



REVOLUTIONARY WORKER

Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA

No. 604

(Vol. 13, No. 2)

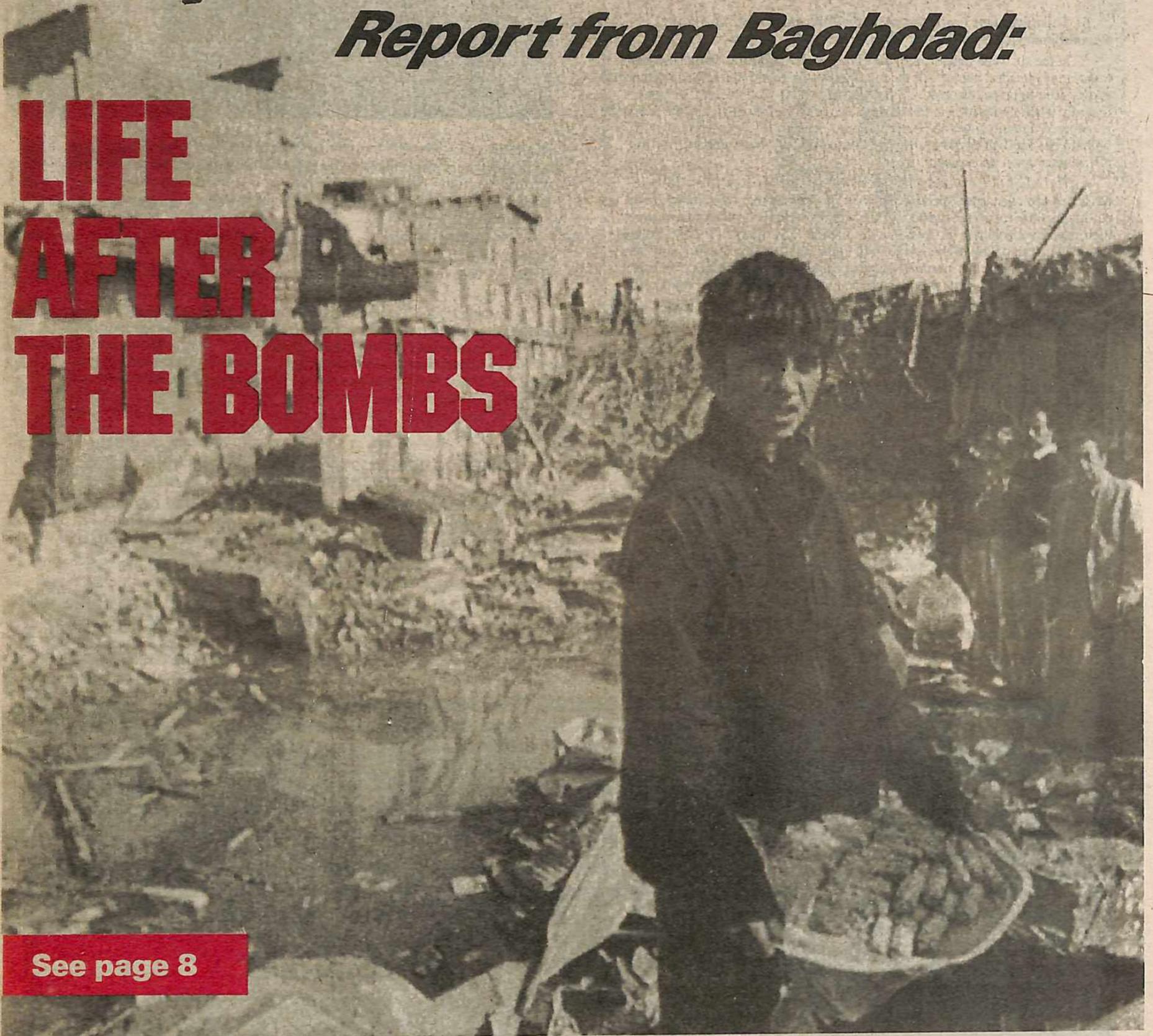
May 5, 1991

Editions in English and Spanish published weekly

\$1.00

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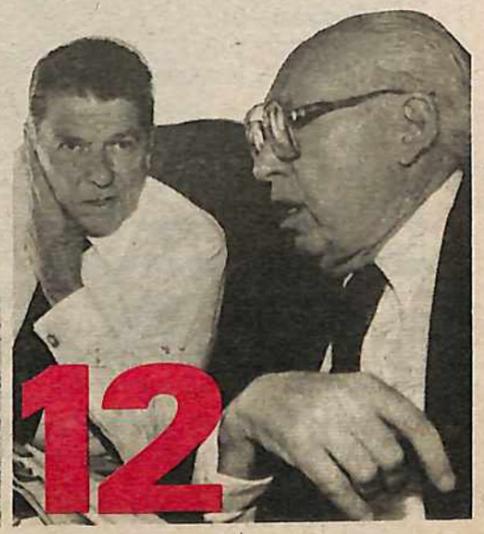
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Down with the Imperialist World Order, Old and "New"! Fight for the Communist Future!

Berlin, February 1991: U.S., German and Turkish flags go up in flames at anti-war demo.



This statement was released by the Information Bureau of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement:

In the six week rape of Iraq, the system which rules the world has again revealed its dreadful nature. All the rulers' talk of international law and democracy shows itself to be but the make-up behind which are found the most hideous features. Their civilisation is founded on the robbery of the many by the few and it is enforced through violence. Their professed concern for "peace" is seen to be nothing but a selfish desire to suffer no consequences while raining terror and devastation down upon others.

The rulers of the world, the imperialist ruling classes of a handful of advanced capitalist states, believe that they can impose their will anywhere on the earth—by their economic mastery of the world's wealth or, when necessary, by their massive machinery of death and destruction. The rulers of the U.S. believe that they can sit on top of this pyramid of oppression and exploitation for "one hundred years". But this assumes that the people will cower before their might, that the slaves of this earth will give up their struggle against the conditions of slavery. Furthermore, the enemy hopes that the masses will forget that the imperialists have been defeated in the past and that the proletariat has shown that it can lead the people in constructing a wholly different society. The imperialists of the West are seizing upon the collapse of the phoney-socialist but real-capitalist East bloc as "proof" of the impossibility of communism. However, it is the communist future of a world no longer divided into classes and in which some nations no longer feed on others which will prevail over the imperialist dream of "a new world order".

By sucking the blood of the labouring people the world over and by enforcing this set-up with the sword, the imperialists compel the people to resist. And when the proletariat and the people become conscious of the source of their oppression and the means to eliminate it, the resistance of the masses becomes the fight for revolution.

Today this is seen most sharply in Peru where, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Peru, the people have successfully carried out ten years of revolutionary warfare. Our comrades in Peru are giving life to the slogan "Yankee Go Home!" as they meet the increasing and more direct intervention of the U.S. against the revolution with stepped-up warfare. In the mountains of Peru, the workers and peasants are already constructing the new society in the areas liberated from the reactionary regime.

Over the next period the world will continue to be jolted. The imperialists, emboldened by their massacre in Iraq, will continue to swagger about—and we

should be particularly alert for new attacks on the People's War in Peru. The economic system will continue to lurch ahead in one spasm after another. The political "stability" of many countries will grow less and less steady. The imperialist system is becoming increasingly intolerable for the majority of people on the earth.

