Defend Serbia Against U.S./NATO Attack!

Bosnia: Powder Keg of Europe

FEBRUARY 28—This morning, U.S. F-16 fighter jets under NATO command shot down over central Bosnia what the Pentagon claims were four Bosnian Serb planes. The imperialist alliance has gone beyond its starvation blockade against Belgrade under United Nations auspices and the fig leaf of “peacekeeping,” and is now directly carrying out acts of war against Serbia. While Clinton and the Western media are filled with propaganda supporting “poor little Bosnia” and denouncing Serbian “ethnic cleansing”—conveniently ignoring the same murderous tactics carried out by Croatians and Bosnian Muslims in the three-sided nationalist civil war in the former Yugoslavia—class-conscious workers the world over must come to the defense of the Serbs against the attack by the imperialists who are the blood-drenched enemy of all mankind.

The “New World Order” is quickly getting a lot more disorderly. Moscow’s dispatch of troops last week to the environs of Sarajevo foiled Washington’s plans to bomb Serb positions in the surrounding mountains and then “negotiate.” Clinton’s claims to the contrary, today’s jet strikes were undoubtedly a continued on page 4

Genocidal Zionist Massacre

Israeli Troops, Settlers Out of the Occupied Territories!

MARCH 1—Last Friday’s horrendous slaughter of Palestinian Muslims worshiping in a mosque in the West Bank town of Hebron was a chilling statement of intent by extreme Zionists. These messianic killers are prepared to drown the Palestinian Arab people in a genocidal bloodbath rather than give up so much as an inch of “Greater Israel.” This is their answer to the “peace” agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

As Zionist “ultra” Baruch Goldstein fired away during the early morning prayer service in the Muslim holy site, the walls and floors of the mosque were drenched with blood. This was calculated mass murder. Goldstein, a settler dressed in his reserve officer’s uniform, loaded one 35-round clip after another into his army-issued Galil automatic rifle. As many as 60 or more Palestinians were killed, perhaps 200 more wounded.

As outraged protests swept the Occupied Territories, the Israeli rulers poured in massive troop reinforcements. Six people were gunned down immediately, as soldiers fired into a crowd of anguished relatives and neighbors outside a hospital in Hebron. Twenty Palestinians were killed just in the first two days after the Hebron massacre.

Seeking to salvage the anti-Palestinian accord with the PLO, a spokesman for Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin insisted: “It was the Israelis’ peace.” Israeli government’s line, the Hebrew-language press in Israel acknowledges that the Israeli army was complicit in the slaughter.

Wounded Palestinian child, one of nearly 200 wounded and some 60 killed February 25 in a murderous rampage by an ultranationalist Israeli settler during mosque services in West Bank city of Hebron.

Down with Israel/PLO Anti-Palestinian Accord!

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Goldstein was allowed to enter the mosque during prayer services at the height of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan without even the normal peremptory weapons check. When horrified worshippers tried to flee to safety, Israeli soldiers opened fire on the crowds, continued on page 10
On January 15, the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, a demonstration of 40 black youth in Birmingham, Alabama was savagely attacked by cops. The scene was chillingly reminiscent of the infamous "Bloody Sunday". Connor's stormtroopers unleashing dogs and firehoses on civil rights workers in the 1960s today racist cops attack on protesters are carried out in a city where the mayor, the police chief and the majority of the city council are white!

The demonstrators were protesting the planned construction of a waste transfer station, to be built by Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI) in the black Titusville section of the city. As they arrived at City Hall, over 100 cops converged and waded in, swaying billy clubs and spraying mace. Fourteen youths, some as young as 12 years old, were brutally beaten and then arrested. They were charged with incitement to riot, resisting arrest and assault on a police officer.

To protest this vicious cop brutality, the march organizers—the Malcolm X Grass-Roots Movement, the Ujima Youth Organization of Atlanta, and the Southern Organizing Committee (SOC) Youth Task Force—have called for a "Black to Birmingham Unity March" to be held in Kelly Ingram Park at 3 p.m. on March 4, marking the 29th anniversary of the historic March across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. The protesters are also calling for the dismissal of several city officials.

The racist cop riot in Birmingham coincided with Ku Klux Klan provocations against Martin Luther King Day. The KKK carried out in eight state capitals. In Austin, Texas, some 2,000 people took to the streets to drown out the racist filth spewed forth by 33 KKKers. The focal point of the battle against the Klan night-riders was Springfield, Illinois, where a struggle to mobilize the social power of organized labor and the black community against the fascists was spearheaded by the Partisan Defense Committee, associated with the Spartacist League.

On January 15, Birmingham’s Democratic mayor, Richard Arrington, reportedly supported the demonstrators and assigned an escort of black police officers to accompany them. But as the demonstration reached City Hall, a police car driven by a white cop pulled in front of the march and forced it onto the sidewalk. Cops tried to grab the bullhorn held by a march leader and confiscated a red, black and green black nationalist flag.

One cop radiated the lie that there was an "underground" which included a swift, massive police presence. Aware they were being videotaped, the cops dragged people into City Hall, where they were beaten and arrested. “Police tore locks from the head of one young man, leaving the braid on City Hall steps. A handcapped man driving with the march was ordered from his car by other police and knocked to the ground" (Baton Rouge Post, 10 February).

The racist cops went berserk, even landing their blows on white cops. The police later used the absence of a permit to "justify" their actions. Black police chief Johnnie Johnson cynically declared that his cops showed "enormous restraint" (Birmingham Post-Herald, 17 January). We demand: Drop the charges against the anti-racist protesters!

In the early '60s, as the Klan rained bloody terror on civil rights marchers, Birmingham was known as "Bombing- town." This is where the KKK carried out the September 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church, killing four young black girls. Today, in front of the rebuilt church, Mayor Arrington has built a multimillion-dollar museum, celebrating the battles of the civil rights movement.

Arrington was first elected in 1979, amid widespread anger over police terror against black Birmingham. Now he has called for hearings over the racist assault on Martin Luther King Day in order to head off outrage over this attack. SOC issued a statement declaring that the assault on black demonstrators "was not the work of all Birmingham police" and that the racist cops were "throwbacks to the past in Birmingham."

But no monuments or hearings can disguise that the past lives on in the present in Birmingham. Black faces in high places do not stop racist cop terror, as the police act as judge, jury and executioner. Dominated by Martin Luther King’s liberal pacifism and reliance on the Democratic Party, the civil rights movement was incapable of fighting the root causes of racial oppression, which is in the economic and social structure of capitalist society.

