

Nicaragua: Turmoil at the Inaugural **Sandinistas Make Way for Madame Contra**

FSLN Ranks Chant: “We Won’t Give Up Guns!”

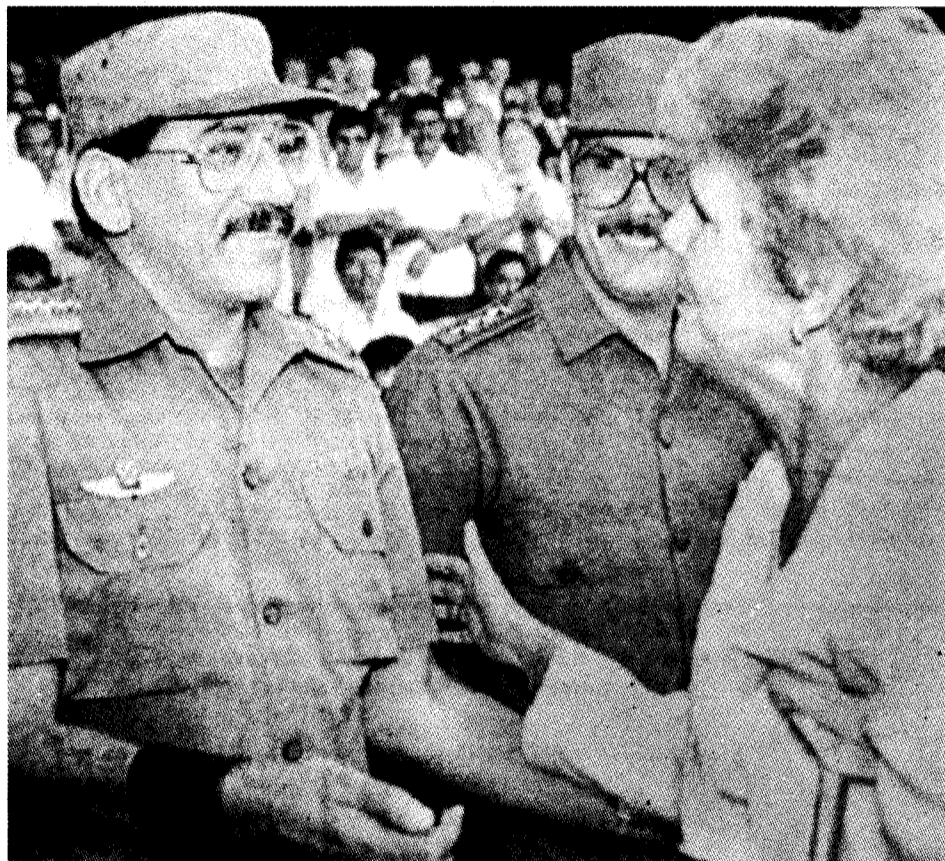
The polarized scene at the presidential inaugural in Managua’s National Stadium on April 25 dramatically reproduced a microcosm of Nicaragua today. The baseball stadium was sharply split: to the left of home plate the stands were occupied by supporters of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN); on the right-field side were the cheering squads from the 14-party coalition of the National Opposition Union (UNO). When the president-elect, Washington-financed contra candidate and leading oligarch Violeta Chamorro, entered dressed as usual in saintly white and riding in a vehicle closely resembling John Paul’s popemobile, she was pelted with plastic bags of water hurled from the left-field bleachers.

Behind the third base line, thousands jeered the visiting dignitaries: “Assassin!” they cried at Salvadoran president Alfredo Cristiani of ARENA, the party of the death squads. Panamanian puppet

Guillermo Endara, installed on the bayonets of the 82nd Airborne, was greeted with shouts of “Sellout!” U.S. vice president Dan Quayle walked in to a chorus of “Asesino!” and the chant, “Here, there, the Yankees will die!” Earlier, when outgoing president Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega tried to walk down the right-field line, he faced a similar hail of water bags. When he retreated across the field, Sandinista supporters chanted a warning: “Ortega! Ortega! We won’t give up our guns!”

Ortega proceeded to give a speech “militantly” calling on the people to respect social peace (!) in the country and to fight for “national reconciliation.” He pledged that the FSLN would be a “constructive opposition” to the counter-revolutionary Chamorro government. Demagogically proclaiming that along with Nicaraguan nationalist hero Sandino he would always be on the side of the

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Sandinista Comandante Humberto Ortega greets his new boss, contra president Violeta Chamorro.

Class War at South Korea Shipyard

Hyundai Workers Battle Troops

TOKYO, April 30—Yesterday morning, 10,000 heavily armed South Korean riot policemen in combat fatigues stormed the Hyundai shipyard in Ulsan, Korea. They invaded the yard, the world’s largest, by land, sea and air in an attempt to crush a three-day-old sit-in strike by 20,000 workers. At the shipyard, workers fought the invading troops with homemade cannons and rolled flaming oil barrels into police lines. More than 100 workers are perched high on a 262-foot Goliath crane, showering bolts on police below; reportedly they have enough food and ammunition to hold out for 15 days. Three thousand workers who had barricaded and defended the yard’s main gate were finally overcome by tear gas barrages and club-swinging cops.

Hyundai workers are striking against the recent jailing of four of their

leaders. Outraged by the government-orchestrated assault on their plant, more than 20,000 workers took to the streets of Ulsan, Hyundai’s company town, to do battle with the occupying security forces. So far, more than 600 workers have been arrested and scores injured as Ulsan, 190 miles southeast of Seoul, looks like a war zone. Korean television broadcast pictures of brutal police beatings of prisoners.

Major roads into the area have been closed and air flights were suspended. Twenty-six schools have been closed and most stores are shut. Ulsan workers, in streetfighting with the hated riot cops, have destroyed numerous police vehicles and a couple of buses and fire engines. The *Japan Times* (29 April) reports that “clouds of choking tear gas and columns of black smoke billowing from flaming debris hung over the

eastern edge of the city much of the day.” At the nearby Hyundai Motor Company, over half the 27,000 workers protested in solidarity with the shipyard workers. In the streets between the shipyard and the auto plant, workers fought pitched battles with the police. Students in Seoul also poured into the streets to back the strikers.

The Ulsan shipyard workers have been in the forefront of the fight by South Korea’s powerful proletariat to create independent and militant unions, junking the corporatist unions that enforced brutal labor discipline of the *chaebols*, the huge state-sponsored monopolies like Hyundai. South Korea’s supposed “economic miracle” is the product of the highest rate of exploitation and the deadliest working conditions in the industrial world. The Hyundai workers have been in the

bourgeoisie’s cross hairs since they scored a stunning victory and won a genuine union in 1987, and won a 20 percent wage increase the following year. In 1989 the Hyundai workers struck for 109 days, but lost after 12,000 police stormed the shipyard and broke the strike. The current jailings of union leaders stem from that strike.

The government’s anti-union frenzy has been fueled by the rapidly deteriorating condition of South Korea’s economy. South Korean exports, especially automobiles, have dropped dramatically in the past year, and Hyundai has been hit the hardest. The weakening of the Japanese yen has also exposed the overvalued *won* (South Korea’s currency), further depressing the economy. It was no accident that the South Korean stock market took its biggest-ever

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Stop West German Expulsion of Gypsies

The Gestapo still lives in "democratic" West Germany. In a chilling scene reminiscent of Hitler's *Kristallnacht* pogrom, at 6:30 a.m. on April 5, an army of 1,200 Cologne cops stormed into the trailer homes and apartments of 150 Roma Gypsies. Surprised in their sleep, they were dragged out of their homes half-naked. The police tore jewelry off Roma women. Eight children were kidnapped by the state. For seven hours the Gypsies' homes and bodies were searched, their money confiscated—including the month's welfare payments. Some 200,000 DM was seized while police kept lawyers and supporters away. Altogether, 34 people were arrested, 14 for belonging to an alleged "criminal band" whose children were supposedly bought to be trained as "thieves." There were also raids in Hamburg, Bochum and Nuremberg as part of the escalating racist campaign.

Those arrested now face deportation as the German capitalist ruling class campaigns to "purify" the country of its small surviving Gypsy population. Half a million Gypsies were exterminated by the Third Reich, and the West German government's present campaign carries an unmistakable fascist odor. Last October several hundred Gypsies, including many children, were beaten up by the Hamburg police and driven out of the former concentration camp of Neu-

gamme where they had set up tents to protest threatened deportations. After a hunger strike, deportation plans were put on hold—purportedly for state agencies to develop a plan to permit the Gypsy families to remain in Hamburg. Instead the agencies set up for "integrating" the Gypsies turned their information over to the authorities to prepare mass deportations!

Following the October attack at Neuengamme, our fraternal defense organization, the Komitee für Soziale Verteidigung (KfsV), issued a statement protesting the expulsions. Comrades of the Trotzkistische Liga Deutschlands (now of the Spartakist-Arbeiterpartei Deutschlands) participated in an August demonstration against the racist deportation plans of the Social Democratic (SPD) dominated Hamburg city government. Protests were also sent by the Partisan Defense Committee of Canada and the Australian PDC. From the U.S., the Partisan Defense Committee wrote the German embassy and Hamburg mayor protesting the threatened deportations:

"The German government, as the self-proclaimed successor state to Hitler's Third Reich, continues to treat the Roma and Sinti [Gypsy communities which historically settled in German-speaking lands] people as *Untermenschen* [sub-humans], while you welcome with open arms thousands of DDR 'dropouts' and *Volksdeutsche* [ethnic Germans] from



Der Spiegel
Roma Gypsies at former Nazi concentration camp of Neuengamme stage hunger strike last year to protest deportation order.

Eastern Europe. Today's deportations are prepared with information obtained by government agencies under the guise of 'integrating' Roma families, just as the 1939 Nazi census was used to round up deportees for the death camps.

"This racist outrage takes place in the context of the ominous rise of the fascists. It is an attack on all minorities, immigrant 'guest' workers and the whole of the German working class....

"We demand: Stop the expulsions! Full citizenship rights for foreign-born workers and their families!"

For years minorities and immigrant workers in West Germany have lived under the shadow of resurgent German nationalism. With Kohl's drive to create a Greater Germany, racist and fascist attacks have steadily increased—East and West. From East German placards saying that PDS chairman Gregor Gysi, of Jewish origin, is "No German" to the West German government campaign to finish the job on the Gypsies begun in Hitler's death camps, the omens are in full view. On April 7, our comrades in the KfsV protested the brutal Cologne police attack:

"These methods in the tradition of the Gestapo are being revived against these victims of the Third Reich in order to

build a new, Fourth Reich. We demand that all charges against the Roma community be immediately dropped, that confiscated property be returned and that all arrested adults and children be released. We demand compensatory damages of at least a million D-marks for this community, and full citizenship rights for all Sinti and Roma!"

Kohl's plans must be stopped. Harassment, deportations and racist state terror—this is what "free world" Germany means for the Roma people, and it is a foretaste of what capitalist reunification of Germany will mean for Polish, Vietnamese, Mozambican and other minority workers in the DDR. The German working class, East and West, must take up the fight to defend the Roma and all immigrant and minority communities.

* * *

We encourage WV readers to continue to support and build the PDC. Become a monthly sustaining contributor. Send a donation of \$5 or more and receive a subscription to *Class-Struggle Defense Notes*. For a single copy send \$1 to: Partisan Defense Committee, P.O. Box 99, Canal Street Station, New York, New York 10013. ■



TROTSKY

The Founding of Korean Communism

The Korean Communist Party was one of the first to be established in the Far East, in 1920, in response to the Russian Revolution. At the time, Korea was still a Japanese colony. The first manifesto of the KCP, adopted in 1921, called on the proletariat to fight against colonial rule and capitalist exploitation, emphasizing the need for common struggle with Japanese and Chinese revolutionaries.