The path of revolution is the only way out for the oppressed people in every country. The "peaceful path" is worse than illusion—it leaves the masses defenceless before an enemy that has shown again that it will not hesitate to resort to any crime.

For a long time, the revisionist/capitalist rulers of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe masqueraded as "communist" and tried to confuse the people. Now the true nature of revisionism is clear for all to see. In order to defeat our enemies—imperialism and the reactionary regimes dependent upon it—it is necessary to build a vanguard party based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. Without such a party the sacrifices of the people will be wasted, victory cannot be achieved, and the masses cannot come to power and embark on creating the new world.

YANKEE GO HOME! 1991—YEAR OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE'S WAR IN PERU
THE U.S.-LED AGGRESSION IN THE GULF WILL NOT GO UNPUNISHED!
PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ARAB WORLD: DROWN THE AGGRESSORS IN A SEA OF PEOPLE'S WAR!
UNLEASH THE FURY OF WOMEN AS A MIGHTY FORCE FOR REVOLUTION!
BUILD AND STRENGTHEN MAOIST PARTIES UNITED IN THE REVOLUTIONARY INTERNATIONALIST MOVEMENT!
LONG LIVE RED MAY FIRST—DAY OF PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM!

The Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement

Three Main Points

by Bob Avakian
Chairman of the RCP, USA

What do we in the Revolutionary Communist Party want people to learn from all that is exposed and revealed in this newspaper? Mainly, three things:

1) The whole system we now live under is based on exploitation—here and all over the world. It is completely worthless and no basic change for the better can come about until this system is overthrown.

2) Many different groups will protest and rebel against things this system does, and these protests and rebellions should be supported and strengthened. Yet it is only those with nothing to lose but their chains who can be the backbone of a struggle to actually overthrow this system and create a new system that will put an end to exploitation and help pave the way to a whole new world.

3) Such a revolutionary struggle is possible. There is a political Party that can lead such a struggle, a political Party that speaks and acts for those with nothing to lose but their chains: The Revolutionary Communist Party, USA.

This Party has the vision, the program, the leadership, and the organizational principles to unite those who must be united and enable them to do what must be done. There is a challenge for all those who would like to see such a revolution, those with a burning desire to see a drastic change for the better, all those who dare to dream and to act to bring about a completely new and better world: Support this Party, join this Party, spread its message and its organized strength, and prepare the ground for a revolutionary rising that has a solid basis and a real chance of winning.

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The *Revolutionary Worker* (ISSN 0193-3485) is published weekly except for the 4th week of December and the 4th week of July, by RCP Publications, 3449 N. Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657. Second Class postage paid at Chicago, IL. Subscriptions and address changes should be sent to RCP Publications, POB 3486, Chicago, IL 60654. Subscriptions are \$40 a year, \$12 for 3 months in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico (\$52 for institutions).

Postmaster: send all changes of address to *Revolutionary Worker*, P.O. Box 3486, Chicago, IL 60654.



Photo: Hayes Bailey

CUNY Students Battle Powers (and some fools)

In the past three weeks students at 19 campuses in the City University of New York (CUNY) system have occupied buildings and shut down classes to protest against budget cuts that could force tens of thousands of students out of school. After April 8, when 75 students took over the main classroom buildings at City College in Harlem, the struggle spread throughout CUNY. All classes were canceled at several schools.

The CUNY administration, the government, the police—and some students who are acting as suckers for this dog-eat-dog system—have launched a heavy counter-attack. As we go to press, hundreds of police have carried out coordinated attacks on protesters at Bronx Community College (BCC), Lehman, New York Tech and York College. Dozens of students have been arrested. At the Borough of Manhattan Community College members of the administration, campus security and students opposed to the strike broke into the occupied building and confronted the strikers. Students are continuing to occupy buildings at Hostos, City College and Hunter.

The budget cuts are a sharp attack on the people on the bottom of society. Black, Latino and other students of color make up a majority at CUNY. The cuts mean big increases in tuition and slashing of financial aid. Tuition for some students would go up as much as 60 percent. Students and faculty estimate that if the cuts go through at least 20,000 students would be forced to

"They are trying to make our lives so that we will not be able to survive in the Bronx. We must fight. Look around you. We are Black and Hispanic, and they don't care what happens to us. We must fight."

Dominican student at Bronx Community College

drop out. A whole generation of students who are coming up now would have no opportunity to go to college at all. In 1976, when the CUNY system went from no tuition to charging \$925 tuition, 70,000 students were forced out of the system.

Bold Move by Students Draws Wide Support

The building takeovers and student strikes were a bold and righteous move. They exposed how the government doesn't care about education for those on the bottom, especially youth from the oppressed nationalities. The strikers have drawn wide support from many different kinds of people. Homeless people have collected food. Gypsy cab drivers have patrolled the streets to watch for a police attack. Neighborhood restaurants and stores have donated food. Messages of support came from labor unions, churches, students and political activists across the city. Hundreds of New York high school students held a rally in support. Students at the State University of New York in Purchase took over the administration building in solidarity with the CUNY actions. Protesters reported that students at Cornell University (an elite private college in upstate New York) also occupied a building in support of the CUNY strike.

On Wednesday, April 23 several

thousand CUNY students came to a city-wide action. They were joined by students from Long Island University (a private college in downtown Brooklyn), a contingent of ACT UP members and others. They rallied at Governor Cuomo's office near Wall Street and then marched through the busy downtown streets. People carried banners with slogans like "Books not Bombs" and "We've had enough."

"This is what you call abuse. It's racism and we can't take no more!"

Woman student from Bronx Community College

A student involved in the Hunter College building occupation told the *RW* that support for the actions has been growing. Hundreds of students from Hunter College went to the city-wide rally, including many people who in the past had not supported the protest before. Many professors canceled their classes so that students could attend the rally. Some faculty members set up an information table outside the occupied building, and professors have held their classes in the walkway outside the building and asked protesters from inside the building to speak and answer questions. Student protesters have also been invited to speak in classes that are still being held.

At City College students and faculty started a "liberation school." Hundreds of students, faculty and community members have attended meetings on such topics as women in the struggle, the community struggle for educational rights, voting and organizing for liberation. On the 26th anniversary of the U.S. invasion of the Dominican Republic, the liberation school held a program attended by several hundred people of different nationalities.

Powers Fear the Spread of Struggle

The powers are really afraid that the struggle at CUNY could spread—that larger numbers of students would join and

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Police attack students at New York City Technical College.

RCP Publications Public Relations Office Calls for Volunteers and Supporters

Last January—just as the U.S. government launched its techno-genocidal war against Iraq and hundreds of thousands of people in the U.S. were taking to the streets in protest—RCP Publications opened its new public relations office in Chicago. Over the last three months—a period marked by the war in the Gulf, International Women's Day, and mounting outrage against police brutality in Los Angeles, New York, and other cities—this office has provided a coordinating and organizing center that has assisted in expanding and giving more national prominence to key fronts of the Revolutionary Communist Party's work and promotion.

The voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party must be heard ever more powerfully. Its literature must reach a vast and growing audience that is hungry for clear-eyed and revolutionary analysis. Its spokespeople must be on the tip of controversy and struggle, breaking through the blockade and brainwash in the media and reshaping the terms of broad debate. We are talking about influencing millions of people. We are talking about seizing openings and opportunities.

