

# WORKERS' Power

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## TEAMSTER PENSION COVER-UP

# FITZSIMMONS MAY FALL

by Dan LaBotz and Kim Moody

The scandal around the Teamster Pension Fund may cause Jimmy Carter to grit his teeth and Frank Fitzsimmons to lose his job.

On Sunday, March 13, Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons and three others agreed to resign their posts as trustees of the Teamster Central States Pension Fund no later than April 30. The resignations were the result of a deal engineered by Labor Secretary Ray Marshall.

The claims by rank and file Teamsters that union officials and mobsters have been looting the Pension Fund were confirmed shortly after the resignation announcement.

Daniel Shannon, the Fund's director, admitted that the Fund could not meet its future commitments. This is true even though fewer than 30% of retirees ever actually draw a pension.

Teamster Vice President Roy Williams and two management trustees, John Spickerman and A.G. Massa, were meant to be that concession to public opinion. But that may not be enough.

On Tuesday, March 15, Chicago Sun-Times columnist Irv Kupcinet wrote that Fitzsimmons might be resigning from the Teamster presidency. On Wednesday night, Fitzsimmons assured the public that, "There is no way I am going to resign."

Yet, as Fitz's friend Richard Nixon discovered, when you have to publicly deny that you're going

to resign, you're already in deep trouble.

### INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES

The deal with the Carter Administration also includes the appointment of "independent" trustees to administer Pension Fund finances. The first two candidates for this job indicate that there won't be much change.

One is Texas real estate millionaire Trammell Crow. Crow was a fund raiser for Gerald Ford and the recipient of a \$2,292,000 loan from the Teamster Pension

Fund. He also owns warehouses which are organized by the Teamsters.

The other candidate is Jess Hay, a Texas mortgage banker. Hay raised \$300,000 for Jimmy Carter during the Presidential campaign, and Carter has asked him to become Democratic Party National Finance Chairman.

As a trustee of the Teamster Pension Fund, Hay would be in a position to grant or reject loans and make other critical decisions affecting hundreds of businessmen. It would be hard for a businessman in such a position to

refuse a request for a big contribution to the Democratic Party. And it is hard to escape the conclusion that, under pressure, the gangsters are moving to share control of the Pension Fund with the politicians.

If rank and file Teamsters think that won't make much difference, that's certainly understandable. More and more Teamsters are aware that they will have to control their union and their pension funds themselves if they want a fair shake.

## NEW PLAN FOR IBT PENSIONS?

Retreating under fire, Teamster officials have announced they will make big changes in the Central States Pension Fund. Most of the changes will deal with the way the Fund's money is invested.

A Fund spokesman claimed the new plan will bring about a substantial increase in benefits. Public relations director Bob Billings hastened to say, however, that "no figures have been finalized."

Indications are that the new plan won't change much for the average retiree. First of all, the plan requires an increase of \$3 to \$6 dollars a week in employer contributions. While the employers may be willing to pay out the money, they will certainly want some concessions—on working conditions, for example—in return.

Additionally, the plan will encourage Teamsters to retire later. The minimum is already 60, after 20 years of service. This will not help older workers and will not open up more jobs.

Without these changes, pension fund officials say payments to retirees will have to be cut \$80 a month.

### ELIGIBILITY

The biggest problem, however, is eligibility. Under the current set-up, only 10-30% of the retirees who have paid into the Fund ever get a pension.

Changes from one employer to another, from one area to another, or just a lapse in continuous service can cost a Teamster his or her cost a pension. There is no indication that the Pension Fund officials, the Teamster big shots, or the Carter Administration intend to do anything about these problems.

The greatest fraud around the Pension Fund, after all, is the fraud committed on the thousands of older Teamsters who cannot collect the pensions they have paid for.

### COVER-UP

The deal between the Carter Administration and the Teamster leadership is clearly meant to avoid open exposure of the incredible corruption surrounding the administration of the Fund.

It is well known that the Fund was a source of Mafia financing and that many of its dealings reached into "respectable" quarters. As recent news reports show, this web of Mob connections reached to Richard Nixon, to a top Ford fund raiser, to Barry Goldwater's brother Robert, to the late Mayor Daley's Chicago Democratic Party machine, and way beyond.

The Congressional Committee investigating fraud in the Teamster Pension Fund has demanded to know why the Labor Department has been negotiating with Fitzsimmons for two years rather than pressing legal action. Marshall responded by refusing to appear in an open session of the investigating committee.

One Democratic Congressman pointed out that this made a "mockery of the open and responsive government" promised by President Carter.

The cover-up deal, however, requires that Carter and Marshall deliver something to an outraged Teamster membership and to a public that could become disillusioned with the public relations gimmicks that characterize the Carter Administration.

### RESIGNATIONS

The resignations of Fitzsimmons,



## TDU Fights Local 299 Purge

DETROIT—About 30 Teamsters carried signs in front of the union hall here March 4 as Pete Camarata and Al Ferdnace went before a local union trial board. The two are charged with "conduct unbecoming a union member" and face possible expulsion from the union.

Camarata and Ferdnace are both members of the national steering committee of Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU). TDU has grown so rapidly in several Detroit locals recently that Teamster officials are running scared. Their move against the two TDU leaders is seen as an attempt to head off a campaign TDU is waging to change the by-laws in Local 299. They also fear that TDU slates will present strong challenges to local officials in next winter's elections.

An incident at a recent meeting of Kroger drivers indicates how successful the movement has become. The Kroger workers have come under heavy attack from the company and are particularly angry. After hearing some complaints, Local 337 president Bobby Holmes, who is also an International Vice President, said, "If you don't like the contract, you can join TDU." He didn't mean to be taken seriously, but 125 drivers got up and said, "We've already joined!"

The Local 299 executive board has not yet announced their verdict, although it was originally expected a week after the trial. Both Camarata and Ferdnace are confident that the executive board will not be able to make a guilty verdict stick.

# Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

The United Auto Workers' magazine, "UAW Solidarity," devoted eight pages of its February 18, issue to the 40th anniversary of the Flint sit-down strike. The coverage included a story on the 40th anniversary celebration held in Flint February 13 this year. But it omitted mention of the joint UAW-GM anniversary dinner held two days earlier. That affair, at a posh Detroit hotel, featured plenty of liquor, thick steaks and fine cigars. Not one actual participant in the sit-down attended this disgusting event, but GM Chairman Thomas Murphy and plenty of other top GM officials were on hand. A UAW spokesman, when asked by Workers' Power why this event was omitted from Solidarity's coverage, would only say: "Our purpose in writing that story was to concentrate on the history of the event. . . to educate current UAW members on what happened 40 years ago." Seems the union officials could use some educating on what's happening today.

The United Steel Workers' aluminum-industry conference, meeting in Pittsburgh March 8, voted to demand some sort of "lifetime job security provision" in aluminum industry contract talks which begin next month. The USW bargains for 46,000 aluminum workers. The Aluminum Workers International Union, which coordinates its bargaining with the USW, has another 25,000 members. The USW has made "lifetime security" a major issue in the current steel negotiations.

Michigan Governor William Milliken has proposed to add another 309 troopers to the state police force. That plan has Michigan Building Trades Council leaders angry. "Are we headed toward the building of an instant strike-breaking force that could be dispatched immediately to a strike scene? Is that the ultimate purpose of a trained, armed and ready force?" asks Building Trades Council Secretary-Treasurer Stan Arnold. Michigan construction workers have fought state police strike-breakers several times in recent years.

Most of the miners' strikes which swept the coal fields last month have ended. But the issue involved in one of those disputes may be a major one in this year's contract talks. In northern West Virginia, a union safety committeeman was suspended for 10 months after he asked the foreman to remove workers from the mine under the "imminent danger" clause in the contract. The mine's telephone system was not working properly. In the dangerous conditions prevailing underground, communication is not a luxury. It's a life and death matter if there's an accident. There are plenty of miners' widows who can tell you so. An arbitrator, however, ruled that closing the mine was an "arbitrary and capricious" act. That ruling touched off the wildcat, which was ended only by a federal judge's injunction.

A court in Alexandria, Virginia has ruled against the owner of Emerson, Ltd., a restaurant chain. Seems the boss had the nerve to order the waitresses and waiters to turn their tips over to him. He then gave the tips back as part of the employees' regular salaries. This arrangement was intended to get around the state minimum wage law. The court also ordered back pay, but that's being held up while higher courts in their judicious wisdom consider an appeal.

Al Bramlet seems to be following in Jimmy Hoffa's footsteps. Not entirely a good thing for Brother Bramlet, who is head of Local 226 of the Culinary and Bartenders Union in Las Vegas. No one's seen him since February 24, though police looking for him are digging holes in the desert. Bramlet made \$45,000 a year from his union job and was one of the most powerful men in Nevada. He owned an enormous amount of land and was involved in many business dealings in Las Vegas. He liked to rub shoulders with the big-shots in Nevada's financial and gambling circles. Bramlet is also chairman of the union's pension fund, which is in precarious financial condition due to questionable loans to Morris Shenker, a connection to the Mafia and former attorney for Hoffa. Bramlet was reported to have become a very wealthy man during his 24 years as head of Local 226. Speculation now is that he's gone to his just reward.

In the 44" mill engine room of the Cleveland Republic Steel plant, a huge piece of duct work recently worked loose from the ceiling and crashed to the floor. By sheer luck, no one was killed. The foreman called it "an act of God." In Steelworker Rights, a rank and file paper published at Republic, one worker gave his reply: "I want to make it very clear that I have no objection to God coming into the plant, as long as He sticks to His line of work. I do object to God going into the 44" mill engine room and taking down duct work because I know that this isn't in His job description. The contractors are doing most of our work now, and if God starts coming in and taking down duct work, etc. the riggers will be completely out of a job."

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: Workers' Power, Labor Notes, 14131 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203. Or phone 313-869-5964.

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# CARTER PLAN MEANS JIVE, NOT JOBS

by Kate Stacy

Last week President Carter unveiled his program to provide jobs for unemployed young people. But, like his campaign promises, the program was hot air and soft soap.

The program will cost \$1.5 billion dollars and, it is claimed, will create some 200,000 jobs for people ages 16 to 24 in the next 18 months. For the 3.4 million unemployed people in this age group, this is next to nothing.

What is worse, most of these jobs are not even permanent.

## CONSERVATION

The heart of the program is two youth conservation corps employing about 65,000 youths. A National Youth Conservation Corps will provide work in public parks, forests and recreation areas.

The Youth Community Conservation Corps will do urban conservation projects. Together these programs will cost \$600,000.

These programs may spruce up some parks and forests at very low wages. But they are not intended to create permanent employment or train young people for future jobs.

Cleaning up forests will not help black youths get jobs in the Detroit auto plants, Gary steel mills, or other decent paying jobs in the urban areas where they live.

