

RACIST SNIPER KILLS PHILLY YOUTH, 13

For weeks before, rumors spread through Southwest Philly that Flag Day, June 14, would be "kill-a-nigger day." Tension began building in this working class community the first week of June, when a Black youth was hit in the head with a milk crate. For two weeks there was sporadic fighting between Blacks and whites. Then, on June 17, a sniper's bullets found three Black youths on the sidewalk. The next day, 13-year-old Tracey Chambers was dead.

Members of the North Philly based Save Our Land Community Patrol joined local residents in escorting young people to nearby all-Black Bartram High School, which sits in an all-white neighborhood and has been the scene of past racial confrontations. State Representative Milton Street went on George Woods' popular WDAS morning talk show and called for Blacks to "start registering for weapons" for self-defense.

(Continued on page 6)

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WORKERS

VOICE

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CARTER POLLS ALL-TIME LOW

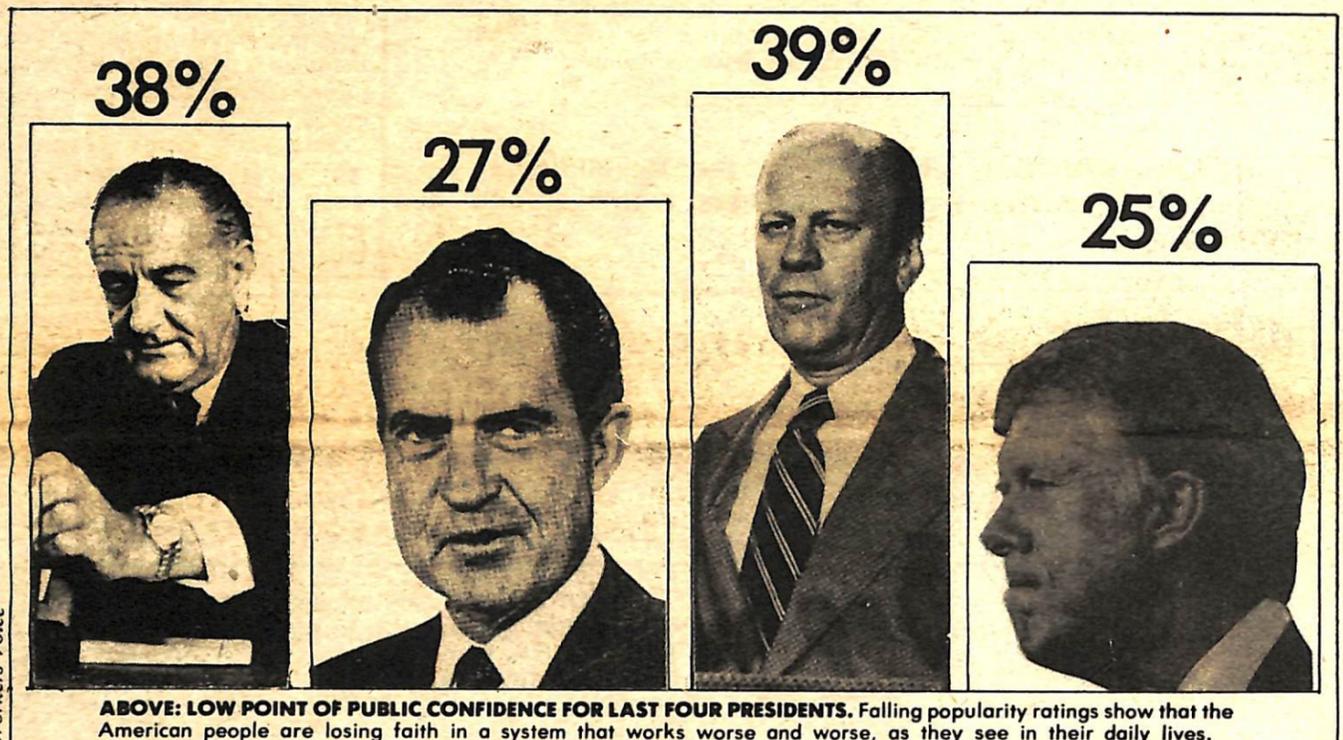
Speech, purge
no help

July was a busy month for Jimmy Carter - he cancelled his energy speech, held a ten-day domestic summit conference, spent two evenings slumming with the common folk, went on television to tell the American people they are in deep spiritual trouble, offered them salvation in the form of an energy program, forced his whole cabinet to submit resignations and purged five of them.

In short, Carter made a big bid. It was a bid to rescue his shattered standing in the public opinion polls with the Democratic primary just a year away. It was a bid to strengthen the government and its authority at a time when the rich class in this country is menaced by economic instability and political uncertainty.

It was a bid that was already lurching toward failure, before the month was out.

Workers Voice



ABOVE: LOW POINT OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE FOR LAST FOUR PRESIDENTS. Falling popularity ratings show that the American people are losing faith in a system that works worse and worse, as they see in their daily lives.

THE BID FOR RE-ELECTION

At the end of July, Carter's prospects for re-election remained shaky. His popularity polls spurted ahead to 31% after his dramatic speech, but White House celebrations were premature. By the time the cabinet carnage had ended and sharp questions raised about his energy proposals (See centerfold), Carter's ratings had shriveled back to 26%.

At the Camp David meetings, Carter went out of his way to court Black and labor leaders he had previously slighted. Still he knows he can count on them, even for lukewarm support, only as long as Teddy Kennedy's hat stays out of the ring.

At month's end, two influential Democratic senators publicly questioned for the first time Carter's fitness to head the 1980 ticket: George McGovern, once the standard bearer of liberal Democrats, and Henry "Scoop" Jackson, major spokesman for Democratic center-right forces.

THE BID FOR AUTHORITY

Carter's July 16 speech highlighted one of the major concerns on the minds of America's rulers. "For

the first time in the history of our country a majority of our people believe that the next five years will be worse than the past five years," he complained.

"Two-thirds of our people do not even vote."

Everything points to this loss of faith in the system growing. Energy isn't even the immediate worry of the corporate kingpins these days. The economy is headed into a tailspin and they can't figure out how to control it.

Carter's big anti-inflation policy, the wage-price guidelines, turned out to be a farce. Inflation is still in double digits, even as the country slides into recession. There are already 46,000 autoworkers on indefinite layoff and the effects are starting to ripple into rubber and other industries. By next year, unemployment will be 8% or worse.

Everything Carter did in July was designed to establish himself as the man, the leader, who could solve these problems. First there were the Camp David meetings to show statesmanship, then the speech to show vision

and finally the cabinet purge to show he meant business.

It was a nice try, but that was all. First, his big solution to the crisis of confidence in the system was to urge people to support his energy plan, and assure them they would get their confidence back when it works.

Second, he had no coherent energy policy. He fired Energy Secretary Schlesinger, a rebuff to advocates of decontrol of all fuel prices and other open giveaways to the oil companies. The best he could offer was a set of proposals that were part demagoguery, part gimmickry and part concealed attacks.

Third, Carter was unable to rally any political support for his bid. The Senate Republican leader suggested in Congress that the president was losing his marbles, while most Democrats gave it a more discreet brushoff.

More fundamentally, there is no agreement among different interests in the country's ruling circles on how to resolve even the energy mess. Angry debates fill executive suites and the pages of financial publications, but no consensus is near.

WHAT NEXT?

Carter has always said his mission is to revitalize the country after the trauma of the Kennedy and King assassinations, Vietnam and Watergate. An unknown Georgia governor, he was bankrolled by monopolies and aided by corporate brain trusts like the Trilateral Commission to do just that - be an "outsider" who could restore people's faith in the system.

He didn't succeed, mainly because millions see in their daily lives that the system hasn't been working.

Carter has developed no working policies to deal with the energy crisis, inflation or the onrushing recession. With the failure of his big play in July, the 1980 elections loom larger on the horizon.

America's rulers still want the people's faith in the system revived. Even more, they want some programs to bring immediate problems under control and place the burden on the people.

There is, however, little agreement on what such programs should be, and agreement will come closer only

(Continued on page 12)

Energy ripoffs fought

Gas prices,
nukes & more:
see centerfold

Weber defeated!

Rightly and justly, the Supreme Court told Brian Weber to pack it up. On June 27, the Court upheld the Kaiser-USWA affirmative action plan.

The best thing about the decision itself is that the Court said you had to look at reality to decide who was discriminating against whom. On that basis, it ruled that the Kaiser-USWA plan, as a voluntary agreement by a private employer to overcome the effects of racial discrimination, was not in violation of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

While the decision itself is a victory, the entire case was an outrage. Brian Weber should have been run out of court the first day he set foot inside. Instead, the power structure took his suit to the top, and made him the best known rank and file steelworker in the country.

Ten years ago, "reverse discrimination" was the issue at hand at Ku Klux Klan cross burnings. Today, the power structure has made it the subject of nationwide discussion and Supreme Court deliberation--even though they know it doesn't exist. How can they fret about the "social dynamite" of 40% unemployment among Black youth in one breath, and say Blacks are getting all the jobs in the next?

But when the Weber case came down to the wire, the ruling class had to back down. In the aftermath of the Bakke decision, with another recession on the horizon and Black people yet to recover from the last, a pro-Weber ruling would have been too much. Too much for them to throw at Black people without antagonizing them beyond the point the system could presently afford. With the trade union movement joining with Black organizations in opposing Weber, the power structure retreated to a more cautious line of attack.

The decision, however, is merely a yellow light, a brief respite to the continuing attacks on affirmative action. Leaving aside more types of affirmative action plans than it upheld, it opens the door to future challenges. Already the Court is scheduled to hear suits against preferential contracting to minority businesses in the fall.

Jimmy Carter, after two and a half years of silence while reverse discrimination propaganda flourished, is now claiming credit for the decision. But Black people owe him no more gratitude for the ruling than you owe a thief who steals your wallet and then mails you back your driver's license.

Bobby Knight goes bananas

When I was a kid, I always figured the Olympics and other international sports meets were about as far removed from all the political intrigue around us as you could get. But then again, I also used to lay awake at night waiting for the tooth fairy.

So when I read about Bobby Knight at the Pan Am games in Puerto Rico, I was angry but I wasn't too surprised. Knight, who was selected to coach the U.S. men's basketball team, spread about all the goodwill of a nuclear waste spillage.

Knight is known as a tough, fundamentals-minded coach who gets the most out of his players by being basketball's version of Woody Hayes--an authoritarian dictator who thinks he's a drill instructor in the Marine Corps. Last year his team finished out of the running in the Big 10 after Knight suspended 3 of his best players early in the season for smoking pot in the dorm rooms.

I read how Billy Graham and Ruth Carter Stapleton really dug that move, but I guess they weren't the only ones who were impressed. Because next Bobby turned up as U.S. ambassador of goodwill at the Pan Am games.

This year's games were an extra big deal because the U.S. figured it could mop up in the Western hemisphere and restore its tattered image after taking a drub-

bing in the '76 Olympics.

There was one hitch--this year's site was Puerto Rico, whose pro-statehood governor wanted to use the games to "prove" that Puerto Ricans are happy to be colonized. Washington liked the angle, but figured they'd better send 600 FBI agents to keep the lid on potential pro-independence outbursts.

But 600 FBI agents were no match for Bobby Knight. Despite their best efforts to cool things out, Bobby still managed to provoke an international incident. It started out when he called the Brazilian women's basketball team "whores." A Puerto Rican policeman objected to the characterization, so Knight called him a "nigger" and took a swing. That was too much even for the relatively cooperative San Juan police department, and Bobby landed up in court on charges of assaulting an officer.

To wrap up the whole disgusting show, he gave a press conference after his team had won the gold medal and said "the only f...ing thing they know how to do on this island is grow bananas."

Quite a sportsman. Quite an ambassador. And, in reality, quite good proof as to exactly why the island needs independence--to break away from a government whose official attitude towards Puerto Rico is really no different than Bobby Knight's.

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Stirs wide protest

Postal union axes militant V.P.

When Emmett Andrews, President of the nation's largest postal union, expelled Ken Leiner, the union's Vice President for Mailhandlers, he may have stirred up enough opposition to hasten his own departure from office.

Andrews attacked Leiner because the new officer is a leader of the New York-New Jersey rank and file movement that is beginning to gain influence in the national union--and one of 200 postal workers fired by the USPS for picketing the Jersey City and San Francisco Bulk Mail Centers against the 1978 national contract.

The mass firings by the Postal Service was a boost to Leiner's election and also the excuse Andrews gave for his eventual expulsion.

Leiner won the Mailhandler's post in the American Postal Worker's Union (APWU) on an anti-Andrews

platform. Many of his supporters credited the fired workers for spurring the rejection vote that kept the cap off the cost of living plan. Others favored Leiner's position for amalgamation of the postal unions.

In his first Executive Board meeting the new Vice President introduced resolutions for amnesty for all fired workers, and for Andrews to resign because of his role in forcing through a lousy contract. Speaking to the weak and divided state of the postal unions, he called on the APWU to begin merger discussions with the Mailhandlers, a division of the Laborers International Union, and with the Lettercarriers.

Andrews expelled the new official after an arbitrator ruled that Leiner was a strike leader and that picketing the Jersey City Bulk was in violation

of the ban on strikes by postal workers.

The expulsion of Leiner was seen by many in the APWU reform movement as an act of retaliation. The Post Office Worker, a New York area rank and file newsletter, called it a move to bury the fired workers' fight. The paper, with which Leiner is affiliated, also charged that Andrews allowed the USPS and the arbitrator to choose who would be the union officials.

Other reform forces point out that Andrews himself is not a postal employee, but a retiree drawing a civil service pension as well as a union salary and a lavish expense account.

They also note that the first full time president of the National Federation of Postal Clerks, Oscar Nelson, was fired from the Chicago Post Office

in the '20's for exposing unsafe conditions, three months before he was elected to office.

The unseating of Leiner went against the mandate of the 1978 Denver convention which voted amidst thunderous applause to go on record for rehiring with full back pay for all 200. Andrews did not even appeal Leiner's case. The Post Office on the other hand has been vigorous in prosecuting the 200. One New Jersey fired worker was ordered back to work by two courts, and still the USPS refuses to take him.

The New York Metro local is one of the strongest bases of opposition to Andrews. The huge local led by Moe Biller, a long time union power broker and now a rival of Andrews, has mandated that all the fired workers are still union members. They have an official amnesty committee which brought 1200 metro workers and 36,000 signatures to the Postmaster General, Bolger, in Washington D.C. on June 22.

New York has been the scene of extensive rank and file organizing over the past several years. The Postal Workers Defense Committee, which Leiner is active in, regularly distributes 15,000 copies of the Post Office Worker dealing with the issues of the fired workers and with conditions in the New York area facilities. The initiative taken by this group, combined with their firm position that the union must be built into a fighting organization, has done a lot to bring about a new level of solidarity in the NY area.

The layer of anti-Andrews officials represents the beginnings of a break with company unionism. In at least two other locals, Phoenix, Arizona and Oakland, California, union presidents have been fired for standing up to the USPS cost cutting, anti-union offensive. The expansion of the casual, or temporary, workforce is an example of the decline that came with Andrews '78 pact. A few months ago the P.O. announced a drastic pay cut for this growing part of the union, from \$7.50 an hour down to \$4.75.

But the strength of the union opposition nationally remains to be tested. Leiner has spoken to numerous union conventions in his short term as Mailhandler vice president. Over 100 officials and locals have sent the International strongly worded letters of protest at his dismissal, and Biller was able to gain 15 votes on the Executive Board in opposition to the dismissal.

Leiner's fight to retain his office is being carried on in the courts as well. His lawyer is Chip Yablonsky, who gained experience as the attorney for Miners for Democracy.

The 1980 union elections can be a future arena for the struggle between the Andrews dictatorship and the opposition forces. In the past, postal elections have been lacking in rank and file issues and interest. This time the Leiner dismissal, the fired workers' cause, the takeaways of the 1978 contract, and the push for amalgamation can unify a broad opposition slate.

Whether or not solid candidates actually unite around these points will be clearer after the coming conventions in San Diego and Detroit. If the discontent can blossom into a national rank and file movement around a fighting program, then Andrews' days are numbered.

"Bolgerville" camp presses postal amnesty

Exactly one year after they lost their jobs for demonstrating against a sell-out, the fired postal workers were back at the New Jersey Bulk. No, not back to work, rehired as they deserve. They were back, living in a tent city on the Bulk's front lawn to escalate the fight for their jobs.