To effectively fight racist oppression and smash the institutions of racist terror like the KKK, it is necessary to mobilize continued on page 11


Our comrade Daniel Eggers of the Spartacist Workers Party of Germany (SPdA) died on January 6 in Hamburg. He was only 17 years old. Daniel died of meningitis complicated by pneumonia and kidney failure. Three days after his death, when 100,000 Berliners filed past the Memorial to the Socialists dedicated to Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, the SPdA laid a wreath in the name of Daniel. On January 15, he was buried in his hometown of Wiesen in the presence of many relatives, friends, coworkers and comrades.

Daniel was an apprentice in a nursing home, a profession traditionally reserved for women. He chose that field out of his desire to work with people, helping in physical therapy for the aged. Politically, he came out of the "autonomous" milieu, won to Trotskyism by his opposition to the capitalist reunification of Germany. His application for membership in the SPdA was titled, "Especially Convinced of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat."

Daniel Eggers represented the best of the thousands of young anti-fascist fighters in Germany and Europe today. In November 1992, he initiated the defense of an immigrant hostel against Nazis in Niedersachsen, and later participated in the defense of an immigrant residence in East Berlin on the 60th anniversary of Hitler’s taking power. He joined our ranks because he was convinced that only workers’ revolution could root out the fascist plague. He eagerly traveled to the Ruhr to sell Spartacist to striking workers.

Daniel was so young, with so much potential. A new generation of revolutionary youth will find inspiration, as we do, in his all too brief life.

The Bolsheviks Abolished Laws Against Homosexuality

As communists we are firm believers in the emancipation of women and eliminated all laws against homosexuality. As laid out by Dr. Trotsky and Lenin, the Bolsheviks abolished laws; it did not tread the path of reformist bourgeois legislation which, with juristic subtlety, still hangs on to the concept of property in the sexual sphere, and ultimately reserved for women. He chose that field out of his desire to work with people, helping in physical therapy for the aged. Politically, he came out of the “autonomous” milieu, won to Trotskyism by his opposition to the capitalist reunification of Germany. His application for membership in the SPdA was titled, “Especially Convinced of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.”

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It is New York City's most brutal winter in decades. And for the poor, the homeless and those still holding onto a union job, it got a lot more brutal after the former federal prosecutor, now mayor, Rudolph Giuliani, opened charges in his indictment against city workers. Giuliani says he is going to eliminate at least 15,000 jobs this year, with severance packages for older workers paid for by looting union pension charges in his indictment against city workers. Poor people and minorities who are the majority of the NYC population.

Giuliani is particularly targeting homeless shelters, senior centers, children's aid, jobs for youth, public hospitals—the programs that are the literal line between life and death for the poorest of the poor. Police, of course, are exempted from the cuts, as are teachers and firemen. But while more cops are hired and more jails are built, as welfare recipients are fingerprinted and hospitals devastated, Giuliani is gearing up, as he vowed during his election campaign, to wipe out 35,000 of the 100,000 "non-essential" city employees.

Giuliani's list of the first 5,000 jobs to go includes 1,484 sanitation jobs, 994 social service jobs, 463 health care workers and 282 pink slips to homeless services workers. In the second wave of cuts, announced last week, fully half of the jobs eliminated are from the Department of Social Services, totaling 20 percent of the entire staff (4,600 out of 23,600). The budget ax came down just days after the mayor and the cops' calculated provocations against blacks in Harlem and Brooklyn in the guise of enforcing "law and order." There was the cop assault on a Nation of Islam mosque in Harlem followed by the killing of the son of a black Muslim leader in Brooklyn. On Martin Luther King Day, when he was robbed at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Giuliani lectured black elected officials who dared criticize him that "they're going to have to learn how to discipline themselves in the way in which they speak." Even The New York Times (18 January) called this racist display "condescending" and "chilling."

In February, the mayor announced he was stopping new construction at Kings County Hospital, the grossly understaffed, overcrowded complex serving central Brooklyn, where hundreds of thousands of black people, Caribbean immigrants and other ethnic minorities are concentrated. When the board of the Health and Hospitals Corporation objected, Giuliani reacted like a tinpot dictator, threatening to fire the board. And when his Latino front man Ruben Diaz denounced this summer's Gay Games as a breeding ground for AIDS, the mayor defended this openly antihomosexual bigotry.

Giuliani has managed in short order to infuriate virtually every sector of the population outside of white ethnics and Hasidic Jews. But that could point to his downfall. This Reagan Republican mayor owes his election to the racist backlash voters of Staten Island. This is an administration with a very narrow base, headed by a brittle law and order freak with an Elliot Ness complex, trying to run roughshod over a city of immigrants and minorities. Giuliani may think he's untouchable, but he can be brought down and politically defeated. But to defeat the bourgeoisie's vicious program to build jails and close hospitals, which Giuliani is carrying out, requires a break with the Democrats and forging a workers party to focus the felt hatred of the working masses and the oppressed in a struggle against the bankers, brokers and real estate interests the mayor represents.

**Killer Cuts and Killer Cops**

Giuliani was the cops' candidate, and New York police know they have gotten the green light to beat and kill in the city's ghettos and barrios. Recently, the mayor's new NYPD commissioner, William Bratton, announced that all city cops, not just transit cops, will be getting 9mm pistols, and instead of the former ten-shot limit they will get magazines with 15 cartridges. Giuliani plans to add thousands more to the police ranks that David Dinkins swelled by 6,000. Just to drive the point home that the cops have carte blanche, Bratton wants to set up a police unit to investigate those who file complaints against the cops!

No doubt the city's rulers figure they may need many more of these heavily armed professional strikebreakers and racist thugs-in-blue as they assault the livelihoods of tens of thousands of city workers and the vital services they provide, from garbage removal to health services.

**San Francisco Women's Clinic Attacked by Anti-Abortion Thugs**

SANT FRANCISCO—Thugs from the anti-abortion outfit "Operation Rescue" (O.R.) stormed SF's Pregnancy Consultation Center early on the morning of February 19. Unlike previous actions seeking the limelight of publicity, this was a guerrilla raid meant to wreak violence and do real damage. Some 70 O.R. bullies surrounded and mauled women entering the clinic. The Bay Area Reporter (24 February) said, "Clients were punched and kicked, children were terrorized, and at least two defenders sustained minor injuries in the most brutal attack on a San Francisco clinic in years."

A handful of clinic defenders from the Bay Area Workers Vanguard (BACORR) were there, mobilized on short notice following the previous night's O.R. raid on a San Jose abortion clinic where police had been turned away. Though BACORR was outnumbered, they successfully defended the clinic, got all the women in and kept O.R. out. One defender told W.V., "You'll be proud to know we got some good licks in the back. BACORR defenders locked the doors of the SF clinic in time to prevent an occupation by the O.R. terrorists.