Basically, these programs seem designed to do little more than keep young people "off the streets" for a while. Half the jobs planned are temporary summer jobs.

A recent Justice Department Task Force revealed that all the rotten conditions that caused the "urban disorders" of the 1960's are still around. Carter probably thought it wise to get potentially militant youths out of the way during the hot months.

## JOB TRAINING

The remaining \$900 million will be used for job training and various unspecified "innovative and experimental programs," according to the White House. While job training is certainly needed, it won't do much good if there are no jobs to be had.

In his announcement, President Carter tried a little sleight-of-hand

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on the American public. He claimed that with existing programs, his measures would provide one million permanent jobs and another one million summer jobs.

From this it sounds like the government plans to knock youth unemployment down by more than half. But it's not so.

The 3.4 million unemployed young people are out of work in spite of the "existing programs." President Carter's \$1.5 billion budget is all accounted for in the conservation, training, and "experimental" programs. In any case, he

only claims this money will create 200,000 new jobs.

So, the millions of jobs Carter is talking about won't actually reduce unemployment much at all.

According to a recent study by the Commissioner of Labor Statistics, it would take 2.8 million new jobs to reduce the total unemployment rate one percentage point in 1977. And no \$1.5 billion program will even come close.

A few people may be fooled by Jimmy Carter's phony promises and puny programs. But the jobless youths of America will not be conned. □



Young people wait in line for summer jobs in New York City.

## The War On Poverty —Why Poverty Won

During Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty I was a VISTA volunteer in Pittsburgh. One of my tasks was to help graduates of the Job Corps's four month program.

Once they finished it, they would get one-way bus fare either back to their hometown or to the nearest city, and a few bucks to live on while they got settled.

Some of their experiences were hair-raising. The people I was in contact with came from a center in northern Pennsylvania. They were kept in barracks with strict rules for behavior—lights out, having to be good to get weekend passes, things like that.

One young man was first at a center in New England. He had helped organize a boycott by the blacks because of the vicious way the staff treated them.

The government broke up all the blacks after the boycott, sending them to all different centers. They wanted to make sure that no solidarity got built up at all.

We had no funds to help any of these people. They had no place to stay, no money for food, no job leads. And neither did we.

Mostly we'd put them up at our homes or at churches, and feed them ourselves. We only got \$76 every other week.

And none of the people I knew ever got jobs based on their training. Many of them just disappeared or went back home. The centers in the city were the worst. They were just like real prisons—complete with fences and barbed wire. The staff told the trainees the fences were to protect them, but everyone knew it was to keep them penned up.

All in all, working with the Job Corps was the most depressing part of my VISTA experience. These kids were like lost souls. They had left home because they had been promised a lot. They'd been promised a future.

But by the time they got to me they knew—they weren't getting a damned thing. □

Kate Stacy



# Gary Tyler Sentenced To 99 Years —Back on Death Row

by Carol Kiernan

One year ago, Gary Tyler was the youngest prisoner on Death Row in the United States.

Today he is on Death Row again, at Angola State Penitentiary—even though his death sentence was overturned eight months ago.

On March 8, Gary Tyler was formally re-sentenced to a term of 99 years at hard labor. The sentence specifies that he cannot be considered for parole, probation or suspended sentence for 20 years.

Judge Ruche Marino, the same racist who originally sentenced Gary to die, ordered him immediately transferred from St. James Parish jail back to Angola.

There, prison officials put him back on Death Row, even though he's not under a death sentence—simply because they hadn't received his sentencing papers.

## HARASSMENT

This is simply an act of red tape, harassment and a further attempt by Louisiana prison officials to treat Gary as brutally as possible. His lawyer will file a complaint if he is not removed from Death Row by March 21.

The brief background of this case is that Gary Tyler was convicted by an all-white jury of a crime he had nothing to do with.

On October 7, 1974, a white youth was shot and killed during an anti-busing race riot in Destrehan, Louisiana. Gary Tyler was picked-off the bus and charged with murder.

Gary has been re-sentenced to 99 years because the U.S. Supreme Court threw out Louisiana's death penalty last July. Otherwise Gary Tyler, who is completely innocent, might be dead now.

## FIGHT

Gary's family and the Gary Tyler Defense Committee have not given up their fight.

Gary's lawyer, Jack Peebles, will take the case into the federal court system, where he will ask that the case be reviewed because of trial irregularities.

To revitalize the movement of thousands of people who fought for Gary's life last year, the Defense Committee has called a rally at a youth center in Destrehan for March 19.

The Defense Committee also needs funds. Gary's mother, Juanita Tyler, drives 60 miles from Destrehan to New Orleans every day to work with the Committee.

All contributions, messages of support and notices of solidarity activities should be sent to the Gary Tyler Defense Committee, P.O. Box 52223, New Orleans, LA 70152.

You can also give Gary your support by writing him at: Gary Tyler, Death Row, Angola State Penitentiary, Angola, LA 70712.

# UFW VICTORY!

## Agreement ending Teamster raids marks big gains for United Farm Workers

by Jim Woodward

One of the most shameful episodes in American labor history came to a close March 10. Frank Fitzsimmons and Andy Anderson of the Teamsters Union finally agreed to stop raiding the United Farm Workers (UFW).

In front of nationwide television cameras, the two Teamster leaders signed an agreement with the UFW's Cesar Chavez. They pledged to leave the organizing of California farm workers to the UFW.

They also agreed not to renew the hundreds of sweetheart contracts the Teamsters have signed with growers in recent years.

### BENEFIT

After the announcement, there was no doubt at all about who the agreement would benefit and who it would hurt. Les Hubbard, speaking for the Western Growers Association: "The big thing that concerns us is the mutual-aid agreement between the two.

"All those years, one thing that offered us aid and comfort was that the Teamsters didn't honor UFW picket lines. But now this agreement offers us a potential for a problem in future labor disputes."

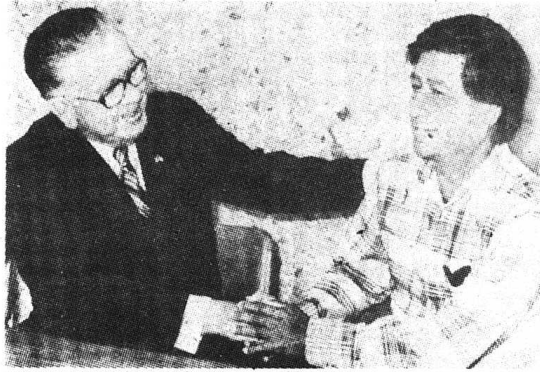
The growers' problem is that farm workers will now be free to join the UFW—a union that fights for them—rather than the Teamsters, which has constantly undermined their organizing.

For years, the Teamsters blocked UFW organizing by signing contracts with the growers. Since federal labor legislation does not cover farm workers, the workers affected by these agreements were not able to vote on them.

The growers were happy because the Teamsters let them off cheap. And the Teamsters thought they would be happy because they expected lots of dues money to flow in.

As Teamster sweetheart contracts were signed, UFW membership dropped from 60,000 in 1972 down to only 5000 in 1974.

But what Fitzsimmons didn't count on was the determination of the farm workers to build their own union. That kept them fighting even when the union had lost most of its contracts and had, for all practical purposes, been written off by the AFL-CIO.



Teamsters President Fitzsimmons and Farm Workers leader Chavez.

Thousands of strikers, full time volunteers, and supporters of the UFW continued the fight, on picket lines, boycott campaigns, mass marches and demonstrations. And despite beatings, arrests...and several funerals.

In 1975, the California legislature passed a bill giving farm workers the right to union representation elections. Before that law was sabotaged by grower-backed legislators, the UFW won 197 elections while the Teamsters took only 115.



Anne Moring, former UFW boycott organizer, Detroit.

"My first thought was that the Teamsters have made deals like this before three times, and all three times they broke them. There's no guarantee, and I wouldn't be surprised at all if they broke it again.

"We hadn't heard much from the Teamsters lately—they weren't in the forefront of our opposition, and we've still got the growers, which is an even bigger obstacle."

It was clear the UFW had maintained the loyalty of farm workers.

Now the Teamsters have agreed. Fitzsimmons said the pact with the UFW brings about "the true spirit of trade unionism—working for the benefit of the workers." He did not indicate whose benefit he thought he had been working for earlier.

Despite the agreement, the struggle to organize farm workers is far from over.

Don Curlee, speaking for the South Central Farmers Committee: "I'd hate to see it reported that [the agreement gives] the UFW a clear track" in organizing farm workers. "The UFW still have to win elections and negotiate contracts."

### BOYCOTT CONTINUES

Already there are reports that where the Teamsters have pulled out, the growers are attempting to set up company unions. The UFW's boycott of grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines will continue until contracts with these growers are actually signed.

The Teamsters could still go back on their word, as they did in several earlier agreements. That's not considered too likely, however, because the Teamsters have several clear reasons for wanting the agreement to work this time:

- They've been beaten. The UFW won the great majority of representation elections that have been held. Although the election board was sabotaged by grower interests for a time, it is now beginning to hold elections again.

- Public relations. The Teamsters leadership is under increasing attack by politicians who have finally decided it's in their interests to do something about the gangsters that run the union and its pension fund. The fat Teamster bureaucrats are polishing up their image a little, by getting out of the business of stomping on poverty-stricken field workers.

As Fitzsimmons put it in announcing the agreement: "We now get in a position where we are not accused. We are not the people suppressing the farm workers."

- It's been expensive. The Teamsters have spent something like \$7 million in raiding the UFW. What they got out of it was simply not worth the expense.

- California's new farm labor law provides that agreements such as this one may be legally binding. The UFW-Teamsters agreement

### WHAT'S IN THE AGREEMENT?

Here are the provisions of the agreement signed March 10 between the Teamsters and the United Farm Workers:

- The UFW will get jurisdiction over field workers. The Teamsters will be entitled to organize cannery workers and truck drivers. A few exceptions will be made covering farm labor contracts the Teamsters held before 1970.

- As the Teamsters' current sweetheart contracts with the growers expire, the Teamsters will not attempt to renew them. Where the Teamsters have won elections but not yet signed contracts, they will immediately give up their jurisdiction.

- The pact covers 13 western states and will run for five years. After two years, both sides will try to negotiate a national agreement of similar scope.

- The two unions will honor each other's picket lines, support each other's organizing drives, and cooperate in lobbying for legislation on matters relating to farm workers.

- Any disputes between the two sides will be settled by binding arbitration. □

will mean better wages, more secure jobs, and humane working conditions for farm workers. It's also a symbolic victory for other workers across the country.

If a small band of common field workers can beat the wealthy, corrupt dictators that run the biggest union in the country through fear and intimidation...if they can defeat the union leaders who wine and dine and steal with the likes of Richard Nixon, then there is no excuse for any member of any union in this country to say their own union leaders are too powerful and too dictatorial to listen to the rank and file.