Postmaster General William Bolger thought that if he ignored the fired workers long enough, they'd go away. But Bolgerville, as the tent city was dubbed, put the issue back on centerstage, not only inside the Bulk, but in post offices across the country where the national press brought news of the camp-out.

When they first set up Bolgerville July 20, the fired workers expected to stay the weekend. But when 1500 people came out to rally the next day, they decided to stay "as long as it furthers our cause."

Bolgerville didn't exactly provide all the comforts of home, but the support of the workers on the inside made the living easier. People wearing Bolgerville buttons came out of work bringing tents, food and \$800 in donations -- and then stayed to help man the camp. Leafletting, collections and horn blowing became a ritual every shift change.

Ten days into the occupation, a portable toilet arrived, compliments of the Metro leadership. Better late than never.

There wasn't much the Postal Service management could do. Bolgerville was too popular for them to try and shut it down, but they couldn't afford to concede. So their only option was to sit tight and wait it out.

Determined to force the PO to deal with them, four fired workers went to Washington on August 3 with APWU Director of Organization, Ben Zemsky to sit in for 3 hours in Assistant-Postmaster General Conway's office.

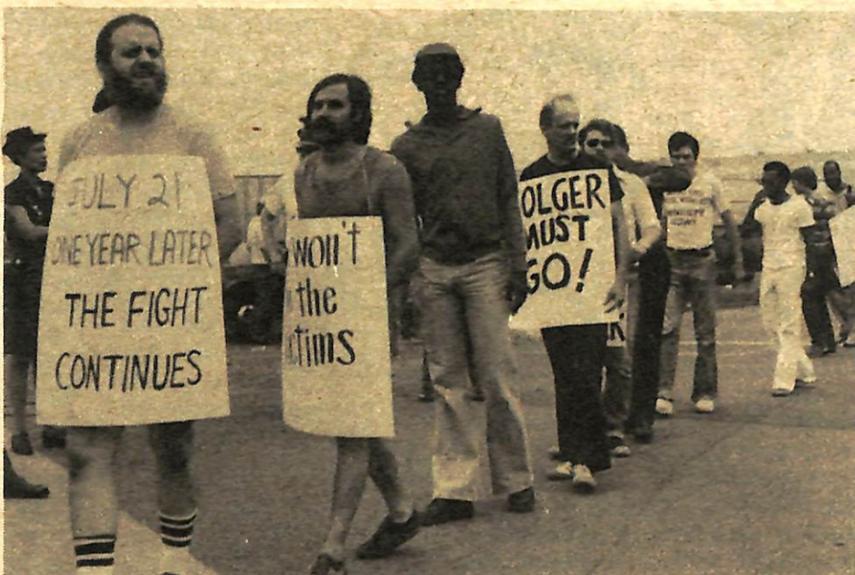
The next day, the fired workers took down their tents, deciding the time was right to consolidate the gains they'd made on the inside and to take Bolgerville on the road. They intend to build support at post office facilities across the country.

They say they'll fight till the 1981 contract if necessary. They are making the firings a dividing line issue within the APWU. If you stand for fighting the P.O. bosses, if you stand for a strong union, then you stand with the fired workers.



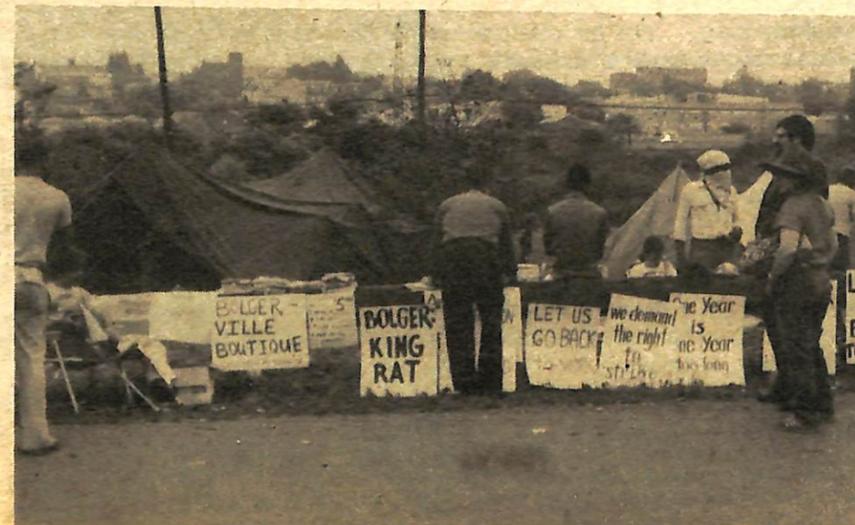
Workers Voice

In late July a new "town" sprang up near Jersey City...



Jerzy Kowalski

when angry postal workers who want their jobs back...



Workers Voice

set up housekeeping where P.O. bosses couldn't ignore them.

39% vote brings back S.F. hacks

Activists sum up splits in key hotel, restaurant local

This article was written by former members of the Bay Area Communist Union, a revolutionary organization which recently merged with the Revolutionary Workers Headquarters.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. —Hotel and restaurant workers in San Francisco's huge tourist industry have been waging an uphill battle to run their own union, Local 2 of the Hotel, Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union. They finally booted out Joe Belardi, the corrupt labor boss who controlled San Francisco's culinary union for 40 years.

That was a year ago April. During the year since, hotel and restaurant workers went from the election victory to disarray and another election in which the old machine weaseled its way back to power. In the vote taken May 30 and 31 of this year, the International's man won, even though he only got 39% of the vote. Rank and file candidates won 61%, but their votes were split down the middle between two reform slates.

Why did this happen? Activists in the culinary union struggle are drawing important lessons from their experiences over the past year, not only for the future of their own union and their upcoming contract, but for other workers trying to turn corrupt unions around to fight their bosses. The battles in this key San Francisco union point to the necessity to seek in each struggle to unite all possible forces in order to fight the company and its allies in the union and the importance of actively involving the broad membership around a program in their own interests.

RANK AND FILE OUST LABOR BOSS

The April 1978 election was a turning point. Six thousand Local 2 members came out to vote and ousted Joe Belardi, who was not only President of the local, but Vice President of the International union and

the hands of the Belardi machine.

The going got rough even though ARF had an edge over the old bosses. Differences broke out in ARF over how to implement their program. McDonald stalled on translating the contracts and balked at plans to begin electing shop stewards and business agents. Others in ARF wanted to forge ahead to bring change to the union, but didn't always come up with the most realistic plans or ways to accomplish it through the union structure. McDonald ended up separating himself from ARF and aligning with more conservative forces in the union.

LACK OF UNITY PARALYZES REFORM ADMINISTRATION

McDonald and ARF spent a lot of time fighting each other just at a time when unity was needed to prevent Belardi's gang still on the Executive Board from causing disruption and making a comeback. At the same time they neglected to involve the masses of workers or to put into action the ARF reform program that could have armed them better to take on the hotel and restaurant bosses.

One significant exception to the disunity under the McDonald administration was the key strike at the Zim's restaurant chain. Launched in August, 1978, it was the first major strike in the San Francisco restaurant industry for 30 years. McDonald did appoint leading members of ARF as organizers of the strike and allowed workers to select their own negotiating committee — unheard of before. ARF kept McDonald from making concessions at the bargaining table when the picket lines were strong and led the 9-week strike to victory. The strike showed how much was possible with the unity of the activists and the broad participation of the workers.

During and after the Zim's strike, the sharp struggle between McDonald and ARF continued. ARF refused to see that McDonald had conflicts with the Belardi gang and was a potential ally of the workers. He could contribute to a joint effort to isolate and defeat Belardi, like when he fired five of the worst Belardi business agents. The best way to maximize this potential would have been to mobilize the rank and file to keep the heat on wavering McDonald to get him to carry out the reform program.

Instead, the remaining ARF members began to work with the Belardi forces on the Executive Board. When McDonald saw ARF uniting with the reactionaries to pass votes on the Board, he called on the International for help.

The International wasted no time in taking advantage of the splits to regain power in their second biggest local in the country. All along they'd been working with the Belardi gang to disrupt the new administration and to clamp down on the rank and file upsurge demanding democracy in the union.

The International put Local 2 under trusteeship on September 19, 1978. Union official Vincent Sirabella was sent in from the East Coast as trustee, and he immediately suspended all the duly elected officers, Executive board members and bylaws. He cancelled all membership meetings and fired McDonald.

RANK AND FILE FIGHTS TRUSTEESHIP

The day after trusteeship was imposed, a new rank and file group was formed, the Coalition Against Trusteeship (CAT). CAT fought the trusteeship and also put forward a program for improving the workers' standard of living, building a fighting

union, fighting discrimination, and organizing the many unorganized culinary workers in San Francisco. Included among CAT's members were some who had even boycotted the April election, but later agreed that progress could be made with Belardi gone, and now moved into action.

CAT challenged Sirabella each time he threatened to sell out. They mobilized union members to picket him when he tried to extend the old contract, a move that could have given up the right to bargain and strike in 1980. CAT also built support for the maids at the St. Francis Hotel when Sirabella sided with management in a dispute over quotas.

(Continued on page 12)



Congratulations to the rubber workers who are the first major union to win the 100% cost of living clause. The new formula (1¢ for every .26 rise in the consumer price index) will help the 68,000 rubber workers' paychecks s-t-r-e-t-c-h!

The son of Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons was indicted by a federal grand jury for accepting over \$100,000 in bribes. As an officer of Local 299, Frank, Jr. told Detroit trucking companies he could prevent strikes — for a price. Junior complained, "I was just trying to fill Dad's shoes."

On August 17, seven members of UAW Local 372 of Trenton, Michigan will go to jail for a week on criminal contempt charges. Their crime? Participating in a wildcat strike against excessive heat and other safety violations in the Chrysler engine plant. How much you wanna bet they'll do more time than Frank Fitzsimmons, Jr.?

A union chartered helicopter delivered food to 50 strikers at the Bay Area Rapid Transit maintenance barn in Concord, California. The sit-downers chained the doors shut in protest of a move to shut the facility and transfer the workers.

Paul Vacarelli, executive secretary of the United Public Employees Local 390 said that if the police move to evict the workers, "We'll be ready for them."

When the clerical staff of the Ironworkers union moved to Washington last year, they found their pay was below D.C. levels. They organized a local of the Office and Professional Employees. At contract talks, Ironworkers president Lyons said, "No parity," so they walked. In a splendid show of trade union solidarity, the Ironworkers fired 18 of them, hired scabs, and took away the employee lounge.

In other contract developments Goodyear cheated its workers out of the neutrality clause that was won in the master rubber contract. The clause pledges Goodrich, Firestone, and Uniroyal to not interfere with organizing drives. The weak promise has even less meaning now that the industry's largest company has avoided it. 2000 workers at Ladish Co. in Cudahy, Wisconsin have been on strike for over 100 days. Thirty and out, an above-guidelines pay raise, and no attacks on the grievance procedure are key demands at the huge drop forging complex. The union town of Cudahy is behind the strikers as are 3000 members of other Ladish unions... Carhauled got a taste of union democracy-- Teamsters-style. They voted down the national carhaul contract but it was jammed down their throats because Teamster rules say a rejection vote must be by two thirds. The offer, covering 28,000 drivers included rate cuts (to come out of drivers' pay) and allows backhauling when there are layoffs. Backhauling is when a driver from another terminal picks up cars for a return trip. Under the Teamster pact, terminals can keep men on layoff regardless of seniority by relying on backhauling. The contract sparked wildcats in 5 cities. In New Stanton Pa, Volkswagen workers honored their lines. In Lordstown a wildcat continued for two weeks until a court injunction ended it and allowed Anchor Motor Freight to suspend several drivers for nine months.



Maid from the St. Francis Hotel stands to denounce the International's hit-man, Vince Sirabella, in union meeting.

President of the San Francisco Central Labor Council. The multi-billion dollar tourist industry is San Francisco's biggest business, and the culinary union is at the center of San Francisco's labor movement.

The rank and file upsurge that swept Belardi from office was an accumulation of years of workers' anger at the International's interference in local affairs, and at the sellout contracts Belardi had signed. When he tried raising dues in 1977, five thousand workers came out and soundly defeated him. His days were numbered.

The Alliance of the Rank and File (ARF), put the workers' demands into an election program the following spring. They demanded; a cost of living clause (no hotel or restaurant workers have one in their contracts); better benefits; contracts published in the main languages of the workers, English, Spanish, Chinese and Tagalog (the main Filipino dialect); elected instead of appointed business agents and shop stewards; a campaign to organize the hundreds of non-union restaurants in the city; and rank and file contract negotiating committees.

ARF presidential candidate David McDonald won the '78 election. The slate also captured five other top salaried positions and five seats on the Executive Board. Nearly half the Executive Board remained in

GE chisels COLA Westinghouse Workers walk

As we go to press, 38,000 Westinghouse workers are on the picket lines at 97 plants. In East Pittsburgh, the mass picketing kept out white collar workers and provoked the company to get an injunction limiting pickets to 5 per gate.

The key issue is a Westinghouse plan to make workers pay into the pension plan, a set-up almost unheard of in American industry. The proposal would siphon off 3% of all wages over \$9,000 a year. It would add about \$15 million to Westinghouse's treasury and take about \$200 of the projected \$260 first year pay increase.

The company contends that it must have this "take away" to stay competitive with GE, which has a similar plan. They also point to extraordinary losses due to their inability to supply uranium to utility companies as they had contracted.

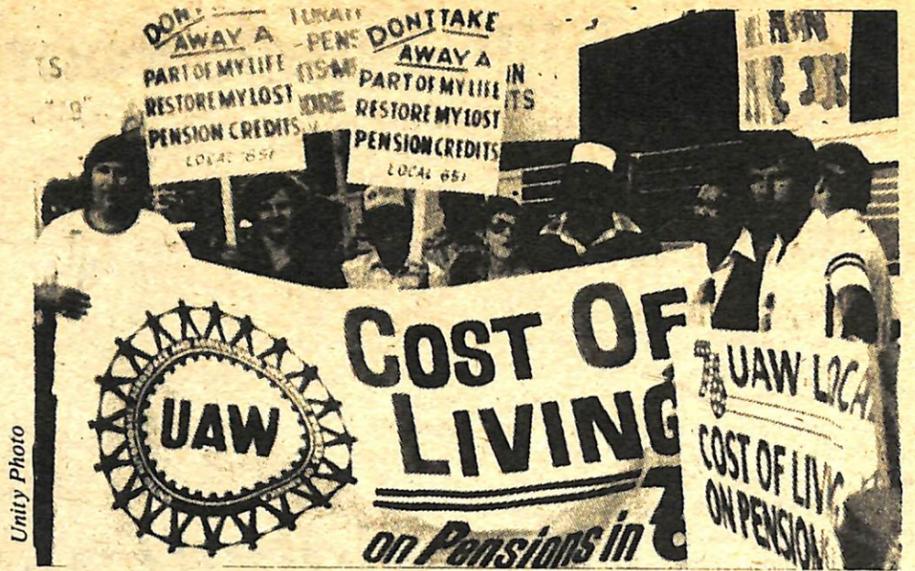
Union sources point to Westinghouse's dramatic shift in manufacturing investments from the unionized plants in the North to the low paying South. Bargainers are said to be seeking restrictions on the electrical giant's "freedom of movement"--2 years advance notice of runaways and higher severance, and transfer rights and early retirement.

The Westinghouse strike follows on the heels of a GE settlement that included a far-from-satisfactory cost of living plan. Business Week called the GE C.O.L.A. a "race track rabbit" that will never allow workers to catch up. GE, long known as one of the most openly anti-union of the major monopolies, succeeded in splitting up unions through redbaiting and witch hunting in the 1950's. In this contract they finally conceded a clause guaranteeing "maintenance of union membership" during the life of the contract. (a limited closed shop)

This concession, though greatly hailed by the union bargainers, is not expected to cheer up the rank and file who will stay almost \$2 an hour behind the autoworkers, slip in the cost of living clause, contribute to their own pensions, and face plant shutdowns and runaways with few contractual protections.

The two largest GE locals, Lynn, Mass. and Louisville, Ky., turned the offer thumbs down. But with 13 unions involved and one-half the workforce unorganized, the weak offer passed.

It's up to the brothers and sisters at Westinghouse to salvage something for electrical workers.



AUTO RALLIES PRESSURE BIG 3

When the auto contract expires September 14, the nation's 750,000 autoworkers will either have a big wage hike and a cost of living on pensions or they'll be on strike.