The police were called, but not surprisingly the capitalists' lawmen merely stood by, threatening to arrest the clinic defenders. The frustrated O.R. mob then split and drove off toward a doctor's home in West Portal, in line with Operation Rescue honcho Randall Terry's directive to target doctors as the supposed "weak link" in clinic defense. In another confrontation in a church parking lot, BACORR cars kept O.R. cars from leaving.

O.R.'s "intention last Saturday was to use violence against women, pure and simple," a BACORR activist told W.V. They had "no P.R., no outreach, no media—they were a goon squad, a strike force." She said she expected that "since Dr. Gunn was killed, the 'grass roots' facade of O.R. would split and what we would be looking at would be multiple small groups of terrorists. What we saw on Saturday in San Francisco was 'field exercises' for O.R.'s new line that "There's a perception out there that with a so-called 'pro-choice' president and the RICO laws, everything's okay," clinic escort Bob Kay told the Reporter.

This was a wake-up call—It's not okay! In the past the Christian fundamentalist bigots have pooled at the fringes of liberal cities like San Francisco, but now, sensing the rightward political shift exemplified by Mayor Jordan's "Matrix" war on the homeless, they are emboldened to raid the city itself.

Meanwhile the fake "left" is paralyzed, bound to Clinton's Democratic Party, which is carrying out the capitalists' austerity program combined with increased police repression. The cops, the Democrats, the bourgeois feminists who preach "respectability" and reliance on the ruling class won't defend women's rights. We call on labor and all supporters of abortion rights to defend the clinics and stop the O.R. thugs in their tracks!
Defend Serbia... (continued from page 1)

"payback" against Russia's intervention in Chechnya. The question is how to cobble together a deal that will make the Balkan wars even bloodier than they already are. The latest proposed "uniting" Croatian-Muslim state in Bosnia is a "Greater Croatia" dominated by Serbs. While the State Department is preparing to be the godfather, summoning the parties to Washington, the plan was hammered out in a meeting near Bonn which was arranged by German foreign minister Kinkel and Russian foreign minister Primakov. The Hariburg news magazine Der Spiegel (28 February) asks if reunified Germany will use Bonn as a "Patron of Peace"? It declares that there are "detailed blueprints in Bonn draw­ers" for the Croatian/Bosnian Muslim "economic union"...which include mas­sive dispatch of Bundeswehr medical personnel and construction troops, tech­nicians and administrative advisers, and even German police. The Fourth Reich of German imperialism wants to obtain through economic and political means what Hitler's Third Reich failed to achieve: a Greater Germany or South Slavs as part of its neocolonial encroachment on East Europe. "If it goes the way Chancellor Kohl and Russian pres­ident Yeltsin want," the article states, "a summit should seal the peace—and simultaneously look to trends in foreign policy." Spiegel asks pointedly, "A new axis?" But the latest imperialist proposal amounts to a German-protected Greater Croatian federation in which there are large Serb minorities. This plan, which had been on the table for months, amounts to a German-protected Greater Croatia in which there are large Serb minorities. The Croatian regime wants to control the federation sim­ultaneously Germany's new role in the Balkans. As Russian soldiers arrive in Sarajevo last week, they were enthusi­astically greeted by crowds giving the Orthodox Christian three-finger salute, offering bottles of plum brandy, while Serbian demonstrators shouted, "Hooray Mother Russia!" Hooray Yeltsin! Hooray Zhirinovsky!"

Milošević a bloody lesson in obedience. Then they would lean on the Muslim­ led Bosnian forces to accept an earlier plan, which had been on the table for months, dividing Bosnia into three entities (Muslim, Croatian and Serb). Clinton dusted off the "War Powers Act" to formally notify Congress of his read­iness to order an attack, while in speech after speech he vowed to "exact a heavy price" from the Serbs. "The blood lust is up in Washington," commented one NATO diplomat.

But then Yeltsin made his dramatic move to defend Russian interests. Oppo­sition to direct Western military inter­vention in its Balkan backyard has united all wings of Russia's fractious capitalist ruling circles, from the ultranationalist fascist Zhirinovsky to Western bankers toody Yegor Gaidar. Yeltsin aide Vitaly Churkin warned that NATO bombing would mean "all-out war." Even as he grudgingly acquiesced to Washington's diktat, Yeltsin himself intoned: "Some people are trying to resolve the Bosnian question without the participation of Russia."

So days before NATO's February 21 deadline for air strikes if Serb forces did not withdraw their artillery from around the Bosnian capital, Churkin held a joint press conference with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to announce that Russia would send in 400 "peace­keeping" troops to police a Serb With­draw. Now any Western military action against the Serbs would be also an attack on Russian forces. As Russian soldiers drove through Serb-held suburbs of Sarajevo last week, they were enthusi­astically greeted by crowds giving the Orthodox Christian three-finger salute, offering bottles of plum brandy, while Serbian demonstrators shouted, "Hooray Mother Russia!" Hooray Yeltsin! Hooray Zhirinovsky!"

A miffed White House mumbled a few words of "gratitude" that the Russian deal had averted the need for air strikes, while complaining that the first they heard of it was on CNN. A Wall Street Journal (22 February) commentary acer­bically noted that the interplay between Russia and the West over Bosnia "looks more like confrontation" than "cooperation."

Meanwhile Yeltz in press secretary Kosyrev said that Moscow was carrying out a "very important task" for its world status. Foreign minister Kozyrev declared, "In the future, our foreign policy will con­tinue to defend Russia's vital interests, even in those cases where it is contrary to the interests of the West." In case there was any ambiguity, he added: "Russia will not listen to the West's les­sonic about its involvement in the war."

The subsequent meeting outside Bonn served to underline differences between US/NATO and Russia and NATO and the Western imperialists.

As we noted last issue: "Despite the current veneer of imperialist consensus, war-torn ex-Yugoslavia is a cauldron for imperialist intrigue and conflict." Liberal­ists and reformists hailed the counter­revolutionary destruction of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War as opening up a new vista for inter­national peace. In fact, the demise of the Soviet degenerated workers state as a military counterweight to U.S. imperial­ism has made the world a far more dangerous place, sharply exacerbating the threat of trade wars and armed conflicts among the major imperialist powers and their regional allies. The clash of conflicting nationalist and impe­rialist interests in the Balkans is a prime example.

While the Clinton White House wants to pose as a "peacekeeper," Yugoslav journalist Misha Gleny finds "much evidence to support" the view of "one of the world's highest-paid members of the Bosnian Army" who says: "We have no illusions about American intentions in this region. They are leading a military presence in the Balkans."