If the farm workers can beat a corrupt bureaucrat like Frank Fitzsimmons, so can anybody. □



Ken Paff, Teamsters Local 407, member of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) national steering committee.

"TDU doesn't have a stand on this, but personally I think it's fantastic. Fitzsimmons didn't have the support of the farmworkers—they have their own union and their own leaders.

"It's good for us Teamster members too. Because if they could bring in thousands of members with sweetheart deals they only use the extra votes to support themselves at Conventions and in the Joint Councils. Let's organize all drivers and warehousemen and not raid other unions.

"Fitzsimmons had to pull out of this raid and resign from the Pension Fund. Now it's up to us to put him and the whole crowd into retirement!" □

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# U.S. Maneuvers Against Angola

# NEW WAR THREAT IN AFRICA

by Dan Posen

It isn't yet exactly clear who's doing the fighting in the border region between Zaire and Angola, in central Africa.

One thing, however, is very clear. The Carter Administration has begun a major intervention on the side of the government of Zaire. This action is a threat to the independence of Angola and the liberation movements throughout southern Africa.

The power of the President of Zaire, Sese Seko Mobutu, rests on favors and bribes to his corrupt military machine, financed by American aid.

Within one day after Mobutu called for U.S. aid, Washington was rushing to ship Zaire a range of military equipment. This ranges from spare parts for Zaire's military aircraft, to parachutes and communications equipment.

What are the facts behind the new crisis in central Africa?

The western press, Washington and the government of Zaire claim that Zaire has been invaded by forces from Angola.

This makes it look as if the United States is simply helping Zaire defend its own borders and national rights.

But here are some other facts which haven't been so widely reported:

A pro-U.S. puppet group called the "National Front for the Liberation of Angola" (FNLA), has recently been stepping up its terrorist activities against villages in northeastern Angola.

After Angola became independent of Portugal in 1975, FNLA tried to take over the northern half of the country, against the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

FNLA's aim now is to overthrow the independent government of Angola. The FNLA leader Holden Roberto is not only the son-in-law of President Mobutu of Zaire, but was also on the CIA payroll for more than ten years.

The U.S. government heavily supported FNLA during the war, and continues to do so. The U.S. hopes it can use FNLA to either eventually overthrow the government of Angola, or at least build up conservative, neo-colonialist pressures inside the Angolan government.

The FNLA's raids today are being launched from bases in Zaire, right in the area where fighting is now reported. This means that U.S. military supplies are now going directly into the region where FNLA has its staging areas.

During the Angola civil war, U.S. military aid to Zaire shot up from \$3.8 million a year to its current level of over \$30 million a year. Much of this increase, perhaps as much as \$50 million over a two-year period, went to support FNLA against the people of Angola.

No doubt a good chunk of the supplies Jimmy Carter has rushed to Zaire this week will wind up in those same hands.

## OIL WAR

Even less publicity has been given to major fighting on another front, in the Angolan province of Cabinda.

Cabinda is a relatively small province, separated from the main

collapse. That is why the government of Zaire is sponsoring an army called FLEC, which is trying to turn Cabinda into a separate mini-state.

By sponsoring this attempt to break Cabinda away from Angola, Mobutu hopes to destroy Angola. Eventually Mobutu wants Cabinda's oil riches for himself.

Hundreds of FLEC soldiers are actually far right-wing Portuguese mercenaries left over from the old Portuguese colonial rule of Angola. FLEC has not only been fighting inside Cabinda, but also making hit-and-run attacks against the neighboring independent African state called the Congo Republic.

In other words, while Mobutu claims his country has been invaded from Angola, the truth is that the government of Zaire has actually been waging a campaign to destroy Angola on at least two fronts.

## CLIENT STATE

Zaire itself is a client state of the United States, which acts on behalf of American policy in Africa and strongly backed FNLA during the Angola war.

Zaire has also given strong support to American demands that liberation movements in southern Africa accept rigged negotiations with racist colonial governments like Rhodesia.

Besides being extremely pro-Washington, Zaire is also in the middle of its own desperate economic crisis.

The Zaire regime depends on



U.S. intervention led to the murder of Patrice Lumumba, first Prime Minister of the Congo (now Zaire).

Most reports indicate that the forces fighting the Zairean army in Shaba (Katanga) province are members of the former Katanga independence movement of the early 1960's.

Fifteen years ago, Zaire, then called the Congo, was led by the radical nationalist Patrice Lumumba. American imperialism gave its support to the Katanga breakaway movement to help weaken and destroy Lumumba.

This was part of the process which created the current neo-colonial state of Zaire.

Just as Zaire today is trying to rip Angola apart by stealing oil-rich Cabinda, the U.S. then

wanted to take away Katanga's copper from Lumumba.

However, after Washington's right-wing ally Mobutu came to power, the Administration of Lyndon Johnson helped him crush that same Katanga secessionist movement.

As a result, the Katangese secessionists are now based in Angola, and allied with Angola. They have reportedly begun military action against Zaire.

But while it may be these Katangese who are fighting inside Zaire today, this is only a minor element in a much more important struggle.

copper exports and on loans from western banks, which now have put it over \$2 billion in debt.

The fighting in Zaire now is going on in Shaba province, formerly known as Katanga province, which is the heart of Zaire's copper belt. The loss of control over this copper would not only mean the fall of Mobutu, it could ruin a whole chain of major American and European banks.

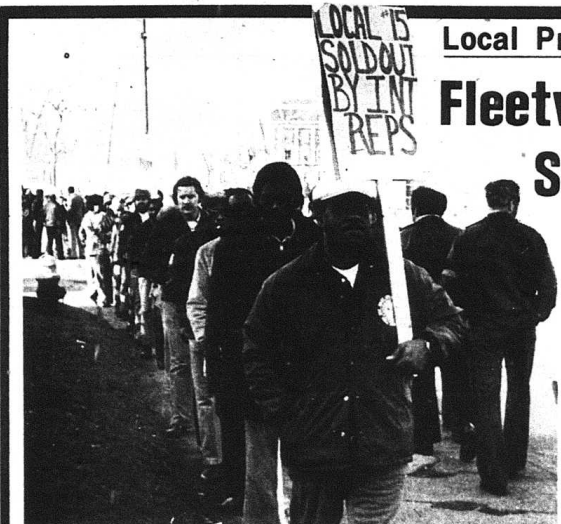
So U.S. military aid to Zaire is going directly to protect the investments of American banks in a neo-colonialist, reactionary regime.

While the military details are

confusing, this fight is not basically a border war between Angola and Zaire.

This struggle is basically an extension of the United States government's efforts to impose neo-colonial rule throughout central and southern Africa—in Angola, Zimbabwe, Namibia and elsewhere.

The United States not only wants to protect its allies in Zaire, but also to roll back the whole fight for real national independence in Africa. And Angola has the right to defend itself from that attack—by any means necessary.



DETROIT—One hundred fifty members of UAW Local 15 picketed Solidarity House, UAW International headquarters, on Tuesday, March 15.

The demonstration was called by Local 15's Shop Committee to protest the UAW International's handling of work standards grie-

vances (78's).

Local 15 members build Cadillac bodies at General Motors' Fleetwood plant.

The picketers carried signs reading, "Local 15 membership demands relief from overloaded jobs NOW," "Are International Reps paid off by GM?" and "C.O.

## Local President Doesn't Show Fleetwood Workers Hit UAW Sellout On Speedup

Kelly and McGuire sold us out," Kelly and McGuire are the International Reps who service Local 15.

The demonstration was called in response to membership pressure to do something about the speedup that has gone on since model change last summer.

Shop Committee Chairman Jim Gabbard told Workers' Power, "Management owes us 300-400 people to maintain the pace."

### CALLED WALKOUT

The Shop Committee called a walkout last August when Gabbard and Local President Rufus Coleman were disciplined by Fleetwood management. The two had been protesting Fleetwood's speedup campaign.

The local leadership quickly turned chicken, however, and at the insistence of the International, Coleman led in breaking the strike.

Ten rank and file members remain fired, while the committeemen who called the walkout got off

scot free. Fleetwood management took advantage of the union's outspoken weakness to overload the jobs even more.

The plant has worked without a new local contract since September. The International has refused to set a strike deadline.

Instead they sent a Task Force of International Representatives into the plant to determine whether in fact the workers were working too hard.

Now, the International, on behalf of the company, is trying to impose settlements that leave the workers in worse shape than during the last model year.

President Coleman, who did not attend the demonstration, has stated previously that he believes the International wants to punish Local 15 for the August wildcat.

Coleman refused to comment on the demonstration by phone. When asked by Workers' Power why he hadn't attended, he replied, "I don't have to be at everything."



## \$35 Million for Abortion 'Alternatives'

# WOMEN'S RIGHTS - A DROP IN CARTER'S BUDGET

by Elissa Clarke

Tucked away in Jimmy Carter's new budget proposal is \$35 million earmarked for "alternatives" to abortion.

The alternatives are sex-counseling and research. Obviously, there is a need for both.

However, \$35 million is a small sum, and will benefit most the bureaucrats who are hired to implement the proposals.

**Carter has also come out against**

**federally funded abortions. This may be the first small step in an attack on the victory that women won in 1973 when the Supreme Court legalized abortion.**

A small portion of the \$35 million will go to Planned Parenthood and other clinics that serve many young people.

### A DROP

The rest of the money is

supposed to go to community health centers, population research, sex education and foster care.

Dr. Carl Shultz, an HEW official from the Office of Population Affairs called the sum for research "unspectacular" and the money for foster care "a drop in the bucket."

**Horace Ogden, head of the Bureau of Health Education, an agency slated to receive \$4 million**

**for research on sex education, said his organization has no experience in sex research.**

"I'm not sure even 50 times that money would accomplish much," he said. "The fact is we don't know that much about it."

The largest lump of the money is supposed to go to community health centers. Jeanne I. Rosoff, director of Planned Parenthood's Washington office, said that the \$14 million given to community

health centers would not help make contraceptives available.

**"The community health centers have never shown much interest in family planning. They are oriented more to accidents and emergencies," she said.**

The reactions of these experts reveal what most people think about the federal budget already—most of it is spent on shuffling papers and the good ideas are not implemented in the community. □

IN AN INTERVIEW with Liberation News Service, Garcia said, "I have learned that there's a lot of different oppression in the world. I know what oppression is.

"In this country, you have to buy justice. If you don't have the money, you have to go to jail." However, Garcia stressed that an organized support movement can force the courts to give justice to ordinary people.

"If you don't have enough people to back you up and fight it, you ain't going to get nowhere. When you're fighting by yourself, it's just another case and it goes the way they want it to."



Inez Garcia with her son John.

## INEZ GARCIA FREE!

# A VICTORY FOR ALL WOMEN

by Elissa Clarke

A SALINAS, California courtroom exploded with cheers March 4 when the jury announced that they found Inez Garcia innocent. It was Garcia's second trial on a charge of second-degree murder.