LENIN

Our national emancipation movement is merely a step to the ultimate purpose of social revolution, and we are striving for the complete elimination of all of the classes of our present society. This is our belief and, at the same time, the common objective of all the toiling masses of the world. Thus, our enemy is all the exploiting classes of the world, as well as the Japanese militarists and financiers, and all the masses who share the common fate under the oppressions of the ruling class must unite their efforts. Thus, our efforts may be meager, but we express heartfelt congratulations to the Russian working masses and await with great expectation their success. We also expect the success of the activities of the Chinese mass revolutionary organizations and trust in the success of the birth of the recent Japanese socialist organization and Japanese Communist Party. Thus, we shall together destroy and drive out the roots of all the crimes of exploiting classes in East Asia, nay, in the entire world.

—"Manifesto of the Korean Communist Party" (May 1921)

WORKERS VANGUARD

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The Massacre of MOVE



13 May 1985

UPI

May 13 marks the fifth anniversary of the police bombing of the radical MOVE commune in West Philadelphia. Eleven black people, including five children, were devoured in the fiery inferno, and a black neighborhood turned to ash. Democratic mayor Wilson Goode gave the order, the FBI supplied the C-4 explosives, Philly cops dropped the bomb on the house, then opened up with 10,000 rounds of machine-gun and rifle fire to drive back into the flames those who sought to escape. Reagan's top cop Ed Meese cited this state terrorism as a "good example" for other police to follow.

The Mother's Day 1985 siege of Osage Avenue began as a cop bull-horn delivered the message: "Attention MOVE. This is America." Racist capitalist America, where mass murder of black people is officially sanctioned. Today, the criminals who carried out this state murder are free while Ramona Africa remains behind bars for the "crime" of surviving the massacre, as do more than a dozen other members of the Africa family jailed earlier. Free the MOVE prisoners! The American workers revolution will avenge the MOVE martyrs!

Noah Wolkenstein



WV Photo

1955-1990

It is with shock and deep grief that we announce the death of our comrade Noah Wolkenstein. Noah served as production manager of *Workers Vanguard* and *Spartacist* and department head of the composition crew up until October 1988. He died April 23 by his own hand. Noah was 34 years old, a member of the Bay Area Spartacist League and a full member of the SL Central Committee at the time of his death.

This tragedy touches every comrade and section of the International Communist League, in particular the comrades in New York who knew him in his painstaking and brilliant political work on the production side of our press, but also many comrades from other party locals and ICL sections. During his years as WV comp chief Noah also took responsibility for setting up press production systems and training comrades in Canada, France and elsewhere. During February and March of this year, comrade Noah was in Germany to establish the basic technical framework for our press there. He accomplished this task with the determination which was characteristic of him.

Noah joined the party in 1975. His older sister Rachel was recruited in 1973, following a fusion between the Spartacist League and the Buffalo Marxist Caucus. Noah's older brother Seth joined the party in 1974.

Noah's parents, Gloria and Ed Wolkenstein, have reached out to us through their own grief to bear witness to the strength of Noah's communist convictions and the satisfaction he drew from his crucial work for our party during these fifteen years. Our hearts go out to his parents, his other sister, Naomi, and the other members of the family.

An appreciation of Noah's life and contributions to the work of our party will appear in our next issue. In deference to Noah's expressed wish that no memorials be held, private informal gatherings are being held for his comrades to remember him. He will be remembered always and best through our determination to carry forward the struggle for the communist ideals to which he devoted all his energy and intelligence during the too brief time we had together.

Charges Dropped Against Abortion Clinic Defender

Boston

On April 17, a Boston municipal courtroom was the scene of a small but significant victory in the battle for abortion rights. When Judge Theodore Bakas pronounced that "Mary A." was not guilty of the grotesquely trumped-up charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon—namely, her foot—dozens of pro-choice activists broke out into applause.

The case stems from a confrontation outside the beleaguered Gynecare, a women's health clinic in downtown Boston and longtime target for the reactionaries of Operation Rescue (O.R.). More than a hundred of their ilk attempted to seal off the facility on January 13. They were met by an even larger crowd prepared to defend the clinic.

One twisted little O.R. bigot, Steve Darling, was among those who tried to break through a line of clinic defenders, to penetrate the building and close down the services. The little creep literally got down on his hands and knees and tried to crawl his way in by butting against the legs of women and their supporters on the defense line. But naturally the cops arrested the victim instead of this perverted perp.

As a *Boston Globe* (11 April) article by Bella English reported, Mary A. had

been at the rally on January 13 holding a sign, "Defend Women's Rights," which she later put down to link arms in front of the police barricades:

"All of a sudden, a man from Operation Rescue dove at her feet. 'He was on his stomach, on the ground, trying to get through my legs,' Mary recalled. She reacted instinctively. 'I put my foot on his shoulder and pushed. I did not kick him. I was scared. If he had kept coming, I would have fallen down'."

Boston Gynecare clinic has been at the center of the abortion rights controversy. Here, at demonstration last July 22, Spartacist contingent calls for "Free Abortion on Demand!" "Free Quality Health Care for All!"

That the case even came to trial is an outrage of malicious prosecution. Not one person on the prosecutor's side, from "plaintiff" Darling to the cop who made the arrest at the behest of the O.R. bigots, could even identify Mary in the courtroom prior to the trial. The case had been previously dismissed by the judge months ago, but was reopened when prosecutor James Sweeney and Darling insisted on pressing charges. Sweeney's

boss is the notorious Suffolk district attorney Newman Flanagan, an avid anti-abortionist and the architect of the racist campaign to railroad a black man, Willie Bennett, in the murder of Carol Stuart.

This is far from the first case of state repression against abortion clinic defenders in the Boston area. Susan Newsom, an associate director of Planned Parenthood, was charged with assault and battery *four months* after an O.R. assault on a Brookline clinic, when she appeared on TV as a spokesman for Planned Parenthood. Newsom was found not guilty as well. Also on January 16, when Mary A. was arrested at Gynecare, a Spartacist supporter was arrested at an abortion rights rally in front of Pre-Term Health Services in Brookline, manhandled by the cops, handcuffed and ludicrously charged

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USIA Tours Russian Anti-Semites

The violent attack on the Moscow writers group "April" by the fascist Pamyat (Memory) group earlier this year sent a shudder around the world, signaling the ominous rise of chauvinist Russian nationalism inside the Soviet Union. Now Washington is touring a seven-man group of "conservative Russian writers" around the U.S., several of whom have gained notoriety for their virulent anti-Semitism. This is hardly surprising particularly coming from the Bush administration, which had a nest of Nazis and anti-Semites in its election campaign staff, including Republican Party deputy national chairman Frederick Malek, who kept lists of Jews in government positions.

The United States Information Agency (USIA) International Visitor Program has laid out \$60,000 to sponsor a month-long national tour that winds up in New York City on May 13. At least three of these Mother Russia nativists, Viktor Likhonov, Oleg Mikhailov and Stanislav Kunayev, recently signed an anti-Semitic letter in the Soviet journal *Literaturnaya Rossiya* blaming "Zionists" for anti-Jewish pogroms. A fourth member of this unsavory delegation hand-picked by the U.S. embassy in Moscow is the journal's editor, Ernst Safonov. Kunayev wrote an article in the June 1989 *Nash Sovremennik* claiming that infamous anti-Semitic tsarist police forgery, the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," was authentic and claiming that "publicists of Jewish origin use Russian surnames" to "write about the defects of the Soviet people."

Although these latter-day Black Hundreds ideologists are quick to deny they are members of Pamyat, the USIA's "international visitors" are acknowledged by one of their tour hosts at the Washington, D.C. Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies as "editors of journals and newspapers which often have antisemitic articles presented there."

According to State Department and USIA spokesmen, the purpose of this trip is to expose these "conservative Russian writers" to "the depth and diversity of American culture and to the principles and practices of a pluralistic society." Exposure to American culture? What chutzpah, and what hypocrisy. The Bush administration and Congress have unleashed a broad assault on culture and

free speech, censoring public showings of disfavored artists like the late Robert Mapplethorpe and ordering a 400 percent increase last year in "obscenity" prosecutions by the U.S. Justice Department which wants to dictate what U.S. citizens

can read and watch. The USIA's sister agencies Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, where they filled Eastern European and Soviet airwaves with their filth.

gan's laying of a wreath at Bitburg Cemetery where 49 members of the SS are buried."

Anti-communism and anti-Semitism are certainly staples of American imperialism. At the end of World War II more

Sumovsky/Zoja Pictures



All the old crap: Russian reactionaries of "Fatherland" march under banner of St. George. Anti-Semitic writer, Gorbachev adviser Valentin Rasputin (right) and Pamyat fascist demagogue Dmitri Vasiliev (far right).



Sumovsky/Zoja Pictures



Syigma

can read and watch.

Learning about pluralistic principles? We have not forgotten that five years ago the Reagan/Bush State Department barred three prominent Soviet Jews, including World War II hero David Dragunsky, from attending a 40th anniversary celebration of V-E Day. General Dragunsky denounced this blatant anti-Soviet and anti-Semitic outrage, stating that "we see this act as linked to President Rea-

than 1,500 Nazi war criminals were recruited for jobs in U.S. intelligence. Some of them took up broadcasting careers at the USIA's sister agencies Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, where they filled Eastern European and Soviet airwaves with their filth.

Of course, the real reason the Bush administration invited the seven nationalists who yearn for an iron hand to rule the Soviet Union is to get an inside track

with those they hope may be among the future rulers of a "post-Soviet Russia." The USIA boasts, according to the *Washington Post* (19 April), that over the years, its visitor program has "included 124 men and one woman who later rose to be chiefs of state or heads of government in such countries as Botswana, Kenya, the Republic of South Africa, Costa Rica, Brazil, Malaysia, Japan, India and Morocco."

Indeed, one of those selected by the U.S. embassy talent scouts is current Moscow high flyer Valentin Rasputin, who declined the American invitation because Gorbachev recently named him to his cabinet. Rasputin, a leader of the Russian Writers Union, told *New York Times* reporter Bill Keller that "the Jews here should feel responsible for the sin of having carried out the Revolution and...for the killing of God."

This glorification of "truly Russian" culture is animated by hatred for the communist ideals of the 1917 October Revolution which smashed the Black Hundreds, the murderous anti-Jewish pogromists unleashed by the tsarist regime. The anti-communist Zionists at the National Conference on Soviet Jewry complained about the State Department's justifications for the tour, but their only beef is the use of taxpayers' dollars, saying that the Russian chauvinists "are perfectly free to come to the United States on their own money!"

The "USIA Seven" are poisonous anti-Soviet demagogues. They are fanning the flames of chauvinism to produce murderous pogroms and national conflagrations, emboldening the imperialists' drive for conquest and plunder. We are fighting to carry out a workers revolution before the U.S. imperialists unleash another holocaust, this time with nuclear weapons. As part of a common internationalist struggle, Soviet workers must defend the gains of October by returning to the road of Lenin and Trotsky, ousting the Stalinist bureaucracy which has conciliated and encouraged the Russian nativist counter-revolutionaries. As a vital first step along this path, the Soviet proletariat can begin by smashing Pamyat and its ilk before this festering sore becomes a malignant cancer threatening the multinational Soviet state and its many peoples. ■

Boston...

(continued from page 3)

with assault and battery for demonstratively refusing an O.R. leaflet. His case was continued without finding on March 13, making dismissal likely.

Mary A. is reluctant to give out her last name out of fear of harassment from the "god squads." Her concern is not without foundation. Just last month, O.R. operatives stole the log book of patients and doctors at Gynecare and since then at least two doctors have been harassed

several times through letters and telephone calls.

In response to the attempts by anti-abortion bigots to blockade the clinics and intimidate patients, organizations like Planned Parenthood and NOW seek to "defuse" the situation by relying on the cops to do their supposed "duty." An echo of NOW's strategy is made by the reformist Socialist Action which insists: "We must continue to demand that city officials—including the mayor, the city council and the police—enforce the law and keep the clinics accessible" (*Socialist Action*, November 1989). But as the

Mary A. case graphically attests, the police are the enforcers of the capitalist order, which is inimicable to women's rights.