The party's influence is growing and spreading. The other side can't deny it—but they are also working to suppress it. And so another challenge before the public relations office will be to give increased attention to the overall battle against repression and against political and legal attacks on the party. We encourage progressive lawyers and anti-repression forces to get in touch with us. The public relations office will play a crucial role in keeping avenues open to the masses and in developing avenues for the masses to reach the party.

WE NEED YOUR HELP, WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Volunteers and funds are needed to enable us to continue expanding the work of this office. We need people to:

- Assist in media work and in the development of a national speakers bureau. We will be handling requests from the media for major statements or interviews. We will coordinate nationally significant appearances by party spokespeople as well as other speakers who are allied with the party around burning questions of the day. We will need people to contact the media, conduct media analysis, gather clippings, reproduce videotapes.

- Assist in boosting distribution of RCP Publications literature and the national circulation of the *Revolutionary Worker/Obrero Revolucionario* newspaper. We will need people who can help design and produce flyers, handle correspondence, help with shipping, work with the Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund which provides literature to the sisters and brothers behind prison walls, and help devise strategies for expanding distribution.

- Assist in outreach, fundraising, and general office staffing. We need volunteers with a wide range of skills, including technical, artistic, and Spanish-language. But anyone who is enthusiastic about this office and wants to help out can make a contribution and also be trained to take up new tasks.

We encourage those who want to participate, whether on an interim basis (such as during summer vacation) or more long-term, to contact a Revolution Books store or *RW* distributor near you to arrange an interview. (Addresses and phone numbers are on page 2 of the *RW*).

The RCP Publications public relations office needs thousands of dollars to operate. We are aiming high. Pledge a monthly donation. Give what you can to finance this exciting expansion. Send contributions to RCP Publications, Merchandise Mart, P.O. Box 3486, Chicago, IL 60654.

Contact the new public relations office at (312) 227-4066.

CUNY Students

Continued from page 3
that oppressed people from the communities that some of the colleges are in will also take encouragement from the students. *New York Newsday* called the CUNY student strikes "the most serious campus unrest since the late 1960s." *New York Times* reported: "[New York Governor] Cuomo noted that primary school students and scores of other groups facing cuts have as much, if not more, reason to object to the plan he has proposed to close the state's \$6 billion budget gap. 'If they all protested, they could make the CUNY protest look like a breakfast meeting.'"

At first the CUNY administration tried to stop the protests with as little use of force as possible. Dozens of students were

suspended from school, and CUNY got a court injunction ordering students out of the buildings. Editorials in the major newspapers came out against the takeovers. But no matter what they did, the students refused to give up, and the authorities stepped up their attacks.

Along with sending in hundreds of police against occupied buildings, the CUNY officials—and the media—are attacking the protesters by claiming the takeovers are "preventing other students from getting an education." This is hypocritical, upside-down logic! It's the government and CUNY administration that are pushing budget cuts that will force tens of thousands of students out of school. Governor Cuomo has refused to even meet with students to discuss an alternative plan. As one brother from BCC put it: "They

[students occupying the building] are not stopping you from going to class. They are not stopping you from getting an education. They didn't develop and vote on this racist budget that literally slaps people of color in the face like they've been doing for the last 500 years."

CUNY officials have threatened to call an end to the semester if students don't give up the occupied buildings. Chancellor Reynolds warned that student eligibility for financial aid was threatened by the protests. Part-time employees were sent home without pay. The press stepped up its coverage of students who opposed the takeovers.

The powers are trying to isolate the students who have taken the most radical actions and pit them against other students, faculty and others. From the beginning of the occupations there has been a section of students opposed to the protests against the cuts. They whined that the protests were "interfering" with their education. The day after a group of backward students joined in the attack on the occupied building at Borough of Manhattan Community College, the media praised them for their actions. These students have taken up the get-ahead-no-matter-what, fuck-everyone-else outlook of this system—instead of joining their brothers and sisters to fight against the inequalities and oppression that the powers are bringing down on everyone. There is no honor in "getting ahead" in this society by living off the misery of many others who are being pushed further down.

"When I come to school I come through the worst neighborhoods you could ever see, which I'm sure most of you do. And you see a lot of these kids five, or six or seven years old going to school hungry. They're not dressed properly. All education is going to get screwed, not just college. Elementary school, junior high, high school. We have to fight for ours."

CUNY student from the Bronx

There is also controversy and debate among students who support the struggle against the budget cuts over what is the problem and the solution. Many people argue that the way to fight these cuts is to register to vote or pressure elected officials. These students have not joined the building occupations because they simply don't think that such defiant actions are necessary.

But it wasn't voting that enabled a relatively large number of students of color to go to CUNY in the first place. Very few poor and oppressed people were even able to attend the CUNY schools until the early 1970s. The people won this right through struggle. The powers were forced to change



to an open admissions policy as part of the concessions they made in the 1960s when the struggle of Black and other oppressed people shook this country to its foundations. A brother at BCC said, "The same protest that we're doing now allowed you to stay in this campus that you're walking on now. If people did not protest in 1969 for open enrollment, you would not be here. They laid down, and you walked on their backs to this campus."

The budget cuts are not just a question of the "wrong priorities." This system is facing a serious and deepening crisis. Millions of people are being forced out of their jobs, and huge numbers are already unemployed. Social programs are being drastically slashed. All this is coming down hardest on the oppressed people on the bottom of society. What's the "solution" of the powers to these problems? More cuts and more attacks on oppressed people. And millions of dollars on more police and prisons. The powers know that tens of thousands of students will be forced to quit school because of their budget cuts—but the only future this system has to offer the vast majority of oppressed youth is jail, joining the military to fight and die in wars of aggression against other oppressed people around the world, or being locked down in the ghetto.

Malcolm X once said when the master's house is on fire, the slaves need to fan the flames. The students at the CUNY schools have been doing just that. Those who hate oppression welcome their struggle. □



Photo: Hayes Batten

This statement was released by the Vietnam Veterans Against the War Anti-Imperialist which is calling on people to copy and distribute it:

Statement from Veterans to the Troops of Desert Storm: How Can You Find Honor in This War?

The war isn't over, and you know it. You may be home, but in the Persian Gulf, disease and hunger run rampant. Hundreds of thousands of Arab people have been slaughtered already, and more will die. Now you may be ordered or "volunteered" to march in a victory parade to honor this destruction. No matter what the government or the media says, the war you just participated in was wrong. It was run by hypocrites for the control of oil, and the establishment of a "New World Order." *You must ask yourself, was the death and destruction worth it?*

What are these parades about?

The government is telling you that these parades are to welcome you home for a job well done. The truth is that they need your stamp of approval, not only for this war, but also for future wars. They want you to say that it is OK for the major world power to drop the explosive equivalent of a Hiroshima bomb a day on a Third World country, to get rid of a dictator *they* created. They want you to join with them in celebrating the murder of thousands on the "Highway of Death," in what a number of glory-boy pilots have described as "hours of shooting fish in a barrel." Some of you will. But we are confident that a lot of you will do what many veterans from every other unjust war have done: return home with your eyes opened to the lies. And that—like us—you will reject the "honor" that the government is trying to bestow on you. That you, too, will find no glory in the deaths of a quarter of a million Arab men, women and children.