In mid-February, the U.S. decided to grant recognition to the breakaway republic of Macedonia, which it already has 300 American soldiers under UN auspices. Greece, which is in a nationalist­ upsurge over Macedonia's inde­pendence, effectively levied an embargo against the landlocked country, closing off its access to the port of Salonika, where much of its imports and two-thirds of its oil supply arrive.

At the same time, Russian foreign minister Kozyrev stopped off for discus­sions with Greek prime minister Karamanlis (who has his own Russian counterpart Kinkel) before embarking on a tour of Prague, Budapest and Warsaw, which included the other East European client states to see the line on Russia's intervention in Bosnia. Prime Minister John Major of Britain, a traditional imperialist patron of pre­Titoist Yugoslavia, announced that he has "sensitized" on the Yeltsin's plan to intervene but had with­held this "confidence" from his NATO "allies". A former Soviet general, Ge­rand of France, another historic patron of Serbia, proposed putting Sarajevo under United Nations administration in order to piece off the Serbs as part of a settlement. The reaction of the Clinton administration was "less than enthusiastic."

Asserting its claim to be world gen­darme, Washington now wants to host meeting where the warring factions in the former Yugoslavia as well as be­tween the Israeli Zionist butchers and Muslim leaders in Jerusalem, will decide on the "future of the region."

"Who wins the bloody breakup of a Pax Americana are increasingly turn­ing into nightmares of ever-widening war..." This is where the recent begin­ning of a marriage between Bosnian Croats and Muslims under the roof of the fascistic Tudjman regime in Zagreb offers a solution to Serbia and an aid to Germany, which engineered the bloody breakup of Yugoslavia by creating the cretin Serbian nationalist state 60 years ago, and then remover the atrocities carried out during World War II by Croa­tian and Bosnian Muslim nationalists fighting under the command of Tito and Reich. Even the New York Times (22 February) confessed that "there seems to be little realistic hope for any such agreement." Indeed, there is every reason to see this as an invitation to another round of fratricidal bleeding.

Today, "heroic Sarajevo" has become a byword for those who seek a fascis­titarian" imperialism interest in intervention on be­half of the Bosnian Muslim regime led by Tito's heir, Chrom, who, they whe­therial to do so, has pursued "eth­nic cleansing" with no less a vengeance than did Tito himself. Chrom, a man with a heart of steel, has the muscle, whatever his words say, to carry out "purifica­tion."

But under Tito's deformed workers state, multiethnic Sarajevo symbolized the "imperialist" interest in the South Slavs. Under capitalism Yugoslavia can only be a cauldron of nationalist feeding, as it was between the world wars. What is needed is work­ers revolution throughout the region, to undermine the nationalist socialist federations of the Balkans.

The Balkans once before served as a cauldron for inter-imperialist conflicts as the Balkan Wars of 1912-13 set the stage for the outbreak of World War I in 1914. In this new instance, the trigger is in place for imperialist world war, only this time all sides will be armed with nuclear weapons. But the US has a UN starvation blockade! Defend Serbia against imperialist attack! U.S./NATO out of the Balkans, now! A

Abortion... (continued from page 12)

...plants and keep out the scabs (IVV No. 572, 26 March 1993). Now the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that clinics can not have RICO (Racketeer­ Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act) law against blockaders. The Janu­ary 24 opinion written by Chief Justice William Rehnquist, on a suit brought by the bourgeois feminist National Organi­zation for Women (NOW) eight years ago, means blockaders can be prosecuted for a "pattern of racketeering."

"The program of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARRAL)," claimed the decision, "is to cause injury to the clinics, but in the service of the ruling class. The sweeping and vague RICO "conspiracy" law, the decision said, "is aimed at all whose provisions allow for multiple prosecutions, special heavy sentences, and prospective fines and assets. RICO has become the regime's first-strike weapon to go after leftists and unions. It has been used in the past to railroad radical activists like the Ohio 7 and purge union officials in the Black Panthers."

In another ominous blow against women's rights, on February 7 Supreme Court granted the American Civil Lib­erties Union of Pennsylvania's reactionary "Abortion Control Act." The law requires a 24-hour waiting period for every woman seeking an abor­tion, while unmarried women under 18 must get parental consent or approval from a county judge to have an abortion. The day the act took effect, amid massive confusion, 100 women at ten clin­ics in Pennsylvania were denied abor­tion. A temporary injunction delaying the law took effect 24 hours after the law's enforcement has been issued. They had disman­le, unable to all women, as part of a program for free, quality medical care for all. For women's liberation through socialist revolution!
In an article headlined “Taking on the Unions,” the New York Times (3 February) noted that Giuliani “spread a frightening scenario in many ways that he would stand up to a confrontation. He often cites Philadelphia Mayor, Edward G. Rendell, as a model. And Mr. Rendell is best known for standing down his once powerful unions and for unveiling a labor reform plan that has yet to be adopted.

“The City Hall privatizers want to sell off all the public hospitals, the sole source of medical care for New York’s working poor, to the highest bidder. Not only is construction stopped at Kings County Hospital, but the Burn and Radiation Therapy Unit at Harlem Hospital, which is the only such facility in all of Harlem, is slated to be closed. Another ghoulish scheme that’s being proposed is to release terminally ill prisoners from jail and have them work, but the Burn and Radiation Therapy Unit at Harlem Hospital, which is the only such facility in all of Harlem, is slated to be closed. Another ghoulish scheme that’s being proposed is to release terminally ill prisoners from jail and have them work, but the Burn and Radiation Therapy Unit at Harlem Hospital, which is the only such facility in all of Harlem, is slated to be closed. Another ghoulish scheme that’s being proposed is to release terminally ill prisoners from jail and have them work, but the Burn and Radiation Therapy Unit at Harlem Hospital, which is the only such facility in all of Harlem, is slated to be closed.

“Giuliani has been held in check by the public sector unions. There were leaders who could have halted the 1970’s famous ‘Mother’s Day massacre of the black inner cities which had been industrialized and exhausted by the white supremacy of the ruling class, which had treated blacks as children, estranged from their family, and the people who lived there. ‘Welfare’ immigrants, who were forced to work in night clubs and coffee shops to keep wages down, are now scapegoats for everything from ‘welfare fraud’ to ‘crime’.

“Rather than backstabbing, go-it-alone attempts to deal with Giuliani, who will only play one sector against another, it is necessary to mobilize city labor at the head of all the oppressed in a class-struggle mode.