Garcia had been convicted in 1974 in the death of Miguel Jimenez. Jimenez had helped his friend, Luis Castillo, rape Garcia.

Garcia's acquittal is a major victory for women. Like the 1975 acquittal of Joan Little, the court decision supports a woman's right to defend herself against a rapist, even if her defense results in the death of the rapist.

Garcia's conviction was overturned in December, 1975, after Garcia had spent 15 months in jail. The California Court of Appeals overturned the conviction because of an "instructional error" to the jury by trial judge Stanley Lawson. The error concerned what is meant by the term "reasonable doubt."

**The acquittal was also a victory against racism.**

A juror during the second trial commented, "If that girl were

white, she would have never gotten accused."

### PREJUDICES

After the first trial, some of the more disgusting prejudices about rape in this society were revealed—by members of the jury.

One juror said, "The guy's not trying to kill her. He's just trying to screw her and give her a good time. Giving a girl a screw isn't doing her bodily harm."

Garcia's case was particularly difficult to win. There was a 20-minute lapse between the rape and the murder.

Garcia freely admitted that she killed Jimenez. "I killed the s.o.b., and I wish I had killed the other," Garcia cried out during her first trial.

Later she said, "Yes, I feel good about it and I don't feel ashamed. I was defending my honor. I believe anyone with any morals or dignity would have done the same thing."

On the night of the killing, Jimenez and a friend, Castillo, had come to her apartment to visit her roommate, Freddie Medrano. The two beat up Medrano. Then they

took Garcia out into the alley. The 300-pound Jimenez held Garcia while Castillo raped her.

After the assault, Garcia got her son's .22 rifle and went looking for the two men. When she found them, Jimenez drew a knife. Garcia then shot him.

During the first trial, the prosecution refused to acknowledge that there had been a rape. The prosecutor said, "As far as I am concerned, there is no rape." Judge Lawson instructed the jurors to disregard the rape entirely.

### NO PROOF?

A juror described the deliberations at the first trial: "Someone brought up the rape, but then someone threw up their hands and said, 'She's not on trial for killing a man for raping her. There is no proof of rape.'"

Another juror said, "The ones who shouldn't be breeders are the low elements—the blacks and the Chicanos should never foster children." The same juror said he slept during some of the trial.

**Garcia's case won a great deal of support from women across the**

country. The support movement, and the publicity it created, aided Inez Garcia in the second trial.

During the second trial, it was accepted as a fact that Garcia was raped.

Garcia was defended by feminist attorney Susan Jordan during the second trial.

After the acquittal, Jordan said she hoped "the prejudice against a woman when she defends herself will be erased" by this victory.

After the trial, Garcia told the press that she intends to get involved with helping prisoners. "I promised a lot of women in prison I would do what I could for them," she said.

Garcia also said she intends to "make up for lost time" with her son, John.

JOAN LITTLE'S defense attorney remains convicted of contempt of court for remarks he made during Little's 1975 trial. Jerry Paul's sentence to a four-day jail term was upheld by the Fourth US Court of Appeals.

Little was acquitted of murdering a white prison guard who attempted to rape her. She is black.

The remarks Paul was sentenced for condemned racial and sexual discrimination in the US justice system.

## Yvonne Wanrow: Drop The Charges Now!

ATLANTA—Yvonne Wanrow, a native American Indian, spoke here on March 8. Appropriately, it was also International Women's Day.

Truly this innocently convicted "cold blooded murderess" needs all of our support in some way.

Yvonne, 33 years old, previously a worker and a student, a minority mother of three, is appealing to the Supreme Court her 45-year prison sentence.

**She is convicted of killing a man on the verge of molesting her child. In the knowledge of Yvonne, he had done this same cruel injustice numerous times before, including the rape of a friend's small daughter.**

The prosecuting attorney, Donald Brockett, has the authority at any time to simply drop the case! Yet, he continues, for four years so far, to carry on this tormenting injustice of Yvonne.

### WANTS TO WIN

Brockett has been described by community groups as a politically motivated "man who always wants to win," "no one will run against him." He has high hopes for himself and his place in line, and apparently no care about who he crushes on the way.

**This is a case of people's needs and rights losing out to private profits and gains. To stop these cases, ordinary people have to get realigned for the masses, no longer for the few.**

And the masses can make that happen through supporting fights like Yvonne's. We can put an end to capitalist injustice no matter what form it takes.

Yvonne Wanrow's case is at an extremely critical point. You can help her by sending a letter of support to: Donald C. Brockett, Prosecuting Attorney, County City Safety Building, Spokane, WA 99201.

Lynne Randolph

# WHY DO THESE AUTO WORKERS GO TO THE UAW CONVENTION

The 25th UAW Constitutional Convention will be held in Los Angeles May 15-21. Elections for delegates will be held in every local.

Most auto workers see the Convention as a hassle. This year, as always, most delegates will go to the Convention to party. Local union administrations pay favors by putting friends on their slates. At the Convention these delegates rubber stamp the policies of the International and visit Disneyland.

But the Convention decisions do affect auto workers, and that's why the Administration tries to send yes-men as delegates.

In 1974, for example, the delegates voted to lengthen all local and international officers' term of office to three years. That made officers even less accountable to the rank and file.

The delegates elected this spring will also go to the 1979 Bargaining Convention. It sets the demands for the 1979 national contract.

## PLATFORMS

In some locals, rank and file members are running on platforms that aim to return union power from the International to the members who face management on the shop floor.

Some skilled tradesmen are running to keep their right to a separate vote on contracts. The International may well propose that the Convention take away this right, after the squeak-through ratification of the 1976 contract.

Both production and skilled want to set ratification procedures so that the membership's right to full information and right to reject are guaranteed.

The Administration tries to control the Convention tightly. One thousand International Reps, union employees, patrol the Convention floor. They threaten delegates with dire consequences if they vote against the Administration. The Reps can scuttle grievances, and the International can refuse strike authorization to locals it wants to punish.

Rank and file forces are not yet strong enough to overturn the machine's program at this Convention. But it is important to elect delegates who are running on a fighting platform. They show that there is opposition to the International's policies in the union, and members who don't want the same old policies to continue under a new president.

The Administration would like this Convention to be a love-in for Doug Fraser, who will be elected President overwhelmingly. But Fraser has sold out too many people for the rank and file delegates to let this happen.

## BUILD LOCAL GROUPS

Getting together slates for delegate can also help build the rank and file's power in the local. Running on a common platform for convention delegate can help build a group with staying power, a group that takes on the company and wins control of the local.

Workers' Power is covering the local campaigns to elect delegates who are not going to the Convention to party in the California sunshine. In Detroit, two of those slates are in Locals 47 and 51.



At Chrysler's Dodge Main plant, candidates pursue Local 3 members on their way to vote.

# LOCAL 51 UNITED COALITION FIGHTS 365 DAYS A YEAR

by Enid Eckstein  
UAW Local 51

A year ago, 150 angry workers from Chrysler's Lynch Road Assembly plant stormed the local Trade Readjustment Allowance office. They were demanding payment of federal money which was due to them.

The demonstration was organized by a rank and file caucus at UAW Local 51, the United Coalition. Local 51 represents Chrysler's Lynch Road and Mound Road plants.

Last week, the United Coalition ran in the delegates election for the UAW Constitutional Convention. They won 5 of 24 seats, competing against more than 100 candidates. The United Coalition received wide support in the plants because they have a record as fighters. The United Coalition does not just surface at election time; they fight and organize 365 days a year.

Bonnie Brooks, one of the winning candidates, explained why the United Coalition ran for delegates: "It's about time we sent people to the Convention who want to see more power on the shop floor—not in Solidarity House," she said.

## PLATFORM

The Coalition ran on a platform which called for a referendum vote for officers (they are currently elected at the Convention), for more stewards, for the membership's right to reject or ratify contracts.

The Coalition called on the union to fight against discrimination and for paid maternity leave and opening up the skilled trades.

Local 51 workers knew that the Coalition's platform was not hot air. The Coalition has a record and a reputation in the plant, and the group gained influence in actions.

The United Coalition puts out a monthly newsletter to keep the membership informed of what's going on in the two plants and in

the union—and what the Coalition is doing about it.

During negotiations for this year's local agreement, the United Coalition pushed for protection of the parking lots, hot food in the cafeteria, roof repairs, and 24-hour notice on overtime. The Coalition had members on the Bargaining Committee, so they were able to report progress in negotiations to the membership.

The demands for roof repair and hot food were won, and they also won some progress in parking lot protection. (See story on the local agreement, page 7.)

## STRONG STANDS

The United Coalition is not afraid to take strong stands. In 1973, the Coalition led rejections of inadequate local agreements at both Mound Road and Lynch Road.

At the 1974 Convention, a United Coalition delegate was the only person in the Local 51 delegation to vote against the three-year term for union officers. And the United Coalition was the only group that distributed a report on the Convention to the membership.

During the 1976 contract round, the United Coalition joined the Coalition for a Good Contract, which raised the demands of a shorter work week and cost-of-living on pensions.

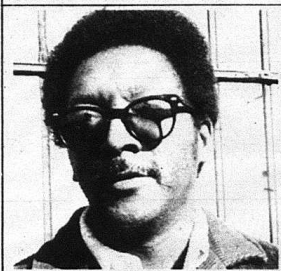
At a Chrysler stewards' meeting where the terms of the national agreement were revealed, United Coalition stewards were the only ones to vote against it.

The United Coalition is the caucus which is known for unity. Nazar Shaya, a Coalition candidate, said in the campaign literature, "We need to join together—black, white and Arab—to send a fighting team to the Convention."

The United Coalition made a strong showing in the election—against older, more established slates which control most of the union offices. And they got support because they have proved themselves in action.

## Workers' Power asked Local 51 members: Why did you vote for the United Coalition?

"They're the only organization that comes around and tells you what happens. The rest of them, you don't see them unless it's voting time and they say hey, vote for me. They just want to get in more than anything else. The Coalition stands for us."—Howard Parker



"The Coalition is the only people fighting for the people's rights inside the plant. The others go along with management too much and the Coalition don't."—Robert Grable

"I thought they were the best thing to vote for. I didn't see nothing else. They been informing us all the year. Green Slate, whoever they are, I didn't see none of them out there at the voting time."—Eugene Lee



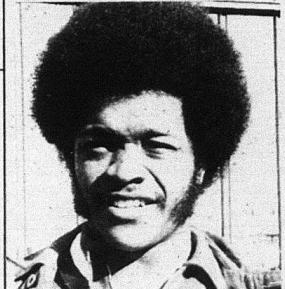
"They are mean, they stand up to management."—Bishop John Wyden II



"The Coalition are the only ones that put out something we can read to find out what's going on in the factory, and what these people are doing and not doing for us. They stand for everything we want in this factory."—Moses Lewis

"They'd do more for us than the rest of 'em will. They're trying to better conditions in and out of the plant, like the parking lot."—Sylvester Walton

"They show more representation than the other ones. They're out there doing it every day."—William Whitelow



"For the simple reason they work harder. The only time you see the other slates is election time. The Coalition is out here all the time."—Glenn Thomas



# ERS WANT VENTION?

## Local 47 candidates want rank and file power

Workers at Chrysler's Detroit Forge have turned down their proposed local agreement—once in December and once in February. But local officials have not yet returned to the bargaining table nor asked the International for strike authorization.