Lives in the balance

In talking with GIs, we know that most of you didn't want to go over in the first place. *Some of you were taken over in chains.* Now the Pentagon is worried that when you come home, instead of bragging about how the Gulf War was the experience of a lifetime, you'll talk about the tension, the uncertainty of living and of mass murder. They are also worried that some of you will join with the thousands of military resisters throughout this country, and testify against the war. So they give you the "victory parades" and yellow ribbons, which, among other things, are meant to stifle and repress the horrible gut feelings you are bringing back with you, and to squash any continued protest against the war.

As veterans of previous wars, we came to discover that we had fallen for a damnable lie about "stopping aggression." We, too, were fed the same racist trash that you were, to justify the destruction of other peoples and their societies. The TV presentation of war didn't in any way match our experiences. We came home sickened by what we collectively had done, and vowed "Never Again!"

Knowing that many of you will take the same pledge, we welcome and encourage you to stand together with us, the military resisters, and all those who have already taken the stand of *No War for Empire*. You have the opportunity and obligation to tell the truth. As anti-war veterans, we know full well how much courage this takes. But we also know that you can have an impact far beyond your numbers. Step out of the parades, go to the high schools, and speak out at every opportunity. By making you a warrior, they gave you a platform from which you can effectively fight against war. Use it.

Vietnam Veterans Against the War Anti-Imperialist



April 1971, Dewey Canyon III: Vietnam veterans throw back their medals on the Capitol steps.

Message from an Asiatic Brother

We received this letter from a GI in Germany:

To the *Revolutionary Worker*:

In 1988 I entered the Army thinking only about the benefits promised to me by Army recruiters, who go into high schools snatching young men and women into a legal, manipulated, killing machine called United States Armed Services. Most active members of the armed services also entered these services *only* for benefits, and not to fight for an oppressive government. Upon entering, one takes an oath pledging eternal servitude to this *gang*. What you really do is give your life away to the U.S. government. The United States Constitution is not worth fighting for because at the time it was written a Black man was considered to be only 3/5 of a white man. "America, the home of the fake!" America boasts to be the land of opportunity but for people of color the opportunity isn't there, never has been. America has such a strong influence on the world the other countries are in allegiance with her in this worldwide oppression of people of color. This system must change so that everyone of every race will have an equal chance to succeed. The only way this can be achieved is by

proletarian revolution. It would be nice if this revolution could be nonviolent but with America's historical human relations, it can only be violent. Peaceful leaders have tried to voice opinions to the U.S. government on how to stop oppression but the U.S. retaliates with violence and eventually kills them. They put incurable diseases like AIDS in the world targeted at minorities. They put drugs into minority neighborhoods, their media puts stereotypical images out about anything or anyone they don't like, with all these

things they say minorities bring on themselves. The police force itself is not for safety but to be feared, they are only death squads and gangsters. This is why violence—bloody violence—has to be used to stop the U.S. This revolution has to be carefully thought and planned and has to have a 100 percent effort behind it or else it will only fail. Right now citizens in the "American Empire" are protesting so now a door for revolution is opening. Seeing as how this system is experiencing deep crisis from within and outside, now

is the time to build strong revolutionary forces, and fight the powers that be. To GIs that have been deployed, and know they're being used, now is the time to fight and defeat an oppressive system. You're there to fight to help this system continue, it's nobler to fight to stop this system so that all oppressed people, worldwide will benefit.

Asiatic Brother
From Unit xxx of the xxx Div., Germany

COUNTERATTACK WITH THE RED AND BLACK

The powers have raised their colors: red, white and blue...and yellow.
The people have counterattacked with Black and Red ribbons.
The Black and Red symbolizes the blood shed for oil and empire.
It stands for solidarity with the Iraqi people—the victims of this U.S. war of aggression.
It is a sign of support for GI Resisters.



U.S. DEA "adviser" in a helicopter over Peru.



Peruvian "Sinchis"—elite counterinsurgency forces.

Yankees Plot

During the last few months the U.S. government has been carrying out intense negotiations with the government of Peru. They are working to hammer out the details of an agreement that would send more than \$200 million in U.S. "aid" to Peru and greatly increase direct U.S. military intervention against the people's war in Peru.

In January the *New York Times* said that with the agreement "the United States, for the first time, would provide military equipment and counterinsurgency training to help Peruvian security forces fight the Shining Path." (The Shining Path, or Sendero Luminoso, is the name used by the mainstream press for the Communist Party of Peru, PCP, which is leading the people's war.) These words are meant to mislead. The reality is that the U.S. is *already* training and providing Peruvian troops with arms and equipment and is involved in actual fighting against the revolution. Last year, for example, there was a major battle between the PCP's People's Guerrilla Army and the U.S./Peruvian forces at the U.S. Green Beret base at Santa Lucia in the Upper Huallaga Valley.

But what the U.S. and Peruvian governments are working out is a big leap in U.S. military involvement—and it opens the door to even *greater* U.S. intervention in the future.

The reason behind this big leap is that the people's war is making major advances. Especially in the last year, the people's war has won far-reaching victories and inflicted important defeats on the government and its troops in every part of Peru. The PCP has set up revolutionary political power in areas of the countryside making up a third of the country's population. And the Peruvian regime, gripped with serious crisis, is unable to stop the growing revolution. Faced with this situation, the U.S. imperialists are making serious preparations for more military intervention.

Peru Regime "Speaks Gringo"

The U.S. has already been sending military equipment, "civilian" helicopter pilots and mechanics under contract to the U.S. State Department, and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) military "advisers" to Peru for several years. There are plans to set up more firebases like the one at Santa Lucia. The U.S. Southern Command in Panama, headquarters of U.S. military forces in Latin America, has been drawing up plans for different military contingencies in Peru and the neighboring

countries. The CIA and other agencies are using spy satellites to make detailed maps of different parts of Peru which are necessary for a stepped-up counterinsurgency war. All this has been done under the phony excuse of the "war on drugs."

The U.S. has had almost no official military relations with Peru for several decades. It has carried out direct intervention mainly by working with the Peruvian "anti-drug" police units. But shortly before Alberto Fujimori was elected as the new Peruvian president in 1990, the U.S. came up with a \$36 million military aid pact. The U.S. was now proposing to *directly* aid and train Peruvian army troops.

Fujimori, however, had to deal with major opposition in Peru to these policies. In his campaign Fujimori promised not to resort to devaluations and "shock" cutbacks pushed by the favored candidate in the election, Mario Vargas Llosa. But right after taking office, Fujimori put into motion the very sort of economic measures he had denounced, and this caused much protest. In this situation, Fujimori suddenly took up a "nationalist" posture and rejected the \$36 million aid plan. But the way he rejected it was revealing. He said that the amount offered was *too small* compared to the billions the U.S. was spending domestically for "anti-drug" programs.

The U.S. came back with a \$110 million "aid" plan, including \$39 million for Peru's armed forces, a larger amount for "law enforcement," and economic assistance. According to the *New York Times*, this plan included proposals to send Green Berets (U.S. counterinsurgency Special Forces) to train and equip six Peruvian battalions into an elite force of 5,500 troops, to provide river patrol boats and train their crews, and to modernize and maintain a force of 20 ground-attack jets.