Odds are there'll be a strike at General Motors.

Autoworkers are more prepared than at any time in the recent past. Precontract conventions as well as four huge Detroit rallies indicate a growing level of organization and discontent in the ranks. In April, busloads of retirees, joined by hundreds of younger workers, won UAW President Fraser to make some form of cost of living on pensions the

number one demand.

When bargaining opened July 16, the mobilization was even larger. This time the Flint-based Cost of Living on Pensions Committee was not the only leading group. Workers from the Dodge Main assembly plant in Hamtramck, Michigan made up a large contingent. Their demand is that Chrysler save the jobs of 5000 workers and keep open the plant that has been slated for closing next year.

Auto workers see the gains of Teamsters and Rubber Workers as proof that the Carter Guidelines are irrelevant. Fraser has announced that the government should keep out of the talks.

The auto giants are already using the recent drop off in car sales to say that they cannot grant the pay and pension demands as well as SUB guarantees, more paid time off, protection against shutdowns, and gains in language covering production standards.

But the fact remained that GM pulled in a record \$3.51 billion in profits last year and the figures for the first half of this year are even steeper, \$2.4 billion. Ford has also raked in extraordinary profits. 1977 and 1978 were their two best years ever.

Only Chrysler can argue that its economic situation is drastic. They are saddled with overstocks of medium and large cars and have announced a staggering \$260 million loss for the first half of 1979.

Chrysler has even proposed a 2 year wage freeze for its 140,000 workers. UAW President Fraser rejected this, but his solution to the problem makes him sound more like a candidate for the Chrysler board of directors than a leader of workers.

Not only has Fraser indicated that he will consider some breaks for Chrysler, but also, following a personal meeting with Chrysler Corp. President Lee Iacocca, he suggested that the federal government invest \$1 billion in the beleaguered number 3 auto company. The company had only asked for the \$1 billion as a tax break to be repaid later.

The jobs of 5000 at Dodge Main and a good contract with Ford and GM should be the Chrysler workers' only concerns. As the 10th largest industrial company in the world's biggest auto market, Chrysler will almost definitely survive--whether it's with government help, a Volkswagen merger, a new product line, or some other business move.

Even Ford and GM will plead poverty. But with the new 1980 models on order and a record \$280 million, UAW strike fund, the three quarters of a million auto workers have a fighting chance to win a pace setter contract.

BIG UAW WIN IN SOUTHWEST



Workers from GM's Oklahoma City Chevy Citation and Pontiac Phoenix complex fought to get organized on every front. Above, they picket The Daily Oklahoman for its anti-union slanders the night before they voted up the UAW 1479-658.

The victory in GM's newest and largest complex was a major boost for the UAW's campaign to unionize the South and Southwest. With only

1 of 6 workers unionized, Oklahoma has become a runaway haven, particularly for tire production. GM, which openly violated the neutrality pledge it had signed in the '76 negotiations, gave the UAW a tough fight, with help from local business leaders who saw unionism as a threat to Oklahoma's business boom.

But the workers on the line, who turn out 75 of GM's new X-Body cars

an hour, decisively rejected GM's "worker-boss teamwork" counterbid. The UAW breakthrough, along with a United Rubber Workers TKO over Firestone in Nashville, Tennessee, will lend encouragement both to stalled union drives at Newport News shipyard and J.P. Stevens, as well as UAW and URW campaigns in the works in Louisiana, Alabama and other parts of Oklahoma.

Sniper kills Black youth in Philly

(Continued from page 1)

The lame-duck administration of Mayor Frank Rizzo had been totally silent about Chambers' murder, but they found plenty to say after Street's announcement. Sheldon Albert, a Rizzo henchman, sent a letter asking the FCC to revoke the station's license for "inciting to riot." They went after WDAS because it has served as a central line of communication for the Black community in the recent struggle. But on June 1000s of Philadelphians turned out for a rally for DAS and Woods, and the FCC was forced to drop the case.

Some whites have also taken a stand against the cowardly murder. One was 29-year-old Frank Corso, a worker at M.A. Bruder's paint factory. Corso offered \$1500 out of his credit union savings to anyone with information leading to the arrest and conviction of Tracey's killer. He said he "felt the need to do something positive."

In an interview with the Worker's Voice, Corso recalled that at first some whites, like his Southwest Philly neighbors and his co-workers, treated him coolly. But after a few days people came around to congratulate him and shake his hand.

They felt it was good that "somebody had the guts to stand up and show the people an alternative instead of going out there and banging it up. A few assholes didn't care or thought what happened to Tracey was alright. But the vast majority dug what I did. I just hope that out of this tragedy something constructive will happen, that people will just get together."

Even as Rizzo's silence implied support for the murder, the city did little to look for Tracey's killer.

As Tracey's mother said, "If this was the killing of a white, the cops would be swarming all over the Black community arresting anyone nearly fitting the description. But because Tracey's Black, there's no action."

The police finally arrested 2 white youths in July and charged them with Tracey's death. But the real criminals who incited the racial hostility leading to the murder, most notably Rizzo and City Councilman Francis Rafferty, are still free.

The Rizzo administration has been

working to split Blacks and whites in the city ever since many whites voted with the largest Black turnout ever to defeat the Charter Change last November and nix any shot Rizzo had for a third term. His administration's latest gambit is a noisy lawsuit to stop the rebuilding and integration of Edison High School, now a 100% Black and Puerto Rican school in the most rundown condition of any in Philly.

Five years ago, the city drew up detailed plans to rebuild Edison in

an industrial area 5 blocks away from a white neighborhood. Now Rizzo runs on about how these plans would bring "hoodlums"--that is, Blacks and Puerto Rican teenagers--rampaging through a white residential area.

City Councilman Rafferty, a long-time Rizzo sidekick, bears an even more direct responsibility for Chambers' death. In late May, Rafferty sent 1000 cops to ring off Lanier Playground, a white park sitting in the middle of a Black neighborhood, to stop attempts to integrate it.

In June, just a week before "kill-a-nigger-day", Rafferty disrupted a Southwest Philadelphia community meeting of 200 Black and white parents discussing how to head off violence. Accusing the whites of selling out their children, he ordered them to go home.

The efforts of Blacks and whites to avert racial violence, and the ability of the Black community to organize self-defense after Tracey's death testify to the weakening hold of the Rizzo machine. The people will not forget how casually Rizzo sacrificed the life of yet another Black youth to try and preserve that hold.

Alabama Blacks defy KKK terror

On June 24, 1500 Decatur, Alabama whites stood and watched as a school bus went up in flames. They were objecting to a new busing program that will make the city's schools 20% Black. They also burned a 70 foot cross, the largest the Ku Klux Klan has ever torched.

The whole episode shows that the KKK is on the move once again, bolder than any time since the '60s.

In the past 2 years in northern Mississippi and Alabama alone, the Klan has been involved in 2 dozen known attacks, including shooting into the homes of local Black leaders and interracial couples. In January, Ku Klux Klansmen impersonating FBI agents abducted a white woman, chained her to a tree, and whipped her for eating with her Black co-workers.

For all the talk about the New South, there are many things about it that are not all that new. One is that it's being built off of Black people's backs. And another is that when Black people begin to rise up and say No, the Klan jumps out to protect the status quo.

The latest example was in Birmingham, where the Black community has been organizing around the murder of Bonita Carter. Bonita happened to be sitting in a car whose owner was arguing with a shopkeeper. A white cop rushed to the scene and, no questions asked, shot Bonita dead.

Birmingham's Blacks hit the streets in outrage. Not only did 50 Klansmen charge a picket line outside the grocery store where Bonita was shot, but for a whole week the



Like the Marshalls in Boston and the Rizzo administration in Philly, the Klan in the South is an organizing center for racial violence.

Klan rode through town shooting into Black homes to intimidate people from coming out to a major march, called for the following weekend. They failed. On July 20, 5000 Blacks filled the streets of Birmingham--and the Klan was nowhere to be found.

Although Klan terrorism has increased in the past few years Blacks are refusing to bow down to it. Repeatedly, they have defied Klan leader Bill Wilkinson's "orders" not to march.

And they are taking measures to

defend themselves. With Klansmen brazenly sporting police caps along with their robes, there's no question of turning to the cops for protection.

As Donald Pack of the United League of Mississippi put it, "Once they scare you into staying home, it's that much easier for them to scare you the second time, and before you know it, you're scared to leave your house. So when we have business to take care of, we go out and take care of it, and if there are any problems, we're ready to take care of them, too."

the South Boston projects, the South Boston Information Center and the Marshalls, the backbone of the anti-busing movement and standard-bearers of "White Power," picketed her apartment. James Kelly, leader of the Information Center, vowed Ms. Evans would never become a part of the community.

(Continued on page 7)

Racism stalks Boston's streets

City funding for thugs nixed

BOSTON -- Faith Evans and her little boy are the only Blacks living in South Boston's housing projects. In the early morning hours of May 21, Ms. Evans' car was set afire. Only the week before, she had spent \$289 to have it repainted after it was covered with "Nigger" and other racial slurs.

In early June, Christopher Burley, a 12-year-old Black paper boy, was shot twice with a bow and arrow on his way home. Two of his adult assailants were wearing KKK robes.

Sunday of that same week, 3 white teenagers attacked the Hyde Park home of William Morris, carrying a tire iron, a baseball bat and a hockey stick. Morris shot one of the youths in the arm to stop them, and when police arrived, he was arrested for attempted murder.

ATTACKS CONDONED

Racial attacks on minorities, particularly on Blacks, are part of everyday life in Boston, continually inflaming racial tensions. Mothers leaving the Roslindale projects to get

a carton of milk never know whether they'll be the target of racial slurs, bricks, or both. Workers at Westinghouse finally had to arm themselves so they could make the trip home safely.

What it adds up to is that in white or newly integrated areas of the city, Black and Spanish people are not free to come and go, much less live.

The Mayor and police department condone, if not encourage, this situation.

Of the over 2,000 incidents in the last couple of years, police have only a handful of arrests, and fewer convictions, to show for their efforts. They claim the attacks are the work of random individuals whom they can't identify.

The truth is, in many instances the police are well aware of who the troublemakers are in a particular neighborhood, and in some cases have ignored positive identifications made by victims. As in the Morris case, they are more likely to arrest Blacks trying to defend themselves than the assailants.

Organizations inciting racial hatred operate with the same kind of impunity. When Faith Evans moved into

Winds of Change in Miss. Vote

"For the first time in the history of Marshall County, an election has the potential of being fair," said Ernest Cunningham of the United League of Northern Mississippi.

The only problem was that the county wouldn't release the ballot boxes to the election officials, and the vote was set for the next day.

This year, Skip Robinson, President of the United League and Co-chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee, was in charge of running the election. For the first time, Marshall County, with a 63% Black population, had a majority Black Democratic Committee. For the first time, a slate of Black candidates had a chance of winning. And for the first time, the local white power structure was in danger of losing control of the Marshall County government.

"It's so far from the norm," said Cunningham, "they can't deal with it."

Meanwhile, in Ripley, Mississippi, the United League is fighting for justice for a Black man severely beaten in jail. The sheriff put him in a cell with 5-6 whites and sat back while they did his dirty work. The League marched August 5 in protest of this most recent incident of brutality.

On September 1, the United League will be holding a banquet in honor of the struggle that is changing the face of Mississippi. Keynote speaker will be Minister Louis Farrakhan of the Nation of Islam. Tickets are \$10 apiece or \$80 a table. Call 601-252-9917 or 601-365-2289 if you can come or make a donation.

Public hospitals face slow death

CHICAGO: STATE POLITICIANS REFUSE AID

CHICAGO— There's more than one way to kill a hospital. You can drive it under in one blow, which is what Governor Thompson and the Illinois State Legislature threatened to do when they denied Cook County Hospital the \$36 million needed to meet its budget deficit. Or you can wear it down bit by bit.

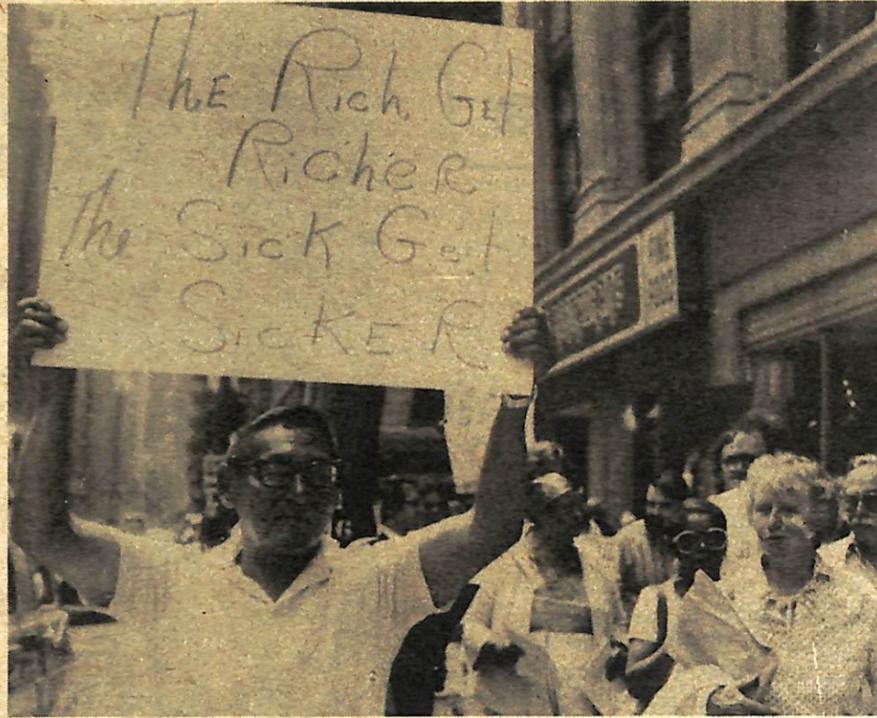
The Governor and Legislature came up against too much resistance when they tried the "death at one blow" approach. As the legislative session drew to a close and it became clear that Cook County was to be left out in the cold, empty-handed, the Committee to Save Cook County organized a demonstration of 350 at the State Capitol and later a picket line at the Governor's office in Chicago. Even the major newspapers ran editorials supporting the hospital.

So instead the politicians back-pedaled to the "bit-by-bit" routine. They handed over \$16.8 million in advance Medicaid payments, staving off the crisis for 3 more months.

But inside Cook County, the precarious position of Chicago's only public hospital takes its toll every day.

"You can't go on working like this forever," an LPN told the Workers Voice. Since the budget crisis surfaced, she'd been working two double shifts a week with almost twice the number of patients she'd had before.

From doctors to housekeepers, the workload has increased at Cook County, in part because so many people have quit. Job insecurity is one thing driving people out. "I'd like to work here until I retire," an attendant with 22 years of service



Workers Voice

Supporters of Cook County Hospital picket the governor's Chicago office to keep the hospital open. The sign says it all.

said. "But like everyone else, I don't know whether I'll be able to keep my job."

Below-scale pay, the reluctance of the Governor's Committee to negotiate contracts that are more than a year overdue, and rumors of the impending transfer of pensions over to Social Security are other factors. In one month alone, 46 nurses quit!

If the budget crisis has played havoc with the staff, it's also hurt patient care. Patients sit for 8 hours in overcrowded waiting rooms and wait

weeks for clinic appointments. But many of Chicago's residents, particularly its Black and Hispanic population, have nowhere else to go.

In three months the future of Cook County will again be up for grabs. But the Governing Commission maintained a grim silence on the subject. According to one attendant, this has undermined mobilizing the support for the hospital that she senses from both staff and patients. "If people understood what was happening," she said, "there'd be a big response."

Boston racists

(Continued from page 6)

Yet Mr. Kelly holds a \$17,500 a year patronage job with the city. Other members of the Information Center and the Marshalls are also on the city payroll. Mayor Kevin White recently approved a \$40,000 Community Development Grant to the Marshalls for training South Boston youths "how to properly handle and fire a weapon...and how to defend themselves in hand to hand combat." The grant also called for establishing neighborhood patrols with special powers to assist police.

The Mayor, up for re-election this year, needs the South Boston vote and doesn't care who he has to play patty cake with to get it. But when news of the grant was uncovered and publicized, public outrage forced him to do a lot of backtracking and finally to veto the grant.

With each new attack, people are learning that they have nowhere to turn for protection but to themselves and their neighbors. But they are not backing down. People like Faith Evans and Chris Burley's mother are refusing to move. Neighbors do guard duty for families whose homes are under attack. Black and Hispanic tenants of the Roslindale project want to set up community patrols.