Some Local 47 members, fearing a sellout, formed the Coalition for a Good Local Agreement last November. Leaflets distributed by the Coalition before each vote were instrumental in getting the inadequate agreement rejected.

Now Neil Chacker, Bob Machado, and Don Quenneville, who are activists in the Coalition, have formed the "Rank and File Slate" to run for Local 47's three Convention delegate positions. The election is March 23. Workers' Power asked the Rank and File Slate why they wanted to go to the Convention.

Bob: We want to go to the Convention to change some things. We want the local to have the right to strike by majority vote of the membership. We want to go back to a two-year term for elected officers. We want all officers to be elected by the rank and file; that is, we want a referendum vote. That includes the International President and all the International Reps that service the plants.

Neil: We want to cut the officers' salaries back to auto workers' wages.

Don: We're anti-Fraser. We don't want any more dinners like the one they had for the Flint sit-down. To me, it was one of the most disgusting things in the history of unions—the way they blatantly sat down together and slapped each other on the back.

Bob: We want a new leadership. We want to throw the International's machine out of office because we think they're destructive to the UAW.

### CONTRACT

The other area that our program goes into is the contract. The delegates who are elected next week don't just go to this Convention. They serve for three years and they'll go to the Conventions that determine the bargaining agenda for the next contract. In the next contract, we have to win job security demands.

The establishment candidates are running on their long-standing friendships with people and doing a little bit of bullshit. Mostly, they're going to party.

Neil: We're making promises that we can carry out. For instance, we promise to provide the membership with a written report of what goes down at the Convention. We promise to itemize our expenditures and return all unspent money to the local treasury—which is something I guarantee none of the bureaucrats are going to do.

Don: I've been at the Forge for nine years, and I'd say since the wildcat we had in 1973, people have more or less tolerated the

conditions. The Forge plant is a key plant to Chrysler and management works extra specially hard to keep people from becoming cause-oriented.

The Convention is important because it's time the Forge plant was heard.

### TAKE OVER

Bob: The other reason we're running is that the three of us on this slate are committed to building an on-going group of people who will try to kick out the lazy bureaucrats who control our local.

The local leadership we have now is incompetent. Our president is a very timid man. He worries how management and the International view him. He's so concerned with his own respectability that he's "reasonable."

We have a chairman of the Bargaining Committee who is no great shakes, but management will not even bargain with him because they say the president is more "reasonable."

For example, after we turned down the local agreement the second time, there was supposed to be regular union meeting. We were mobilizing people for the meeting. We put out a leaflet reiterating the Coalition's demands. It looked like, for the first time in years, the union hall was going to be packed.

The Bargaining Committee cancelled the meeting!

Neil: It was obvious they were just afraid to face the membership.

Bob: We think that after the membership turns down a contract twice the leadership should be holding special meetings, putting out questionnaires in the shop, finding out what people want.

Neil: The main benefit of the Convention will come afterwards when we can take our experiences back to the local and report to the membership just what their leadership is doing. And more important—what it's not doing.

Bob: Being active in the Coalition for a Good Local Agreement is what gives us a shot at it. □

# Don't Sleep Tonight With J.P. Stevens

Some 3500 people encircled the J.P. Stevens Tower in New York City March 1 to protest the company's anti-union tactics. Singing and chanting, they were noisy enough to be heard inside, as the big textile company held its annual shareholders meeting.

The Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union has begun a major drive to organize the 45,000 J.P. Stevens workers. But the company is waging an all-out campaign to resist unionization.

It has been found guilty of violating the National Labor Relations Act 15 times since 1963, more often than any other company in U.S. history.

Addie Jackson, a worker at the company's Statesboro, Georgia plant, told a reporter that her plant was closed as a result of an organizing drive. "There was about 385 people eligible to vote for the union. The majority of them now have new jobs. But there's about twenty of us that don't. The ones that were strong for the union, we were put on something they call a blacklist."

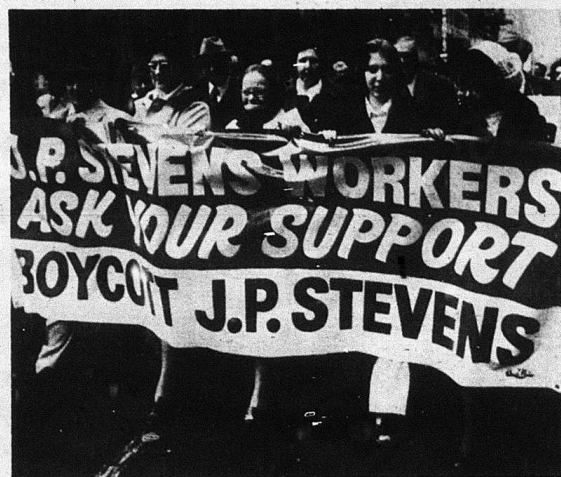
Wages at J.P. Stevens average about 31% below the average national factory rate, according to the union. And thousands of workers have been disabled by byssinosis, or brown lung disease. It's caused by cotton dust levels almost three times as high as national health standards permit.

### INSIDE

Inside the shareholders' meeting, Board Chairman James D. Finley had to defend the company against repeated attacks from the floor. The meeting was packed with representatives from church groups and union supporters who had bought a few shares of Stevens' stock. That made them "part-owners" of the company and eligible to attend the meeting.

Finley asserted that "company relations with employees are very good." But a 20-year employee testified that he had never had a promotion at the company because he is black. Finley replied, "You had an unusual unfortunate experience which most of our employees don't."

Coretta King, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s widow, appealed for support for two resolutions. They asked for information on J.P.



3500 pickets surrounded J.P. Stevens shareholders' meeting.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

J.P. Stevens markets its products under many different names. Don't buy any of these brands:

<b>Towels:</b> Fine Arts Tastemaker Utica	<b>Sheets and Pillowcases:</b> Beauti-Blend Beauticale Fine Arts Peanuts (comic strip figures) Tastemaker Utica Utica and Mohawk	<b>Carpets:</b> Contender Gullistan Merryweather Tastemaker
<b>Blankets:</b> Forstmann Utica	<b>Designer Labels:</b> Yves St. Laurent Angelo Donghia	<b>Hosiery:</b> Big Mama Finesse Hip-Lets Spirit
<b>Table Linens:</b> Simtex		

Stevens' labor practices and on the company's racial and sexual discrimination.

She was interrupted by a standing ovation, though Finley and the rest of management kept the seat of their pants glued to their chairs.

In the end, the union-backed resolutions were overwhelmingly defeated because at these affairs, it's not "one man—one vote." The rule is more like "one dollar—one vote." The bankers and businessmen who own 99% of the company were not much interested in appeals to their consciences.

The real test will come at the plants themselves, as the ACTWA battles to organize Stevens' 85 plants. Eighty of them are in the

South. It won't be an easy fight, because there's a lot more at stake here than just one company.

There are nearly 600,000 textile workers in the South, and less than 10% of them are union members. Cracking J.P. Stevens is the key to cracking the non-union textile industry.

And organizing the textile industry is essential to unionizing the South, where low wages have lured runaway shops from the north for decades.

You can help by joining the union's boycott of J.P. Stevens products. Among other things, the company makes sheets, pillowcases and blankets. As a sign carried outside the shareholders' meeting put it: "Don't Sleep Tonight With J.P. Stevens." □

# Lynch Road To Vote On New Local Pact

by Bill Parker  
UAW Local 51

DETROIT—2100 workers walked out of Chrysler's Lynch Road Assembly Plant March 14 when bargaining on the local contract went down to the wire, in spite of a tentative settlement reached at 9:59 a.m.

It was Lynch Road's first strike over a local contract in over 30 years.

Exact terms of the agreement will be released to the membership March 18 and voted on March 20. Some of the gains include:

increased security for the parking lots, hot food in the cafeterias, improvements in the absentee procedure, and definite dates for roof repairs and yearly preparation of heating and ventilation facilities.

The union had demanded 24 hour notice on overtime with no exception, but made no progress. Other weak areas are seniority rights and transfer rights, which management and the UAW International declared to be subjects for the "big table" (national negotiations).

Also the roof, which has leaked

for years, is to be fixed by outside contractors, even though the repairs will stretch over three to four years.

There are a number of other areas in which individual committeemen accepted far less than they needed for their areas. This partly reflected the fact that the bargaining team was divided.

Three of the ten bargainers are members of the United Coalition group in Local 51. They fought hard for a tougher stance against management and were largely responsible for the gains that were made. □

# I.S. CONVENTION

DETROIT—The eighth convention of the International Socialists met here March 12-14.

Through debate, discussion and vote, delegates charted the forward course for the work of the International Socialists (IS).

Rank and file working class strength and organization is needed to fight the employers' attack. We see this attack today in speed-up, inflation, sell-out contracts and the growing attack on blacks' and women's rights.

Out of these struggles a revolutionary movement and a revolutionary party will be built. They will lead a working class politically capable of transforming society.

## BEGINNING

Today we are beginning that process. Working people are learning that they can change things, that if they are united, the power structures of society are not invincible.

The responsibility of socialist workers is to build, lead and advance the class struggle. This is what IS members are doing.

As Glenn Wolfe of the I.S. Executive Committee said, "Our organization must be able to show workers who are joining us now how what we're doing fits into our socialist stand."

Changes in the economy shape that class struggle. Kim Moody, also of the I.S. Executive Committee, spoke about that.

"The work of IS members in the trade unions was organized for winning better contracts in the bargaining round of the last two and a half years. This is now beginning to pay off, especially in the IBT and the UAW.

"The return of instability to capitalism is creating anger and motion in the working class."

How socialists can turn their fellow workers' anger into effective action was addressed by Jack Weinberg of the Executive Committee.

"We welcome the union reform struggle even though it has limits. When it comes about we don't say, 'Too bad it's not something else.' But we do try to give it a class struggle content."

In the discussion of I.S. members' participation in the recent campaign to elect challenger



I.S. members at close of 1977 Convention.

Ed Sadlowski president of the United Steelworkers, Weinberg spelled it out:

"Our position was critical support, especially in Workers' Power. But we did not begin from criticism, from the need to expose Sadlowski.

"On the whole, it's not illusions in Sadlowski that we faced, but a more backward problem, the idea that nothing could be done. To get involved was an opening to the idea that we can change the unions."