Across the country, where clinics have been under attack, bourgeois feminists like NOW look to the cops while various leftists and militant women's rights activists have sought to defend the clinics through direct action. Yet many of the latter, including pseudo-Trotskyists and the Maoist RCP's Refuse and Resist, seek "unity" with NOW in a common "movement." The axis of this popular front of class collaboration is, as always, the Democratic Party. NOW leader Molly Yard's talk of a "women's party" quickly went up in smoke as the "movement" responded to last year's Supreme Court decision on the Missouri abortion case by focusing on electing Democrats to state legislatures. Meanwhile, Democratic Party women candidates are running for governor in Texas and California on their support for the death penalty—racist legal lynching.

Let Bill Baird Speak!

At a student "pro-choice" rally scheduled for May 1 at Boston Common, organizers disinvited courageous abortion clinic pioneer Bill Baird, whose clinic has been bombed and who was jailed in Massachusetts for displaying birth control devices in 1967. They threaten to get the cops to prevent him from speaking to the crowd. Instead they want to highlight Democratic gubernatorial candi-

dates Francis Bellotti and Evelyn Murphy (as well as a "pro-choice Republican"). In 1975, Bellotti was named in a civil suit, *Baird v. Bellotti*, in which Baird fought to strike down a Massachusetts law requiring parental permission for young women seeking abortions. Bill Baird should be a guest of honor at any women's rights gathering!

As the anti-abortion bigots look to the bourgeois state for support, from the Supreme Court and White House down to the local cops, what's vitally needed is to mobilize women, minorities and centrally the power of labor in defense of abortion rights and to stop the Operation Rescue bigots when they try to strike. Such an independent mobilization must be built against both Democrats and Republicans, the partner parties of capital who stand with their cops. At a Boston demonstration to defend Gynecare last July, Spartacist League supporters carried signs calling on labor to defend abortion clinics against the deadly "right to life" bigots. The SL demanded "Free Abortion on Demand" as well as "Free, Quality Health Care for All!" "Abortion Rights for Teens—Down with Parental Consent Laws!" "Down with Bush, Break with the Democrats, Build a Workers Party!" and "Women's Liberation Through Socialist Revolution!"

Mary A. still needs money to cover lawyer's fees. Donations to her defense fund can be sent to the "Ad Hoc Mary A. Defense Fund," MIT Branch, P.O. Box 294, Cambridge, MA 02139. ■

WORKERS VANGUARD

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Lifestyle Police Frame Gonzo Journalist

"I got nothing personal against Thompson.... I've read all his stuff and I know how he is: he's a goddamn lunatic—and you've got to be careful with a bastard like that, because no matter how hard he tries, he just can't help but tell the truth."

—Pittsburgh tackle Tom Keating, quoted in Hunter S. Thompson's "Fear and Loathing at the Super Bowl" (1973)

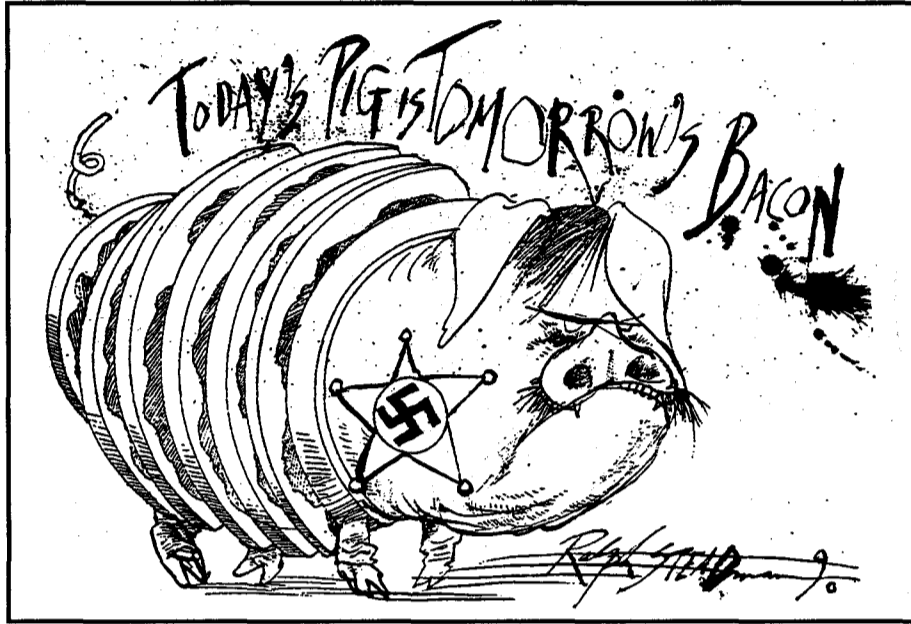
Hunter S. Thompson, one of the most incisive, savage and sardonic writers on the American scene for 25 years, is being victimized by an outrageous witchhunt in Aspen, Colorado, his home for the past two decades. "Lifestyle-police raid home of crazed gonzo journalist. Eleven-hour search by six trained investigators yields nothing but crumbs," Thompson suggested as his own title for the story of how he's suddenly facing felony charges carrying up to 16 years in prison.

The whole thing is a vindictive set-up by the Aspen D.A.'s office, and who knows what sinister figures are lurking in the background. Certainly the 52-year-old writer has managed to outrage and expose almost every lying, hypocritical politician in America, from pillars of the community in once small-town Aspen to Richard Milhous Nixon. Former *Rolling Stone* columnist Thompson is most popularly known for inspiring the Doonesbury cartoon character "Uncle Duke," while we remember better his series of "fear and loathing" essays and books on the dark side of the American dream. He dubbed this mixture of fact and revealing half-fiction "gonzo journalism," which he once described as "a style of 'reporting' based on William Faulkner's idea that the best fiction is far more true than any kind of journalism."

We appreciate especially Thompson's unrelenting pursuit of the truth about this corrupt American empire and its crooked prince of darkness, the somehow still-present Richard Nixon. The best of the gonzo journalist's essays are cheerfully apocalyptic and pessimistic prognoses, with an elegant and honest quality something like George Orwell on acid, or maybe Gore Vidal on speed.

The lifestyle cops broke in on this ferociously independent writer on the word of a producer and sometime star in porn films, who claimed she wanted to interview Thompson, but managed to get

Defend Hunter S. Thompson!



Ralph Steadman's Doctor Hunter S. Thompson Defense Fund cartoon. At right: the gonzo author.



Edmund Shea

into an argument instead. She ran to the cops with charges that he had "twisted her left breast" (misdemeanor assault) and tried to get her into a hot tub as well. He denied all this, noting "she would have displaced too much water" in any case. But the initial charges were only a pretext; the raid was a fishing expedition so the D.A. could get something on Thompson that could push the misdemeanor charges up to serious felony ones.

Warren Hinckle, veteran journalist and 25-year professional colleague of Thompson's, notes that in their crazed all-night search of Thompson's Woody Creek log cabin on February 26, the six investigators from D.A. Milt Blakey's office "ripped apart his books and searched the cracks in the floorboards and came up with a decade's detritus of natural herbs and controlled substances. The meager haul was fit for a Smithsonian sampling of recreational drugs of the '60s.... The widespread impression that the D.A. was out to do in Thompson was bolstered by his listing 'child pornography tape' among the items taken from Thompson.

This turned out to be a video of the TV tabloid news show 'Inside Edition' that contained a segment from the BBC on child pornography" (*San Francisco Examiner*, 12 April).

They tried but failed to get a felony gun charge for a model of an ancient pre-World War I Gatling gun. (Whatever happened to the Second Amendment right to bear arms?) So instead they scrambled up a pathetic miscellany of other charges, including one for felony possession of Valium (four tablets)! The best they could do on hopefully sinister-sounding non-drug felony counts was for a few sticks of dynamite left by a friend who blasts creeks for irrigation. And, according to Warren Hinckle in his 19 April *Examiner* column, the woman says "that she was pressured into making the statement by Aspen authorities who told her they were itching to get into the writer's house."

The bases for these felony charges are patently ridiculous, and the Aspen lawmen may look like fools, but the charges are deadly serious. It's probably only because Thompson isn't black and is fairly famous that the D.A.'s men didn't come in with guns blazing (besides, Thompson is well known to be fond of firearms himself). Hinckle recalled how the Chicago cops burst into Fred Hampton's apartment in 1969, murdering two Black Panther Party members in their beds.

Thompson pointed out at a forum at Columbia University on April 18 that the raid has sinister implications for everybody. "People don't realize how far things have slipped; the watershed high court decisions eroding the Fourth Amendment that have gone unnoticed...." He said that America is entering the era of the "retroactive warrant": "They search your house without cause, and if they find anything to charge you with, the courts will uphold it as a proper search. Today it's me, tomorrow it's you," he told the college audience. "We are at the beginning of the '90s, the beginning of an evil decade.... The bastards are out to get us." After the students' applause, he continued: "What do you know of these

things? You come from a generation that thinks rain is poison, sex means certain death and anything that's fun will give you cancer."

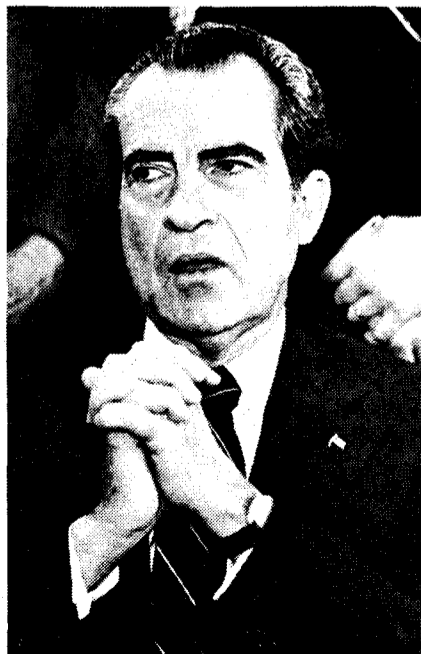
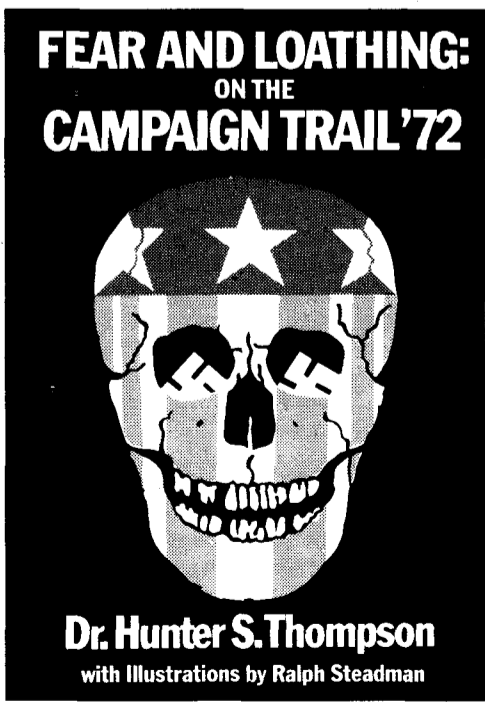
"Fur and Loathing" in Aspen

So why are they trying so hard to get Hunter S. Thompson? Well, even paranoids have real enemies, and the inventor of "gonzo journalism" has made most of the right ones. Thompson first outraged the city fathers back in 1970, when he almost won an election for sheriff (the vote was 1,533 to 1,068). He ran on a "freak power" platform including taking the profit out of drug dealing and renaming the place "Fat City" to discourage "greed heads and land rapers" from turning the town into the roaring glitzy monster it has become today.

It's a weird place, as the *New York Times Magazine* (21 January) noted: "Led by a four-term mayor some call a dictator, Aspen has banned smoking and neon and will soon vote on becoming the first town in the world, perhaps, to ban the sale of fur coats." Meanwhile, the filthy rich dripping with diamonds and furs line the main streets, the airfield is jammed with Learjets while the real powers that be play up the ecological image to hype their mammoth hotels.