Since then, there have been more back-and-forth between the U.S. and Peruvian governments over the details of the agreement. Last November Fujimori put forward his own plan for U.S. aid to "fight drugs." He claimed his plan was a "new" approach and emphasized parts of the proposal which would supposedly give peasants a chance to grow something other than coca. For example, the plan calls for giving loans to peasants so that they can grow food crops instead of coca. But these loans have *never* helped the peasants. In fact, such loans in the past have forced peasants to grow *more* coca to pay back the government. Because of the severe crisis and the way the imperialist-dominated economy of Peru is set

LITERATURE AND MATERIALS ON THE REVOLUTION IN PERU

Revolution in Peru—video documentary. This exciting video brings to life the history, aims and achievements of the People's War led by the Communist Party of Peru, from its humble beginnings in 1980 to its most recent advances in establishing revolutionary base areas in the countryside. Combines inspiring news footage, photographs, revolutionary artwork and Andean music. 40-minutes long, with narration. Available in Spanish and English versions. Produced by the Committee To Support the Revolution in Peru. \$15.

Poster. "Yankee Go Home! 1991—Year of International Solidarity with the People's War in Peru!" This powerful 3-color poster by the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement has been reprinted by the CSRP for the Yankee Go Home! campaign in the U.S. \$2 for single copy, lower rates for multiple copies.

Our Red Flag Is Flying in Peru. This article describes the recent advances by the People's War and the revolutionary political power being won by the oppressed masses in the countryside today. It exposes the extent of U.S. intervention against the revolution already and its plans to greatly step up that intervention. Prepared for publication in issue #16 of *A World To Win*. Currently being distributed by the CSRP in English and Spanish. \$1.50.

El Diario Internacional. Special international edition of the revolutionary Peruvian newspaper *El Diario*, which continues to report the truth about developments in Peru in the face of vicious repression by the Peruvian government. Published by Luis Arce Borja and distributed in the U.S. by the CSRP (currently in Spanish only, English translation available soon). \$20 for 13 issues.

Stop U.S. Intervention in Peru! Break Through the Lies! Support the Revolution in Peru! An informative 6-page pamphlet complete with "What You Can Do." In English (soon in Spanish). CSRP. 25 cents.

Programme of the Communist Party of Peru. Spanish and English. 10 cents.

Interview with Chairman Gonzalo. In this unprecedented interview, the leader of the Communist Party of Peru, Chairman Gonzalo, speaks on a wide range of questions facing the Peruvian revolution, including: ideology, the party, the people's

war, military strategy, the national political situation, international policy, as well as his own personal development as a revolutionary. 140-page photocopy. (CSRP printed edition in production). \$5.

On Marxism-Leninism-Maoism and On Gonzalo Thought. Documents adopted by the First Congress of the Communist Party of Peru in early 1988 (published in *A World to Win* #11, 1988). \$5.

Guerra Popular en el Peru. Compilation of important documents by the Communist Party of Peru, 1968-1988. Edited and with a prologue by Luis Arce Borja. (In Spanish.) 418 pages. \$18.

Develop the People's War to Serve the World Revolution, by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru. Dated August 1986, this document consists of two parts: "Six Years of People's War" and "One Year of the APRA Government." 84-page pamphlet published by the CSRP. \$5.

Develop Guerrilla Warfare (1982) and Don't Vote! Instead, Expand the Guerrilla War to Seize Power for the People (1985). Two important documents by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru. 36-page pamphlet published by the CSRP. \$2.50.

Revolution in Peru. This pamphlet by the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru, published in 1985, goes into the history of the early years of the people's war and explains in a basic way the Marxist-Leninist-Maoist line leading the revolution. 47-page pamphlet. CSRP. \$2.50.

T-shirt — "Qatarisun Lliu!" ("Let Us Rise Together" in Quechua, one of the Indian languages of Peru). Beautiful silkscreen of woman and man guerrilla fighters. CSRP. \$10 (med., large, X-large).

Button — "Support the Revolution in Peru." Done in bright colors on the theme of Fire in the Andes. In Spanish or English. CSRP. \$1.

Principles of Unity of the Committee To Support the Revolution in Peru. English and Spanish. Free.

The revolutionary internationalist journal *A World to Win* carries many important articles and documents about the people's war in Peru.

These publications and other CSRP materials can be ordered directly from the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru at:

CSRP
P.O. Box 1246
Berkeley, CA 94701.

Many of these publications are also available at Revolution Books stores and outlets, or order from:

Liberation Distributors
P.O. Box 5341
Chicago, IL 60680.

For mail orders include 15 percent postage and handling expenses.

Messages can be left for the CSRP at (415) 845-2206 ext. 101

Counterrevolution in Peru



Guerrilla fighters of the Communist Party of Peru.

up, the peasants cannot survive on growing and selling food crops. Peru now has to import food to feed the people. The overall standard of living for native people in Peru is lower than it was 500 years ago, when the Inca empire there was conquered by the Spanish! The U.S. "economic aid" will not improve the situation for the peasants and other sections of the people in Peru but will only strengthen U.S. domination.

Another important feature of the Fujimori plan is the creation of a "superministry" called the Autonomous Authority for Alternative Development (ADA) which would coordinate "anti-drug" efforts now carried out by different sections of the government, military and police. The ADA would control a special military force to carry out the "war on drugs." This is an attempt by the Peruvian rulers to build a stronger military force against the people's war while still operating under the fiction of the "war on drugs."

A bourgeois Peruvian magazine commented about the Fujimori plan: "The Fujimori government is willing to start a dialogue using the gringo terminology, framing the drug problem within Bush's strategy for the Americas...with the understanding that this is the way to obtain resources." Fujimori hired Ann Wroblewski to sell his plan to the Bush administration. Wroblewski is the former subsecretary in the Bureau for International Narcotics Matters under the U.S. State Department. The Peruvian press calls her "Miss Spike" for pushing the spraying of the herbicide Spike, a powerful chemical poison, on coca fields—and the people who live on the land. For all his "nationalist" posturing, it was clear that Fujimori understood he had

to "speak gringo" and follow the lead of his U.S. imperialist godfathers.

The U.S. government has been publicly silent about the plan, and discussions with Peru have been carried out behind the scenes. Very little about the plan has been revealed in the U.S. press. There were brief press reports in early April that the U.S. was pressuring Fujimori to put more emphasis on military repression and less on "economic alternatives" to coca growing. This secrecy shows that for all the talk by George Bush and the U.S. powers about the "end of the Vietnam syndrome" after the U.S. victory in the Gulf War, they are afraid to even let people know their plans for stepped-up military intervention in Peru.

Whatever the final details of the agreement, it is clear that a major jump in U.S. intervention is in the works. According to a recent article in *Latin American Weekly Report*, the amount of money involved in the U.S.-Peru agreement has grown to \$230 million—\$100 million for food, \$60 million for "economic alternatives" and \$70 million for military aid. This might not be an enormous amount in terms of overall U.S. spending around the world, but it represents a big new opening for Yankee intervention. And aspects of earlier versions of the plan, such as Green Beret "training" of Peruvian troops, are presumably still in effect.

It Is Not Easy to Defeat an Armed People Determined to Seize State Power

What is behind the haggling between the U.S. and Peruvian governments over the

intervention plan? Why is it taking so long to come up with an agreement? It is not because the Fujimori government is trying to push an "independent" position in the face of U.S. military strategy. The Peruvian rulers know they are in trouble and need more U.S. guns and troops to help them deal with the revolution. But the delay in the agreement does point to some real contradictions facing the Peruvian regime and the U.S. imperialists.