“Amid student protests, mass strikes and fierce anger over the cutbacks, the Spartacist League put forth a program for sharp class struggle against Wall Street and the bank-induced ‘crisis.’ We marched under banners demanding ‘End the War on Crime, for a Working People’s Program for sharp class struggle against Wall Street and the bank-induced ‘crisis.’ We marched under banners demanding ‘End the War on Crime, for a Working People’s Program for sharp class struggle against Wall Street and the bank-induced ‘crisis.’ We marched under banners demanding ‘End the War on Crime, for a Working People’s Program for sharp class struggle against Wall Street and the bank-induced ‘crisis.’

“Part 2:“The Rage:” The 1970s“:

“Today, a generation later, life for blacks in America has gotten a lot worse. Prior to the 70’s, ‘homelessness’ as a mass phenomenon was something that happened in India. Now the most recent study shows that during the 1980’s seven million were homeless in the U.S. But the will to struggle has not been broken. The explosion of unrest that swept through South-Central Los Angeles in 1991 demonstrated in multiracial protests across the country, and left the ruling class deeply worried. From Los Angeles

“4 MARCH 1994

Giuliani... (continued from page 3)
Yeltsin Regime in Disarray, Rutskoi/Khasbulatov Freed

Post-Soviet Russia: Immiszeration and Chaos

From Siberian coal mines to metal foundries of European Russia, capitalist counterrevolution means devastation for working class of former Soviet Union.

Just a few months ago, as army tanks shelled the Russian parliament, the American ruling class thought they finally had Russia in the bag. At Washington's prod­ding, Boris Yeltsin had spied the national­ist opposition grouped around the par­liamentary leaders. A new constitution, designed to legitimize the capitalist coun­terrevolution, had set up a virtual pres­idential dictatorship. Would-be czar Boris looked to be in a strong position to push through the economic "shock treatment"—wholesale closure of indus­trial plants, mass unemployment—demagoguery. The IMF's main man, the Interna­tionally Monetary Fund (IMF),

Elections in December were supposed to produce a new, tame parliament dom­inated by pro-Western "democrats" like the IMF's main man Yegor Gaidar. Instead there was a huge protest vote over

resigned from the government, which they contend is now firmly in the hands of Soviet-era apparatchiks from the industrial-military complex.

Meanwhile, the continuing cataclysmic decline of the Russian economy has provoked a wave of strikes and strike threats in the aftermath of the elections. The business daily Kommersant warned that the country is on the verge of "one huge strike." On February 10, TV screens across the country went blank as communications workers walked off the job to demand billions of rubles in back pay. The government caved in within hours. Vorkuta miners also went on strike, occupying pits over unpaid back wages. No sooner had Prime Min­ister Chernomyrdin agreed to meet their demands than miners at two pits in the Kuzbass began a hunger strike. Now the head of the Independent Miners Union threatens nationwide action beginning March 1 if the government fails to meet its promises again.
in bitter recriminations over who is responsible for the rise of Zhirinovsky and the more assertively nationalist stances of the Yeltsin regime. Gaidar blames Yeltsin for not actively campaigning for him in the December elections and instead adopting an above-the-battle posture. Ex-finance minister Fyodorov charged that Troitsk, the main U.S. envoy to the former Soviet Union, had stabled "reformers" in the back by calling for "less shock and more therapy" in the immediate aftermath of the elections.

Harvard's man in Moscow, economist Jeffrey Sachs, had previously designed the electrodes for "shock treatments" in Bolivia and Poland—resigned from the U.S. embassy in Moscow to Yeltsin and denounced the IMF for withholding money from the Russian government during those crises. In turn, haughty IMF head Michel Camdessus (who normally speaks only to god) contended his agency was being made a scapegoat and condemned the Yeltsin regime for not carrying out the policies to which it had committed itself.

There is doubtless an element of diplomatic calculation in Yeltsin's new Russia-first posture: since trying to accommodate the IMF gained nothing but the growing hostility of the masses, perhaps the only way to reassert Russia, with Zhirinovsky waiting in the wings, might pressure Western capitals to allow Russia to do what it might. A 3 March editorial in the New York Times—that influential mouthpiece of the financial community—argued that if the U.S. wants to call the tune in Russia it has to pay the piper, and pay something before the tune is played: "America has pledged to share of aid to Russia, but it has yet to deliver many dollars. It cannot let the opportunity slip away once more. The aid must be delivered even before Russia tightens its budget by shutting subsidies to unproductive industries."

"Russia needs a new social safety net not tied to the factory. To get one started, it needs outside help."

All this talk about providing Russia with a "social safety net" is bunk: the costs of providing unemployment insurance and job retraining for the millions of workers being thrown out of work is far greater than any conceivable amount of Western aid. The real purpose of the few billions being doled out to Moscow is to buy off the votes of possibly thousands of managers, government officials, military commanders.

The coup attempt in Moscow justified his agency's stinginess by arguing that money given to the Russian government would be spent on imports (Mercedes, BMWs) or be siphoned abroad. But that is just the point of such "aid"—.setup by the us to prop up a Russian client state. As it is, Russia's new rich have already smuggled abroad more than the $2 billion promised (but not delivered) by the West and Japan. Last year alone, one-third of Russia's export revenue (estimated at $15.5 billion) of a total of $48 billion, was kept overseas.

Chernomyrdin now blames the eco- nomic collapse in post-Soviet Russia on "mistakes" committed by Western experts. He contends it's the continuing heavy state subsidies to the industrial-military complex that have raised Russian living standards and induced "massive unemployment and economic misery for millions of workers."

In the Soviet era, industrial enterprises provided their workers not only with a wage and also basic social benefits: free medical and childcare facilities, often a low-rent housing. Thus for a worker in Russia to be laid off or have his enter- prise go bankrupt means not only a loss of income but immediate and total puerperation. Hence the sense of des­peration which expressed itself in the vote for Zhirinovsky.

Liberal British journalist Jonathan Steele observed that this fascist dema- gogue's main source of popular appeal did not lie in "Russian expansionism" but rather that "the Zhirinovsky factor was a protest over economic pain, the emergence of a flamboyant class of new rich, and the rise in crime" (Manchester Guardian Weekly, 2 January).

"A utopian socialist revolution of the masses— even if presented in the guise of eco- nomic populism—will prevent working people from struggling against the eco- nomic pain wrought by the counter­ revolution and its greedy new rich. The working class in Russia—shaped by the integrated, collective economy of the Soviet Union—is still heavily masculinized. Even defensive economic strug­ gles against plant closures and wage cuts can be organized only on a multi­ national basis."