With all this, it is significant that Thompson has a good deal of support in Aspen. According to the editor of the *Aspen Times Daily*, "The reaction of the town—his potential jurors—has been very positive toward Hunter," reports Warren Hinckle. One caller to the *Aspen Daily News* said the raid "seems to be '1984' in action." Another opined an 11-hour search of the D.A.'s house would probably turn up something embarrassing too. Aspen may be small, but it's not a strait-laced small-minded Baptist backwater. The average price of a house has soared to \$1.1 million. A lot of the townsfolk are some kind of operator, and that makes them more sympathetic to Thompson. If he proves too popular locally, the prosecution is considering a change of venue, permitted under an obscure Colorado law.

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Actualidad Española
Thompson's devastating treatment of Nixon "the predatory shyster."

Bigots Target Mapplethorpe Exhibit

On April 7, dozens of sheriff's deputies and cops raided a Midwest establishment after a grand jury charged it and the kingpin of the operation with "pandering obscenity and misuse of a minor in nudity-oriented material." This wasn't some "adult entertainment" video warehouse on the strip, or the local 7-Eleven being pounced on by Legion of Decency snoops for hiding a few copies of *Hustler* or *Penthouse* under the counter. No, the sheriff of Cincinnati, Ohio has already banned all that. This time the "Censor-nati" vice cops, obviously starved for something juicy, were unleashed against a fancy art gallery, the Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center, and its courageous director, Dennis Barrie. Barrie faces a \$1,000 fine and up to six months in jail for each count, while the museum may be fined \$10,000.

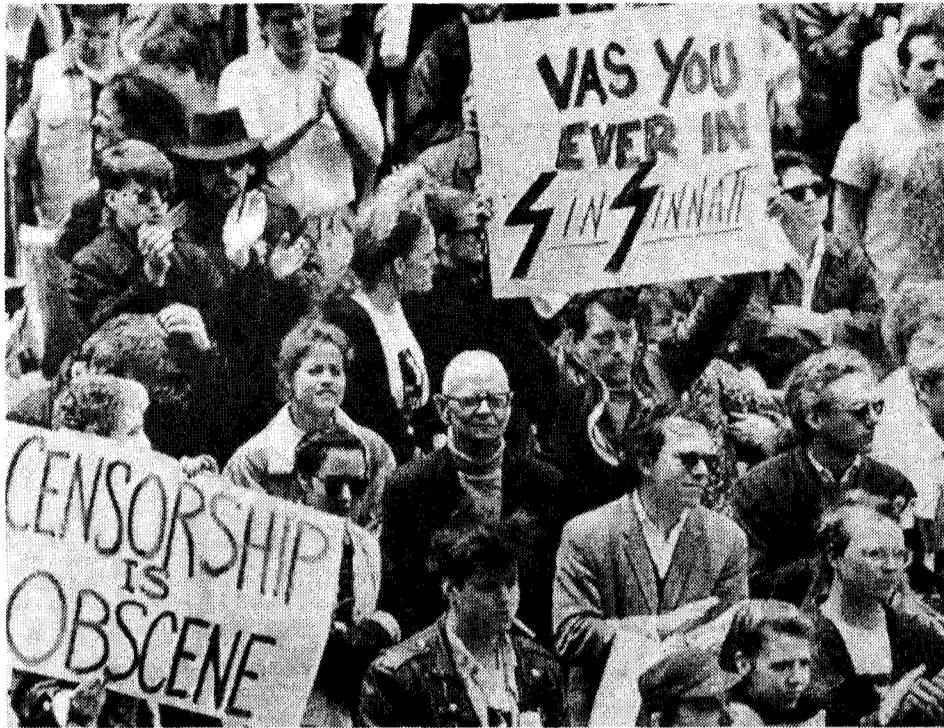
The center is showing "The Perfect Moment," a traveling retrospective exhibit of 175 photographs by the late Robert Mapplethorpe that has become the target of reactionary censors across the nation. Trouble was expected early on in Cincinnati, where Hamilton County sheriff Simon Leis and prosecutor Arthur Ney forged their careers through anti-porn crusades, and the National Coalition Against Pornography and Citizens for Community Values picketed with signs like "God Is Against Pornography—So Are We." The Arts Center received threats and even human excrement in the mail before the show opened, and the chairman of the gallery's board resigned under the pressure.

But gallery director Dennis Barrie insisted the show will go on, and a thousand Cincinnatians, smarting under their city's image as a rube "Porkopolis" of repression, came out to defend the art works. Protesters' signs declared, "Censorship is obscene" and "If you give artists freedom of expression, soon every

Cincinnati Museum Stands Fast

American will want it." They angrily chanted "Fascists!" "Gestapo go home!" and "The whole world is watching, the whole world is laughing," as the vice squad shut down the gallery for over an hour to videotape the "evidence." The show was reopened and no works were

started last summer when Jesse Helms and fellow yahoos in Congress sought to impose state censorship of art, going after the 20-year retrospective exhibit for including photographs of nude black and white men together and some sadomasochistic scenes, as well as two photos of



Cincinnati rally of 1,000 takes stand against censorship.

seized, however, as a judge had earlier ruled against any such acts until the criminal charges are resolved. Predictably Arts Center attendance is now breaking all records.

Over the past year the Mapplethorpe exhibit has become a lightning rod. It

partially nude children. The Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D.C. caved in to this Congressional ranting last summer and canned the show. This "burning the village in order to save it" mentality predictably backfired, as the Corcoran's director quit under the ignominy of hav-

ing self-censored away the museum's reputation (see "Forbidden Art?" WV No. 487, 13 October 1989).

After the D.C. scandal, the Mapplethorpe show appeared without incident at museums from Hartford, Connecticut to Chicago, Philadelphia and Berkeley, California (Boston will be the last stop). Meanwhile, the National Endowment for the Arts, which had partially funded the original exhibit, is now being watched like a hawk for signs of softness on "obscenity." Used to be this threat to "the American way of life" was known as "the Commie menace."

Dennis Barrie and the Mapplethorpe show will find many defenders in the world of "high art" who will claim that *real* "obscenity" is of course indefensible. But we're for freedom of expression, whether it's an art show or *Penthouse*, or even the seedy "adult fantasyland" warehouse. The government has no business telling people what they can read or look at: such attitudes on free speech lead straight to repression of political dissent. We do not accept the government's exception of "obscenity" from the right to free speech, as the Partisan Defense Committee pointed out in 1987 in a U.S. Supreme Court *amicus curiae* ("friend of the court") brief on the side of Indiana booksellers against an anti-porn RICO witchhunt trying to shut them down:

"The Spartacist League has a longstanding position against government regulation of private life.... Religious beliefs and determinations of morality cannot dictate what is permissible for man to read, think, fantasize—be it the classics or 'smut'; erotica or pornography. Absent physical harm to another, it is no concern of the state."

—"No to RICO Sex Witchhunt!"
Women and Revolution No. 35,
Summer 1988

If you don't like it, you don't have to look at it. Drop the charges against Dennis Barrie! ■

East Germany: Foreign Workers Face Mass Firings

As Day X approaches when currency union with capitalist West Germany is supposed to go into effect, on July 2, workers in the DDR (East Germany) may find themselves without a job. Many plants may shut down altogether because they are "not competitive" in a capitalist market economy. In particular, foreign workers, who work in the DDR on contract with their home governments, may be the first to go. Our comrades of the Spartakist Workers Party of Germany (SpAD) uniquely fought against capitalist reunification in the March elections, and have repeatedly demanded full citizenship rights for foreign workers.

The following article reporting on the threat of a shutdown at the VEB (state-owned) Stern Radio manufacturing plant in East Berlin is translated from Spartakist No. 69 (24 April), published by the SpAD.

No Layoffs! Defend Our Foreign Co-Workers!

Will the lights be turned off in VEB Stern Radio on June 30? This question is on the minds of many people. On April 10 the plant social council put up leaflets in the factory with the following text:

"VEB Stern Radio Berlin is in a deep crisis, its products are no longer salable, its production profile (more than ten different basic technologies, many production-processing service areas) is rather rigidly linked to a particular product mix, its financial situation is dramatic. We call on plant management to lay before the workforce an accounting of the measures taken, that is, concerning the future of the plant."

Despite the short notice of the an-

nouncement of the plantwide meeting—which meant that many workers, especially those with families, were unable to attend—the assembly was very well attended. This was doubtless a sign that the workers wanted to finally find out what was true in the rumors circulating, and what was going to happen with Stern Radio. No answers have yet been given to many direct questions raised by the workers.

Many colleagues have been transferred to other plants because there was not enough work in some departments. How safe are their jobs there? What is going to happen to the workers or departments



"Stop persecution of foreigners! For equality!" Two thousand demonstrate in Alexanderplatz, East Berlin on April 24.

scheduled for closing? Fifteen hundred workers are threatened with firing, and it could be even more. Apprentices would be ripped out of their training; the handicapped, already working under most difficult conditions, would be the first to be thrown onto the street and thus forced into poverty. The plant management de-

clared that they will support private enterprises with money and rooms. Is this supposed to be a way out, to guarantee a job in a market economy to the many workers who are faced with firing? Hardly!

When somebody in the plant meeting raised the question of what will happen

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Young Spartacus



Bridges/Atlanta Constitution

April 13: Anti-racist protest at Emory U.

Emory University

Integrated Protests Against Racism in the Deep South

ATLANTA—In the last weeks of the semester, students at Emory marched and rallied against a series of racist attacks on campus. In a climate of resurgent social segregation nationwide, this outburst of protest united anti-racist students—black, white, Asian—at this “liberal,” elite campus. Some members of a self-appointed and black-only “core” leadership urged deals with Emory president James T. Laney,

gaining token concessions. Many students looked for a genuine strategy to mobilize multiracial action against racist attacks. Members of the Atlanta Spartacus Youth Club warned against illusions in the police, the courts and the Laney administration, intervening at meetings and rallies to press for integrated struggle based on the social power of labor. Our Atlanta comrades issued the following leaflet on April 20.

Outraged Emory students have met and demonstrated over a series of racist attacks at Emory University. On March 5, black freshman Sabrina Collins reported that her dorm room had been ransacked and the words “nigger, hang” had been written in lipstick inside her closet at Longstreet Hall. Five subsequent acts of terror were reported, including a death threat on April 3. She now lies in a hospital in Augusta, unable to speak.

Racism at Emory is part of what is happening in the country at large: the worsening economic situation, the roll-back of democratic rights generally, a U.S. imperialism that, as it trumpets the “Death of Communism,” is rearmed and dangerous, as witnessed by the brutal rape of Panama. The fascists have been emboldened in this climate; January’s King holiday brought to Atlanta the

No Reliance on Administration/Cops/Courts! For Student/Labor/Black Mobilizations Against Racist Attacks!

spectre of 100 Klansmen demonstrating in full regalia at the state capitol and the Nazi Richard Barrett demonstrating at King’s gravesite while being protected by thousands of police and National Guardsmen. Likewise racist terror bombings last December killed a black civil rights lawyer in Savannah and an Alabama federal judge—both linked to school desegregation suits.

So the question is posed: what strategy to defend the campuses from racist terror? Groups like the SCLC [Southern

Christian Leadership Conference] advise students to reflect and do nothing—as they advised the community to stay home and ignore the Klan’s provocations this past January. But this only makes the racist terrorists bolder. Likewise, the answer does not lie in the call raised during the past week: “Go for Self.” While separatist feelings among Emory’s beleaguered minority students may be understandable given recent events, as a means of struggle it’s a dead end. Those students with the appetite to struggle

against racial oppression, take notice: Failure to struggle together simply means to hang separately.

Anyone can tell you that separate is not equal in this racist society. Just take the bus over to the AU Center. Like Emory, it was built with Coca-Cola money, but any comparison of the facilities puts the lie to claims of equal treatment. Just compare the endowment of Emory to Spelman College, one of the better-endowed majority black colleges: Emory’s \$990 million to Spelman’s \$47 million. And take a look at the Atlanta school system—not surprisingly, the public schools here are some of the most segregated of any urban area in the nation—and black children are paying the price with an inferior education.

Another dead end lies in appealing to

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Drop Charges Against Oberlin Six!

