to crush the Dominican revolution, but not before months of heroic resistance which will remain in the hearts and minds of generations of Dominicans to come.

The Johnson government of imperialist thieves would not allow the Dominican Republic to free itself from the plunder of U.S. monopolies and become the second liberated territory in the Western Hemisphere. The U.S. imperialist rulers have forever earned the hatred of the broad masses of Dominican people. The Johnson government went even as far as reinstalling the hated Trujillo official, Joaquin Balaguer, as puppet president in 1966 through completely rigged elections (during which hundreds of Bosch campaigners and officials were assassinated).

Albizu Campos, Puerto Rican patriot, 1891—1965

APRIL 21—Today marks the 10th anniversary of the death of the great Puerto Rican patriot, Pedro Albizu Campos. He was president of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party and had spent nearly 20 years of his life in colonial U.S. prisons for the "crime" of fighting for his country's independence.

As prison authorities slowly murdered him by deliberately denying medical care, he became paralyzed in 1956 and was not freed until late 1964 by a "pardon" from the U.S. puppet-governor Munoz Marin. The latter feared a potential rebellion in Puerto Rico if Albizu's freedom were not granted.

Albizu Campos was born in Ponce, on Puerto Rico's south coast, in 1891. Thus he was only 7

years old when the U.S. imperialists invaded his home town in 1898 and began replacing Spanish colonialism with U.S. colonialism. He became president of the Nationalist Party in 1930 and was jailed by the U.S. colonial regime in early 1937.

Albizu's party led an uprising in 1950 in response to a severe witch-hunt of nationalists throughout the island. After the uprising was put down by U.S. troops, Nationalist Party members went to Washington, D.C., and shot at Truman in the temporary White House building. Albizu was again imprisoned and then pardoned in 1953. But in 1954, other Nationalist Party members dramatized the unpublicized cause of Puerto Rico's inde-

pendence from U.S. colonialist rule by taking shots at U.S. Congressmen at the Capitol in Washington. Albizu applauded them for their "sublime heroism" and was again imprisoned this time until his death.

This immortal defiance epitomized Albizu's own spirit of uncompromising revolutionary struggle. At his funeral on April 25, 1975, the largest outpouring of Puerto Ricans, up to that time, came to pay tribute to their heroic revolutionary leader. In fact, the 70,000 Puerto Ricans who marched to the Old San Juan cemetery really represented a rebirth of the liberation and independence movement, which Albizu Campos had fought and died for to the very end.

Fall of fascist gov't in Portugal 1 year old

APRIL 25—It was only a year ago today that the Portuguese people overthrew the fascist regime which oppressed them for 46 brutal years. And although the titular head of this heroic upheaval was the infamous butcher (especially of the Portuguese colonies) General Antonio de Spínola, the mass of Portugal's workers nevertheless intervened directly, in the streets, in the factories, in the schools, on the farms, and in the barracks to uproot fascism from Portugal once and for all.

The first targets of the people's long pent-up anger were the hated murderers and butchers—the

secret police of the Salazar-Caetano dictatorships.

But the intervention of the masses in the struggle against fascism necessarily becomes a class struggle—and this struggle cannot be successfully completed until the bourgeoisie itself is ousted from state power and a workers' state is installed.

The immediate crisis which brought the Caetano regime down was the losing war of Portuguese imperialism against its African colonies. Portuguese capitalism could no longer sustain the cost of three intense colonial wars, nor could it afford a complete eco-

nomie withdrawal from the colonies. But the combined strength of the liberation forces in Africa along with the new might of the Portuguese working class ultimately sealed the fate of Portuguese colonialism in Africa.

Since April 25, 1974, the Portuguese workers have inflicted heavy losses on the fascist bosses, including the ouster of General Spínola himself (after the aborted fascist restoration coup led by him on March 11 of this year). April 25 opened the door to the Portuguese workers not only to rid themselves of fascism but of capitalism altogether.

POLITICAL PRISONERS



SMYRNA INMATES HARASSED

SMYRNA, Delaware, April 16—Due to overcrowded prison conditions, many men here who would otherwise be in the hospital or on minimum confinement were moved to maximum confinement, aka B-block. But the "much needed" hospital space was used to house the men who were moved out of B-block.