But that would antagonize the imperial- ist powers, and scare off potential invest­ ment. Thus the Yeltsinite city government in Moscow launched a brutal campaign driving thousands of Russians called "Black" by Russian racists because of their dark complexes—out of the Russian capital. The Russians are an easy prey for popular racism, because in many are small tradesmen blaming for charging extortionate prices. However, the money made by Georgian and Chechen vegeta­ ble or clothing vendors is peanuts com­ pared to the sums looted by industrial managers who could use the money to stand for "the interests of Russia."

One need only look at the tordic ret­ rite of the dollar in Russia to see where the drive of Russia's coun­ terrevolutionary nationalists—whether theＢｌａｃｋ or the "red-brown" (Stalinist/fascist) coali­ tion—to dominate the former USSR will lead. There are over expression of hatred for Jews, Cauca­ sians and other non-Russian peoples.

The Yeltsinite city government in Moscow branded the former USSR capital "shock treatments" prescribed by the IMF. As if it were possible to replace a planned, coexisting with brutal speedup for those run by right-wing anti-Communists (Poland, Hungary) or by former Stalinist conformists (Ukraine, Romania) or both successively (Lithuania).

The employment of labor clearly dem­ onstrates a fundamental war between the capitalist system and a collec­ tivized economy, even one subject to pervasive bureaucratic mismanagement and parasitism as was the former Soviet bloc. The aim of a capitalist firm is to maximize the return on the money invested in that particular company. Managers therefore seek to maximize their profits. This is done by minimizing the cost and employment of labor. Hence, you can see in North America and West Europe the rise in unemployment, coexisting with brutal spedup for those workers fortunate enough to have jobs. People are forced to beg in the streets while others are forced to work 10-12 hours a day.

The aim of a collectivized economy is to maximize the output of society as a whole by utilizing all available labor power and technology for production. Moreover, Soviet-bloc gov­ ernments prevented unemployment by not laying off workers even when the ad­ditional contribution to production was less than the wage paid them. That was to avoid such events as occurred in the Crimea, which is territorially part of the Ukraine, but whose population is heavily ethnically Russian. When a Russian nationalist won the presidential election in the Crimea, the central government threatened to take "decisive action" to defend "Ukraine's territorial integrity."

The political struggle between Rus­ sia and the Ukraine would produce unspeakable horrors and destroy any pos­ sibility for a Russian working-class strug­ gle against the capitalist counterrevolution in the former Soviet Union for years.
As a result, industrial enterprises in East Europe and the ex-USSR were grossly overstaffed, with the standards of capital­
profitability.Force, For example, the Wattburg auto plant in Eisenach, East Germany, once employed 14,000 workers. After capital­
restructuring, it was taken over and rebuilt by a group of independent entrepreneurs who operate the plant with 2,000 workers—
one-seventh of its original labor force. While it can be argued that in the short term there are few major industrial enterprises in the former Soviet bloc, from East Ber­
lin to Vladivostok, which could operate profitably in the world capital­
market without sharply slashing their labor force.

The Western media is now treating the Czech Republic as the "success story" of capitalist restoration in East Europe. Yet in the last two years the labor force in the Pilsen Skoda works—a core ele­
ment of Czech heavy industry—has been cut from 32,000 to 20,000. At the same time, the real wage of the country's industrial workers has fallen by 25 per­
cent, while the rate of inflation in East Germany turned negative.

In the 1970s, the Wartburg auto plant in Eisenach employed 13,300 workers. The last years of communist power in the economy has passed into the hands of the "Social Market Economy." While the former Soviet bloc with a centrally planned economy now looks like a giant con­
cglomerate, one that includes the old state apparatus, it is living on borrowed time. The government in Berlin has been forced to admit that the financial parameters of the former West Germany, where a labor surplus of 1.8 million workers existed, were not backed up by soft loans and aid. A senior White House official told the Washington Post (23 December 1993): --The Berlin government is very close to setting up social safety nets, and we won't now." By the time Clinton made his first state visit to Russia in mid­
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January, he was back to preaching the IMF line of "reforms" first, money later.
The generally avoided direct strikes at his memory, the theory, Lenin's myth has been badly tarnished remain vivid, Lenin continues to be a post-Soviet Russia. From its own anti-Communist perspective, the New York Times (11 January) noted: "Though Lenin's myth has been badly tarnished in recent years, the Government has generally avoided direct strikes at his memory, evidently for fear of offending the millions raised in the legend of the infallible leader who died too early to present Stalin's terror." One of Yeltsin's first moves after his bloody October coup was to shut down the Lenin Museum in Moscow.

On the eve of Clinton's January visit to Russia, Yeltsin launched a new campaign specifically targeting Lenin's popular stature, by once again raising the March 1921 Kronstadt mutiny—a stock item of anti-Bolshevik propaganda for the past 70 years. A 46-page report, released at a Kremlin news conference on January 10, "rehabilitated" the sailors who had incessantly against the government of Lenin and Trotsky. Pointing to the suppression of the Kronstadt mutiny, the new head of Russian television, Aleksandr Yakovlev, a longstanding "friend" of Western imperialism, declared that Stalin was "just the Great Continuator of Lenin's Task." Yeltsin spokesmen sought to discredit the rather tame Stalinist parliamentary opposition—which supports the capitalist restoration, proposing only that it be less harsh—by screeching at them, "look at the bloody trait you left." The use of the suppression of the Kronstadt revolt as an ideological cudgel against the Bolshevists has a long and seedy history. In particular, in the late 1930s at the time of the Moscow purges, petty-bourgeois liberals picked up an ongoing anarchist refrain over Kronstadt in order to associate Trotskyism and anarchism with Western imperialism, the upholders of the Bolshevik traditions and proponents of W. B. Yeats' "turn" to the right. Trotsky sketched the liberal/anarchist charges at the time in several articles, including "Hue and Cry Over Kronstadt" (January 1938).

Ever since 1921, the anarchists have claimed the Kronstadt mutineers as their own. The American anarchist Alexander Berkman called them "the purest of the pure." Berkman is best known for his failed attempt to assassinate the robber baron Henry Frick, who ordered the bloody sentencing of the steel strikers in 1892. How is it that the Kronstadt mutiny is haled both by anarchists, who claim the workers were the true enemies of capitalist exploitation, and by Boris Yeltsin, the accredited agent of Wall Street? Because Kronstadt marked the historic point of intersection between anarchist and bourgeois reactionary anti-Communism.

Kronstadt was a naval base on an island in the Baltic near the former Russian capital of Petrograd. In 1917 the sailors, among them many pro-Bolshevik anarchist militants, played an important and heroic role in the October Revolution. However, over the next few years these original Kronstadters were sent to the various military fronts in the Civil War against the counter-revolutionary White armies, which were directly aided by Western and Japanese imperialist expeditionary forces. They were replaced in Kronstadt by politically raw youth, largely of rural peasant background.