Other delegates expressed disagreement with parts of the way the IS conducted its part in the campaign.

One delegate said, "Workers' Power was not a major force in getting steel workers to vote for Sadlowski. In cases like this we should do propaganda about our strategy.

"We have to explain the limits of the rank and file movement. They are the reason why you need revolutionary politics."

Jack Weinberg defended the approach that was taken by the majority. "We tried in Workers' Power to take a line on the day-to-day questions—so that we could say to people, 'By your becoming

involved, the struggle will progress."

"Criticisms that pose no direction serve no purpose. If there was a mass movement, then exposure and criticism would be pointing a direction."

Bill Parker, of the IS Central Committee and member of UAW Local 51, spoke about the relationship between union movements and socialist movements, particularly in the auto industry.

"There will be no revolutionary movement without a revolutionary movement in the auto plants.

"In the recent delegate elections to the UAW Constitutional Convention, United Coalition delegates won two delegate positions and three alternate positions. They will go to that convention in opposition to the International Machine and its sell-out policies.

"That would not have happened without the contract campaign work that we did."

Some IS delegates disagreed with this approach. They said workers did not want to join the Coalition for a Good Contract because there were bureaucrats in it who are known to sell out.

Speaking for the majority posi-

tion, Parker answered these ideas. "If we had sat out the contract, we would have missed the issue that was on everyone's minds."

Racism divides society and divides the working class. The Convention agreed it must be fought vigorously by every socialist.

The employers' offensive is making it more possible for black and white workers to unite, if white workers can be shown that the idea that racism benefits them is a hoax.

Larry Smith, I.S. National Black Organizer spoke about IS action in fighting racism.

"The racist offensive is seen in the growth of the KKK and the Nazis.

"In industry we want to orient our black work to both blacks and whites, relate the industrial struggle and bring community issues into the plants, as with the Gary Tyler and South Africa campaigns.

"Without a successful struggle for socialism, there will be no black liberation. The two struggles cannot be separated."

Mel Packer, I.S. Central Committee and IBT Local 249 member

also spoke about the struggle against racism in industry.

"In our Teamster work we have always stressed anti-racism and affirmative action.

"In Pittsburgh we called for a meeting of as many black Teamsters as possible. TDU is serious about fighting racism, even if it means losing white support. We have to take initiatives like this."

Enid Eckstein, I.S. Central Committee, I.S. Women's Commission and UAW Local 51 member, presented plans for the IS to fight the current attack from government and industry levelled against women.

"The attack on abortion rights, affirmative action, gay rights and high unemployment among women is a bad picture.

"The right of women to work is being challenged through policies like the Supreme Court decision on maternity benefits. Resentment and anger is growing.

"There are significant openings, especially around harassment on the job. Resistance will increase the confidence of the women we work with. We can start with action around the Supreme Court decision on maternity."

## RED TIDE

The Red Tide is the Youth Section of the I.S., the new generation of revolutionary workers. Tony Satan presented greetings from the group.

"Mass work has been debated in the IS. Was mass work a question in the Red Tide?

"We organized the Gary Tyler campaign around two demands: Free Gary Tyler, and Fight the General Racist Offensive. And we found that people not only wanted to free Gary Tyler, but also wanted to join the Red Tide.

"Mass work is the key to our recruitment, just as in the IS.

"The Red Tide is going to develop a black leadership. Let the I.S. move on with the Red Tide."

"Or, as Glen of the Red Tide said, 'Together with the I.S. we have a world to win.'"

When the Convention ended members left to go back to work, armed with the policies hammered out at the convention—policies that will build the IS. □

## I.S. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON EXPULSION

The IS Convention voted by a wide majority to expel the "Left Faction," a group within the IS who refused to carry out the work of the organization in the trade unions, in our anti-racist and youth work, and around southern Africa.

Just as a union does not put up with scabs, so a revolutionary socialist workers' organization does not put up with members who refuse to carry out its democratically decided policy.

A union discusses strike action, takes a vote, and expects many of its members to picket—and none to scab.

A socialist workers' organization discusses its policy, votes on it, and expects all of its

members to carry it out. In the IS, the majority rules.

For the past few conventions the IS has worked out its strategy for building a revolutionary socialist workers' organization. A very important part of this strategy is building the rank and file movement in the big industrial unions.

At the time the "Left Faction" formed, the IS was involved in several campaigns in the unions: by-laws reform through the Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU); Ed Sadlowski's campaign for president of the Steel Workers; convention delegate elections and local contract fights in the United Auto Workers.

In addition, the IS was launching a project to aid the peoples of southern Africa in their liberation struggles. We were also building a united black and white youth group, the Red Tide.

### REFUSED

The members of the "Left Faction" not only disagreed with most of these campaigns, which is their right, but also refused to actively carry them out.

Instead, the "Left Faction" operated as a separate organization in complete disregard for the will of the majority.

The "Left Faction" claimed

that it had to organize in this manner because the strategy of the IS was not working. "Left Faction" members insisted that our work in the auto industry, such as building the Coalition for a Good Contract (CGC), led to nothing.

They said that support of Sadlowski in the Steel Workers union showed the IS was giving up its fight against union bureaucrats. They even claimed that TDU was "a shell."

The result of all this, they said, was that the IS could not grow. They argued for a return to a group that does little more than publicize its ideas to a small audience—a "propaganda group."

The discussion in the rest of the convention and the reports from union members showed the "Left Faction" to be way off base. The TDU, CGC, Sadlowski, and southern Africa campaigns have all paid off in

growing workers' activity and a real growth potential for the IS.

### OPPOSED

Some IS members not in the "Left Faction" opposed expulsion at the convention. Though they agreed that IS members must carry out majority policy, they thought it would be better to give the "Left Faction" another chance.

The majority of the convention, however, felt that if the "Left Faction" stayed in the IS it would only further disrupt our activities. The majority felt that the "Left Faction" had, in fact, already set up its own separate organization.

After a full discussion, the Convention voted in favor of the expulsion, on the grounds that the "Left Faction" no longer acted as loyal members and refused to carry out IS policy. □

I.S. Executive Committee



## “Working for Ma Bell barely puts me above the poverty level!”

Dear Workers' Power,

Your series on AT&T is terrific! Working for Ma Bell, you sometimes get lost in all their propaganda about “our wonderful company and how marvelous our wages are. . .”

Not so long ago they put up posters showing how our wages have gone up twice as fast as inflation over the past several years.

Anyone who works here knows that is a lie. Even if they have statistics to prove it, you can bet they used all sorts of tricks to arrive at their figures. Like:

- including management wages in their averages;
- using gross income figures instead of take-home pay—our real wages!
- using entry level pay in '68 compared to top of the scale pay now to get their increases;
- including overtime pay as regular wages—overtime work is just ‘part of the job’ anyhow;
- Etc.!

My own figures as a second-year Bell clerk reflect a more accurate picture. My gross earnings for '76 were just under \$6500, less than \$6000 after taxes! This figure barely puts me above the poverty level for a self-supporting individual!

My wonderful anti-inflationary wage reflects 3 1/4 weeks of lost pay due to surgery (I received no benefits because of low seniority). But it also reflects many overtime hours worked. . .

There you have it. How about an article showing the real state of wages at Ma Bell? The wages of clerical and operators, for example, where women are concentrated—along with many female heads of households.

How do our real wages compare with the cost of living today? With management wages? With wages of workers in other public utilities? I bet that picture won't lie as rosy as their slick posters!

Keep up the good work!

Bell employee  
Louisville, KY

## “UAW: Tuxedo Unionism!”

Dear Workers' Power,

Neil Chacker is to be congratulated for his vivid account of the “44 Days That Built The UAW” [see Workers' Power #195].

His article would make a fitting appendix to my book: “The UAW From Crusade to One-Party Union.” How well Chacker sums this up in a short paragraph:

“Forty years later the UAW is in decline. The UAW bureaucrats have traded off working conditions for higher wages and (fringe) benefits. The UAW top

President Carter,  
You keep promising  
new faces in your  
Administration. . .  
When will we see  
one?



Next  
Question



## Any Way You Add It Up, He's A Zero

Dear Workers' Power,

This is called, “Checking up on Jimmy” or “Why wait four years when in just five minutes you can find out you've been had!”

Okay, America, you elected Jimmy Carter. Now what? To find out whether your vote was a masterstroke or just a piece of abject stupidity, just keep in touch with old Jimmy for the next few months, and keep score.

Come on, let's kick Carter while he's up!

Scoreboard:

PRESS RELATIONS:

- minus 5 if Carter refers to himself, even once, as “The President.”
- minus 3 for each time during a press conference the little vein over his right temple, which throbs when he gets angry, throbs.
- minus 3 each time Carter says he “misspoke” himself (minus 5 if, confronted with hard evidence of his error,

Carter refuses to admit it).

- minus 2 if Carter's Plains residence becomes known as the Southern White House.

PERFORMANCE AND POLICY:

- minus 5 every time he begins a statement with the phrase, “While I am personally opposed to abortion. . .” regardless of how he completes the sentence.
- minus 8 if Carter announces his decision regarding the B-1 bomber immediately after conferring with Henry Jackson, Paul Nitze, and the president of Rockwell International.
- minus 10 for each of the following to be given any governmental responsibility whatsoever: Henry Kissinger, James Schlesinger, Dean Rusk, or Phil Walden.
- minus 5 if the April unemployment rate is 8% or higher, but plus 2 for any of the following who are included in

that figure: General George Brown, Earl Butz, Walter Mondale, Griffin Bell, or Cyrus Vance.

- minus 5 if Carter starts a “Stop Inflation Now” campaign (minus 10 if he hands out SIN buttons).

- minus 3 for each time he explains the difference between “pardon” and “amnesty.”

- minus 6 if Carter uses football jargon to explain foreign policy situations.

- minus 2 if Carter takes up golf (minus 4 if he plays it with Billy Graham; minus 20 if he plays it with Bob Hope).

- minus 1 if Amy is still attending Stevens Elementary School by the Easter vacation (minus 5 if Billy Carter brings a 6-pak to a PTA meeting).

J.M.  
Cleveland, OH

leaders have fancy offices and thick middles. They cannot remember working on the line.”

To trade off working conditions for higher wages and fringes is the very essence of business unionism. And business unionism requires close collaboration between the union-bureaucracy and management in order to discipline the workers at the point of production.

This is what the commercial press means by “the house of labor and management being equal partners in capitalism.”

It was in keeping with this partnership that union and company officials gathered at the posh St. Regis Hotel in Detroit to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the signing of the first contract between the UAW and General Motors.

Chief among those who attended the reception were GM Board Chairman Thomas Murphy, UAW President Leonard Woodcock, GM Labor-Relations Vice-President George B. Morris Jr., and UAW Vice-President Irving Bluestone.

It is to the credit of UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey

that he refused to attend that disgraceful gathering.