At Oberlin College in Ohio, campus protests continue in solidarity with the Oberlin Six, victims of a vicious cop attack on a protest against tuition hikes and racist discrimination. On April 27, nearly 200 rallied outside Oberlin Municipal Court and then went into the arraignment after the Student Defense Committee picked up the call to pack the courtroom in defense of the Six.

The Oberlin College office workers union, Local 502, OPEIU, has issued a statement in solidarity with the students, while student activists have appealed to steel workers at USX in Lorain to add their support. Also, 63 Oberlin faculty members signed a statement in defense of the Six, and students at Yale University have staged their own protest in solidarity.

The struggle against racism at Oberlin has carried over into a boycott of a local eatery, Gibson’s, after two black women were told to leave their table to make room for two white men. Daily pickets in front of Gibson’s protesting this racist Jim Crow outrage have been joined by individuals from the Oberlin Six and

Cops Off Campus!

the SDS, as well as the Spartacus Youth Club.

We reprint below a leaflet issued by the Oberlin Spartacus Youth Club on April 23.

On Friday night April 13, without warning, police and Oberlin College security viciously attacked an integrated student demonstration against bigotry and tuition hikes. Protesters were sitting on college president Starr’s lawn listening to a speaker when the cops charged the crowd. Three cops “tackled the speaker from behind, strangling him in a chokehold.” Using heavy steel flashlights, cops hit one woman across the chest, knocking her to the ground, and hit one man twice in the balls. Other students were knocked to the ground, dragged by the hair and threatened with police dogs. Three pro-

testers were handcuffed and thrown into police cars. Additional cops, including riot police from the Sheriff’s Department and Lorain County, and fire trucks with hoses were called in. One cop told a student, “We don’t want to negotiate. We’re going to kill you all in a couple of minutes.”

Outraged by the police violence, protesters, joined by over 300 students, professors and townspeople, surrounded the police cars and blocked the street, succeeding in freeing the arrested protesters. In a typical case of American “justice,” where the victims are beaten and then accused of violence, six demonstrators have been arrested on charges including assaulting a police officer and a felony charge of incitement to violence which carries a prison term if convicted.

Students have not been cowed by the

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Student Defense Committee

Cops rampage April 13 against Oberlin students protesting racist tuition hikes.

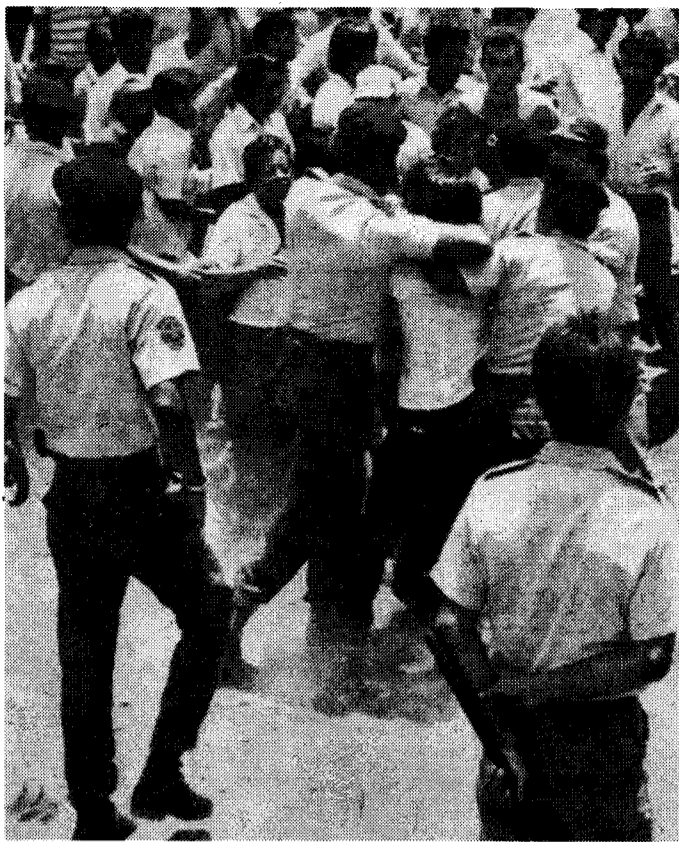
Nicaragua...

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poor, Ortega ended with the traditional FSLN chant, "Patria libre" (free fatherland), judiciously leaving off the traditional "o morir!" (or death), having decided to give up power peacefully to the contra coalition. Then he placed the presidential sash on Doña Contra Chamorro and gave her a kiss.

After the Sandinistas' defeat in the February elections, by a 55 to 41 percent margin, we wrote that the spectre of "a new round of civil war" hung over Nicaragua. In the countryside, the swaggering contra killers are coming back to reclaim for their bosses, the coffee barons and cotton kings, the haciendas and plantations expropriated when they fled after the 1979 insurrection against the Somoza dictatorship. Not so easy. In northern regions, militiamen have been stockpiling AK-47 automatic rifles and machine guns. Univisión Spanish-language TV broadcast a report showing Enrique Bolaños, leader of the businessmen's federation COSEP, demanding return of "his" lands while the peasants, arms in hand, vowed "never."

In the days before the handover of office, class contradictions sharpened in Nicaragua. In the urban areas, strikes paralyzed dozens of key services and industries. Bus drivers, teachers, water workers, construction workers, miners, workers at plastics plants, labor ministry, culture ministry and social security employees all stopped work demanding huge pay hikes in the face of inflation running over 100 percent per month. Telephone operators and technicians walked out, cutting off international calls and leaving much of Nicaragua virtually incommunicado in the days before the inauguration. Fearing chaos, Chamorro decided to keep Defense Minister General Humberto Ortega, brother of Daniel and a top Sandinista leader, as head of the army.



Sandinista police crack down on striking construction workers, April 1988.

This produced an uproar in the widely divergent UNO coalition, which ranges from extreme conservatives to the Socialist and Communist parties. On Chamorro's first day in office, two of her ministers resigned in protest, leaving the cabinet in the hands of technicians. After former Somoza ambassador Miriam Argüello was unanimously elected president of the National Assembly, the 14-party alliance split. Chamorro's personal advisers Antonio Lacayo and ex-contra leader (and long-time CIA operative) Alfredo César and their followers voted together with the FSLN deputies to elect the remaining parliamentary leadership.

Earlier, on March 27, the president-elect had signed a "transition agreement" with the FSLN to "respect the integrity of the army," leaving the Sandinista officer corps intact. But while Washington

fumed and contra commanders refused to disarm, Humberto Ortega promised to slash the army in half and disarm the civilian population. In fact, only the Sandinistas could peacefully subordinate their armed forces to the Chamorro regime. This could provoke splits in the FSLN, although "hardline" Interior Minister Tomás Borge warned his forces against "disobedience, insubordination and disrespect" toward the new authorities. Meanwhile, however, the "professionalized" army will be called on to dislodge peasants and repress striking workers on behalf of the contra capitalists.

Reconsolidating Capitalist Rule

After the Sandinista-led insurrection which overthrew the blood-drenched Somoza dynasty in July 1979, we noted

that the weakness of the working class and the flight of many local capitalists created a power vacuum in which the petty-bourgeois layers of the nationalist FSLN had an exceptional independence from the fundamental counterposed class forces of the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. We wrote at the time:

"The Sandinista guerrilla army is now the dominant military force. The decisive question is whether a new capitalist state apparatus will be reconstituted from among these petty-bourgeois and bourgeois radical forces or whether the revolution will lead to a break with the capitalist-imperialist system.

"The destruction of Somoza's National Guard, just like the destruction of Batista's Cuban army 20 years before, had opened up a period in which the class nature of the emerging state is not yet fundamentally determined."

— "What Next for Nicaragua?"
WV No. 238, 17 August 1979

A petty-bourgeois government, not committed to the defense of either bourgeois private property or the collectivized property forms of proletarian rule, was, we insisted, an inherently transitory and unstable phenomenon.

In Cuba, under the pressure of immediate military threat from the U.S., the contradiction was soon resolved in the formation of a bureaucratically deformed workers state by late 1960-early 1961, with the expropriation of the landowners and capitalists, both domestic and foreign. In Nicaragua, in contrast, the revolution remained stuck in a halfway, neither-nor position for almost ten years. The most recalcitrant landowners saw (some of) their properties confiscated, the more pliant ones were subsidized as workers' strikes were effectively banned for long periods. Most of the decade was dominated by Washington's contra war, but while the Sandinista army won the war militarily, the Yankee imperialists' economic war on Nicaragua brought the tiny Central American country to the brink of collapse.

The Nicaraguan Revolution began as a popular political revolution which in

Emory University...

(continued from page 7)

the Laney administration, which until recently tried to keep reports of Sabrina's ordeal a secret, and is putting forward the usual smokescreen of seminars and forums for "increased understanding" every time a black, Hispanic or Jewish student is attacked or harassed. They want students to blow off a little steam and then issue pronouncements on what a positive learning experience it's all been. Many students believe that their only weapon against the administration lies in threatening to trash Emory's much vaunted "image" as a haven of "liberal enlightenment," where it's routine to walk across campus and see Confederate flags displayed. Circulating letters to campus recruiters and other empty paper campaigns have been proposed.

But we say students can defend minority rights on this campus by organizing with the social power of labor. One good campuswide strike of students, teachers and campus workers would go a hell of a lot farther toward making the Emory campus a genuine place of education for everybody than all the appeals to the likes of Laney.

And appeals to the GBI [Georgia Bureau of Investigation] for investigations is looking to the enemy for help—it was the GBI that helped protect the Klan when they marched in January. Similarly, looking to the federal government for "protection" has historically proven deadly—the lesson was learned bitterly in Greensboro, North Carolina in 1979, when five black and white communists, trade unionists and community organizers were gunned down by the Klan and

Nazis in broad daylight with no less than two federal agents among the gunmen, and then the Klan got off in the courts! Or how about civil rights activist Viola Liuzzo, murdered in 1965 by a carful of Klansmen, one of whom was an FBI agent!

No reliance on the cops and the courts! History has shown time and again that the cops and courts will always protect groups like the Klan—because in the end, however they deny it, the ruling class will always keep the fascists in reserve; they will use them should a time come when they can hold power no other way.

As the main organizer of the Labor/Black Mobilization to Stop the Klan in Atlanta 21 January 1988, the Partisan Defense Committee—a class-struggle, non-sectarian social and legal defense organization that operates in accordance with the views of the Spartacist League—showed the way by organizing 3,000 unionists, blacks, students, gays and socialists in an integrated demonstration the likes of which hadn't been seen in the South in decades, since the days of Angelo Herndon. We need more of these kinds of demonstrations which mobilize the social power of labor—the largely black transit and city workers unions, the hospital workers. We must fight or the price we pay may cost us dearly—who knows where the next target will be?

The Spartacus Youth Clubs are committed to recruiting students and youth to fight for a workers party and a socialist future here and internationally. We say: No reliance on the administration/cops/courts! For integrated labor/minority mobilizations to smash racist terror on the campuses and elsewhere! For open admissions and free tuition—education is a right, not a privilege! For student/teacher/worker control of the campuses! Subscribe to *Workers Vanguard*! Join us! ■

Oberlin...

(continued from page 7)

police attack. On Sunday over 250 students came out to an emergency meeting and from there marched on Starr's house and the police station. On Tuesday, students sat in outside the General Faculty Council meeting and over 400 marched across campus later that night. The General Faculty Council passed a motion that all charges be dropped and over \$1,000 was quickly raised for bail and defense.

Students are fighting for a tuition freeze and for higher minority recruitment, but today Oberlin is inaccessible to the majority of working-class and black youth. Oberlin had its largest entering class this year with the fewest number of black freshmen. Oberlin began this past fall to eliminate the number of students on financial aid. At the same time that Oberlin is slashing financial aid, it is raising tuition. The Justice Dept. is investigating Oberlin College for price-fixing in collusion with 29 other elite universities. Right now, an Oberlin education costs over \$18,000 a year and by 1994 it's slated to cost over \$28,000 a year!