One problem is that the Peruvian military leaders are unhappy about the subordinate role they would have to play in a massive U.S. intervention. Already the situation at the Santa Lucia base, where DEA agents command Peruvian army and police units, reportedly has created some conflict between the top military clique in Peru and Bush administration officials.

Another contradiction is that while the U.S. wants to conduct intervention under the "war on drugs" cover, this presents some sticky problems for the Peruvian government and military which are deeply hooked on drug profits themselves. Peruvian law allows unquestioned and untaxed repatriation of dollars earned in coca sales abroad, in order that the government can gain foreign exchange for its survival. According to Peruvian newspapers, in the first 100 days that Fujimori was in office the Central Bank of Peru took in \$500 million from the drug traffickers. The Peruvian army and police are neck-deep in drug trafficking and often compete for a bigger share of drug profits.

But as a recent article in *El Diario Internacional* (international edition of the revolutionary Peruvian newspaper *El Diario*) points out, the main problem for the

Peruvian rulers and the U.S. is that "any foreign intervention will have to confront the powerful guerrilla forces of the Communist Party of Peru, which are closely tied to the people. A war against the Maoist revolutionaries is a war against all the oppressed people in the country. And it is not easy to defeat an armed people determined to seize state power."

The U.S. imperialists are worried that a major Vietnam-style intervention in Peru will create huge outrage and opposition in the U.S., Peru and elsewhere. They know that going up against a genuine people's war led by Maoist revolutionaries is not the same as invading Grenada, Panama or Iraq. But at the same time they are compelled to intervene more deeply and massively in Peru because of the advancing revolution and the critical condition of the Peruvian regime.

A new development that bears careful watching: Last week a team of Green Beret "advisers" arrived in Bolivia to train Bolivian army units. It is possible that the U.S. sees Bolivia, located immediately to the south of Peru, as a base for attacking the people's war in Peru.

Supporters of the revolution in Peru and opponents of U.S. intervention can take heart from the difficulties that the U.S. imperialists and the Peruvian rulers face in attacking the people's war. But it is also time to sound the alarm and build mass opposition to the U.S. plans to step up intervention in Peru.

Support the People's War in Peru!

Yankee Go Home!

Report from Baghdad: Life After the Bombs

by Larry Everest

The media in the U.S. has been filled with stories about the desperate situation of the Kurdish people in northern Iraq, and the the U.S. government is posing as the "humanitarian" friends of the Kurds. This is the same government that encouraged the Kurds to rise up against Saddam Hussein and then stood by as the Hussein regime launched a heavy attack against them. The U.S. rulers' focus on the Kurds is part of their big-power maneuverings, and the people have been the victims. Meanwhile, the U.S. government and the media have been silent about the horrors in areas in Iraq which were hit with massive bombings by the U.S. and its allies. Reports from recent visitors to Iraq tell a story of a major disaster confronting the Iraqi people—a disaster caused by the U.S. war on Iraq and the continuing sanctions that prevent much-needed material from coming into that country.

Chris George of Save the Children was one of those recent visitors. He was part of a group that was in Iraq from March 12-16. Save the Children is an international relief organization focusing on needs of children. Larry Everest, contributing writer to the RW, interviewed George about what he saw in Iraq.

Larry Everest: For our readers, describe your project over there. What was your purpose in going? What does Save the Children do in a situation like this?

Chris George: We work in eight countries in the Middle East and North Africa area. We don't have a project or a field office in Iraq, or in Kuwait for that matter. But because we have such a large program in the Middle East, we were especially interested in assessing the needs of children who've been affected by the Gulf war. We're now conducting a survey of children's needs in all of our field offices. At the same time we thought we should investigate what the situation was in Iraq to see if there's a way Save the Children can help alleviate some of the suffering there of children. We were especially concerned after reading the UNICEF/WHO report of about six weeks ago that mentioned the serious threat of epidemic. We have sent in some medicine and some baby food to the Iraqi Red Crescent, and we are now looking at ways where we might be able to help in provision of health care services and perhaps the repair of water treatment and water delivery systems.

Give me an impression of Baghdad. What did it look like. Had the whole city been leveled?

No, the whole city hadn't been leveled. It was very clear to us the things that a modern, mechanized, energy-dependent city depends on to keep things moving—that was what was hit. The communications centers and power facilities. And they were hit very, very hard.

So that they looked like

a pile of rubble.

Yes. The communications buildings were just incredibly destroyed, beyond repair—beyond even the ability to salvage them. It was clear that they were hit over and over and over again.

Was anything else hit that you saw?

Some other buildings as well. The conference center across from the old Rashid Hotel was hit. The Hotel was also hit, some residential areas were hit.

Were they hit hard?

Yes. The same missiles that took down communications buildings, some of those missiles also hit residential areas. In fact we had tea with a family that lived in a residential area, and their house was across the street from some "collateral damage," so to speak—a house that had been completely obliterated by a missile, probably a guided missile.

Was this residential neighborhood near anything that could have been construed as a military target?

Very hard for me to know. It wasn't within a block or two of any apparent military target, so to speak. But what is a military target in the city of Baghdad? The allied forces and the U.S. government said that they considered communications centers and power facilities as having military significance. The post office was destroyed, the telex center was destroyed, phone buildings were destroyed and the power stations were destroyed. We are now seeing—even if we didn't in the beginning, or didn't take the time to consider the consequences—that the impact of destroying a



city's infrastructure will be felt by civilians. While the residential areas were not targeted, pounded hard and leveled, it's the civilians who are going to suffer from the lack of power, electricity, fuel, communications.

What about the impact on the civilian population. What did you see, what did you hear?

We talked to a doctor in the major pediatric hospital in Baghdad. He described the first night of bombing. And he said, "First the electricity went down, completely. All of us ran for the shelter in the basement. There were 40 children in incubators, and we didn't even have emergency backup power." He described the mothers of these children—the mothers didn't know what to do, most had children at home in addition to these newborns and they also had husbands at the front. They didn't know where to go or what to do. He said 20 babies died that night from lack of electricity. He said these 40 mothers nearly went crazy. And he said to this day, he'll never forget the sight of those women. That was just one place, just the first night of bombing, in a hospital. And I'm sure there are thousands of experiences similar to his.

The impact a month or two months later from the bombing: You've got a city that was dependent on power—a city of 3 million people, about the size of Chicago—which no longer has adequate power. Water doesn't get pumped, water doesn't get purified. Sewage isn't pumped away and isn't treated. Pumps depend on power—they don't have it. Sewage treatment depends of chemicals—those are blocked by the embargo. Water treatment depends on chemicals—also blocked by the embargo. Spare parts are not allowed in under the embargo. Hospitals are running at 20 or 30 percent capacity since they don't have enough power. Operations are limited just to the most critical because most operation rooms had to be shut down. Laundry facilities in hospitals aren't operating, people have to wash linens by hand. The sanitary conditions are awful. A doctor said to us he is afraid now that instead of being in a place where diseases are cured, the hospital is



Retrieving the bodies after the U.S. bombing of the shelter at Amiriya in February.



Baghdad.

going to be a place where diseases are spread.

Now all of this is happening over the winter and spring in Iraq. When summer comes, the demand for power will increase. The demand for water will increase. Power is inadequate, at best. Water is polluted. And at the same time, as temperatures get higher, you have got a very real threat of the outbreak of cholera and typhoid reaching epidemic proportions. That could have a disastrous effect on a large concentration of people in Baghdad.