When William Morris used his shotgun on the punks storming his house, he made a stand that speaks for the feelings of many of Boston's minority residents.

Black United Front pushes independent for Philly mayor

Philadelphia's Blacks were the victims of massive voter fraud in the May 15 mayoral primary, but they're not conceding the election. On July 13, 14 and 15, scores of community organizations gathered at the city's Third Black Political Convention to nominate popular City Councilman Lucien Blackwell as an independent candidate for Mayor.

Democratic nominee Bill Green and Republican David Marston both attended the convention to make a bid for support. Marston got some heated questions and a cool response. Green, who refused to sign the Convention's Human Rights Platform, was not even allowed to speak. In an emotion-charged 11 hour final session, the Convention voted 67-8 to go with Blackwell.

Blackwell, who indicated informally that he will accept the draft and run on the Consumer's Party ticket, said he sees himself "not just as a Black candidate, but as a poor people's candidate."

Blackwell is among the most active and respected of Philly's Black leaders. He is also President of Local 1332 of the International Longshoreman's Association and the ILA's

recent national convention endorsed his candidacy.

Philadelphia's first Black Political Convention met in December 1978 to consolidate the Black United Front, a coalition which included grass roots activists from the fight against Mayor Frank Rizzo's police terror, and his charter change amendment. The second, in April of this year, decided to run Charles Bowser as its candidate in the mayoral primaries.

Bowser lost the primary, but as plans developed to run a Black candidate on an independent ticket, many thought he would hand pick the person. Shortly before the Convention, however, word leaked out that Bowser was planning to throw his support to primary opponent, Bill Green. In one day, 5000 people called into a Black radio show to condemn the move. His credibility shot, Bowser announced his withdrawal from politics the next day.

The formal break with traditional Democratic Party politics is an important step for Philadelphia's Black movement, which is trying to translate its victories in the streets into political clout in the decision-making process.

NEW YORK: FOUR MORE TO CLOSE

NEW YORK CITY — On July 30th, a doctor at Metropolitan Hospital called a press conference that caused the stir of the week in the Big Apple. The doctor was the President of the Metropolitan's chapter of the Committee of Interns and Residents, and his topic was an announcement that patients at Metropolitan had died because the hospital had run out of penicillin.

Metropolitan is one of 4 hospitals slated to be closed under Mayor Koch's new plan for the municipal hospital system. Conditions at Metropolitan were never good, but since Koch unveiled his plans, the hospital's been run as though it's already dead.

Like Metropolitan, the other institutions Koch is axing--Sydenham, Greenpoint, and Cumberland--are all in minority communities, where public facilities provide the only source of medical attention available. The closings fit right in with the Mayor's moves to target Blacks and Hispanics as the people who will bear the brunt of NY's budget crisis.

If the closings go through, this will make 8 out of 17 municipal hospitals shut down in the last four years.

THE REST OF THE ATTACK

Koch's plans also include budget cuts to the tune of \$40-70 million. This will mean a layoff of 900 hospital workers, the reduction of beds in the remaining hospitals (200 at King's County alone); and the selling of North Central Bronx and Queens General to private hospitals.

The final part of the plan--decentralization--is even more destructive...in the long run. Right now, the municipal hospitals run on a single, system-wide budget. The majority run in the red (although not as much in the red as the Mayor leads the public to believe) and tax money makes up for the deficit. With decentralization, each hospital will be responsible for the collection of all outstanding bills, with no help from the Board of Health and Hospitals in balancing its budget.

This means that hospitals which treat those patients least able to pay--and most in need of free medical care--will go bankrupt and close, or be sold to private institutions.

BEGINNING THE FIGHT

With an attack as big as this, where do you begin to fight? It's no easy question, but community organizations, health professionals and hospital workers are gathering forces and beginning to move. The Harlem community is taking the lead, with community coalitions at Metropolitan, Harlem and Sydenham hospitals planning demonstrations, health fairs and joint actions. The NAACP and the Urban League have joined in publicly condemning the cuts.

At Metropolitan, an employees subcommittee of the community coalition is putting out a newsletter to organize hospital workers to participate in coalition actions.

The Committee of Interns and Residents, a doctor's union that struck for one day last January when word of the impending cuts first leaked,

(Continued on page 12)

Fight the Energy Ripoff

New energy plan Still targets people

Jimmy Carter came out with another new plan to solve America's energy problems on July 19. The magic word this time was "synthoil", artificial petroleum distilled from coal, tar sands and especially oil shale, which will replace oil currently imported from OPEC countries. This new scheme is already headed toward the same lack of success that his earlier programs have enjoyed.

Carter's last previous master plan to move America "toward a future of real energy security" was announced less than four months before, on April 6. The solution that time was decontrolling the price of domestically produced crude oil. If they could only make more money, he argued, oil companies would develop and exploit new sources of petroleum. Earlier in the administration, it was nuclear power that would help guarantee energy independence, etc., etc.

On the surface, the only thing each new plan has in common with the one before is that it won't work. Beneath the quick shifts and seeming confusion, however, there is a common theme. Each new scheme blames the American people, and not the capitalist system, for the country's inefficient pattern of energy use. Each calls on the people to sacrifice and suffer. Each new scheme winds up with the oil companies in line for new millions, because they dominate the whole energy field—from coal to nukes, from oil shale to the technology for non-conventional energy sources.

All the same, Carter's newest plan bears the hammer marks of popular resistance to the many ways the energy crisis has been dumped on the backs of the common people. He could not proclaim atomic power as the solution—not after Three Mile Island and 100,000 people marching on Washington. Even though many of America's rulers hope to keep nukes as one part of their "energy mix", the mass struggle has already placed severe limits on how far they can go down the plutonium path.

And imagine the response if Carter had announced he was taking decontrol a step further and removing all restraints on gas

Workers Voice Analysis

and heating fuel prices! The independent truckers' strike, the Le-vittown rebellion and the fury of motorists in general showed how folks feel about the oil monopolies and the manipulated shortages to jack prices up. Oil prices will continue to rise, but now the administration has no choice but to pose as an advocate of holding down new increases.

Carter backed off from showdowns over nukes and decontrol, but his current program will meet the same fate—and for the same reasons. The "synthoil" proposal means raping vast areas of the Western states and leaving them wastelands to produce oil more expensive than Libya's finest. The Energy Mobilization Board the plan calls for is designed to force projects, maybe even new nukes, through over environmental objections.

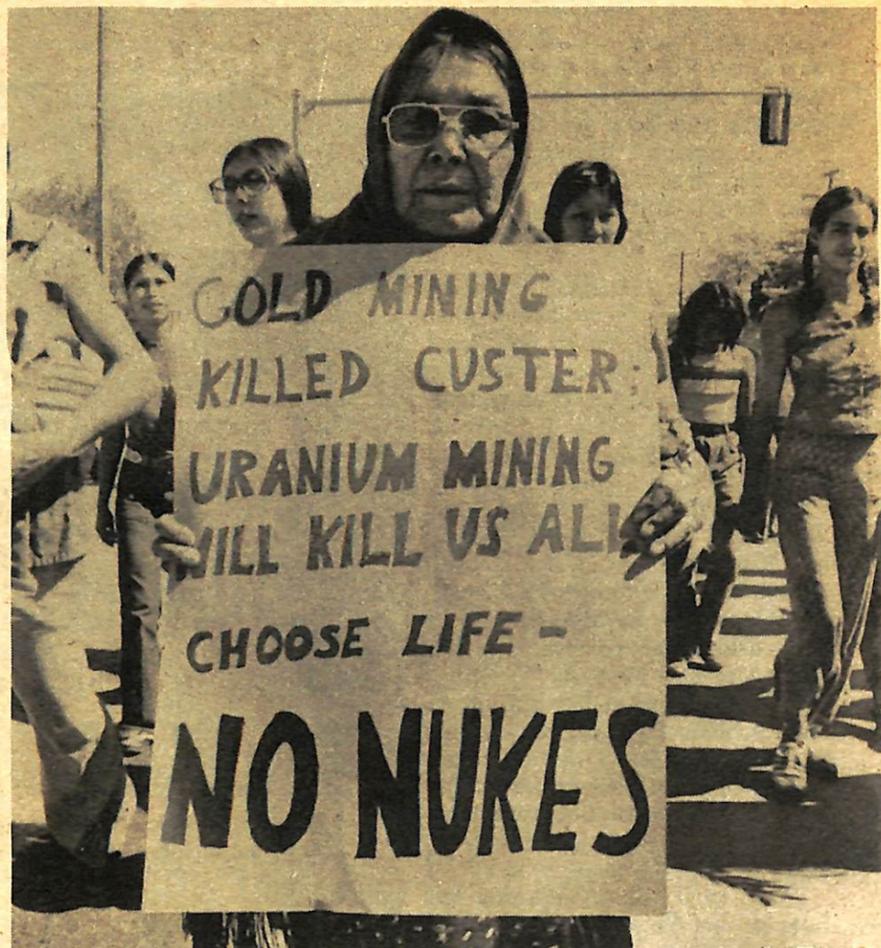
A foretaste of the kind of roadblock this attack will run into came in South Dakota this summer. Anti-nuke forces, Native Americans and farmers mobilized against efforts by the energy giants and the government to turn the Black Hills into a desolate "national sacrifice area"

And if this plan doesn't fly either, what next? Some of the options the rich and powerful are considering are even worse than those proposed so far. The government is setting up a 100,000 man military strike force ready to invade and occupy Arab oil producing centers. There are newspaper columnists and politicians who even today advocate dragging the U.S. into another unjust, unwinnable war to make sure Exxon and its pals have a sure source of supply.

One thing is sure. The present uncertainty can't continue forever. The deep differences in the ruling class over formulating a consistent energy policy will move toward a resolution. A future administration, stronger and less vacillating than Carter's, may try a broader, more forceful assault on the people: decontrol prices, build nukes, strip mine from the Great Divide to the Mississippi, menace Third World countries, get one section of the population blaming and fighting another for the hardships neither of them caused.

At the same time, the people will continue to fight back on many fronts—against nukes, against high fuel prices, against transit hikes and cutbacks, against the ravagers of the environment, against the calls to sacrifice. Such battles can restrict the attacks the wealthy and powerful are able to launch.

More, if these battles can be linked together to a greater extent, the potential exists to force important concessions and changes as the nation's energy policy moves into a new era—for instance, genuine programs to build up inexpensive mass transit or concentrating on renewable energy sources like solar instead of non-renewable ones like fossil fuels.



The 2000 who marched 20 long miles in the Black Hills show the resistance energy schemes to rape the West will meet.

Chicago Transit: "New Fare Not Fair"

Chicago — In Chicago, ridership on public transportation was up 5 million in June and 3 million in July over last year, due to the gas crisis. But service has been cut back and drivers laid off. Now the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is trying to jack its fares to 70¢—the highest in the country.

Their action has spurred Chicago

UAW to down tools in protest

"The time has come to put the oil companies and their allies on notice that the American people have had it."

So spoke UAW President Douglas Fraser, as he announced plans for the UAW's 1.5 million members to "put down their tools and pick up their pens to protest energy prices and shortages, and excessive oil company profits." During the work stoppage, scheduled for August 22nd, the UAW is calling on workers to sitdown and write protest letters to Washington.

For most UAW members, it will be the first time they've downed their tools for a direct confrontation with government policy.

That's a precedent the auto companies don't want set. At first they told the union that people could write their letters at home just as well. But realizing that the UAW was set on going through with the job action, AMC became the first to announce it would shut down the lines during the protest. There's one hitch — AMC plans to dock people for the time they're not working.

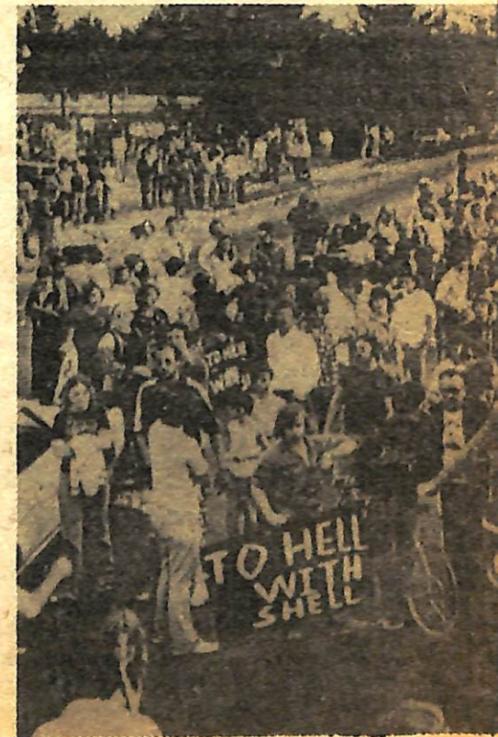
The UAW work stoppage is one of many ways the American people are fighting the energy rip-off. Although the August actions will in most cases be merely symbolic, they will symbolize an important point: that workers have the potential power to shut the country down cold if they don't like the way it's going.

passengers into motion. When People Against the Transit Hike (PATH) put out a petition saying "New Fare--Not Fair!", people got them filled out at work, in their neighborhoods and in their churches. After just 2 weeks of existence, PATH now receives an average of 20 letters a day with as many as 8 petitions in them.

On a one day call-in to harass the RTA, President Lewis Hill's line was overloaded. Especially angry are low-paid downtown office workers.

RTA passengers endure such inconveniences as unannounced delays and windows that won't open in 90 degree heat. In last winter's blizzard, hundreds of commuters, especially in the Black communities, were left freezing on train platforms.

PATH is now mobilizing people to confront the RTA at its August 8th public hearing, to show that the public will not be railroaded into paying more and getting less.



Offs on Every Front!

Energy plunder challenged in South Dakota

Carter's energy priorities put a big question mark on the future of the South Dakota Black Hills. Large scale uranium mining and nuclear plants are being planned in this region, which former Energy Secretary Schlesinger calls "America's energy ace-in-the-hole."

Over 2,000 people marched 20 miles from Rapid City through the Black Hills on July 7 to say they won't let the plans go through. On that blisteringly hot day, large contingents of activists from 27 states and two Canadian provinces fell into line behind Lakota Sioux Indians whose traditional lands are centered in the Black Hills. Some white South Dakotans marched. Others watched from their pick-ups along the winding roadside, not ready to join, but stating that they and their neighbors were overwhelmingly opposed to the nuclear development slated for their area.

Those who participated share common interests in stopping the energy corporations. The anti-nuke activists who came to South Dakota want to stop nuclear development at its initial stage: uranium mining. The Indians know from long experience that the government and companies will take every resource they have and give nothing in return.

Ranchers fear that if water depletion doesn't force them off their land, construction of dangerous nuclear reactors will.

The march was sponsored by the Black Hills Alliance as part of a weekend of rallies, educational workshops and entertainment by anti-nuke musicians Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, Jesse Colin Young and Native American recording artist Floyd Westerman. Nearly 7,000 people participated in the weekend's events.

This is what the protesters are up against:

*More than two dozen corporate giants are implementing plans throughout one million acres of land in the Black Hills for uranium mining, the front end of the nuclear cycle.

*The western slopes of the Black Hills are the likely site of a nuclear energy park consisting of numerous reactors.

*Power companies will use more than 2.5 million acre/feet of water per year. The federal government is allocating water to power corporations at a rate well above the level of replacement, a rate that will lead to total depletion in 30 years.

*Mining companies have already

abandoned 3 1/2 million tons of dangerous radioactive mill tailings (waste) at Edgemont, South Dakota, where uranium mining began in the early 1950's.

*Energy companies like Union Carbide and Kerr McGee are acquiring lands for uranium mining with lots of help from the federal and state governments.

The federal government took the Black Hills area itself from the Lakota Sioux Indians in 1876, even though the U.S. guaranteed it to the Indians in the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868. The Indians have challenged this theft ever since. Just this June, a federal court admitted that the Black Hills were illegally taken from the Indians.

The U.S. still wants the land so the companies can exploit it. The Court offered the Indians \$105 million to settle their claim. But the Indians and anti-nuke activists insist: "The Black Hills Are Not For Sale!"

South Dakota Governor William Janklow, who ran on an anti-Indian ticket, is bending over backwards to help the companies. He has issued a gag order on all state employees to keep them from discussing official energy policies. And early this year,

he abolished the State Department of Environmental Protection. Now, both energy development and environmental protection are under the same department!