Across the country blacks are becoming missing people on college campuses. Black enrollment is plummeting even at a time when the number of black high school graduates is rising. And the few that make it to college are subjected to ever increasing racist attacks. Over 35 percent of all blacks live under the official poverty line; 50 percent of all black children are under the poverty line. Unemployment for black youth is about 40 percent. That's the reality of black America. The Spartacus Youth Club fights for the nationalization of elite institutions, like Oberlin, for no tuition, for open admissions with a state-paid stipend so

that black and working-class youth can get a decent education.

One of the chants at Friday's demo was "We want an education, not a corporation," but Oberlin College is in the business of training the future managers, technicians and rulers of capitalism. Students and faculty who fight racial and social oppression don't fit the college administration's image for corporate America. Friday's cop riot was a conscious attempt by both the college and the state to silence political protest. Although the college is trying to distance itself from the police brutality, it was the administration who called the cops. As a sign at Tuesday's demo put it, "Last time punch and cookies. This time dogs and clubs. We don't want either!" Dump Starr! Abolish the Board of Trustees! For worker/student/faculty control of the university!

The arrested protesters must be defended through mass protest. The Student Defense Committee is pressing for the administration, which unleashed the cops in the first place, to defend those arrested. This is nuts! We say: no reliance on the college administration! The SYC supports the SDC's call for a boycott of classes. This should be extended to faculty and campus workers to shut down all business as usual at Oberlin. What's key is unity with the labor movement. Campus workers have their own grievances against Starr. And remember the nearby Lorain USX steel workers. Oberlin students walked their picket lines in 1986 when they were attacked by over 150 riot cops.

On April 27, the Oberlin Six face preliminary hearings. Students, faculty and workers must pack the courtroom demanding that all charges against the victims of cop brutality be dropped! Be there! Friday, April 27, Municipal Court, City Hall, 10 a.m. ■

ousting a one-family state took on certain social-revolutionary aspects. But the petty-bourgeois Sandinista leadership, at the explicit advice of Fidel Castro and the Kremlin, refused to undertake a thoroughgoing social revolution. Instead, it vainly sought détente with the bourgeoisie, nationally and internationally. In the face of unremitting imperialist hostility, seeing no road to revolutionary victory and demoralized by the FSLN's increasingly pro-capitalist policies, the Nicaraguan masses sought a respite from their suffering by bringing in Washington's woman. There could still be plenty of popular unrest, clashes with the contra army, splits in the ruling coalition and reshuffling of the government. But Chamorro's taking office looks like the turning point in reconsolidating a capitalist state in Nicaragua—with the active cooperation of the Sandinista leaders, now committed to defending bourgeois rule.

Dollar Democracy and Death

The victory of Madame Contra was "made in the U.S.A.," which waged the terrorist contra war for nine years, leaving more than 70,000 Nicaraguans dead; strangled the economy through an embargo that drove many to scrounge for food in garbage dumps; and then bought the election with dollars for the contra candidates and the dreams of dollar signs for the masses. The main FSLN campaign poster showed Ortega holding a baby with the slogan, "With Daniel Everything Will Be Better." But nobody believed it. As Nicaraguan foreign minister Miguel D'Escoto put it:

"The U.S. made our people hungry and made them tired of war. They made them say uncle. But they did it with a gun to their heads...."

"The main issue is one we could do nothing about. The perception, really the conviction, that no matter what we did, that as long as the FSLN was in power, the U.S. would make life miserable for all of our people."

Many of those who cast their ballots for Chamorro were not voting against the revolution or for the contras. On the eve of the elections, the Sandinistas had one of the biggest rallies in years—some 300,000 people—and then many voted for UNO. One Managua woman told a reporter, "I am a Sandinista. My family is today worse off now than under Somoza. We don't have enough food. Our sons are being killed. The U.S. will send aid if UNO wins." In Estelí, a leader of the Sandinista Workers Federation said: "People did not vote for either conservatives or communists or any of the parties in UNO. Nor did they vote against the Sandinistas. What they voted for was peace, because they believed that if the Sandinistas won, the Contra war imposed by the United States would continue."

Under the slogan of "governing from below," the FSLN tops now intend to be a loyal legal opposition, prepared to cooperate with the new government if Chamorro & Co. agreed to their bottom line: keep the army—renamed, "professionalized," but still under the Sandinista officers. (Chamorro & Co. were not entirely sanguine about trying to run the country with a bunch of depraved rapists, the contras.) And the FSLN tops want to hold on to their privileges. Over the years, they built up a considerable government and military apparatus who could be seen wheeling around Managua in their Soviet Ladas. With a new crew coming in looking out for Numero UNO, this Sandinista "Ladacracy" has been making off with late-model government cars for \$30 each and buying expropriated houses "for a few pesos down" before the former owners return.

For Sandinista ranks it's a different matter. According to the deal brokered by former U.S. president Jimmy Carter, the contras supposedly agreed to lay down their weapons in exchange for the FSLN leaving office. Instead, they have been moving into the "security zones" fully armed, while the United Nations

"supervisory force" has been disarming rural workers. At the Las Colinas farm cooperative north of Managua, an Irish army officer in the UN forces finally convinced the militiamen to turn over their guns, which they did "fearfully." Less than half an hour later, the contras showed up, armed to the hilt. The men took to the hills unarmed, vividly remembering their seven comrades killed in a contra attack in 1987 ("Behaving Like Conquerors, Contras Disrupt a Village," *Los Angeles Times*, 27 April). As we wrote following the UNO election victory:

"The electoral triumph of the 'democratic' counterrevolution now threatens a revenge bloodbath against Sandinista activists and working-class militants.... What is posed is the organization of workers militias and the securing of arms by the working people to defend themselves...."

—"Nicaragua: Dollar 'Democracy' Brings Back Contras," *WV* No. 497, 9 March

"Governing From Below"... Against the Workers

The cornerstone of the UNO campaign was "reprivatization of the economy." The *Washington Post* (8 April) reported: "From Miami, Mexico and Costa Rica, there has been a steady flow of entrepreneurs, ranchers and managers arriving



Nicaraguan peasants mourn relatives killed by contra "free world" assassins, February 1990.

here since the election Feb. 25 to survey the wreckage of an economy long starved for new investment." But when they got there they found that Managua was strike city. Many workers who were willing to make unbelievable sacrifices for a revolution are now demanding a living wage—which is a lot more than they have been getting for years. Immediately the right wing started screaming about "Sandinista-instigated chaos." The *New York Times* (24 April) said that the FSLN call to "govern from below" was seen as "a threat of action through mass organizations and the extensive network of Sandinista labor unions."

Clearly, the FSLN wanted to send a message that it could turn up the heat of social struggle, and an offer to turn it off—which is not so easy. Sandinista security forces have already had some practice in strikebreaking. In 1988, the FSLN's drastic IMF-style austerity program sent wages plummeting to around \$20 a month while simultaneously eliminating all subsidies on food prices. Driven to the wall, construction workers and auto mechanics walked out. While the right wing tried to exploit the strikes as a club against the Sandinistas, the workers' demands were legitimate, and desperate (see "Nicaragua in Turmoil," *WV* No. 452, 6 May 1988). The government declared the walkouts illegal and fired the workers en masse; the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST) herded scabs while a newly formed unit of riot police beat up strikers.

They cracked down on the workers for

Ortega and Borge—will they do it now for Chamorro? Already in the last weeks of the regime, the Sandinista leadership obstructed attempts by the CST (and some FSLN legislators) to write some trade-union rights into a revised labor code. (The existing law dates from 1945, when the Moscow-line Nicaraguan Socialist Party was in a wartime alliance with Somoza.) The government also refused to legalize strikes at the Polymer plastics and Corona cooking oil plants, both owned by United Brands (formerly United Fruit Co.), and tried to force strikers back to work (*Militant*, 20 April). However, workers from bottling plants, sugar mills and other Managua factories organized solidarity action; after two weeks Corona gave in and granted a 90 percent wage increase.

In the National Assembly debate over the labor code, FSLN leader Carlos Nuñez denounced attempts to "go on a war footing, paralyze the factories and the agricultural centers" as "the road of violence" and "suicide." Nuñez called to "neutralize and combat" anyone, "bosses or workers," who tries to "sabotage" the "option of peace." And at a meeting of the health workers union, FSLN comandante Victor Tirado told workers they had to work "within the channels of the constitution and the judicial system," and not "disrupt the economy with these

same "United Secretariat" [Usec] led by Ernest Mandel) scrambles to occupy the SWP's position as the most unconditional FSLN supporters. The FIT claims that "the dictatorship of the proletariat... had been established by the Sandinist revolution" (Paul Le Blanc in the April *Bulletin in Defense of Marxism*). With the UNO election victory, they are now stuck with explaining what would amount to peaceful counterrevolution, carried out with the support of the FSLN which these Mandelites say "remains the revolutionary vanguard." And as the SWP backs Castro's old-line Stalinist opposition to perestroika, the Gorbachevite FIT hails "the democratic upsurge and reforms in Eastern Europe and the USSR."

A third Usec affiliate in the U.S., Socialist Action, supported the presidential campaign of former Sandinista fellow traveler Moisés Hassan and his MUR (Revolutionary Unity Movement). Hassan acts as a left cover for the "democratic" counterrevolution. He is not only explicitly for the "mixed economy," following the election he was interviewed in the CIA mouthpiece *La Prensa* comparing Sandinista leaders to the Romanian Stalinist dictator Ceausescu. And the Freedom Socialist Party headlines a leaflet, "The Nicaraguan Revolution Lives." Perhaps this is because their former favorite, Miskito contra leader and CIA agent Brooklyn Rivera (whom they hailed in the Summer 1985 *Freedom Socialist*), is now part of the Chamorro government.

In Nicaragua, the Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores (PRT—Revolutionary Workers Party), followers of the late Argentine pseudo-Trotskyist Nahuel Moreno, ran in the elections on a program calling not for workers revolution but for a "free and sovereign constituent assembly" representing "all social, trade-union and political organizations." Along with this bourgeois-democratic program, their slogan "neither contras nor Sandinistas" grotesquely equated the radical-nationalist FSLN regime with the CIA's terrorists. In the aftermath, PRT candidate Juan Carlos Leyton was interviewed in the Mexican Morenoite paper *El Socialista* saying the fall of the FSLN opens up "good possibilities for the working people"! Shades of the German Stalinists' disastrous line on Hitler: "after the contras, us"?

What's common to all these pseudo-, ex- and vociferously anti-Trotskyists is that they are tailists: the SWP follows Castro, the FIT chases Ortega, SA goes for Hassan and the FSP for Rivera. In contrast, the Spartacist tendency (now the International Communist League) has fought for an independent Trotskyist working-class vanguard party forged on a program of permanent revolution. We called to defend the Nicaraguan Revolution, complete it by expropriating the bourgeoisie and extend it internationally, fighting for military victory to the Salvadoran insurgents and for proletarian revolution in Mexico, the industrial powerhouse of the region, as well as for internationalist class struggle in the imperialist heartland of the U.S.

Today the Bush regime trumpets the "death of communism" in Europe, where West German capitalism is preparing to annex formerly Stalinist-ruled East Germany, while Washington throws its weight around in Latin America. After the murderous invasion of Panama (where mass graves have now been discovered of victims of the U.S. attack), it now proposes to station Green Berets in Peru to fight guerrilla "subversives" in the name of the "war on drugs." Meanwhile, the U.S. is presently carrying out three simultaneous maneuvers off Cuba to turn the screws on the Castro regime. While the Sandinista tops join with the new contra capitalist regime in power, revolutionaries must support the struggles of the working people seeking to defend themselves from the imperialist onslaught, from Central America to Central Europe. ■

East Germany...

(continued from page 6)

to the many foreign colleagues, unrest spread in the room. Someone raised the question of why the contracts of some Polish workers had been extended. The problems in the plant didn't just become known yesterday, after all. More ugly voices were raised: what was going to happen with the many Vietnamese colleagues? They would probably remain while we're out on the street.