How are people getting water now?

Water is pumped to some areas in Baghdad, but it's intermittent and the pressure is very low. Even if you get water in your house, you have to boil it in order to be sure that it's safe to drink.

Low water pressure means that dirt and other things come into the water.

Exactly—a backflow or suction phenomenon. Water pipes are ruptured where you had a building that was bombed or shelled. Pipes adjacent to it were ruptured—maybe not completely but certainly cracked. And like you say, when pressure is reduced or gone from the pipe, then impurities can be sucked in. So you're told to boil water, but how do you boil water when you don't have gas? There is some kerosene on the market but it's very expensive. So people are cutting down branches of trees or whole trees for firewood. Some people have even gone into schools that are closed and have taken away desks and chairs and broken them up and used them as firewood. That's not the first time I've heard of that happening. In refugee camps in Lebanon after the Israeli invasion during that winter of '82-'83, the wood desks and chairs were the first things to go. People are consumed with the daily basic job of providing for themselves and their families. Women and children now have to spend a lot of time gathering firewood and water.

So some neighborhoods don't even have water.

That's right, and they tend to be the poorer neighborhoods. They either go to a public

tap or a nearby neighborhood that does have water. They can maybe get bagged water from an International Committee of the Red Cross water distribution point. They tried distributing water when we were there—a riot nearly broke out. Some people are drawing water from the river, and the Tigris River is badly polluted.

I would assume that if the sewage treatment is breaking down, raw sewage is going into the Tigris.

That's right. The Tigris is also the drinking water for Baghdad. About 70 percent of the drinking water comes from the Tigris River. The two essential chemicals necessary for water treatment are chlorine and alum, both of which are blocked under the embargo.

Because everything is blocked?

Everything, except medicine and baby food. Just recently the UN eased the restrictions on food and other humanitarian supplies necessary to the basic needs. It's still not clear who can bring those in.

What was the sentiment of the people you talked to about the U.S. bombing of the civilian shelter at Amiriya that happened about a month earlier?

We were taken to the shelter in the Amiriya quarter, and I've also talked to some journalists who were in Baghdad at the time it was bombed. There are a lot of these housing projects around the city of Baghdad, and in many of them there are shelters like the one in Amiriya for the families living in the housing projects. It was clear that there were approximately 400 women and children in that shelter. We were taken there because the Iraqis felt that it was an important site to see, and they also wanted to make the point that a lot of people were killed in the bombing. I think a question that journalists should have put to the military during that controversy was: If you had intelligence that told you it was being used as a command and control center, why didn't that same intelligence tell you there were 400 civilians in the basement?

Exactly, you can't have it both ways, can you?

Continued on page 10

Send an RW Reporter to Iraq

There is a hidden story in Iraq and only revolutionary journalists can bring it to light. This is an urgent appeal for funds to send RW correspondent Larry Everest to Iraq.

Since the Persian Gulf crisis erupted in August 1990, Larry Everest has devoted his energies to writing, speaking on, and organizing opposition to U.S. intervention. During this time he appeared as a panelist on the *Yo! The World Is Being Turned Upside Down!* Revolutionary Journalists Tour, sponsored by the RW.

In response to news of Everest's plan to go to Iraq, Eric Jackson, a lawyer in Michigan, wrote:

"To those who opposed the war against Iraq:

"I make my living as a lawyer, but I also write for the alternative press. As such, I helped to expose the horrors of the Panama invasion. In January, 1990 I spoke and wrote about, among other things, the mass grave at Corozal. I was called a liar by Eastern Michigan University's ROTC sergeant. My story was not confirmed by any major corporate publication. It was, however, independently reported in early 1990 in the *Revolutionary Worker*. Word got around. Eight months later, ABC News acknowledged this atrocity.

"The *Revolutionary Worker* has politics. They are different from mine. It has journalists who, like me, do not conceal their politics. Journalists like Larry Everest. But unlike those of the corporate news media who deny a political viewpoint (so-called 'objectivity') as they slant the news by ignoring important facts, these journalists publish the truth.

"We need a lot more truth these days. Where are the stories about conditions in post-war Iraq? How will we learn about the millions of Palestinian and Yemeni refugees who were thrown out of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait? How will we learn of the true extent of the war's devastation? It will not be from the corporations who bring the people most of their information. Not unless others gather and disseminate the news in such a way that these corporations can no longer hide the truth.

"Which is why I think that it is important to help send Larry Everest to Iraq. Most of all, Larry is a partisan of the truth. He is a veteran journalist who has reported on the Middle East for the alternative press for many years. He is likely to be one of the few good sources of suppressed news stories about which we should know. If it is important to you to see the horrible truth of the war on Iraq known to the American people, then Larry Everest's trip is a worthy investment for you to make."

Larry Everest traveled to Kurdistan in 1979 and again in 1980 and covered the war between rebellious Kurds and the Khomeini regime. He visited Tehran in 1980 during the hostage crisis and interviewed Iranian students who were occupying the U.S. embassy. He witnessed some of the first street clashes between the Iranian left and the Islamic government. In 1984 Everest went to Bhopal within weeks of the chemical disaster there. His book, *Behind the Poison Cloud: Union Carbide's Bhopal Massacre*, has been widely and favorably reviewed. In December 1988 Everest traveled to the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan to investigate the Palestinian *intifada* firsthand.

In addition to many articles for the RW, his writings have appeared in *Revolution* magazine, the *L.A. Times*, *New York Newsday*, *San Jose Mercury News*, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Seattle Times*, *In These Times*, and *The Nation*.

Thousands of dollars are needed for Everest's trip to the Middle East. Please send checks or money orders made out to RCP Publications, P.O. Box 3486, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654. Mark checks for "Emergency Travel Fund—Middle East Trip."

Iraq: Lives in the Balance

In early March a group of UN officials went to Iraq to report on the situation after the war. Following are excerpts from the report of that UN mission:

Nothing that we had seen or read had quite prepared us for the particular form of devastation which has now befallen the country. The recent conflict has wrought near-apocalyptic results upon the economic infrastructure of what had been, until January 1991, a rather highly urbanized and mechanized society. Now, most means of modern life support have been destroyed or rendered tenuous. Iraq has, for some time to come, been relegated to a pre-industrial age, but with all the disabilities of post-industrial dependency on an intensive use of energy and technology.

Food Shortages

The Ministry of Trade's monthly allocations to the population of staple food items fell from 343,000 tons in September 1990 to 182,000 tons when rationing was introduced, and was further reduced to 135,000 tons in January (39 percent of the pre-sanctions level)... All evidence indicates that flour is now at a critically low level, and that supplies of sugar, rice, tea, vegetable oil, powdered milk and pulses are currently at critically low levels or have been exhausted. Distribution of powdered milk, for instance, is now reserved exclusively for sick children and medical prescription.

Livestock farming has been seriously affected by sanctions because many feed products were imported. The sole laboratory producing veterinary vaccines was destroyed during the conflict, as inspected by the mission. The authorities are no longer able to support livestock farmers in the combat of disease, as all stocks of vaccines were stated to have been destroyed in the same sequence of bombardments on this centre.