By the winter of 1920-21, seven years of imperialist war and civil war had reduced Soviet Russia to an economic wasteland, leading to widespread peasant unrest against "War Communism," the requisition of grain by the Bolshevik government needed to defend the workforce against the White armies. There were a number of peasant revolts, often marked by anti-Semitic pogroms against the local Jewish communities.

The Kronstadt mutiny was a revolt of the sons of peasants in uniform against the harsh conditions of proletarian power in a Soviet Russia besieged by world imperialism. The sailors' main economic demand was "free trade" in grain and other foodstuffs for the peasantry. Given the leftist, especially anarchist, traditions of Kronstadt, the mutineers sought to give their anti-Communist revolt a "revolutionary" coloration. The Bolshevik leaders understood that whatever the confused attitudes among the rebellious sailors, the uprising served the powerful forces of White Guard reaction. Kronstadt was extremely exposed, as the point closest to Europe and on the doorstep of Petrograd. To the north was Finland under tsarist general Manneheim. And as Trotsky said in a July 1921 speech to the Communist Youth International, Kronstadt "was about to pass into the hands of French and English imperialism. Two or three days more and the Baltic Sea could have been ice-free and the war vessels of the foreign imperialists could have entered the ports of Kronstadt and Petrograd."

Leftist defenders of the Kronstadt mutiny maintain that the sailors only wanted to carry out an anarchist "third Russian revolution." However, Victor Serge, a supporter of the Kronstadt Revolu­tion who came from the anarchist movement in West Europe, understood, as he wrote in his Memoirs of a Revolutionary, 1901-1941: "If the Bolshevik dictatorship fell, it was only a short step to chaos, and from a chaos to a new uprising, the massacre of the Communists, the return of the émigrés, and in the end, through the sheer force of events, another dictatorship, this time anti-patriotic."

The Yeltsin report now claims that there was no evidence of participation in the Kronstadt revolt "by any counter-revolutionary organization." But while the bulk of the sailors—like the peasants who took up arms against the Soviet government at the end of the Civil War—certainly did not desire the loss of the landlords, their leaders had extensive contacts with counterrevolutionary forces. This has been well documented in Paul Avrich's study Kronstadt 1921 (1970). The evidence is all the more convincing given the author's direct personal experience as a Russian anarchist cause activist. Avrich contests that the slogan "Soviets without Kronstadt" was raised by the Kronstadt mutineers. But as we noted in our two-part review of his book,
against Jewish in racist Russia.

The mass killer Goldstein was not an aberration in the highly charged nationalist climate of the Zionist garrison-state. Goldstein was a long-time member of the racist Kach party of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, and managed Kahane's election campaign for the Israeli parliament. Like his assassinated leader, this Brooklyn-born Jew was driven by a deep hatred of blacks and Arabs to immigrate to Israel. We noted shortly after Kahane founded his Jewish Defense League in Brooklyn as an anti-black vigilante that there is no place in the U.S. for a Jewish fascist movement. Kahane and his followers instead set up a pipeline to Israel, where they have become the shock troops of the “settler” movement. And Hebron is its murderous heart, the headquarters not only for Kach and its Kahane Chai but, for the ultra-Zionist Gush Emunim of Rabbi Moshe Levinger, which spearheaded the settler movement.

New York offices of Peace Now. And in a 1981 letter to the New York Times, Rabin wrote: "One million Arabs are not sugar, honey or gingerbread. This was the logical extension of the general Zionist outlook that Arabs are at best second-class citizens, if not "casts" or "nations." The Israeli parliament recently increased the punishment for animal abuse—imprisonment for up to five years. Gush Emunim leader Levinger was convicted of murdering a Palestinian shopkeeper in 1986—in one of the few cases of anti-Arab terrorism ever brought to court—he was sentenced to six months in jail. With their slogan, "a land without people for people without land," the Zionist founding fathers from the outset denied the Palestinian "non-human." The New York Times (27 Feb. 1997) gave equality to the "symmetry" between Jewish and Arab "extremists." A box titled "Decades in the Pipeline" in the San Francisco Chronicle listed 1948-1967 Yasser Arafat and "the wave" of Palestinian leadership, which in 1988, was the product of Palestinian uprising, including'67 Yasser Arafat and "the wave" of Palestinian leadership, which in 1988, was the product of Palestinian uprising, including 10 WORKERS VANGUARD
San Francisco—Acclaimed gay author Randy Shilts recently died of AIDS at the age of 42. A reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle, Randy Shilts was best known for his groundbreaking 1987 book And the Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic. He finished his most recent book, Conquering Suburbia: Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. Military, published last year, in a hospital bed.

On February 22, an overflow crowd of thousands came out for a funeral service for Randy Shilts at San Francisco’s Glide Memorial Church. Following Shilts’ death, one Reverend Fred Phelps, a right-wing bigot from Topeka, Kansas, threatened to disrupt the memorial. But when Phelps and his clutch of would-be anti-gay terrorists showed up, they were sent packing in about 30 seconds by hundreds of angry protesters.

One of the speakers at the memorial was Helene Drez, retired assistant director of the San Francisco Health Department, who figured prominently in Shilts’ book as a dedicated early fighter against the lethal epidemic. Drez hinted that Shilts began writing about AIDS before he himself knew he had it and he would have died if more people had taken heed.

Despite our differing political outlooks, we respected Randy Shilts. Shortly after And the Band Played On appeared in 1987, Shilts “wrote “the most compelling portrait of the utter devastation wrought by this disease and the accompanying epidemic of fear and bigotry.” We added: “Whatever its other failings, this powerful book makes medicine in capitalist America: the criminal neglect of the poor and the willful obfuscation of the Reagan administration, the apathy of the media, and the conniving, self-seeking greed mongering and money grubbing of the medical establishment. The U.S. has dealt with this epidemic about as badly as it was possible for an economically developed country to do.”

—Women and Revolution No. 35, Summer 1988

Shilts’ book also made us rethink and change our initial blanket opposition to closure of gay bathhouses in San Francisco in 1982. His exhaustive research revealed that their timely closing exacerbated the epidemic of AIDS. At least it could have served as a fast way to get out the message to those gay men who were most at risk, who remained largely uninformed or dismissive of the facts, that they were in danger of contracting a fatal disease. Shilts was widely condemned in the gay community for his position on closing the baths and called a gay “Uncle Tom” by many activists.