Then an outraged woman worker intervened. You can't fight against the foreign coworkers as the supposed cause of unemployment; instead we must join with these colleagues to fight together against the capitalist takeover of the plants, because capitalism means unemployment. Mass unemployment, as now exists in

Poland since the introduction of a "free market economy."

A resolute defense of foreign working people against nationalist attacks is urgently necessary in order to prevent the workers from being split and played off against each other in the interests of the capitalists. Most of the foreign colleagues have worked at VEB Stern Radio for years; the more than 140 Vietnamese work mainly on the assembly line. Although piecework rates are very high, on the average they produced, together with their German colleagues, a daily norm of 112 percent. At the same time, their housing conditions are unbearable. Four women have to split one room, each has five square meters. Every five years they get one vacation to go home for a visit. Recently customs regulations were further restricted, and costs for freight have doubled since March. Many packages mailed home are being returned.

With the mounting nationalism, they

Hundreds of Vietnamese work at state-owned "Paul Schafter" shoe factory in Erfurt, East Germany.



Hirndorf/Berliner Zeitung

are now subject to increasing attacks and threatened with deportation. Meanwhile there are rumors that their contracts have been canceled and they could be sent home by the end of June. This must not happen! They have earned their money

with the same hard work. Therefore, foreign working people must have the same rights as everyone else. Which does not mean the same firings for everyone, but that we must fight arm in arm against every attack and for every job. ■

Gonzo Journalist...

(continued from page 5)

But getting rid of a "troublemaker" and making Aspen safe for the Learjet set isn't all that's going down here.

Hitler Wasn't a Dope Fiend

Bush's drug czar William Bennett was in Colorado two weeks ago, campaigning to make marijuana possession a felony, as part of Bush's dirty "war on drugs," the administration's propaganda cover for terrorizing the ghettos, invading Panama and trying to break people who don't go along with their evil plans. Who better to crush than Thompson, whose work is a living provocation to this repressive government, what New Lefters used to call the narcs and pigs of Amerikkka?

Thompson's "fear and loathing" literary escapades in Las Vegas, sports scenes like "The Great Shark Hunt," deal with the compulsive ingestion of every bizarre drug known to man. In a 1986 piece titled "Down to a Sunless Sea," Thompson noted that poet Samuel Coleridge did pretty good on opium. (the title is from a line in Coleridge's poem on Kubla Khan's pleasure dome). "Kingdoms fall, empires crumble, powerful nations come and go," wrote Thompson. "But the opium market remains as stable as rice or gold."

There are some real criminals loose in the world, but they don't tend to be the ones Reagan and Bush are after. As Thompson wrote: "Dope fiends have always been with us, and they are guilty of many things, but a compulsion to rule the world has rarely been one of them.

Power mongers are early risers; opium eaters sleep late. Tojo woke up with the sun, and Hitler was so paranoid that he never slept at all."

The Great Shark: Going After Nixon

The political life of the generation from just after World War II America to the present coincides with the career of that dark star in the American political firmament, Richard Nixon. Thompson rode with both the Hell's Angels and Nixon (they discussed football in a campaign car in 1968) and lived to write the truth about both. He wrote after Nixon finally resigned in August 1974: "I heard, last week, from a man in Denver: 'I've been waiting a long time for this,' he said. 'Maybe not as long as Jerry Voorhis or Helen Gahagan Douglas...and I never really thought it would happen, to tell you the truth'.... I agree with just about everything that laughing, vengeful bastard said."

But it isn't just Republican monsters Thompson hunts. In a 1967 piece, Thompson skewers LBJ's "Great Society": "Now, what? While the new wave flowered, Lenny Bruce was hounded to death by the cops. For 'obscenity.' Thirty thousand people (according to Paul Krassner) are serving time in the jails of this vast democracy on marijuana charges, and the world we have to live in is controlled by a stupid thug from Texas. A vicious liar, with the ugliest family in Christendom...mean Okies feeling honoured by the cheap indulgence of a George Hamilton, a stinking animal ridiculed even in Hollywood. And California, 'the most progressive state,' elects a governor straight out of a George Grosz painting, a political freak in every

sense of the word except California politics...Ronnie Reagan, the White Hope of the West."

In *Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '72*, a record of that year's presidential race, Thompson finally skewered Humphrey, the old liberal witchhunter who made the dirty deal with Chicago mayor Daley in '68 when "the whole world was watching" as antiwar protesters were being beaten by the cops outside the Democratic Party convention. Thompson said later: "Any political party that can't cough up anything better than a treacherous brain-damaged old vulture like Hubert Humphrey deserves every beating it gets. They don't hardly make 'em like Hubert any more—but just to be on the safe side, he should be castrated anyway." Or, as we commented in a tacky 1978 headline, "Humphrey Dead at Last." Alas, the Humphrey legacy still lives on in the appropriately named "Humphrey Dome" in downtown Minneapolis, held up by hot air.

But Nixon's really the one. In *Campaign Trail '72* Thompson described him as: "America's answer to the monstrous Mr Hyde. He speaks for the werewolf in us; the bully, the predatory shyster who turns into something unspeakable, full of claws and bleeding string-warts, on nights when the moon comes too close..."

"At the stroke of midnight in Washington, a drooling red-eyed beast with the legs of a man and a head of a giant hyena crawls out of its bedroom window in the south wing of the White House and leaps fifty feet down to the lawn...pauses briefly to strangle the Chow watchdog, then races off into the darkness...towards the Watergate, snarling with lust, loping through the alleys behind Pennsylvania Avenue, and trying desperately to remember which one of those four hundred identical balconies is the one outside Martha Mitchell's apartment..."

"Ah...nightmares, nightmares. But I was only kidding. The President of the United States would never act that weird.

At least not during football season. But how would the voters react if they knew the President of the United States was presiding over 'a complex, far-reaching and sinister operation on the part of White House aides and the Nixon campaign organization...involving sabotage, forgery, theft of confidential files, surveillance of Democratic candidates and their families and persistent efforts to lay the basis for possible blackmail and intimidation.'

"That ugly description of Nixon's staff operations comes from a New York Times editorial on Thursday, October 12th. But neither Nixon nor anyone else felt it would have much effect on his steady two-to-one lead over McGovern in all the national polls." And it didn't—in November Nixon was elected with the largest margin in U.S. history, only to be forced to resign the presidency a year and a half later over the same Watergate affair. Thompson notes: "'Ominous' is not quite the right word for a situation where one of the most consistently unpopular politicians in American history suddenly skyrockets to Folk Hero status while his closest advisors are being caught almost daily in nazi-style gigs that would have embarrassed Martin Bormann."

Drop the charges against Hunter S. Thompson! We urge our readers to support the defense of this outrageous and outrageously persecuted writer; for more information write the Hunter S. Thompson Legal Defense Fund at P.O. Box 274, Woody Creek, CO 81656. We also suggest that our readers interested in exploring what a long, strange trip the last quarter century has been can pick up Thompson's books (all in print in paperback): *Hell's Angels*, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, *Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '72*, *The Great Shark Hunt*, *The Curse of Lono*, and the most recent, *Generation of Swine: Gonzo Papers Vol. 2: Tales of Shame and Degradation in the '80s*. ■

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CLARIFICATION

In our last issue (WV No. 500, 20 April), the article on "Stalinist Show Trial in Cuba—The Execution of General Ochoa," stated that "The claims by Washington that Castro was in on the drug dealing, claims repeated by Julia Preston in her *New York Review of Books* article, are absurd on the face of it. More than that, they are blatant war propaganda." We then cite several statements by Castro categorically denying any involvement, and conclude: "For Castro to lie about this would be to invite an invasion."

It is not that Castro cannot tell a lie, or that Stalinist regimes never run drugs. The key factor is Cuba's situa-

tion as an island just off the U.S. coast. Unlike Burma, for example, the Caribbean is dominated by the American Navy. If Castro were to go in for drug trafficking, Washington would be sure to use this as an excuse to move militarily on him, and Cuba would have trouble holding out as a fortress surrounded by the enemy with no means of military resupply. Moreover, the Medellin cartel are an unsavory, untrustworthy and very right-wing bunch. So objectively speaking, it looks powerfully politically inexpedient for the Cuban government to have dealt in drugs. One can therefore reasonably take Castro at face value on these questions.

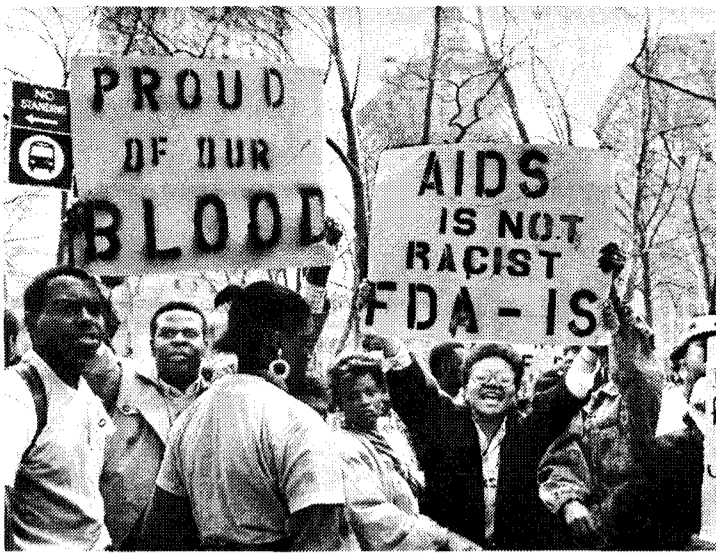
Haitians Protest...

(continued from page 12)

"purify" America of everything they hate. The debate among U.S. politicians and bureaucrats was more often about which groups to stigmatize, than about how to fight the AIDS epidemic. Meanwhile, Reagan was staunchly supporting the dictatorship of "Baby Doc" Duvalier, one of whose big moneymakers was the export of Haitian blood.

In the early 1980s, when AIDS was first identified, public health authorities realized early on that it was being spread through the blood supply. Yet for years they did virtually *nothing*, wasting precious time while the virus spread even further in the population. The discovery in 1985 of a test for HIV antibodies was a big victory in the fight against this terrible epidemic which has now killed over 70,000 Americans alone. What's needed to stop the spread of HIV through the blood supply is better, more rigorous laboratory tests of the blood itself, not discriminatory exclusion of whole categories of people (Haitians, gays) or inherently subjective "behavior" questionnaires.

The racist character of the FDA blood ban was underscored by figures from the Pan American Health Organization, which stated that in 1988 Haiti's rate of reported cases of AIDS was 11.2 per 100,000, lower than the U.S. rate of 12 per 100,000 (*New York Newsday*, 25 April). Within the U.S., only 1.6 percent of reported AIDS cases are among Haitians. In Haiti, the hideous impoverishment of the masses only increases their



Defiant Haitian protesters condemn racist blood ban, recall that U.S. was built by immigrant labor. Down with the disease exclusion laws!



vulnerability to the disease. In the U.S. too, AIDS is increasingly becoming a disease of poverty. It is striking down whole families in the hellholes of the ghettos and barrios and infecting a generation of children, predominantly poor, black and Hispanic; especially at risk are intravenous drug users and their sex partners.

Now the FDA acknowledges, according to *Newsday* (29 April), that its ban "was for the sake of convenience rather than medical considerations"! AIDS is caused by a virus, not ethnicity, sexual preference or "behavior"! Its victims need medical treatment, not stigmas! Dr. Jean Claude Compas of the Haitian Coalition on AIDS disgustingly pandered to anti-gay baiting when he said that the FDA ban "is based not on sexual prefer-

ences, but on nationality, ethnicity" (*New York Times*, 21 April). We oppose all discrimination against victims of AIDS, including the barring of immigrants infected with HIV under the reactionary disease exclusion laws. As one sign at the Haitian protest stated, "Don't blame it on a particular people, just fight it!"

The racist "blood ban" goes hand in hand with more general victimization of Haitian immigrants by U.S. authorities. At the INS concentration camp in Miami, the infamous Krome Avenue Detention Center, Haitian inmates have been systematically beaten, sexually abused and otherwise terrorized by guards. Since 1981, less than ten of the more than 20,000 Haitians picked up at sea by the Coast Guard under the Haitian Migrant Interdiction Operation have been admit-

ted. And Amnesty International reports that of 1,834 Haitian applicants for asylum in the U.S. between 1983 and 1989, only 39 were granted (*Daily Challenge*, 17 April).