The fight against the corporate and government plans for the Black Hills, launched at the early July demonstration, is a big task. One thing the protesters have going for them is the new alliance among Native Americans, white South Dakotans, and anti-nuke activists. This development was applauded by nearly every speaker at the July 6 rally.

A third generation white rancher, Marvin Kamerer, told the 7,000 people at the Rapid City rally on the eve of the march:

"I'm not an educated man, but I know the multinational corporations that are planning the uranium mining are only seeking to meet the needs of their money coffers and not the needs of the people."

Noting the broad national support as well as the beginning of joint work with local whites, American Indian Movement leader John Trudell said, "We can stand together to build this resistance to the energy corporations, to build this struggle!"

Oil exporters won't be robbed either

With White House approval, the Pentagon is preparing a massive strike force for a possible invasion of Saudi Arabia or other Middle Eastern nations.

The "Unilateral Force" will include 40,000 combat troops and 60,000 more in support roles, including the 82nd Airborne and Navy, Marine and Air Force units.

Such an invasion, first proposed three years ago, is still not likely at present. However, the abuse heaped on OPEC by Carter, the media, and the oil companies prepares public opinion in case the government does decide to use the "Unilateral Force." They hate OPEC for one simple reason--its members refused to be robbed.

**From 1948 to 1960, the Big Seven Oil companies had a total income of \$12.8 billion on foreign oil. The countries whose oil it was got only \$9.4 billion! In 1959, the companies cut the price they were paying at the well head. In 1960, producing countries formed OPEC in self-defense.

**Until U.S. dominance in the world weakened by the 1970's, OPEC could only hold prices stable against oil company attacks. When Arab countries turned off the tap briefly during the 1973 Mideast War, the panicky response showed it was finally time for a big catch-up increase. During this whole period, they also took more control of the production process.

**Oil prices are not the leading cause of inflation. Since 1974, hamburger prices have risen just as fast. Inflation in the West hits oil producing countries hard, because the cost of machinery they need to modernize their economies has risen faster than crude oil prices.

**Oil is the only resource many OPEC countries have. Saudi Arabia has refused U.S. demands to double production to 16 million barrels a day, which would leave it high and dry in

ten years. Oil revenues are spurring the development of these nations.

**Economic power is political power. Oil gives the OPEC countries a weapon against the nations that once dominated them. In the 1973 war, Arab countries forced Western European countries and Japan to stop backing Israel. Now Nigeria is blocking British recognition of the new puppet government in Rhodesia.

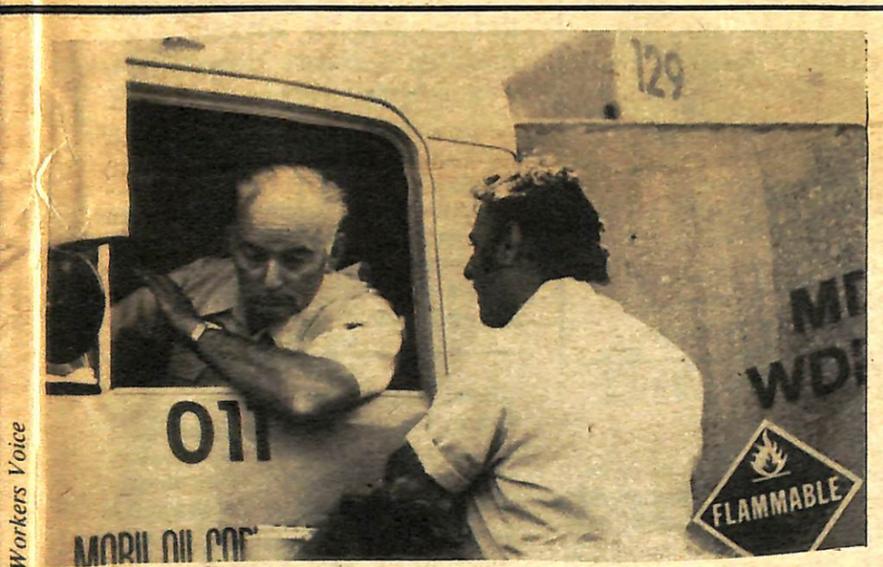
**There are differences among the OPEC leaders about how firmly to stand up to the U.S., but all are under pressure from popular movements demanding better living standards and an end to foreign exploitation. No one wants to be the next to share the Shah of Iran's fate.

**Threatening invasion is not going to help U.S. relations with OPEC. When the Pentagon plans were revealed, Kuwait angrily called it the equivalent of "a declaration of war." The OPEC countries have pledged an indefinite boycott of any nation that commits aggression against one of them.

The latest developments show how much has changed in the Mideast since the U.S. was the bully of the block 20 years ago. The Saudis voluntarily increased production by a million barrels a day to build up U.S. and world reserves in the current crunch.

Now they have made it clear that in return for their co-operation, they expect something from the U.S. They want some visible action on past U.S. statements supporting the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and a national homeland, and they want it soon. Otherwise, production will be cut back.

The OPEC countries have stood up to the U.S. government and to the giant oil monopolies. Neither the threat of invasion, nor an actual invasion, can beat them back to the 1950's.



Truckers strike, motorists join the fight

Truckers persuade a tanker driver to honor their lines at the Jones Island oil distribution center in Milwaukee. Though they were forced back with only a freight increase, they kept emphasizing a roll back in prices for everybody. That's why Levittown, Pa. motorists joined the protesting truckers for 2 days of energy demonstrations at the "5 points" intersection after nearby gas stations closed as lines of cars waited. An example of unity against the ripoff.



Corrupt chief on the run

Showdown at Red Lake Reservation

RED LAKE, WISCONSIN - Nearly every night, gunfire can be heard echoing through the woods of the Red Lake Indian Reservation. At least 60 police from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), including a SWAT team, are there to prop up the sagging dictatorship of Tribal Chairman Roger Jordain.

For years, Jordain was able to run the reservation with an iron hand. "If you didn't agree with him, you paid for it," said one Chippewa woman.

The police force was Jordain's private army. And not only did he appoint the cops, he also chose the court judges.

But earlier this year his regime began to crack when reservation residents elected a young woman named Stephanie Hanson tribal treasurer. For the first time in 20 years, Jordain was faced with someone who was independent of his BIA-financed political machine.

On May 19th, some Indian men

seized the BIA Law Enforcement Center. They locked the cops in their cells with a few cases of beer to keep them quiet. Word spread quickly.

The next morning, when the occupants emerged with the staggering officers, hundreds of supporters had massed out in front.

The events of May 19th were a hard slap in the face to the BIA. It also hurt businesses who prey on the reservation, like big timber interests who have been working with Jordain to get some of the tribe's best woodlands at bargain basement rates.

Despite its military presence, the BIA has not been able to cool things out to the point where Jordain can return. He is now holed up about 90 miles away from Red Lake, conducting what tribal business he can by telephone. The Jordain-run tribal council has not even met.

And after 7 months, the BIA has ruled that Stephanie Hanson must be restored to her post.

But though the Jordain regime is wounded, it's not dead yet.

On July 24, Harry Hanson, Stephanie's husband, and the four others arrested in the Law Enforcement Center takeover were given from 10 to 26 years in jail by a Minneapolis Federal Court.

They were tried by an all-white jury hundreds of miles from Red Lake. The judge ruled that no political issues could be brought up and then described the takeover as "a revolution of blatant lawlessness."

As we go to press, the five convictions are being appealed and lawsuits against Jordain are under discussion.

Armed clashes occur daily on the reservation because, as one militant Chippewa youth said,

"We will not give up the fight, we will take our fight to the people."

N.J. WILDCAT SHUTS STATE GOV'T

On July 11, 25,000 New Jersey state employees staged the biggest wildcat strike since the coal miners' 1978 walkout. It began when workers learned that union officials had accepted only 5.5%. With only a state-wide CB network to co-ordinate things, they were forced back after 3 days. They have launched a Vote No movement.

Women confront Right-to-Lifers

"Women have died because of Hyde," chanted 150 placard-bearing pickets as one by one they piled coathangers in the entrance way of the Drawbridge Motor Inn, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky on June 23.

"Pagans! Pagans!" screamed a man in dinner dress while his cohorts from the national convention of the so-called "Right to Life" movement shouted insults at the mainly female demonstrators. The protest was the culmination of a day-long demonstration which brought over 1,000 people to nearby Cincinnati, Ohio in support of women's right to choose when and if to bear children.

The coathangers symbolize illegal abortion procedures which caused the deaths of thousands of women per year before the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion in 1973.

Partly due to right-wing "pro-life" lobbying efforts, a 1977 measure initiated by Rep. Henry Hyde (R.Ill.) now denies federal money to welfare women seeking abortions.

The Kentucky demonstration was part of a resurgence of militance in the women's movement over the past few years and was the largest direct confrontation to date between pro-choice and anti-abortion forces.

After 10 or 15 minutes of picketing, one woman climbed onto the Inn's marquee to hang a sign declaring "Right to lifers, you're going to lose. We demand the right to choose." A scuffle ensued but broke up as the police arrived. The demonstrators

left peacefully.

The march and rally earlier in Cincinnati drew women and men from across the midwest. It was introduced as the "front line of women battling for their rights," which reflects the belief of many women that the reproductive rights issue is merely being used as a spearhead by right wingers and the government for further attacks on women's rights.

Ellen Frankfort, co-author of "Rosie Jimenez, An Investigation of a Wrongful Death," reminded the audience of Jimmy Carter's response to Hyde in 1977. "There are many things in life," said the President, "that are not fair. The federal government should not act to make opportunities for rich and poor exactly equal."

Jimenez was a 27-year-old Texan who died in the fall of 1977 as a result of going to an illegal abortionist when welfare would not pay for a legal procedure. She was the first documented victim of Hyde.

STERILIZATION ABUSE

While welfare will not pay for abortion, it will pay for sterilization. Margaret Willis of the Ohio Welfare Rights Organization described the pressures that force poor women to be sterilized. Welfare recipients who wish to terminate pregnancy often have to agree to a tubal ligation.

This year the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare up-

dated guidelines intended to protect women from forced sterilization. But Ralph Nader's Health Research Group reported in July that a survey it conducted indicates that more than 2/3 of hospitals performing sterilization are not in compliance with the regulations.

Women are asked to authorize sterilization while they are in labor, asked to sign for it without having the procedure explained in their own language, or are told that tube-tying isn't permanent (it is) - to name just a few abuses.

These practices affect minority women the most. Black women in NYC have twice the sterilization rate of white women. For Hispanic women, the rate is six times as high.

RIGHT WING TERRORISTS

While the "Right to Lifers" claim to uphold life, they do not oppose such involuntary practices, asserted Rhonda Copeland of New York's Center for Constitutional Rights. Copeland's speech explored the long-term effect of the campaign against abortion, especially if a constitutional amendment is passed. This, she warned, would be a tremendous limitation on women's right to control their own bodies and would open the door to further freedoms being removed.

For a number of prominent right to lifers, the anti-abortion campaign is only the spearhead for other causes pursued by different, ultra right wing organizations to which they belong.

Illinois State Representative Philip Crane, for example, a leading figure in this state's Right to Life chapter, is also Director of the American Conservative Union and the "meanest man in Congress," according to the American Parents Committee. He won the title for his opposition to child nutrition and education funding, as well as to 8 other child-advocacy issues.

The right to lifers' attacks, which go as far as firebombings of abortion clinics, coupled with government cutbacks on abortion, have spurred a new wave of militancy among women who were activists in the '60s but have spent the '70s concentrating on services such as clinics and health education services for women. With the new activism, a number of women who have never taken part in the women's movement before are now joining its ranks.

The Cincinnati demonstration, while mainly women in their late 20s and early 30s, also drew older women from concerned religious groups as well as college students.

The demo itself was only one step in an extended campaign launched by the Reproductive Rights National Network, a recently formed coalition of groups and individuals. Besides circulating petitions against the Hyde Amendment prior to a Congressional vote in June, the RNNN is joining with the National Organization of Women and the National Abortion Rights Action League to call for an Abortion Rights Action Week, October 22-27, to feature educational and other activities in a number of cities.

NICARAGUANS JOYOUS AS SOMOZA FLEES

U.S. scrambles to save influence



Inferior in training, equipment and weapons to their foe, the Sandinista guerrillas were victorious when they united with and led the whole Nicaraguan people in an anti-Somoza insurrection.

As evening fell on July 18, Nicaragua erupted in a carnival of joy. Two million people jammed the streets of Managua. Barefoot children in raggedy clothes from the capital's vast slums mingled with middle class housewives in their Sunday best and tough-looking industrial workers.

At the center of every celebration were "our boys"—the young men and women who fought with the Sandinista guerrillas. Clutching their weapons, still wearing their combat uniforms, anything from military fatigues to Fleetwood Mac tee shirts, they radiated pride at their victory.

The day before, "El Presidente," Anastasio Somoza, had fled his fortified bunker inside National Guard headquarters for his Miami mansion. With their master gone, Somoza's National Guard collapsed within 24 hours, as soldiers abandoned their positions and scrambled desperately to get into civilian clothes. The day of liberation had arrived.

Within the joy that filled Nicaragua, however, there was another current made up of equal parts of anger and determination. Before Somoza ran, he had virtually destroyed the country while trying to hold on to it.

Whole cities are rubble. This year's harvest is almost completely lost. Nicaragua's few factories are in ruins. There is nothing to export, and little to eat. The treasury is empty. Worst of all is the many tens of thousands dead, among them the cream of the nation's youth. Nicaragua's revolution has difficult days ahead.

SOMOZA'S POWER

Yet this is not the first difficult task the Nicaraguan people have faced. Only three years back, Somoza seemed invincible. In March 1977 the U.S. embassy reported to Washington, "Nicaragua should continue to enjoy political stability for some time to come." The Sandino National Liberation Front (SNLF), which had fought Somoza since 1961 was split into three factions.

Somoza ruled a country run before him by his older brother, his uncle and his father, who had been put in power by United States Marines in the 1930's. By the 1970's, the Somoza dynasty held 30% of Nicaragua's agricultural land and 26 of the country's largest companies.

Nicaragua's combined army and police force, the National Guard, owed its loyalty directly to the Somoza clan.

And behind Somoza stood the might of the United States. Despite periodic pressure on the Somozas to "liberalize", the U.S. government has continually pumped cash to their dictatorship. In 1978 alone Congress voted \$18.2 million in aid.

THE OPPOSITION TAKES FORM

How did Somoza fall so far so fast? The basis for his collapse was always there. Every section of the Nicaraguan people had reason to hate him — the workers who labored without unions in his factories and fields; the peasants forced off their land as he grabbed more and more; the intellectuals who faced repression and censorship; other businessmen who could hardly compete with the country's ruler.

A key point in the consolidation of the opposition came in January of 1978. Somoza's thugs gunned down newspaper publisher Pedro Chamorro, who was trying to rally anti-Somoza forces under "non-revolutionary" leadership and win U.S. backing. Weeks of rioting, mass demonstrations and guerilla attacks followed.

The business community called a general strike, sending workers home with pay. They tried to keep on top of the opposition, but things were moving too fast. People looked to the Sandinistas for leadership. The countryside saw several short-lived armed uprisings.

By July of 1978, leaders of the SNLF factions saw that they had to subordinate their differences to the demands of the developing revolutionary crisis. They set up a general coordinating commission.

They also took steps to unite the opposition. They formed the United Peoples Movement, a coalition of the most progressive of the opposition forces. By carefully narrowing the target of the revolution to Somoza and the Guard, they were able to win

support from "the Twelve," the most liberal businessmen and professionals, from the Archbishop of Managua and others.

On August 22, 1978, one Sandinista faction seized the National Palace and over 1,000 hostages, among them top officials and Somoza family members. They won the release of many key SNLF leaders from prison and widespread publicity for their program. This bold attack showed how vulnerable Somoza really was and made the guerrillas national heroes.

In Matagalpa, the people took the attack as a signal to start the insurrection. They boiled over into the streets and plazas, armed with old hunting rifles, machetes, molotov cocktails and rocks and wrested control of the city from the National Guard. Guard reinforcements poured in and smashed the uprising.

They were too late. The flames had spread to other cities. The Sandinistas hastily stepped in to give leadership to the rebellion their raid had triggered.

By the end of September, the rising was put down. National Guard jets poured bombs, rockets and machine gun fire into the centers of rebellion, Leon, Esteli and Masaya. An armored column hit one city at a time, gunning down thousands.