But it took the fiery veteran of the GM sit-down strike, Genora Dollinger, to express the true meaning of the St. Regis pow-wow in an apt symbolic phrase: “Tuxedo Unionism!”

And another militant UAW pioneer, Ernest Mazey, drew the logical conclusion from the UAW-GM fete: “The time has come for an autoworkers' Fight Back committee.”

Frank Marquart  
Albuquerque, N.M.

Editor's Note: Frank Marquart's book, “An Autoworker's Journal: The UAW From Crusade to One-Party Union” is available from Sun Press for \$7.50 postpaid. Write: Sun Press, 14131 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203.

## “Carter wants to pass a 25c

## tax on gasoline.”

Dear Workers' Power,

I just heard on the radio that President Carter wants to pass a 25c tax on gasoline. Then they quoted some other high official as saying that when Carter said we'd all have to sacrifice to save energy he meant a lot more even than a 25c tax.

Now Workers' Power readers know all this energy sacrifice talk is nonsense, except as a way to take away workers' money so the companies and the government can invest it in new ways to make us work harder.

But the real question is, what are we going to do about it? The whole thing's going to make lots of people mad, but the problem is going to be how to organize the anger into action, rather than cynicism and helplessness.

Maybe I.S. can take the lead—in workplaces, in the community, in the high schools when they cut off the heat, in organizing demonstrations. And

## “What happened to this student could very well happen to any other.”

Dear Workers' Power,

An incident of great importance occurred at Western High School in Detroit, which is of interest to the students, as well as the community, and especially Latinos.

It is very evident that the blue uniforms [policemen] present in our schools do not comply with the supposed purpose of watching out for the security of the students.

On the contrary, they are there to violate student rights. The attitude that these supposed defendants of democratic rights have is the lowest possible.

They call themselves professionals.

But you can only see the reflections of their badges, because their minds, corrupted by the system, can't even reflect a little bit of dignity and respect for the rights of other human beings.

The following incident is not the first abuse committed by these agents, but it is the first that has been brought out in the open.

Because of this we are making it known that we can not allow any more abuses committed by these animals dressed in blue to go unnoticed in our schools.

On Tuesday, March 18, 1975 at about 8:30 am, a student was searched and abusively beaten without any reason.

The Latino student involved was in front of the building waiting for his classes to start and talking to a friend. After saying goodbye to his friend, he walked to the door of the building.

There he was called by one of the policemen, and forcefully taken to an office, but it was not the principal's office because the principal was not even there.

Even after the whole incident had occurred, the principal had still not been notified.

If the student had not looked for someone to represent him, the whole situation would still be covered up and no one would even know what happened.

What happened to this student could very well happen to any other student. We as a student body must take steps to have our rights respected.

Students, the time has come for us to demonstrate our unity supporting any student that is abused by these animals in blue. In unity there is strength, and keep in mind that force is met with force.

United we will win!

Hector  
Detroit, MI

if the tax rise hits the truckers, maybe socialists in TDU can take the initiative to work out joint actions?

Sam  
N.J.

# Where We Stand

## WE OPPOSE

- **CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION**  
We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.
- **CAPITALIST CONTROL**  
Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions, and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.
- **OPPRESSION**  
Black people are an oppressed national minority in the United States. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their own future.  
The struggle of every oppressed group for equality is a just struggle—Blacks, women, gays, Latinos, American Indians. We are for the independent organization of oppressed peoples to fight for their freedom.  
Support from the entire working class movement will make the struggles of both—the oppressed and the class movement—stronger.
- **CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT**  
The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.
- **BUREAUCRATIC COMMUNISM**  
Russia, China and other countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working class of those countries.

## WE SUPPORT

- **THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT**  
The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privilege officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace, not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.
- **LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION**  
We support the struggles of every oppressed group to end its oppression; the struggle for equality for blacks, women, gays, Latinos, native Americans, and all oppressed people. Support from the entire working class movement will make both these struggles, and that movement, stronger.
- **SOCIALISM**  
Socialism is the rule by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.
- **WORKERS' REVOLUTION**  
But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and runs their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can make society's wealth only together.
- **INTERNATIONALISM**  
The struggle for socialism is worldwide. We support every fight of the working class against exploitation, and every struggle by nations fighting for independence from foreign rulers. We support every struggle for freedom—from the people of southern Africa against racism and western colonialism, to the struggle against bureaucratic rule and Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe.  
We demand complete independence for Puerto Rico from U.S. colonial rule.
- **REVOLUTIONARY PARTY**  
The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.
- **INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS**  
The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.



# I.S. NEWS

## “Let's make Int'l Women's Day a real holiday!”

BRANCHES OF THE International Socialists celebrated International Women's Day in several cities.

**International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8. It marks the anniversary of a massive demonstration of women garment workers who struck against sweatshop conditions in New York City in 1908.**

It was women in the socialist movement who decided to make the day an annual holiday to honor and organize women's struggles.

The first celebration was held in Austria and German in 1911. The slogan of that celebration was, "The vote for women will unite our strength in the struggle for socialism."

The most significant observance of International Women's Day occurred in Russia in 1917. Women took to the streets to demand bread. That demonstration began the Russian Revolution.

[Photo: Scene from "Union Maids" shows laundry strikers.]

### Pittsburgh

Women in Pittsburgh came together to celebrate International Women's Day. The 24 women represented a wide range of women's work—housewives, mothers, steelworkers, laundry workers, miners, postal workers, Teamsters, and social workers.

A showing of "Union Maids" was received with cheers and laughter. Union Maids tells the stories of three women who organized union drives in the 1930s. It is an inspiring and touching movie.

The film was preceded by a talk on the role of women and revolutionaries in the 30s, the women's liberation movement in the 60s, and the problems facing working women today.

Many of the women attending the event were stewards or have been leading struggles where they work. They shared the lessons of their work. A postal steward urged women to put themselves up as leaders by running for steward or other union positions.

A steward in a laundry spoke of

her success in fighting the union's and the company's attack when they refused to let her run again for steward. She won the re-election with the support of her shop and is now organizing a committee to strengthen their gains.

A miner told of her success in fighting the discriminatory hiring practices in the mines.

Everyone attending was excited to learn more of their own history, both as women and as part of the working class movement.

### Portland

In Portland, Oregon, the I.S. held a day-long conference to commemorate International Women's Day. It was attended by 75 women. Panel discussions covered many topics, such as: the history of International Women's Day, minority women, the ERA, gay rights, and women and socialism. In the afternoon, the panel focused on childcare, aging, women and labor, the international struggle, and the role of men in the women's movement.

Many speakers pointed out the difficulty of providing adequate services to women in a system

which has as its goal making profits—instead of providing for the people's needs. Lively discussion from the floor followed each panel.

On March 8 — International Women's Day—a picket line formed at the Federal Courthouse to protest recent attacks on the rights of women. Fifty women picketed and marched to a nearby park. Speakers from the I.S. and other organizations talked about how women can fight back against the attack.

### Detroit

"International Women's Day is not a well-known holiday—but we hope to make it one," said Karen Kaye, welcoming people to the Detroit I.S. celebration of International Women's Day.

Fifty members and friends of the Detroit I.S. and Red Tide attended. Participants enjoyed talks, a film, and dinner.

The film "Union Maids" was shown. Many of the women (and men) attending the celebration identified with the film because they are carrying on the struggle today.

Sara Buckley, an autoworker, spoke before the film was shown. She noted that there were women in attendance who were active militants in the United Auto Workers, the Southern Africa Liberation Committee, Women Against Racism, and the Teamsters for a Democratic Union wives' group.

"We are all examples of women who have broken through the barriers of inferiority and 'separate' that society has taught us as women. We are all examples of the fact that it is a myth that women can't get involved in anything, or that we are conservative," Buckley said.

After the film, Stephanie Batey, a member of the Southern Africa Liberation Committee (SALC), addressed the audience about the group's work. She spoke about the position of women under apartheid, and women-freedom fighters in

Zimbabwe. Batey appealed to the audience to donate shoes to the SALC drive or money to buy tampons for the women guerrillas.

Those attending stayed to party. I.S. men provided childcare.

### Chicago

The Chicago I.S. co-sponsored a showing of the film "Blow for Blow" with the Red Rose bookstore. An enthusiastic audience stayed after the film to talk about the building of a working women's movement.

Blow for Blow dramatizes an actual plant occupation that took place in France. Both men and women were excited by the militant strike by women workers depicted in the film.

Women involved in that occupation played themselves in the film. The actors had an equal voice with technical advisors in the film's production.

The Gary, Indiana I.S. also showed Blow for Blow in celebration of International Women's Day.

### Atlanta

The Atlanta I.S. celebrated International Women's Day with a potluck dinner and discussion of the struggles of South African women against the apartheid system.

Recent exiles from Zimbabwe and South Africa told about the latest developments in the liberation struggles in their countries. The need for unity against the racist white regime became clear as they told how the government tries to divide men from women, blacks from "coloured," tribe from tribe in an effort to weaken the movement.

Those who attended the meeting made plans to support the liberation struggle in Southern Africa through boycotts of South African goods and collection of supplies for the Zimbabwe freedom fighters.

### JOIN US!

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and  would like more information, or  would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: **INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.**

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# SURVIVE!

by Anne Larson

**The Setting:** South Africa.  
**The Characters:** Themba, a young black prisoner, and a white storekeeper.

**The Action:** Themba thinks about the incident that led to his arrest. In a grocery store, Themba accidentally breaks a soft drink bottle. The storekeeper, a Portuguese settler who has recently fled the liberation movement in Angola, charges him twice the cost of the bottle. "You coward," Themba tells him. "You ran away from us in Mozambique. You ran away from us in Angola. Here, you think you can get away with anything."

The storekeeper calls the police. Themba is convicted of assault.

This scene is from the play, "Survive." Survive is about the lives of blacks under the racist

## "Survive." Written and performed by the South African Black '77 Theatre Project.

"Survive" is currently on tour of the West Coast. A full schedule of performances is available from Ayania La Fleur, University Productions, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco, CA. 415-469-2442.

South African regime. The most incredible thing about this play is that every scene is taken directly from the actors' experience.

The play is performed by five young black South Africans. They wrote the play and trained themselves for the theater while working in factories in Johannesburg. They are revolutionaries, and they see their work as a tool in building international resistance to apartheid.

Survive takes place in a prison. In a series of flashbacks, four inmates relive the experiences that led to their convictions.

David's father is seriously injured when the roof falls in the gold mine where he works. David tries to take him to the hospital. He is stopped by the police for not having the proper pass. In desperation, he assaults the policeman.

He is sent to jail.

Seth has to drop out of high school because his mother, a maid, cannot afford the payments. But he is unable to obtain a pass to remain in the city to work. So Seth's mother goes to the pass office and seduces the official to get the permit. After that, she starts drinking.

One night, the mother brings home a drunk man, who beats her. Seth defends his mother, and in the fight, kills the man.