As the budget for public health is slashed, the U.S. is heading into a spiraling medical crisis: hospitals close; diseases like tuberculosis and syphilis are on the rise; tens of millions have no medical insurance. We demand the necessary social resources to cure or contain AIDS and stop the epidemic! We must have free, quality health care for all—but that would mean mobilizing many billions of dollars (presently used to fund the Stealth bomber, MX missiles, etc.). To accomplish that will take a workers revolution to smash this callous and deadly capitalist system. ■

South Korea...

(continued from page 1)

plunge shortly after the Tokyo stock market crashed. At the Korea Stock Exchange in Yoido, 300 riot police were brought out to confront angry investors who had lost heavily in the crash. The bourgeoisie has been blaming their economic ills on rising labor costs and strikes and has gone after the working class with a vengeance.

This is the spring wage negotiation period and the nervous South Korean bourgeoisie pounced on the striking Hyundai workers, sending in the troops after only three days. The government defended its vicious attack on the workers by claiming "the survival of the national economy was at stake" (*Japan Times*, 29 April). However, this naked assault on the right of labor unions to exist might spark a general workers rebellion against the iron-fisted pseudo-parliamentary regime of General Roh Tae Woo.

At the Korean Broadcast System (KBS), 5,000 workers have been on strike for 17 days. KBS workers have been ordered back to work by their union tops but riot police have been deployed in expectation of the workers refusing to go back. And yesterday Japanese TV reported that workers in Masan, an industrial complex south of Ulsan, near Pusan, might walk out. Earlier this week the

Masan-Changow Federation of Unions had voted to strike in solidarity with the Hyundai shipyard workers.

If the Hyundai strike spreads it could have immediate repercussions in Japan and the U.S. The Masan area represents a major slice of Japan Inc.'s industrial investment in South Korea, and U.S. imperialism has 43,000 troops concentrated near the 38th parallel, where they have been since the Korean War, continuing to menace the bureaucratically deformed workers state in North Korea. Now is the time for urgently needed solidarity from Japanese and American labor to support the Hyundai strikers. Japanese workers must follow the lead of the Hyundai workers and demand union recognition of the independent South Korean unions, especially in the Japanese "free trade zones," and back these demands with strike action.

American workers, from shipyard and longshore to steel and auto, have a special obligation to come to the aid of their class brothers at Hyundai. The rabidly protectionist and anti-Communist American trade-union bureaucracy has a dirty history in Korea, from backing the CIA-run company unions (via the Asian-American Free Labor Institute) to support for the U.S. occupation army. In 1979, the military dictatorship carried out a bloody massacre in Kwangju, with the connivance of the American army. U.S. workers must demand: Victory to the Hyundai workers! Immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from the Korean peninsula!

Predatory U.S. and Japanese imperialism in the Far East seek to reunite Korea through bloody capitalist counterrevolution in the North and the complete annihilation of genuine unions in the South. A growing strike wave in South Korea can thwart imperialism's drive to "roll back Communism" to the Soviet Union's borders in preparation for a final assault on the 1917 October Revolution. And revolutionary struggle by the powerful South Korean proletariat would ignite class struggle throughout East Asia, sparking political revolutions which would sweep away as well the ossified Stalinist Kim regime in the North and rouse the Chinese workers against the

bloody butchers in Beijing.

The key to victorious class struggle in Korea is the construction of a Leninist-Trotskyist vanguard party that fights for the revolutionary reunification of Korea

through socialist revolution in the South coupled with proletarian political revolution in the North. Victory to the Hyundai strikers! For international solidarity with the Korean workers' struggles! ■

CORRECTIONS

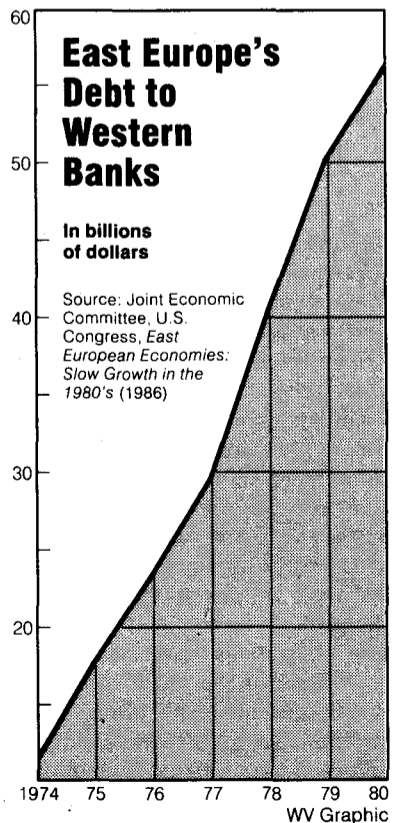
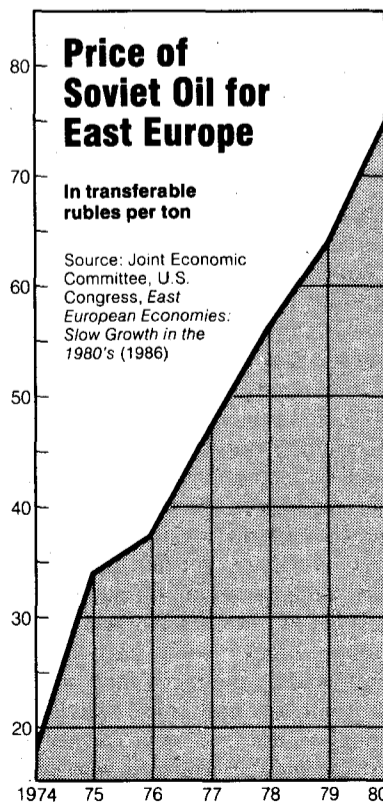
In the article "Pittston Miners: Rip Up Trumka's Sellout!" (WV No. 494, 26 January), we mistakenly wrote that "UMW District 28 president Cecil Roberts ran a write-in campaign against a local state representative" in Virginia. The president of District 28 is Jackie Stump, who was elected. Cecil Roberts is vice president of the UMW.

The article, "Economic Nationalism Fractures COMECON" (WV No. 495, 9 February), was accompanied by two graphs showing the soaring price of Soviet oil for East Europe and the parallel increase in Eastern European debt to the Western banks. The two

graphs were inadvertently switched; we print them correctly labeled below.

The article, "Pentagon Loots Social Security," (WV No. 498, 23 March) noted that Social Security tax is "paid at the same rate by all income brackets, and is cut off at \$51,300." The cutoff point for the 1990 tax year is \$50,400.

The quotation from Fidel Castro in "Stalinist Show Trial in Cuba—The Execution of General Ochoa" (WV No. 500, 20 April) stating that "Today, the Revolution cannot be generous without really hurting itself," was from a speech given on 9 July 1989, not 1990 as incorrectly cited.



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WORKERS VANGUARD

70,000 March in NYC

Haitians Protest Racist Blood Ban

On Friday morning, April 20, over 70,000 Haitian American protesters—construction workers and garment workers, shopkeepers, students and housewives, young and old—marched on Manhattan to angrily denounce the racist U.S. policy banning all Haitians from donating blood as possible “AIDS carriers.” The demonstrators poured across the Brooklyn Bridge to City Hall and then on to the offices of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at the Jacob Javits Federal Building in lower Manhattan. The NYPD was surprised and paralyzed as the protesters, backed up by a phalanx of 100 horn-blowing Haitian cab drivers, shut down the bridge twice. Lower Broadway was cut off by a sea of angry and indignant humanity.

They came from New Jersey, Boston, Connecticut, as far away as California and Miami, to denounce the federal government's bigoted scapegoating. Protesters' signs defiantly declared “We are proud of our blood!” and “AIDS=America Institutes Discrimination,” and denounced the “Federal Discrimination Agency.” They often swamped *Workers Vanguard* salesmen, who sold nearly 2,300 *WVs* and 285 *Black History* pamphlets on “Toussaint L'Ouverture and the Haitian Revolution.” The message of the demonstration overwhelmingly was to demand a serious fight to stop the disease and an end to AIDS-related bigotry and discrimination. The huge turnout gave New York and Washington politicians a jolt: that very evening an FDA committee called for dropping the racist blood ban.

April 20 was effectively a general



WV Photo

April 20, New York City: angry demonstrators denounce U.S. government's racist stigmatization of Haitians.

strike by New York Haitians; as one demonstrator's sign put it bluntly, “No blood, no sweat.” An organized contingent came from the Domsey strike of largely Haitian and Dominican garment workers in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. At Filtron on Long Island, more than two dozen Haitian workers were fired from their jobs for participating in the demonstration. We demand their immediate

reinstatement! No victimizations! We have noted before that while the proletariat in Haiti is tiny, there are hundreds of thousands of Haitian workers in the U.S. and Canada who can play a key internationalist role. The massive demonstration on April 20, as well as protests in Washington, Boston and other cities against the racist stigmatization of Haitians, were a stirring example of this.

For years, the Reagan and Bush administrations have carried out a policy of malign neglect toward the AIDS epidemic. Instituting massive cutbacks in public health funding, the government starved AIDS research of funds while manipulating AIDS hysteria to feed anti-gay bigotry. Moral Majority reactionaries gloated over a disease that would

continued on page 11

Gina Does the Right Thing

Key Witness Testifies Against Bensonhurst Lynch Mob

In the murder trial of Joseph Fama and Keith Mondello, two of the over 40 racist punks who killed black teen Yusuf Hawkins last August 23 in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, political tension has focused on the testimony of Gina Feliciano, the young woman who invited black and Hispanic friends to her birthday party in the overwhelmingly white Italian neighborhood. For this “crime” she has been pilloried for months, as defense lawyers Stephen Murphy and David DePetris dominate the tabloids and TV with vicious attempts to trash her character.

These sleazebags have based their whole defense of the racist murderers on the obscene claim by Murphy that “this woman caused this whole thing by setting two groups against each other!” Day after day, the gutter press quoted their slanders: Feliciano is a “crack-

head,” a “contemptible liar,” who “never saw any of these things” which “never happened.” Various feminist groups have objected to the defense lawyers' vile “blame-the-woman” campaign. But the central issue here is racist opposition to integration. The killers weren't going to let black and Hispanic “outsiders” on “their” turf, and Feliciano is vilified, in court and on the street, because she defiantly broke with the racist code.

Gina finally got her turn to respond last week, testifying for the prosecution. Crying as she recalled seeing the four young blacks walk past her house, followed by the racist mob armed with softball bats and guns, Feliciano hung tough in the face of gross provocation by the piggish Murphy, who screamed at her non-stop. When Murphy sarcastically questioned her ability to see a gun

in Mondello's car, the Brooklyn teen yelled back, “I did see a gun. I got 20-20 vision!” Despite repeated badgering by Murphy she steadfastly maintained, “I seen them. They all had guns.”

She told how Mondello had called her a “n----- lover,” and tried to run her down with the car he was driving for inviting black and Hispanic youth to her party; how he and other neighborhood punks had tried to intimidate her the day before the shooting because she had visited two Hispanic friends. After five hours on the stand, Feliciano, whose father is Puerto Rican, thanked her family and the black community, “everyone who supported me during this,” and expressed her hatred of racist Bensonhurst: “I was never a part of them to begin with...they have so much anger from their childhood, the way they were raised.”

Feliciano's spunky determination to tell the truth about the racist terror isn't shared by the prosecution. City comptroller and former district attorney Liz Holtzman's Democratic administration has been more interested in making immunity deals with the likes of Joey Serrano, who passed the gun to Fama and



Vodofsky/NY Post

Gina Feliciano courageously breaks Bensonhurst racist code.

should be up on Murder One, than in rounding up the rest of the lynch mob; only seven have been charged. These scum should be put into the general prison population at Attica and throw away the key!