The National Guard did not, how-

ever, succeed in breaking the strength of the Sandinistas, who retreated to the countryside.

THE LAST BATTLE

Late 1978 and early 1979 were full of political realignment. The big question was how soon the country would erupt again.

The U.S. was looking for a way to salvage the situation by moving to "Somocismo without Somoza." The search for liberal capitalists who could lead the opposition was fruitless. The Sandinistas held the loyalty of the common people and other opposition forces had no choice but to follow their lead.

By May, Somoza had increased the Guard from 8,000 to over 12,000. Recruits poured into Sandinista training camps, tripling their regular force to 3,000.

On May 31, the Sandino National Liberation Front issued a communique. "The hour to overthrow the dictator has come," it declared. A nationwide general strike, this time organized by the workers, took effect June 4. Merchants closed down in solidarity. Coordinated uprisings began in cities around the country, with the Sandinistas at their head and more arms at hand.

Large areas fell to the revolutionary forces almost immediately. Liberated cities were reduced to rubble by bombing raids, but not recaptured. In battle after battle people held their own against the better-armed, better-trained guardistas.

A provisional revolutionary government was set up. On it were two men in or close to the Sandinistas, a social-democratic intellectual, the widow of Somoza victim Pedro Chamorro, and the head of a large vegetable oil firm. Two led combat units inside the country while the others kept opposition forces united and handled diplomatic tasks from Costa Rica.

Somoza did his best to live up to a boast his father had made in 1933: "I'll give this country peace if I have to shoot every other man in Nicaragua to do it." Anyone in the capital with doubts that Somoza had to go needed only to visit the shores of Lake Managua and look at the bound, bullet-riddled teenage bodies that washed up on the shore.

But Somoza's desperate pleas to the U.S. to rescue him fell on ears that were becoming hard of hearing, although not actually deaf. The National Guard was everywhere on the defensive. On July 16, after a month long siege, Sandinistas in Esteli assaulted the Guard fortress there, the strongest one outside the capital.

First a light plane from the SNLF "air force" fired six home made

(Continued on page 12)



Jerzy Kowalski

N.Y. demonstrators warn against American efforts to stop the revolution. In the end, all the U.S. could do was try to get close to the revolutionary leadership.

Nicaragua

(Continued from page 11)

rockets at the compound. Then it was softened up with grenades and firebombs. Finally, the youthful assault force smashed through the wall in a caterpillar tractor. The Guards fled.

The next day, Somoza did, too.

U.S. HANGS ON TOO LONG - AGAIN

With Somoza's defeat, the U.S. lost another of its closest "friends" in the Third World, another tin-horn, sun-glass-wearing killer like the Shah.

Although American diplomats were looking for "responsible" alternatives to Somoza as early as 1977, they refused to deal with the leaders of the popular resistance, the Sandinistas in particular.

As late as July, 1978, Jimmy Carter wrote Somoza praising him for improving human rights in Nicaragua! After the first insurrection, the U.S. tried, unsuccessfully, to mediate a peaceful transition to a post-Somoza government of its own making.

These talks failed, and this spring they were still loaning Somoza's regime new millions. Only after the final offensive began at the end of May did the U.S. begin to talk with the people's leaders.

U.S. Ambassador Lawrence Pezullo told the provisional revolutionary government that he couldn't pressure Somoza to leave, because they were not representative enough.

When they challenged Pezullo, he couldn't name a single group in Nicaragua who didn't acknowledge their

leadership - except for the National Guard.

On another front, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance pled with the Organization of American states to set up an "inter-American peace force" to intervene. Latin American countries wanted no part of a plan to front for Uncle Sam in setting up "Somocismo without Somoza."

As the offensive neared its climax, the U.S. was left with only one option - to do its best to hurry Somoza's departure in the hope of scoring a few points with the victors. Now the administration is shipping tons of aid to the new government, praying the Nicaraguan people will forget the long savaging of their country at American hands.

REVOLUTIONARY NICARAGUA

In its first weeks, the new government has taken major steps toward rebuilding the country, safeguarding its independence and building a new society.

All of Somoza's properties have been seized, to be run in the interests of the people. The banks have been nationalized, a first step to re-establishing a functioning economy. The National Guard has been disbanded and its soldiers are imprisoned or gone.

In their place, the SNLF forces, which swelled in the insurrection to 10,000 regulars, are being reorganized as the country's army.

The revolutionary government has announced its intention to hold to a non-aligned foreign policy, and even have cordial relations with the U.S. The Nicaraguans have also adopted a

policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states.

Nevertheless, tyrants everywhere have reason to fear the Nicaraguan revolution for the inspiring example it holds; there is no dictatorship so powerful and so brutal that the masses of people cannot eventually topple it through determined struggle.

Carter

(Continued from page 1)

in the course of sharp contention between different blocs of the wealthy, to advance their particular views and interests.

In this policy and leadership vacuum, a broad array of Presidential candidates and may-be candidates are jockeying for position, including the "new Carter." Teddy Kennedy, for instance, inspires the most enthusiasm among the people but has not offered programs substantially different from Carter's on many key questions. Texas Republican John Connally, on the other hand, advocates a definite energy policy - let the oil companies run wild, build more nukes and the people be damned - but has yet to prove he can unite even large groups with the population without seriously alienating the rest.

For the next year, the American people can look forward to headlines full of the infighting and hot air of a Presidential campaign as the country's problems deepen. Such an election is no more likely than Carter's big bid to restore their faith in a system so clearly in decline.

NY hospitals

(Continued from page 7)

helped form a citywide coalition. They have been an important part of plans and actions in many hospitals.

Inside the hospitals, particularly those targeted to be closed, workers face the problem of how to mobilize their union, DC 37 (AFSCME), to play a bigger role in the fight. Union leaders Victor Gotbaum and Lillian Roberts have spoken out against the cuts and did organize a demonstration of 10,000 at City Hall shortly before Koch formally announced his plans.

But since this May 1 demo, DC 37 has been short on concrete actions, other than in the courtroom. A powerful force in the city, the union could have a much bigger impact than it has, if it unleashed rank and file initiative. At North Central Bronx, workers raised these points to Ms. Roberts and won union endorsement of a rank and file committee within the hospital to oppose the cuts. This is the kind of action that workers in hospitals throughout the system need to take.

The people of NY got a brief reprieve when the federal government asked Mayor Koch to postpone further action until October 1, so he could incorporate the question of "better health care" into his obviously callous plan. That's something the Mayor won't be able to do in two years, let alone two months, since better health care is the last thing on his mind. But the people are sure to make good use of the delay to strengthen their fight against his plan.

S.F. union battle

(Continued from page 4)

CAT went on the offensive by relying on the rank and file in a way ARF hadn't. They organized among hotel workers whereas ARF tended to base themselves among the better-paid restaurant workers. CAT was the first caucus to actively reach out to immigrant, minority, and women workers, especially in lower paying jobs.

CAT tried to make advances, even under the new and more difficult conditions of trusteeship. By mobilizing broadly, they managed to outflank Sirabella on the question of rank and file negotiating committees. CAT had been demanding these committees as part of its program for building a fighting and democratic union. Sirabella, confident of his control of the union, figured he could put up a winning slate. So he agreed to hold elections for the hotel workers in March of this year. CAT rejected Sirabella's scheme for dividing the workers by craft and put together one slate representing all the crafts and nationalities among the hotel workers. To Sirabella's surprise, CAT won the majority of the negotiating committee for the contract.

CAT supported McDonald when he filed suit in federal court for an injunction against trusteeship. Evidence was presented of an organized conspiracy by the Belardi gang to cause chaos in the union and open the door for the International to step in. Finally, on April 5 this year, Judge Weigal made his decision that the International had sent in Sirabella to rebuild the Belardi machine. The judge halted trusteeship and ordered the May 30-31 election.

VICTORY DEPENDENT ON UNITY

With the elections scheduled, leadership of the union was wide open again. A highly mobilized membership wanted the Belardi gang out once and for all. A reform victory depended largely on unity amongst the opposition.

CAT called for all the rank and file forces to form one slate as the only way to defeat the Belardi-International slate. The group held a series of mass meetings and repeated discussions with ARF, former ARF, and McDonald forces to build a united slate.

But the bitterness remained, not only from ARF towards McDonald and vice versa, but from ARF towards CAT because certain of its members had boycotted the April '78 elections.

Negotiations between CAT, ARF and McDonald collapsed. McDonald ran his own slate. ARF, now calling itself Workers for a Strong Union (WSU), ran its own slate headed by presidential candidate Ed Forcier, a banquet waiter who had been an Executive Board member under the McDonald administration. Both McDonald and Forcier refused to run with CAT members.

CAT decided not to run a full rank and file slate because it would only split the vote further. Three different views emerged within CAT over what to do next. One group of CAT members left the group to join Forcier, intensifying the divisions.

Those who remained in CAT agreed to endorse candidates from both McDonald's and Forcier's slates for salaried positions, choosing those it thought had the greatest potential for defeating the International. CAT also ran its own candidates for the Executive Board positions.

One section of CAT emphasized the importance of uniting the union members to beat the International and using the endorsements to do this. The other section of CAT focused more on the CAT Executive Board candidates and downplayed the endorsements for salaried positions, weakening the battle to defeat the International.

When the election days came at the end of May, the scene was as wild and confusing as the whole effort to defeat the International and the many conflicting tactics for accomplishing that. It was a spirited event with balloons and banners, musicians singing, and Chinatown lion dancers ending their performance by spewing out a big banner reading, "Vote CAT!" A WSU worker dressed up as a wolf to represent the International, his pockets stuffed with money, carried around a pet lamb - the International's presidential candidate's name was Lamb.

When Belardi himself had the nerve to show up to vote, workers were so incensed that a fracas verging on a riot broke out. Activists speaking English, Chinese, Spanish and Tagalog spoke about the candidates to workers waiting to vote. Pounds of campaign literature littered the streets and voters were loaded down with sheets on each of the slates.

When the votes were counted, the International-Belardi slate had won all top three salaried positions, although they only got 39% of the vote. The two reform slates together won 61% of the vote, but it was split between them. The combined votes of the major rank and file slates would have soundly defeated the International.

The Belardi machine won 7 of the Executive Board positions. Only three from the rank and file

slates, from the WSU, got onto the Executive Board. Some CAT members say a couple more rank and filers might have won if CAT had run fewer of its own EB candidates so there would have been less competition among the rank and file candidates.

The most important question raised in this election was one of sorting out the rank and file's friends from its enemies. It's a question faced repeatedly by union activists, not only among culinary workers and not only in San Francisco.

ARF-WSU mistook McDonald's wavering and more conservative approach for opportunism and being a sellout, and attacked him as being the same as Belardi. WSU accused CAT of opportunism and juggling when CAT called for a united slate. WSU targeted every other rank and file force along with the Belardi gang and didn't see the need to direct all these forces against the International. The result was a setback for the rank and file in its fight for a democratic union and in its ability to hit the bosses.

BITTER LESSONS, NEW TASKS

With the machine back in control of Local 2, it's time for a sober reassessment by the workers in order to pull together for the tasks ahead. Right now, the union leadership is negotiating a fourth-year reopener in the five-year hotel contract, covering wages and work rules. The hotel bosses and union hacks are trying to turn this into a full contract agreement that will last three years.

Workers are against this and demand their right to negotiate and strike when the contract expires in July, 1980. They are disgusted with the current wages - many get \$3.50-4.50 an hour and none have a cost of living allowance. They're ready to fight for a decent contract even though their union hasn't struck for a contract in decades, except last year at Zim's.

Rank and file forces want to begin preparing now. CAT and WSU have requested that the union set up a strike preparation committee composed of the chief steward from each hotel, the director of organizing, and representatives from the rank and file negotiating committee that was elected this March. The negotiating committee has asked the Executive Board for a strike assessment of \$3.50 per month per worker beginning now until the contract is signed.

A strike next year could either cripple the city's huge tourist and convention trade, or break the union, depending on the unity and strength of the rank and file. Thus, whether or not CAT, WSU and McDonald forces can unite is shaping up once again as a critical question.

PUERTORRIQUENOS ENCABEZAN LUCHA CONTRA BRUTALIDAD

FILADELFIA - El 30 de Junio 300 personas marcharon por las calles de Filadelfia del Norte cargando a tauds hecho de carton. Al frente del desfile habia un ataud con el nombre de "Jose Reyes" quien fue herido fatalmente en la cara por el policia Gerard Salerno en la entrada de su casa cerca de la esquina de la 5 e Indiana. Tenia 28 anos, y era el padre de 6 ninos. Salerno tenia una historia de brutalidad policiaica,

y varias quejas contra el al tiempo de la muerte de Reyes.

Por meses antes de su asesianto Reyes habia sido hostigado por los policias del distrito 25, que lo deteneron varias veces, acusandolo de resistir arresto y despues soltandolo.

Cuando Reyes fue asesinado la comu-nida Puertorriquena esplotó. Des-files y reuniones en masa fueron organizados demandando que Sal-

erno fuese acusado de homicidio. Re-uniones de la comunidad de cientos de personas fueron celebradas en cual vecinos y amigos de Reyes describieron la intimidacion de tes-tigos por la policia. Tres semanas despues otro Puertorriqueno fue a-sesinado y hubieron mas protestas y la gente comenzo a hablar de de-fensa propia.

Hasta este dia no ha habido ninguna acusacion contra Salerno--sigue

trabajando e n la estacion de policia. Pero dos anos despues de su muerte Jose Reyes no ha sido olvidado. Los Puertorriquenos de Filadelfia estan mas organizados ahora que cuando fue asesinado. Puertorriquenos par-ticiparon el verano pasado en el movimiento para parar la reeleccion de Rizzo. La Alianza Puertorriquena, quien organizo la marcha del 30 de Junion, fue formada. Es una coalicion de organizaciones : activistas en la comunidad Puertorriquena que esta dedicada a luchar contra cualquier manifestacion de opresion contra el pueblo Boriqua en Filadelfia. Por esta razon una injusticia que de otro modo no hubiera sido desafiada se esta (vease pagina 4)

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SECCION
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VOZ

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ANTERIORMENTE EL OBRERO

VOL. II NO. 6

Nicaraguenses celebran caida de Somoza

Cuando la noche cayo el 18 de julio Nicaragua erupto en un carnival de agleria. Dos millones de personas se aglomeraron en las calles de Managua. Ninos descalzos de los inmensos barrios bajos de la capital se juntaron con la clase media, amas de casa vestidas con sus ropas de domingo y trabajadores industri-ales.

En el centro de cada celebracion, estaban nuestros muchachos los jo-venes, hombres, y mujeres quienes pelearon con los Sandinistas. Empu-nando sus armas y aun vistiendo su ropa de combate, cualquier cosa-de uniforme militar a camisetos de Fleetwood Mac, orgullosos de la vic-toria que habian ganado.

El dia anterior el presidente Ana-stacio Somoza hullo su jefatura, lo-calizada en el centro de una forta-leza de la Guardia Nacional, a su mansion en Miami.

Con su amo aucente la Guardia Nacional fracaso en menos de 24 horas, soldados abandonandos sus posiciones y corriendo desesperad-amente a cambiarse a ropa civil. El dia de liberacion habia llegado.

Con la alegria que lleno a Nica-ragua habia, sin embargo, otra cor-riente compuesta en partes igual de colera y determinacion. Antes de que Somoza escapo habia destruido virtualmente al pais entero atentando a preservar su dominio. Ciudades enteras estaban en ruinas. La co-secha de este año esta casi perdida y las pocas factorias que Nicaragua tenia estan en ruina. No hay nada para exportar y poco para comer. La tesoreria esta vacia. Aun mas peor son los miles de muertos entre ellos la juventud de la nacion. La revolucion nicaraguense tiene dias dificiles por delante.

EL PODER DE SOMOZA

Mas esta no es la primera tarea dificil quel pueblo nicaraguense tiene que enfrentar. Hace solamente tres años Somoza parecia invencible. En Marzo de 1977 la embajada de los

EEUU reporto a Washington "Nica-ragua continuara disfrutando la esta-bilidad politica por algun tiempo." El Frente de Liberacion Sandinista que habian luchado contra Somoza desde 1961 se habia dividido en tres grupos.

Somoza gobernaba un pais que antes de el habia sido gobernado por su her-mano mayor, su tio, y su padre que habian sido puesto en poder por los marines de los EEUU en los 1930. En 1970 la dinastia de Somoza con-trolaba 30% de la agricultura del pais y las 26 mas grandes compa-ñias del pais.