Although the book was written from the limited perspective of the gay movement, largely ignoring the grim realities of IV drug users (predominantly black and Hispanic), their sexual partners and habit labs, And the Band Played On broke new ground. Our disagreement with Shilts centered on his belief that the closure of gay liberation was a question of achieving bourgeois respectability. The oppression of homosexuals is not to be rampant backward ideas but is rooted in the stifling influence of the family in class society.

Shilts’ conclusion was that anti-gay bigotry could be successfully countered by organizing the gay community within the framework of Democratic Party coalition politics—particularly in San Francisco, where petty-bourgeois gays have played a major role in the Democratic Party. But this is a dangerous dead end.

“the San Francisco “gay meccas,” Democratic mayor Frank Jordan (roundly booed and jeered when he arrived at the funeral) has slammed public health rule (along with large concentrations in the refugee camps of Lebanon and Syria) where there can be no reliable democratic solution to the national question without the overthrow of capitalism throughout the region. This alone, a socialist federation of the Near East, could open the possibility of cooperative development of all the myriad peoples. Only workers revolution can avage the horror of Hebron and the countless other atrocities which the Palestinian people have suffered.

Birmingham...

(continued from page 2)

the social power of the workers—black and white. Last year, during the long strike in the West Nineteen Steelworkers Local 9226 faced down the scabbing of a strike by the Nazi-Stalinists in Bessemer, the integrated Steelworkers Local 9226 faced down the scabbing of a strike by the Nazi-Stalinists. Both times the workers won, as in striking against the fascist employers in Columbus, just a few miles from Birmingham, a scab ran down and killed two strikers.

The workers in the steel mills, railroads, rubber plants and mines of the Birmingham area—this “Birmingham of the South”—are a true integrated class struggle. Led by black and white Communists, steel workers used slowdowns and a wildcat strike to push the unionized employers into contract negotiations.

The West Nineteen Steelworkers Local 9226 has fought for the rights of all workers—black and white. Last year, during the long strike by the Nazi-Stalinists in Bessemer, the integrated Steelworkers Local 9226 faced down the scabbing of a strike by the Nazi-Stalinists. Both times the workers won, as in striking against the fascist employers in Columbus, just a few miles from Birmingham, a scab ran down and killed two strikers.

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Everywhere is a binational Trotskyist party, seeking to lead the Palestinian Arab and Hebrew-speaking working people—intermarried, interstruggling along the whole of the workers’ region. Particularly given the interpenetrations of the Hebrew and Arab peoples—and the division of the Palestinian people between Israeli and Jordanian spokesmen Salah Jaber denounced the accord as “among the most unjust and humiliating in the history of capitulations.” But Jaber simply echoes the laments of pseudo-Marxist nationalists like Haminawi’s DFLP. So in the face of this historic test, these fake-Trotskyists are paralyzed, dividing between those who follow in the wake of left-Zionism who echo Clinton’s campaign on “black and Hispanic), their sexual partners and habit labs, And the Band Played On broke new ground. Our disagreement with Shilts centered on his belief that the closure of gay liberation was a question of achieving bourgeois respectability. The oppression of homosexuals is not to be rampant backward ideas but is rooted in the stifling influence of the family in class society.

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Waco

Verdict...

(continued from page 12)

League, we tell the truth, that this state, the deadly enemy of workers and the oppressed, is hell-bent on enforcing a monopoly of armed force in order to further oppress defenseless subjects. When the rulers call for “gun control” in the name of “stopping violence,” just remember the flames leaping from the Mount Carmel community center.

Today, all that remains of the Davidians’ Mount Carmel commune are some blackened foundations surrounded by barbed wire. In the Waco morgue, 40 charred bodies still remain to be claimed. The Waco holocaust is the bloody signature of the Clinton regime, as the 1985 MOVE massacre in Philadelphia was for Reagan. The immolation of the Branch Davidians was another religious group that only sought to be left alone to practice their religion, and to exercise their right to bear arms, cried out for justice. We will not forget. ■
How Reno, RICO and O.R. Bigots Threaten Women's Rights

One year ago a heroic defender of women's rights, Dr. David Gunn, was murdered by an anti-abortion assassin in Florida. No isolated act, this shocking crime focused national attention on the escalating deadly terror by "pro-life" reactionaries. On 10 March 1993, Dr. Gunn arrived at the Pensacola Women's Medical Services Clinic, one of the stops on his 1,000-mile "circuit riding" weekly schedule performing abortions in places where no other doctor could be found. Outside the clinic, he was met by "Rescue America" anti-abortion bigots harassing staff and patients. As he stepped out of his car, one of the "right to life" thugs opened fire, drilling three bullets from a .38 into his back.

Now Dr. Gunn's cowardly killer, Michael Griffin, is on trial, charged with first-degree murder. One of his likely defenses, according to the New York Times (22 February), is that Griffin was "compelled to act" by John Burt, the regional director of the Operation Rescue anti-abortion crusade, who "inducted Mr. Griffin with hate literature and graphic videos." Burt's done a hell of a lot more than that. Burt is a "former" Ku Klux Klansman who was involved in lynch mob violence against school integration in St. Augustine in the 1960s. Burt has also admitted he was the "spiritual adviser" to two men arrested for 1984 Pensacola abortion clinic bombings, just as he "advised" Griffin.

The terrorist bombers of women's abortion clinics, like the racist night­riders of the KKK, are stepping up their attacks. In most of the country, clinics are increasingly few and far between. Beleaguered abortion doctors, who now routinely wear bulletproof vests, are becoming an endangered species. Six months after Dr. Gunn was murdered, Dr. George Tiller was wounded in the arm by an anti-abortion fanatic outside his clinic in Wichita, Kansas. Because he is one of the few doctors who will perform late-term abortions, Dr. Tiller was one of the main targets of the 1991 "Operation Rescue" summer offensive. For six weeks, the O.R. fanatics blocked his Wichita clinic; over 2,000 were arrested. A survey of 281 clinics by the Feminist Majority Foundation reported that in the first seven months of 1993 half were attacked by vandalism, death threats, stalking, assault and battery, and attempted murder.

The bloody terror against women continues, even as mainstream feminists hail the ascension of the "Billary" Decadentocratic White House. After three terms of Reagan/Bush reaction, bourgeois feminists saw their chance to get some clout, and looked to the Democrats to reverse a decade of anti­woman, anti-abortion assaults. But "post baby feminist" Hillary imperialist commander in chief Bill and their super­macho attorney general Janet Reno, the butcher of Waco, are no friends of working women. When Dr. Gunn was murdered last year, we noted that some feminists were pushing for a federal law against blocking clinic access. We warned, "it is obvious that such 'no blocking' laws will be used against strikers who try to shut down continued on page 4