All men on B-block are locked down 23 hours a day, and given an inadequate one-hour exercise period. The results of this harassment have been physical weakness and illness.

So at the end of their April 9 9 a.m. walk they refused to come in until after they had talked with the captain. The prisoners decided to remain peaceful and to attempt to

clarify their demands.

However, the captain arrived for discussion with ten guards, guns, and teargas. When two of the prisoners asked the captain to speak to them about prison problems, he began swearing, swinging his club, and threatening to attack the prisoners. The prisoners peacefully returned to their cells.

Because of official desire to isolate Carl Henry and Ronald Payne, of the Smyrna 4, Payne and Henry are forced to take their exercise periods separately. So, instead of 2 hours' walk for all B-block inmates, Payne and Henry are given one hour, and ALL other inmates are given one hour.

There are no tensions between

B-block inmates and Carl Henry or Ronald Payne. There would be no "dangers" in letting Payne and Henry take their exercise with everyone else. There would be a noticeable improvement in the health of all the inmates concerned.

The only "crime" these men committed on April 9 was the crime of demanding justice from an unjust system, and of demanding that all prisoners be treated like human beings.

Stop the unjust and illegal harassment of the B-block prisoners! Give back the exercise periods! Now!!!

(Issued by: Stephen Buckingham, prisoner; Howard Robinsen, prisoner.)

THIRD TRIAL FOR GARY LAWTON

RIVERSIDE, Calif.—Racist police are having difficulties in their attempt to frameup Gary Lawton. Lawton's third trial ended its fourth week with three prosecution witnesses unable to identify Lawton as the man fleeing the site of the ambush with which he is charged. Lawton, a Black community organizer and member of Vietnam Veterans Against the War—Winter Soldier

Organization is accused of the 1971 ambush slaying of two Riverside policemen. Although Lawton had three lie-detector tests and underwent two previous trials (which ended in hung juries), an unprecedented third trial began on March 6.

The DA's office is so anxious to stop the organizing done by Gary

Lawton and those close to him that an appeal was filed requesting to retry Chukia Lawton (wife of Gary Lawton) and Jack Bronaugh, both members of the defense committee. Chukia Lawton and Bronaugh have already undergone a misdemeanor trial which ended in a hung jury. The charges stemmed from a courtroom attack by the police.

SPRING REPORT FROM McALESTER

McALESTER, Okla., April 15—The spring season came in like a lion for the 900 riot-weary prisoners at Big Mac. A 6-month reign of terror by the Crisp, O'Reilly, Schons regime was culminated by an unprecedented wave of violent assaults upon men active in the fight for meaningful penal reform in Oklahoma.

On March 3, March 6, March 19, and the morning of March 21, isolated inmates were beaten senseless, shot point-blank in the back with stun guns, and put on 24-hour lockdown.

Then on the afternoon of March 21, inmate Johnny Miller was attacked by a guard in the maximum security section of the prison called the "Rock." His cell partner, L.W. Brady, tried to help Miller subdue the guard. Other guards rushed to the scene and it resulted in a melee. Two guards were struck by blows, Miller was beaten over the head with black jacks, shot with stun guns. Brady and the runman, Marvin Gibson, received the same brutal treatment. The brutality of the guards sparked tempers of the men in the maxi-maxi unit and they started tearing plumbing fixtures from the walls of their cell. Major Al Schons ordered the whole unit tear-gassed, even the men who were not participating in the incident.

Twelve men were then stripped of their clothes, handcuffed, and taken to the "Chamber of Horrors," the behavior modification unit deep under the prison rotunda, where they were beaten and gassed three times over the weekend. The names of the victims are as follows: Kenny Goodson, Frank Minister, L.W.

Brady, Bill Webster, Dale McDonald, Reno Francine, Marvin Gibson, Irvin McCoy, Benny Bell, Willie Tipton, Rodney Wrior, Rickke Green. Johnny Miller was taken to the hospital for stitching of scalp wounds and a kidney wound and is still there recuperating. Major Al Schons ordered all the beatings and gassings.