La Guardia Nacional debia su leal-tad a la familia Somoza. Y respal-dando a Somoza estaba el poder de los EEUU. A pesar de la presion a favor de liberacion el gobierno de los EEUU sigio abasteciendo la dictadura con fondos. En 1978 sola-mente el Congreso voto \$18.2 mil-lones en ayuda.

SE FORMA LA OPOSICION

Como callo Somoza tan rapido? La base para su derrota siempre estaba ahí. Todas las secciones del pueblo Nicaraguense lo odiaban--los obreros que trabajan sin uniones en sus factorias y fincas; los campesinos a quien les quito sus tierras; los in-telectuales que enfrentaron la re-presion y censura; otros negociantes que no podian competir con el guber-nante del pais.

Un punto clave en la consolidacion de la oposicion vino en enero de 1978. Los matones de Somoza ametrallaron al periodista Pedro Chamorro, que estava tratando de unir la fuerzas anti-Somoza bajo un programa no-revolucionario y ganar el apoyo de los EEUU. Semanas de motines, manifestaciones masivas, y ataques de guerilla resultaron. Los nego-ciantes llamaron una huelga general, enviando a los obreros a sus casas con paga. Trataron de ganar control de la oposicion pero los sucesos estaban despelgandose muy rapido.

(vease pagina 2)



Estos celebrantes jovenes no tendran que crecer bajo Somoza.

Nicaraguenses . . .

(viene de pagina 1)

El pueblo miraba hacia los Sandinistas por direccion. En el campo ocurrieron varios levantamientos armados de poca duracion.

A fines de julio de 1978 los lideres de las facciones del FLNS realizaron que habian a tener bordinar sus diferencias a las demandas de la crisis revolucionaria que se estaba desarrollando. Formaron una comision general cordnadora.

Tambien tomaron medidas para unir la oposicion. Formaron el Movimiento Popular Unido, una coalicion de las fuerzas progresivas de la oposicion. Escogiendo como el blanco de la revolucion a Somoza y la Guardia lograron ganar el apoyo del "los doce", los mas liberales negociantes y profesionales, incluyendo el arzobispo de Managua y otros.

PRIMER ATENDTADO A INSURECCION

El 22 de agosto de 1978 unas de las facciones Sandinistas tomo el Palacio Nacional y mas de 1,000 rehenes, entre ellos oficiales altos y miembros de la familia Somoza. Ganaron la libertad de muchos lideres claves del FLNS y gran publicidad para su programa. Este ataque audaz monstro la vulnerabilidad de Somoza e hizo a los guerrilleros heroes nacionales.

En Matagalpa, el pueblo tomo el ataque como una senal para comenzar la insureccion. Salleron a las calles y plazas armados con rifles de caseria, machetes, coctels molotov, y piedras y le quitaron el control de la ciudad a la Guardia Nacional. Refuerzos de la Guardia lograron aplastar el levantamiento.

Pero era demasiado tarde las llamas se habian difundido a otras ciudades. Los Sandinistas apresuradamente trataron de dar direccion a la rebellion que su ataque habia estallado.

Para el fin de septiembre, el levantamiento habia sido aplastado. Los jets de la Guardia desataron una lluvia de bombas, cohetes, y balas de ametralladoras contra los centros de la rebellion, Leon, Esteli, y Masaya. Una columna blindada ataco una ciudad detras de la otra, ametrallando a miles.

La Guardia no logro, sin embargo, destruir a las fuerzas Sandinistas, que se retiraron al campo.

Los fines de 1978 y la primera parte de 1979 estabieron llenos de maniobras politicas. La cuestion principal era dentro de cuanto explotaria de nuevo el pais. Los EEUU estaba buscando por un plan para rescatar su posicion tratando de imponer el "Somocismo" sin Somoza. La busca por capitalistas liberales que pudieran dirigir la oposicion fracaso. Los Sandinistas tenian el apoyo de la gente comun y otras fuerzas de oposicion los tenian que seguir.

Para Mayo Somoza habia aumentado la Guardia de 8,000 a mas de 12,000. Voluntarios inudaron los campos de entrenamiento Sandinista aumentando sus fuerzas regulares a 3,000.

El 3 de Mayo el Frente de Liberacion Nacional Sandinista hizo una proclamacion. "La hora de derrotar el dictador ha llegado," de claro.

Una huelga nacional, esta vez organizada por los obreros, comenzo el 4 de junio. Negociantes cerraron

en solidaridad. Levantamientos coordinados comenzaron en ciudades alrededor del pais. Bajo la direccion de los Sandinistas esta vez mejor armados.

Areas grandes calleron a las fuerzas revolucionarios casi inmediatamente. Ciudades liberadas fueron destruidas por ataques aereos, pero no fueron tomadas. En batalla tras batalla el pueblo se paro recio contra los mejor armados y entrenados miembros de la guardia.

Un gobierno revolucionario provisional fue establecido. Participando habian dos hombres que eran lideres de los Sandinistas, un intelectual democratico-social, la viuda de la victima de Somoza Pedro Chamorro, y el director de una compania de aceite vegetal. Dos eran lideres de unidades en combate adentro del pais mientras que los otros manteneron las fuerzas de la oposicion unida y desempenaron las tareas diplomaticas desde Costa Rica.

Somoza trato de hacer realidad una promesa que su padre hizo en 1933: "Yo traire paz ha este pais aunque tenga que matar a la mitad del pueblo nicaraguense para hacerlo." Cualquiera en la capital que tenia dudas que se tenia que derrotar a Somoza nada mas tenia que ir a las orillas del Lago Managua y mirar los cuerpos con manos amarradas detras de las espaldas que diariamente aparecian en el agua.

EL PAPEL DE LOS EEUU

Con la derrota de Somoza, los EEUU han perdido otro de sus mas intimo "amigos" en el Tercer Munio, otro vendido, aesino en espejuelos oscuros como el Sha. Y de nuevo los EEUU trato de continuar con sus habitos antiguos mas tiempo que le convenia.

Aunque los diplomatas Americanos estaban buscando alternativas "re-

sponsables" a Somoza desde 1977, ellos rehusaron anegociar con los lideres de la resistencia popular, particularmente los Sandinistas.

Hasta en julio de 1978, Jimmy Carter escribio a Somoza alabandolo por mejorar los derechos humanos en Nicaragua; Despues de la primera insurreccion los EEUU trato sin exito de terclar una transicion pacible a otro gobierno disenado por el.

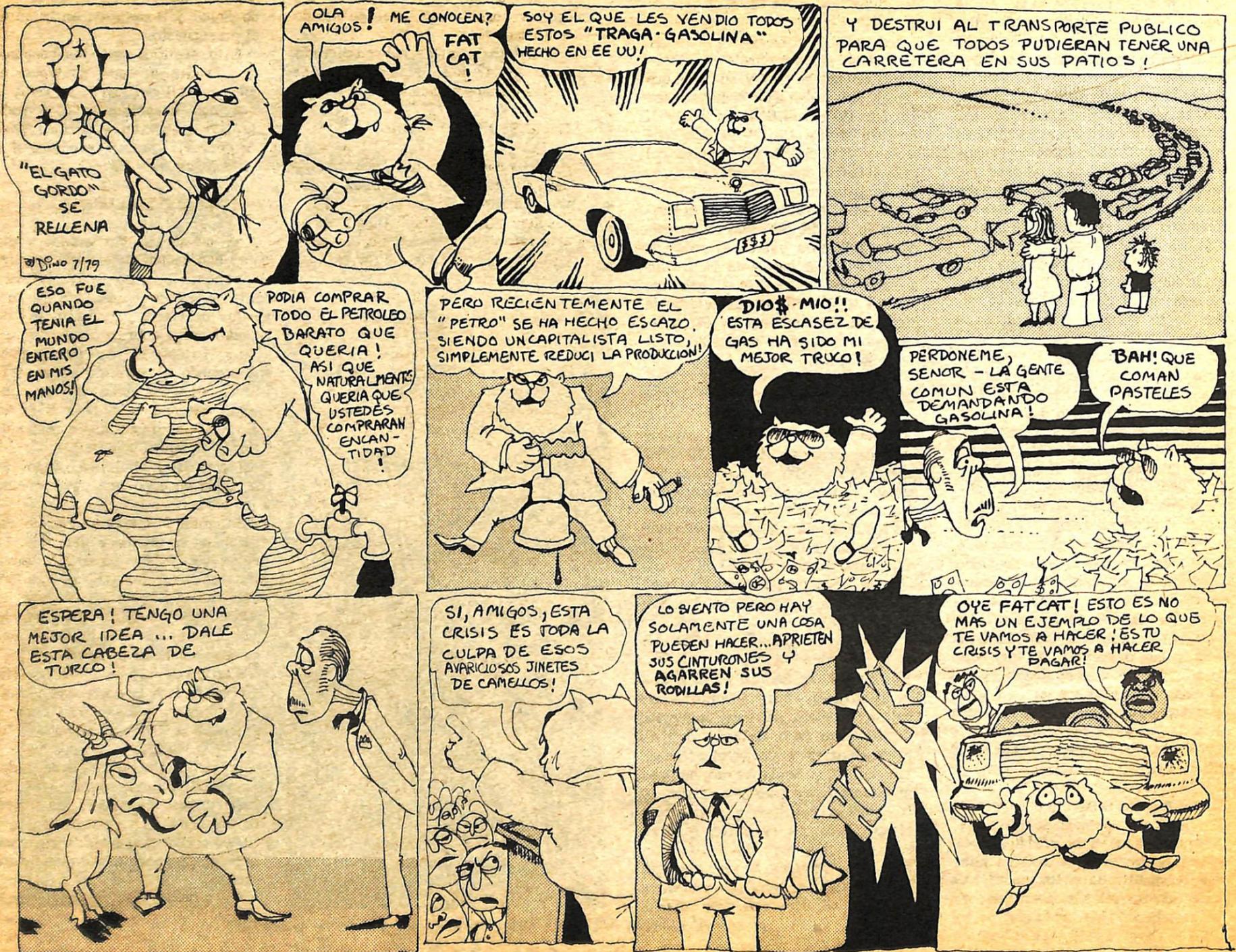
Las negociaciones fallaron, y esta primavera todavia le estaban pres-tando millones de dolares al la dictadura. Solamente despues que comenzo la ofensiva final a fines de Mayo fue que los EEUU comenzaron a hablar con los lideres del pueblo.

El embajador de los EEUU Lawrence Pezullo a los miembros del gobierno revolucionario que el no podia forzar a Somoza a partir, porque ellos no eran suficientemente representante del pueblo nicaraguense.

Cuando ellos desafiaron a Pezullo, el no pudo nombrar a ningun otro grupo en Nicaragua que no tomaba su direccion, con la excepcion de la Guardia Nacional.

En otro frente, el Secretario de Estado Cyrus Vance, rogo con la Organizacion de Estados Americanos a que formara una fuerza para intervenir y traer paz a Nicaragua. Los paises Latino Americanos no querian ninguna parte de este plan de servir como frente para los Yankees en reemplazar a Somoza con otro dictador.

Mientras la ofensiva acercaba al climax a los EEUU le quedo solamente una opcion--hacer lo mas posible para forzar la salida de Somoza con la esperanza de haci ganar unos cuantos puntos con los vencedores. Ahora la administracion le esta enviando toneladas de ayuda al nuevo gobierno, rezando que el pueblo nicaraguense olvide la destruccion prolongada de su pais a manos Yankee.



Voto de 39% regresa vendidos de S.F. al poder



Trabajadores de hoteles y restaurantes en la enorme industria turística en San Francisco han estado librando una lucha desigual para tomar poder de su propia union, Local 2 de la Union Internacional de Empleados de Restaurantes, Hoteles y Cantineros. Por fin botaron a Joe Belardi, el corrompido jefe de sindicato que controló la Union culinaria de San Francisco por 40 años.

Eso fue hace un año en Abril. Durante el año pasado, los trabajadores de hoteles y restaurantes han ido de esa victoria electoral al desorden y otra eleccion en cual la camarilla vieja regreso al poder.

Por que ocurrió? Activistas en la union culinaria estan aprendiendo lecciones importantes de sus experiencias sobre el ultimo año, no solamente para el futuro de su union y para el contrato nuevo, mas para otros obreros que estan tratando de convertir uniones corrompidas en armas contra los patrones.

La eleccion de 1978 fue un punto decisivo. Seis mil miembros del Local 2 votaron y botaron a Joe Belardi, que era no solamente Presidente del Local, mas Vice-Presidente del Sindicato Internacional y Presidente de la Junta Central Obrera de San Francisco.

El levantamiento de obreros de base que saco a Belardi de su puesto fue una acumulacion de años de enfado de los obreros sobre la interferencia de la Internacional en los asuntos del local, y sobre los contratos vendidos que Belardi habia firmado. Cuando el trato de aumentar los derechos de union en 1977, cinco mil obreros votaron para derrotarlo decisivamente. Sus días en poder estaban contados.

ALIANZA DE OBREROS DE BASE

La Alliance of the Rank and File (ARF), formó un programa de eleccion de las demandas de los obreros la primavera siguiente. Demandaron: una clausa para el costo de vivir, (ningun obrero de hotel o restaurante tiene uno en sus contratos); mejores beneficios; la publicacion de los contratos en las lenguas principales de los obreros, Ingles, Espanol, Chino, y Tagalog (dialecto principal Filipino); agentes de negocios elegidos y no designados; una campaña para organizar los cientos de restaurantes no sindicalizado en la ciudad; y comites para negociar los contratos compuestos de obreros de base.

Candidatos presidenciales de ARF David McDonald ganaron la eleccion

del '78. Candidatos de ARF tambien capturaron 5 de las otras posiciones asalariadas mas altas y seis de los asientos en la Junta Ejecutiva. Casi la mitad de la Junta Ejecutiva quedo en las manos de la camarilla de Belardi.

Cuatro mas hospitales en Nueva York cierran

Nueva York - Hace meses que el Alcalde Koch ha estado probando, buscando el mejor momento. Inicio rumores y amenazas acerca de cortes en el sistema de hospitales publicos de Nueva York--y tubo que enfrentar una huelga de doctores y una manifestacion de 10,000 trabajadores de hospital. Pero con el gobierno federal y los bancos poniendole presion para "cortes" de servicios como solucion a la crisis financiera de Nueva York, por fin tomo accion de todo modo.

En Junio, el Alcalde anuncio planes para cerrar cuatro mas hospitales municipales, cortar el presupuesto de los otros nueve por \$40-70 millones, y descentralizar el resto del sistema. Al principio ni hasta la Corporacion de Salud y Hospitales, la organizacion legal que administra los hospitales de la ciudad, pudo apoyar el plan, pero en el segundo voto, lo apoyaron.

Los hospitales que se van a cerrar--Sydenham, Metropolitan, Greenpoint, y Cumberland--están todos en comunidades de minorias,

La situacion se hizo mas dificil aunque ARF tenia la mayoría sobre los caciques viejos. Se desarrollaron diferencias en ARF sobre como implementar sus programas. McDonald demoro en traducir a los contratos y rehusó a implementar planes para comenzar a elegir a "stewards" de talleres y agentes de negocios. Otros en ARF querian seguir avanzando para transformar a la union, mas no formaron los planes más realísticos muchas veces o taticas para ganarlos a través de la burocracia de la union. McDonald termino separandose de ARF y alineandose con fuerzas mas conservativas en la union.

FALTA DE UNIDAD A ADMINISTRACION REFORMISTA

McDonald y ARF gastaron mucho de su tiempo batiendose entre si mismo precisamente en la hora en que la unidad era menester para impedir que la camarilla de Belardi en posiciones en la junta ejecutiva causara desorganizacion para volver a tomar control.

A la misma vez olvidaron envolver las masas de obreros o poner en accion el programa de ARF que los hubiera armados mejor para batirse contra los duenos de hoteles y restaurantes.

Los sobrevivientes miembros de ARF comenzaron a trabajar con las fuerzas de Belardi en la Junta Ejecutiva. Cuando McDonald vio a ARF uniendose con los reaccionarios para

ganar votos en la junta ejecutiva, le pidio alluda al Internacional.

El Internacional no demoro en usar las divisiones para regresar al poder en el segundo más grande local de la union en el país.