He is imprisoned for murder.

Dan works at a factory in Johannesburg. He and some other workers organize a strike for better wages. The company brings in scabs. When the other strikers defend their picket line, Dan is arrested for assault and inciting to riot.

He, too, is thrown in jail.

Themba, David, Seth and Dan learn about each other's pasts, and they begin to understand the common system that oppresses

them. "It's all part of the same thing, the same big system," they tell one another.

## FREEDOM

Dan is released. On the outside, he realizes that being free in South Africa is like being in prison. He asks a policeman to arrest him. "What have you done?" the policeman asks.

"Nothing," Dan replies. "I just think it's just as good being in prison as being out here."

Although the play is very serious, the authors write about their oppression with humor. In one scene, Dan enters a previously all-white restaurant when he sees some blacks seated at a table. He soon sees that the restaurant has been integrated only for "international blacks"—visitors from foreign countries—and not for black South Africans. There is a hilarious scene where the waiter rushes around from one table to another, trying to distinguish one type of black from another.

In the play, the actors move easily from one language to another, using Afrikaans, English and Zulu depending on whether they are speaking with the authorities, the boss, or their friends. And they use music throughout the production. The title of the play is taken from a song, "Survival," which they sing in a finely-harmonized quartet.

## STRUGGLE

At the end of the play, the four inmates go on a hunger strike for better food. It is a small struggle, but they support each other—and they win.

And with this small victory, the men run into the audience with their clenched fists raised. The lights go up, and the actors invite the audience to join them in the liberation struggle.

Survive is a powerful piece of revolutionary theater that brings the viewers into the experience of blacks in South Africa and demands that they join the struggle to overthrow the apartheid regime. Readers of Workers' Power in the southern California and Pacific Northwest areas, where the troupe will be playing in the next few weeks, should make every effort to see Survive and to support the talented actors who have brought it to the United States. □

Rip-offs from Roots Department.

Abraham and Strauss, a department store, has brought a griot to Brooklyn. A griot is a keeper of tribal history in Africa. Alex Haley verified his 12-year search for his family's history from a griot.

In their ad, Abraham and Strauss (A & S) invite their customers to "learn how black roots are alive in New York."

Anything for a dime. A & S is so concerned with black people, it is also the store that was selling the Krugerrand, the gold coin from South Africa which has become a symbol of apartheid. A & S was forced to discontinue sales of the Krugerrand after being picketed by the South Africa Liberation Committee. □

The Brookings Institute, which Charles Colson of the Nixon administration once wanted to fire-bomb, has issued its annual "Riot Index."

This index consists of the cities where unemployment, poverty, eroding tax bases, crowded housing and other factors are likely to lead to public disturbances.

Leading the list of cities with the most Riot Potential are (in order): Newark, N.J.; Cleveland; Baltimore; Chicago; St. Louis; Atlanta and New York.

Cities with low riot potential at this time reportedly include Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Dallas and Houston.

—ZNS



All the king's horses, all the king's men...

# ...couldn't put the lousy system together again

IT SEEMS THERE WAS this one-star Air Force General, with a striking resemblance to Burt Lancaster, who was captured when he was in Nam.

So he spends five years in this POW camp. He uses his time wisely to figure out that the whole war was a sham.

pretty tough and want to make \$10 million.

Don't we all! But how does ten million come into it?

## BUILT MISSILE SITE

Well, it seems that in between offering him another star and sending him down the river, the Air Force had him build this nuclear missile site.

So the General decides to take it over and threatens to press the button unless he gets \$10 million for his buddies, a Presidential statement condemning the war for him and a plane out of there for all of them.

And that's exactly what he does. And he's even bright enough to insist that the President becomes his hostage. That way he can get out of there free and clear after he's done his bit to save humanity (or at least the American section of it).

Now of course there is a lot of aggravation in the course of carrying out this little caper. After all, there has to be some excitement in this flick, particularly as there is no "romantic interest." Right? Right!

Now, the ex-General is a jerk. But the black dude tries to tell him that everyone, including Mr. President, is going to get shot when they come out, and there ain't going to be no exposure of the Vietnam War.

That makes the black guy smart, but not smart enough. 'Cause he walks out of there with them, and they all get it.

Thus proving that the ruling class understands they can always get another President, but they can't put their lousy system back together again if it gets knocked around too much.

## DIDN'T FOOL ME

There is this clever little note in the credits saying that it's all fictitious, but they didn't fool me. I know it happened.

Have any of you seen Nixon since he disappeared under very strange circumstances? Well, have you? No!

See what I mean? So you've got the whole story now, and you don't have to see the film. Which ain't no loss because it ain't such a good film anyway.

But if there is some guy who works next to you and he's Mr. Love-It-Or-Leave-It-Star-Spanglej-Banner, tell him he's got to see this film.

Tell him the good guys win, tell him the commies get it in the neck, tell him what you like. But get him there.

He might learn something from Twilight's Last Gleaming, and take a step towards at least becoming a liberal. Or he might just come back and tell you Hollywood is full of commies. If only it was...

Doug Warren

"Twilight's Last Gleaming." Starring Burt Lancaster and Richard Widmark. Directed by Robert Aldrich.

A pointless sacrifice of a million lives in the interests of the American ruling class. (Fifty thousand American, he always pointed out—they seemed to have more weight than the 950,000 "Asian.")

So he gets home and makes the first mistake of making this point to the rest of the Generals. Surprise, surprise. They aren't too interested. Fact is they knew it all along.

So they offer him another star to shut up. Mistake number two—he refuses, and winds up railroaded into prison on a murder rap serving 30 to life.

Well, it seems that while he's in the can, he meets this black dude, who's a bit of a militant, and another couple of guys who are

# Workers' Power

## Detroit Western High

# RED TIDE STOPS RACE RIOT

By Anita Brown  
Detroit Red Tide

DETROIT—"A lot of racial fighting may be sparking up. Fighting has erupted and some people have been bringing guns as well as other weapons into the park. Something may jump off, and somebody involved or an innocent

bystander may be hurt or killed."

This is what a Red Tide leaflet said to Western High School students on the southwest side here. We were working successfully to keep racial tensions from erupting into a race riot.

We were in a park near Western selling the Red Tide paper. One of

our readers told us that there might be a race riot the next day.

So the Red Tide decided to stay out there all the next day to keep it down.

### FIGHT THE POWER...

At 2:30 pm, about 20-25 white guys were in the park saying they



The Red Tide is an organization of revolutionary young people, black and white. At Western High School, they stopped a race fight.

were "going to kick some niggers' asses" and all kinds of stuff like that.

Ten minutes later about 16-20 blacks came out of the school to the park. We knew for sure something was going to break out then.

The Red Tide started talking to both sides. We convinced all the

whites we were right in saying not to fight the blacks—fight the people who are really messing them over.

Except we didn't convince the leader.

We were telling them, like we said later in our leaflet, "None of us, Brown, Black or White benefit from this fighting. It only brings down more heat from the man, and gives them an excuse to treat us like animals."

We also talked to the blacks and they agreed. So the leader of the blacks went over to the leader of the whites and shook his hand.

But right after that the white guy kicked the black man in the groin. Then four of the black guys jumped on the white one.

Immediately the pigs came and took the leader of the whites to jail.

## GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO VOID STEEL RANKS' VICTORY

by Jim Woodward

The U.S. Department of Labor has filed a suit seeking to overturn Jim Balanoff's election as president of United Steel Workers Local 1010 last April.

In those elections, Balanoff and the Rank and File slate were elected by a 2-1 margin. They swept out the incumbent adminis-

tration headed by Hank (Babe) Lopez. (Since then, Balanoff has been elected director of USW District 31 as part of Ed Sadlowski's Steelworkers Fight Back team.)

Local 1010 represents workers at Inland Steel's East Chicago, Ind. mill. With 18,000 members, it is the largest local in the union.

Shortly after the April elections,

the losers filed complaints of election fraud. The curious thing is that those complaints came from the same people who ran the election. Virtually all of the tellers conducting the election were Lopez loyalists.

### COMPLAINT

The complaint was filed by Don Hurley, a candidate on the Lopez slate. That slate was backed by USW International President I.W. Abel. It waged a major red-baiting campaign against the Rank and File slate. Nevertheless, Hurley was defeated by 3000 votes.

One Local 1010 member tells what happened: "On election night when it was clear that the Lopez slate had lost, the chairman of the election committee burned a number of ballots."

"So Hurley filed a complaint about illegal election procedures with the Labor Department. No one expected this would get through because it was so obviously absurd."

For whatever reason, the Labor Department decided to take the case. They've gone to court asking for the election to be re-run. Local 1010 expects the case to be tied up in court for some time.

Balanoff told local members that if there was any instance of genuine fraud, he would agree to a new election. But in this case he would not agree because it is obvious that no fraud took place.

This is at least the second time incumbents who were defeated last spring have tried this ploy. A

contested Baltimore local election vote to the Steelworkers' Las Vegas convention last year.

### IRREGULARITY

The incumbents in that local had lost to a Sadlowski supporter. They then complained about irregularities they had created themselves. They asked the Convention to order a new election.

The Abel administration supported this protest, but the Convention went against the International and upheld the results of the election.

Steelworkers at Local 1010 are not terribly concerned about the Labor Department's challenge to Balanoff. They feel it's so absurd it will never stand up in the courts.

Yet there is one aspect of this challenge that deserves to be taken very seriously indeed. Ed Sadlowski is now asking the Labor Department to side with him and overturn the results of last month's USW International presidential election.

The challenge to the Local 1010 election should clearly show that the Labor Department is not neutral in these matters. It decides whether or not to intervene in union elections on the politics of the situation rather than on the merits of the case.

The Carter Administration owes political debts to big business and to the top officials of the AFL-CIO, like I.W. Abel and Lloyd McBride. It should be no surprise that Carter's Labor Department will defend these officials from attack by rank and file insurgents to maintain the labor peace they all want.

### ...NOT EACH OTHER!

The next day was very tense. All the students were mad.

The Chicanos and whites were in the park. The blacks and Puerto Ricans were in the front of the school and inside.

The Red Tide was out in full force with our leaflet. We were telling the students again, "When we fight each other the pigs come down hard on everybody," and "Unity and politics are the only way forward for us." People got cool.

Through the afternoon, several groups of students were trying to jump on each other. Luckily the Red Tide was still there. We kept talking, and they didn't jump on each other.

The students at Western are cool right now. Everybody is getting along okay. The Administration pulled a raw deal on everyone.

Way last January they made a rule that you automatically flunked if you missed ten days during the whole semester.

But they didn't tell anybody about the rule. Now they're flunking people.

So, all the students are together again. They're mad at the Administration.

One lesson, though, that I've learned. The pigs weren't there until it would be too late to keep somebody from getting jumped. The Red Tide and the students' together got things cool.

## WORKERS' POWER

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