Col. Richard Crisp not only sanctioned this treatment but in his report to the news media complained that "our hands are tied, the courts won't allow us to do anything but take away a few privileges, we can't deal with these types as we should." What does our Warden mean by "these types", aren't we all human beings? Evidently Crisp, O'Reilly, and Schons don't think so. Let's consider the facts.

Twelve men were brutally and sadistically beaten and then tear-gassed in their cells in violation of federal court orders.

The remaining members of the maxi-maxi unit were stripped of all possessions but their shorts and gassed again the next day, March 24. They are currently living on diminished rations, in cells with the water cut off—another violation of federal law. The sanitation in the maxi unit has become atrocious and Schons says: "Let them live with their shit, I could care less." And as an extra added attraction Lt. J.I. Ogiela has been bragging about how he stole up on an inmate who was locked in his cell and shot him in the face with a 12-gauge teargas gun! Fun and games at Big Mac!

It poses the question in all the minds of the 900 men in this prison: "What sort of treatment

does Col. Richard Crisp feel is necessary, or what does he want the court to allow him, in dealing with everyday prison incidents like this? What does Crisp want, another DACHAU or BELSEN? Or maybe a Tucker-farm-type operation, with hidden graves, and bull whips and crank telephones for our testicles?"

Make no mistake about this. Col. Crisp is a dangerous man, and he has surrounded himself with subordinates who are psychologically disordered, and heavy into brutalization of prisoners. It is just a matter of time before one of his bully boys murders one of us. Major Schons has repeatedly threatened to kill those who disagree with him and when the murder happens, we have no doubt he will be directly responsible. He thrives on violence and brutality, and we, his defenseless victims, are in the position of either dying like men or dying like dogs.

Since Warden Wilson left these walls, we have lived under the iron heel of Crisp, O'Reilly, and Schons hoping for a miracle from our new governor and the legislature—but there is no miracle in sight. So now as the lion-like month of March draws to a close, we are closing up our ranks, and are determined to create our own miracle. With the help of God, some of us will survive the holocaust.

Spring came in like a lion. It won't go out like a lamb. It's the consensus of opinion that it will be another long hot summer at BIG MAC!

The Voice of the Men of McAlester

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Mayor Beame sacrifices the jobs and services of the working people of New York in order to pay the banks their blood money. Editorial, page 10.

Parents join City Hall protest

NY daycare workers demand living wage

By L. STEIN

NEW YORK, April 17—Some 2,000 daycare workers including teachers, assistant teachers, cooks, and maintenance workers, all members of CSAEU District Council 1707, demonstrated at City Hall today. They were demanding new contract terms which would allow them a decent standard of living. Many parents of children attending these centers turned out to show their support.

HUMILIATING OFFER

The city has refused to recognize the contract demands of the union and has offered a ridiculous 3 percent raise in the first 6 months, then 1 percent, followed by 3 percent in the second year. Inflation has driven prices up 28 percent since the last contract was signed 2 years ago.

After this offer, more than 300 stewards representing nearly 7,000 workers held a picket line outside the next negotiating session. Angry workers, almost all Black women, chanted: "Three percent won't pay the rent, oh no, 3 percent won't buy our food, won't buy our clothes, won't buy us shoes. Three percent won't even pay for a cup of coffee!"

At the negotiating session, the city came up with an offer that amounted to an average of \$2 a week per worker. The result was a large strike vote at the next general union meeting.

The last offer before the demonstration appeared to be in the form of a threat. It was 2 percent more—on the condition



Day care workers and parent supporters march through New York's City Hall Park, pressing their demands for a reasonable contract and a commitment to keep day care alive.

that the workers accept the loss of a week's vacation and that many part-time workers lose their health and welfare benefits!

ATTACK ON DAYCARE

The daycare workers and parents feel this is another attack

against daycare by the government. The settlements offered are less than thousands of other city workers received.

In a recent budget plan, Mayor Abraham Beame called for the elimination of a large number of centers. Already many interim-

funded daycare centers have been closed. These new centers have been organized by the community in working class neighborhoods, particularly Black and Latin, in an effort to meet the desperate needs of the parents and to give their children the benefits of quality

daycare. By necessity these centers were started in buildings that should have been torn down years ago. The city uses this excuse to condemn them.