El Internacional puso al Local 2 bajo administracion fiduciaria el 19 de Septiembre 1978. Lider de Union Vincent Sirabella fue enviado del Este como administrador e inmediatamente suspendio a todos los lideres elegidos, la Junta Ejecutiva, y los reglamentos. Cancelo todas las reuniones de miembros y boto a McDonald.

OBREROS DE BASE BATEN A ADMINISTRACION

El día que la administracion fiduciaria fue anunciada, un grupo nuevo de obreros de base fue formado, la Coalicion Contra Administracion (Coalition Against Trusteeship, CAT) luchó contra la administracion y tambien avanzo un programa para mejorar el nivel de vida de los obreros, construir una union militante, luchar contra la discriminacion y organizar la multitud de obreros no organizados en San Francisco. Incluso como miembros de CAT han algunos que hasta boicotearon la eleccion de Abril, mas despues reconocieron que se podía hacer avances con la derrota de Belardi, y ahora comenzaron a tomar accion.

CAT desafio a Sirabella cada vez (vease pagina 4)

donde las facilades publicas proveen los unicos servicios medicos. Los cierros forman parte del plan del Alcalde de forzar a los Negros y Latinos a sufrir las consecuencias de los cortes en el presupuesto de la ciudad.

Si logran cerrarlos, habran cerrado 8 de los 17 hospitales municipales en los ultimos 4 años.

EL RESTO BAJO ATAQUE

Otros cortes incluyen la cesantia de 900 trabajadores de hospital. La reduccion de camas en los otros hospitales (200 en King's County solamente); y la venta de North Central, Bronx, y Queens General a hospitales privados.

La otra parte del plan--decentralizacion--es aun mas destructiva. Hoy en día, los hospitales municipales son administrado bajo un solo presupuesto para el sistema entero. La mayoría estan en un deficit (aunque no es tan grande como el Alcalde quisiera que la gente crea)

y el dinero de los impuestos cubre el deficit. Con la descentralizacion, cada hospital sera responsable por la coleccion de todas cuentas de deudas con ninguna alluda de la Junta de Salud y Hospitales en balancear el presupuesto.

Esto significa que los hospitales que ayudan a esos pacientes con menos habilidad para pagar--y los que mas necesitan ayuda medica gratis--quebraran y seran forzados a cerrar, o seran vendidos a instituciones privadas.

COMIENZO DE LA LUCHA

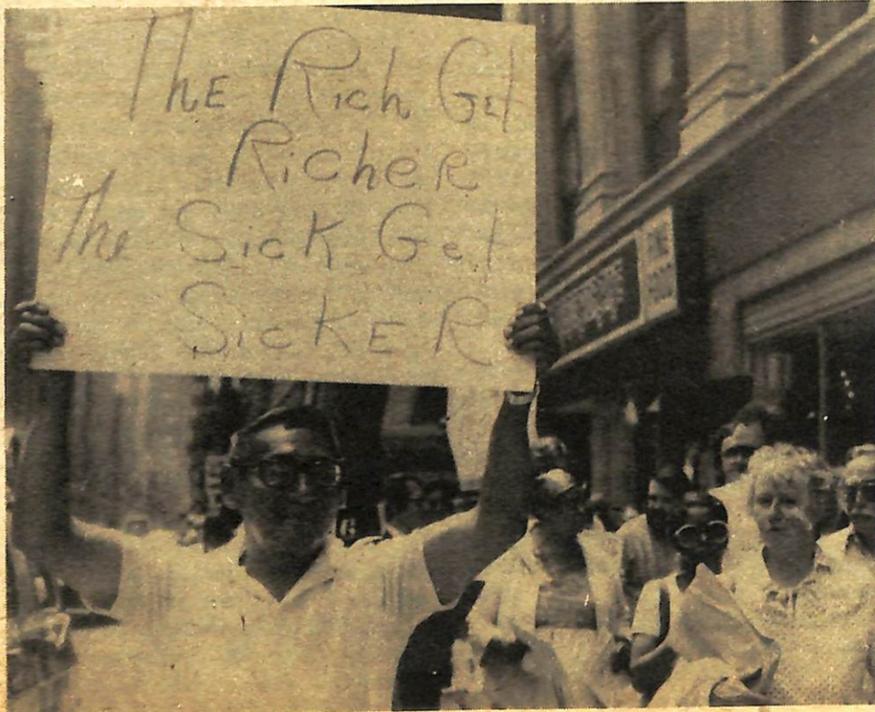
Con un ataque tan grande como este, donde comienza uno a luchar? No es una cuestion facil pero organizaciones de comunidad, profesionales de salud, y trabajadores de hospital estan cobrando fuerza para actuar. La comunidad de Harlem esta encabezando el esfuerzo, con coaliciones de comunidad en los hospitales de Metropolitan, y Harlem, planeando manifestaciones, ferias de salud, y acciones unidas.

El NAACP y el Urban League se han unido en condenar publicamente a los cortes.

El Comité de internos y residentes, una union de doctores que salio en huelga por un día en Enero cuando se habia anunciado otro corte, alludo a formar una coalicion de todas las partes de la ciudad. Ellos han sido una parte importante de planes y acciones en muchos hospitales.

Adentro de los hospitales, particularmente esos que han sido escogido para cerrar, trabajadores tienen el problema de como movilizar su union, DC 37 (AFSCME) para que tome un papel mas grande en la lucha. Lideres de Union Victor Gotbaum y Lillian Roberts han denunciado los cortes y organizaron una manifestacion de 10,000 contra el ayuntamiento despues que Koch anuncio su plan formalmente.

Pero desde esta manifestacion del primero de Mayo, DC 37 ha hecho poco fuera de las cortes. Una fuerza (vease pagina 4)



Obreros en Chicago estan luchando para salvar el unico hospital publico.

Voto de 39% regresa vendidos de S.F. al poder

(viene de pagina 3)

que trato de vender a los miembros. Unos de los mas importantes esfuerzos de CAT fue movilizar los miembros de la union a manifestar contra Sirabella cuando el trato de estender el contrato de hotel en el cuarto de sus cinco años. Esto hubiera significado renunciar el derecho a negociar el nuevo contrato y el derecho a hacer huelga cuando el contrato corriente se expire en 1980.

CAT tomo la ofensiva dependiendo en los obreros de base de manera en que ARF no hizo. Organizaron entre los obreros de hotel mientras que ARF principalmente represento los mejores asalariados trabajadores de restaurantes.

CAT trato de hacer avances, aun bajo las nuevas y más difíciles condiciones de la administracion fiduciaria. A traves de movilizar ampliamente, lograron flanquear a Sirabella sobre la cuestion de los comites de negociacion de obreros de base. CAT habia estado demandando estos comites como parte de su programa por una union militante y democratica. Sirabella confiando en su control de la union, penso que el podia correr una lista de candidatos victoriosa. Asi que acuerdo celebrar elecciones para los obreros de hotel para Marzo de este año. CAT rechazo el plan de Sirabella de dividir a los obreros segun oficios y formo una lista de candidatos representando cada uno de los oficios y nacionalidades entre los obreros de hotel. Sorprendiendo a Sirabella, CAT gano la mayoría del comite de negociaciones para el contrato que cubre a 9,000 trabajadores.

CAT apoyo a McDonald cuando este comenzo un pleito en la corte federal por una prohibicion judicial contra la administracion fiduciaria. Se presente evidencia de una conspiracion organizada por la camarilla de Belardi para causar caos en la union y preparar el terreno para la intervencion del Internacional. Finalmente, el 5 de Abril de este año, el Juez Weigal tomo su decision que el Internacional habia mandado a Sirabella a reorganizar la camarilla de Belardi. El juez termino la administracion y ordeno la eleccion del 30-31 de Mayo.

Con la eleccion anunciada, la lucha

Hospitales

(viene de pagina 3)

poderosa en la ciudad, la union pudiera tener un impacto mucho mas grande, si desatara la iniciativa de sus miembros de base. En el North Central Bronx, trabajadores le llamaron la atencion de Ms. Roberts ha estos puntos y ganaron el apoyo de la union para un tipo de accion que los obreros en los hospitales a traves del sistema tienen que tomar.

El pueblo de Nueva York gano un respiro breve cuando el gobierno federal le pidio al Alcalde Koch que posponiera accion adicional hasta el 1 de Octubre, para que el pueda incorporar la cuestion de "mejor cuidado medico" en su plan insensible. Eso es algo que el Alcalde no podra hacer en dos años, menos mas que en dos meses, porque mejor cuidado medico para el pueblo es su ultima preocupacion. Pero la gente seguramente usaran la demora para cobrar fuerza en su lucha contra el plan.

por control de la union comenzo de nuevo. Los miembros, en alto nivel de mobilizacion querian terminar con la camarilla de Belardi finalmente. El factor decisivo determinando si los reformistas pudieran ganar era su habilidad a unirse.

CAT llamo a todas las fuerzas de base a formar una lista de candidatos como la unica manera de derrotar la lista de candidatos de Belardi y el Internacional. El grupo organizo una serie de reuniones en masa, y celebro discusiones repetidas con ARF, ex-miembros de ARF, y McDonald para formar una lista unida.

Pero la amargura sobreviva, no solamente del ARF hacia McDonald y vice-versa, mas del ARF hacia CAT porque ciertos de sus miembros habian boicoteado las elecciones de Abril del 1978.

Negociaciones entre CAT, ARF, y McDonald fracasaron. McDonald corrio su propia lista de candidatos. ARF, titulandose ahora "Obreros por Una Union Fuerte" (Workers For a Strong Union--WSU), corrio su propia lista encabezada por el candidato presidencial Ed Forcier, un camarero de banquete que habia sido un miembro de la Junta Ejecutiva bajo la administracion de McDonald y Forcier rehuso a correr con miembros de CAT.

CAT decidio no correr una lista completa de obreros de base por que solamente resultaria en dividir el voto aun mas. Tres diferentes opiniones emergieron en CAT sobre el proximo paso. Un grupo de miembros de CAT dejaron el grupo para unirse a Forcier intensificando las divisiones.

Los que permanecieron en CAT decidieron apoyar candidatos de las listas de McDonald y Forcier para posiciones asalariadas, escogiendo, a los que en su opinion tenian el mejor chance de derrotar al Internacional. CAT ademas corrio sus propios candidatos para posiciones en la Junta Ejecutiva.

Un seccion de CAT le dio énfasis a la importancia de unir la union para derrotar al Internacional usando el apoyo de ciertos candidatos para hacerlo. La otra seccion de CAT concentro mas esfuerzos sobre los candidatos para la Junta Ejecutiva y le presto meno atencion al apoyo de los candidatos por posiciones asalariadas, debilitando la lucha para derrotar al Internacional.

Cuando llegaron los días de la eleccion al fin de Mayo se vio un espectáculo similar a un circo. Fue una ocasion animada con globos, banderas, músicos cantando de la union y bailarines de "Chinatown" terminado su programa tirando al aire un estandarte grande con el lema "Vote por CAT." WSU tenia un trabajador vestido de lobo (el Internacional), sus bolsillos llenos de dinero mientras aguantando un cordero--el nombre del candidato presidencial del Internacional era "Cordero."

Cuando Belardi se atrevio a ir a votar, los obreros se enfurecieron tanto que por poco estallo un motin. Activistas hablando en Ingles, Chino, Espanol, y Tagalog hablaron de los candidatos a los trabajadores esperando para votar. Montones de literatura sobre los candidatos cubrieron las calles.

Cuando contaron los votos, los candidatos del Internacional y Belardi habian ganado las tres posiciones asalariadas mas altas aunque recibieron solamente 39% del voto. Los candi-



Manifestantes cargan ataúds de carton en memoria de victimas policiaacas.

Marcha militante en Filadelfia

(viene de pagina 1)

enfrentando.

Ahora, dos años luego, 150 personas marcharon lentamente por los barrios arruinados Filadelfia del Norte, por el frente de las casas de los que todavia viven en la calle 4.

La gente salieron de sus casas y se pararon en sus escalinatas mientras el desfile paso. Detras del ataúd de carton con el nombre de Jose Reyes, habian mas: Joseph Gagliardi, Charles Martin. Habia otro ataúd con un signo de interrogacion, preguntando claramente, "quien sera la proxima victima del departamento de policia de Filadelfia?"

Mientras el desfile pasaba por la avenida Girard y la calle Broad fue reforzado por dos contingentes. Los contingentes de Padres Unidos y Save Our Community Patrol estaban airados y determinados. Save Our Land Community Patrol son Negros de North Philly activos en el movimiento para parar "recycling" y haciendo el papel de patrullas de defensa propia en confrontaciones recientes con policias en South Philly y Southwest Philly. Los dos contingentes adicionales tambien llevaban un ataúd con los nombres de tres hombres Negros que habian sido asesinados por la policia de Filadelfia--Cornell Warren, Raymond Brooks, y Winston Hood. El gentio marcho por el frente de F.O.P. salmodiando mas alto, cada minuto. El desfile

datos reformistas recibieron 61% del voto, pero estaba dividido entre las dos listas de candidatos. Los votos combinados de los candidatos reformistas hubieran derrotado al Internacional facilmente.

La camarilla de Belardi gano 7 de las posiciones en la Junta Ejecutiva. Solamente tres candidatos de las listas de las organizaciones de obreros de base, del WSU, ganaron posiciones en la Junta Ejecutiva. Algunos miembros de CAT dicen que unos cuantos mas obreros de base hubieran ganados posiciones en la Junta Ejecutiva si CAT hubiera puesto menos de sus candidatos por que así hubiera habido menos competicion entre los candidatos de los obreros de base.

LECCIONES AMARGAS, NUEVAS TAREAS

Con la camarilla de nuevo en control del Local 2, es menester que los obreros hagan una evaluacion seria de las lecciones para poder enfrentar nuevas tareas. Ahora el liderato de la union esta negociando un "reopener" en el cuarto año del contrato de cinco años de los trabajadores de hotel, cubriendo salarios y regulaciones de trabajo.

continuo hasta "la casa redonda" en la calles 8 y Race, la jefatura de la policia para Filadelfia. Los Ataúds fueron puesto en los escalones del edificio que tiene la forma de un par de esposas. No habian suficientes ataúds para todas las gentes que han sido matado por los policas de Filadelfia bajo la alcaldia de Rizzo. Terry Jackson, un abogado Negro de PILCOP, Centro de Ley en el Interes Publico de Filadelfia, le conto a los manifestantes que 162 personas habian sido asesinas entre 1970 y 1978.

Cecilia Reyes, la viuda de Jose Reyes, se paro encima de un auto, con 3 de sus 6 niños a su lado y grito. "Estamos notificando al Fiscal Ed Rendell--que queremos un gran jurado formado dentro de 14 días para acusar al policia Gerard Salerno de homicidio. Han pasado 2 años y no se ha hecho nada. Gerard Salerno tiene un mejor trabajo ahora. Hoy en dia no tiene que patrullar las calles. Ahora se sienta en la oficina toma llamadas de telefono. Estamos pagando el salario de un asesino. El todavia es policia. Han habido quejas sobre el anteriormente. Rendell tienes 14 días."

John Street, un activista de viviendas y candidato para el Consejo de la Ciudad hablo de las recientes acciones por el pueblo de Filadelfia. Advirtio a la gente que no votaran por los candidatos Republicanos y Demócratas para alcalde de la ciudad. Dijo, "Ellos hablan de como quieren ser alcaldes de todo el pueblo. Bueno adonde estar? Bill Green estas aqui? Marston estas aqui?"

Los duenos de hoteles y los vendidos lideres de la union estan tratando de convertirlo en un acuerdo de contrato completo que dure tres años.

Los obreros estan opuesto a esto y estan demandando el derecho a salir en huelga cuando el contrato se termine en Julio de 1980. Estan disgustados con los salarios corrientes--muchos reciben \$3.50-4.50 por hora sin ninguna compensacion por la inflacion.

Las organizaciones de los obreros de base quieren comenzar a preparar ahora. CAT y WSU han pedido que la union forme un comite para preparar para una huelga compuesto del "Stewart" principal de cada hotel, el director de organizar, y representantes del comite de base de negociaciones que fue elegido este Marzo. El comite de negociar le ha pedido a la Junta Ejecutiva, una tasacion de huelga de \$3.50 cada mes a cada empleado desde ahora hasta que el contrato sea firmado.

Una huelga el año que viene o pudiera lisiar la industria enorme de turistas y convenciones de la ciudad, o quebrar la union, dependiendo en la unidad y fuerza de los obreros de base. Así que la unidad entre las fuerzas de CAT, WSU, y McDonald es demuevo una cuestion critica.