Another threat against the daycare community comes from the teachers' union head Albert Shanker. The Mondale-Brademer Bill calls for a \$20 million allocation of funds for early childhood education to be allotted to the present daycare system. Shanker is lobbying against this bill because he wants the allocation to go to the public school system. This would bring daycare under the control of his union, the United Federation of Teachers.

Daycare workers feel this is a tremendous threat at a time when they are negotiating a new contract because it not only gives the government an excuse to get rid of their union, but also their jobs!

The parents are fighting against this because it would give Shanker a chance to end community control of daycare, and he has long been opposed to the progressive demand of community control in education. They have no confidence that during the transition an adequate daycare system would be established, considering the battle they have fought to hold onto the daycare they have.

The demands of the union are 8 percent in the first year, 6 percent in the next, plus a cost of living clause. Although these demands are modest, the workers are prepared to fight to win them and to build a stronger union.

WW Photo: Julio

Gov't threatens to close Chicano school for workers

By GRACE STILES

NEW YORK, April 20—The Colegio Cesar Chavez in Mt. Angel, Oregon, is asking for support from progressive people around the country in a fight to keep the school running. The Colegio, which aims to serve the educational needs of the Chicano community of Oregon, is being financially squeezed by two federal agencies and is threatened with foreclosure.

This school is unique in that its faculty, administration, and board of trustees, as well as its students, are largely former farmworkers. A Chicano administration took over at Mt. Angel College in December 1973 after the school had lost its credit rating and accreditation. They changed its name to Colegio Cesar Chavez to reflect their goal of providing quality education to Chicano and other minority people.

Recognizing that minorities have been systematically excluded from the mainstream of higher education in the U.S., they began many innovative programs toward this goal, including a College Without Walls, a high-school equivalency component, a child care

center, and a migrant summer school.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT WITHDRAWN

However, along with the college they also acquired a million dollar debt. Then a few months later, in May 1974, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) decided that with its new name and new administration the school was no longer eligible for federal funds. Colegio students, most from very poor families, have not received a penny in federal grants or loans that they more than deserve, and this has created serious financial problems for the school. And while HEW is holding \$130,000 in escrow until a study for accreditation is completed, another government agency is standing at the door ready to evict everyone.

On March 19, the Department of Housing and Urban Development sent the Colegio an announcement of foreclosure based on the failure to pay a \$10,000 mortgage installment that was due in February. Colegio officials had intended to make this payment, and one due in

June, with the HEW money that has not yet come through. It's obvious that HUD could have waited a few months for its money, but instead chose to try and close down the school.

THE COMMUNITY RESPONSE

In response to this attack on the Colegio, a press conference was called on March 26. Explaining that they had worked long and hard to fulfill the government's demands and make the college viable, representatives of Colegio Cesar Chavez then said:

"We are hereby petitioning the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to forgive the amount owed on the indenture and award the Colegio freely to the Chicano community of Oregon. We can never really grow and develop with a one million dollar debt constantly hanging over our head. We want the Department of HUD to fulfill an obligation to the U.S. citizens of Mexican descent by eradicating the debt once and for all."

To back up their demand it was announced that "immediately after this press conference, the persons here today will remain indefi-

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nately on campus on a 24-hour basis until HUD agrees to negotiate on our request for the forgiveness of the indenture."

During the press conference, support for the Colegio's demand was shown by demonstrations at HUD offices in Portland and Seattle, and on Saturday, March 29, 200 students and community people marched 11 miles from Gervais-Woodburn to the Colegio in solidarity.

As yet, however, HUD is still demanding payment and has set

the deadline for foreclosure at April 28. The Colegio is asking all concerned people to write to Gerald Ford and Carla Anderson Hills, Secretary of the Department of HUD, to press their demands. They have also called a national demonstration to be held in Salem, Oregon, on April 25.

For more information and to send messages of support as well as contributions for those inside the college, please contact Colegio Cesar Chavez, Mount Angel, Oregon 97362; (503) 845-2234.