The country has had a particular dependence on foreign vegetable seeds, and the mission was able to inspect destroyed seed warehouses. The relevant agricultural authorities informed the mission that all stocks of potatoes and vegetable seeds had been exhausted. Next season's planting will be jeopardized if seeds are not provided before October 1991.

This year's grain harvest in June is seriously compromised for a number of reasons, including failure of irrigation/drainage (no power for pumps, lack of spare parts); lack of pesticides and fertilizers (previously imported); and lack of fuel and spare parts for the highly-mechanized and fuel-dependent harvesting machines. Should this harvest fail, or be far below average, as is very likely barring a rapid change in the situation, widespread starvation conditions become a real possibility.

Water Shortages and Contamination

The supply of water in Baghdad dropped to less than 10 litres per day but has now recovered to approximately 30-40 litres in about 70 percent of the area (less than 10 percent of the overall previous use). Standby generating capacity is out of order in several pumping stations and cessation of supplies will therefore ensue if current machinery goes out of order for any reason (spare parts are not available owing to sanctions). As regards the quality of water in Baghdad, untreated sewage has now to be dumped directly into the river—which is the source of the water supply—and all drinking-water plants there and throughout the rest of the country are using river water with high sewage contamination.

Sanitation and Health Problems

As regards sanitation, the two main concerns relate to garbage disposal and sewage treatment. In both cases, rapidly rising temperatures will soon accentuate an existing crisis. Heaps of garbage are spread in the urban areas and collection is poor to non-existent. The work of collection vehicles is hampered by lack of fuel, lack of maintenance and spare parts, and lack of labour because workers are unable to come to work. Incinerators are in general not working, for these same reasons, and for lack of electrical power. Insecticides, much needed as the weather becomes more torrid, are virtually out of stock because of sanctions and a lack of chemical supplies. As previously stated, Iraqi rivers are heavily polluted by raw sewage, and water levels are unusually low. All sewage treatment and pumping plants have been brought to a virtual standstill by the lack of power supply and the lack of spare parts. Pools of



Iraq's only baby milk factory after U.S. bombing.

sewage lie in the streets and villages. Health hazards will build in the weeks to come.

Health conditions in Baghdad and throughout the country remain precarious. A major factor is the water and sanitation situation described above. Additionally, the total lack of telephone communications and drastically reduced transport capability pose other problems to the health system since basic information on communicable diseases cannot be collected and disseminated, and essential drugs, vaccines and medical supplies cannot be distributed efficiently to the country... The four-fold increase in incidence of diarrhoeal diseases amongst young children reported by the WHO/UNICEF mission has been reconfirmed by findings recently obtained in 11 sentinel sites in Baghdad. The water and sanitation situation contributes to this problem which must be expected to increase as the summer approaches. The mission concluded that a catastrophe could be faced at any time if conditions do not change.

Imminent Catastrophe

It will be difficult, if not impossible, to remedy these immediate humanitarian needs without dealing with the underlying need for energy, on an equally urgent basis. The need for energy means, initially, emergency oil imports and the rapid patching up of a limited refining and electricity production capacity, with essential supplies from other countries. Otherwise, food that is imported cannot be preserved and distributed; water cannot be purified; sewage cannot be pumped away and cleansed; crops cannot be irrigated; medicaments cannot be conveyed where they are required; needs cannot be effectively assessed. It is unmistakable that the Iraqi people may soon face a further imminent catastrophe, which could include epidemic and famine, if massive life-supporting needs are not rapidly met. The long summer, with its often 45 or even 50 degree temperature (113-122 degrees Fahrenheit), is only weeks away. Time is short.

Report from Baghdad: Life After the Bombs

Continued from page 9

Right. And if you did know there were 400 civilians down there, then why was it bombed?

Did you get any sort of a sense of the overall mood of people toward the war and what had been going on?

We heard from several people a couple of themes. From the person on the street or some professionals with whom we spent some time. They said, "Why should 18 million people have to suffer because the United States disagrees with the policies of one man?" That was one theme we heard. Another theme was, "Why did Baghdad have to be destroyed in order to drive the Iraqi army out of Kuwait?" So we heard that over and over again, those two points.

When you were there did you see any evidence of or hear discussion of malnutrition among children as a result of the war?

Malnutrition has been rare in Iraq. Doctors we talked to in the hospital in Baghdad said that they are now beginning to see some cases of moderate malnutrition. People had stockpiled food during the early months of the crisis, but those stockpiles have been consumed and they haven't been replenished. So there will be food shortages if something doesn't happen soon. The easing of sanctions on food is a step in the right direction, but there is another prob-

lem. The food is now going to be allowed into the country, or into Baghdad let's say. But the underlying need is for fuel and transportation to distribute that food. Because the outlying areas are not going to get it if it just comes to Baghdad, unless there is also an increase in the amount of fuel and transportation available. Medicines and foods and health care personnel are not making it to the outlying areas in Iraq. And if those areas have also been hit by bombs and shells during the war, then you can be sure that there are some serious shortages and potential for major health problems.

Were you able to get a sense of the impact that sanctions had in terms of food? I believe Iraq imports something like 70 percent of its food.

That's right. Food prices have skyrocketed. They're four or five times what they were before the war, and I think that is the result of shortages. The food situation was hard for us in three days to get a handle on. The UN mission that went there with 20 people and stayed six or seven days was able to assess that situation better than we were. In Baghdad there were a lot of items available. In fact, one person said that everything is available—for a price. And while prices have gone up for food, salaries have remained the same, so it's increasingly difficult for a family to make ends meet. A lot of families are sending their children to the

marketplace with household belongings to sell to make extra money to buy the basics.

I feel that the media has made a point of not painting any sort of a picture of what this war has meant to the Iraqi people and what the real impact of it has been in any sort of human terms. How did you feel about that? Living in this country I'm sure you watched the news every night—and then all of a sudden you go over and actually see it for yourself. What was your reaction personally?

I've lived and worked in places where people have suffered from wars and are living under occupation, and I've also got some understanding of journalism. I know that journalists often go after the more dramatic stories, and this story of the impact of the war on the civilians doesn't jump out at you as a dramatic story unless you spend a lot of time there looking at it and think of the consequences. I think most journalists haven't. In fact a lot of journalists had to leave when actual consequences of the war and of the sanctions on Baghdad were really becoming apparent. So, I think it is true that journalists will often overlook stories of long-term impact that tend to be a little less dramatic until large numbers of people start dying. And at the same time, the government of Iraq

asked all Western journalists to leave. If those Western journalists had been allowed to stay, I think we would have seen more stories on exactly the sort of conditions that I described.

There is one more point that I haven't made, but we here at Save the Children feel strongly about it. The Gulf war has diverted a lot of attention away from a lot of other serious problems all over the world. Very serious problems in Africa, in the Horn of Africa in particular. And we feel that's going to have possibly a devastating effect on millions of people who live in the Horn of Africa. It has been bad enough that attention has been diverted by the war. What would be worse, or also bad, is to divert relief supplies, the resources of international relief agencies, to Iraq and Kuwait, when the lifting of sanctions could allow Iraq to recover on its own.

Give us some numbers so we can understand what you're saying in terms of the Horn of Africa. We are talking about famine and massive starvation, I believe. What are the dimensions of this?

Between 8 and 10 million people in Sudan alone. In Ethiopia, 5 million.

So we're talking 13 to 15 million people.

That's approaching the entire population of Iraq. And these are people who could die from lack of food. □

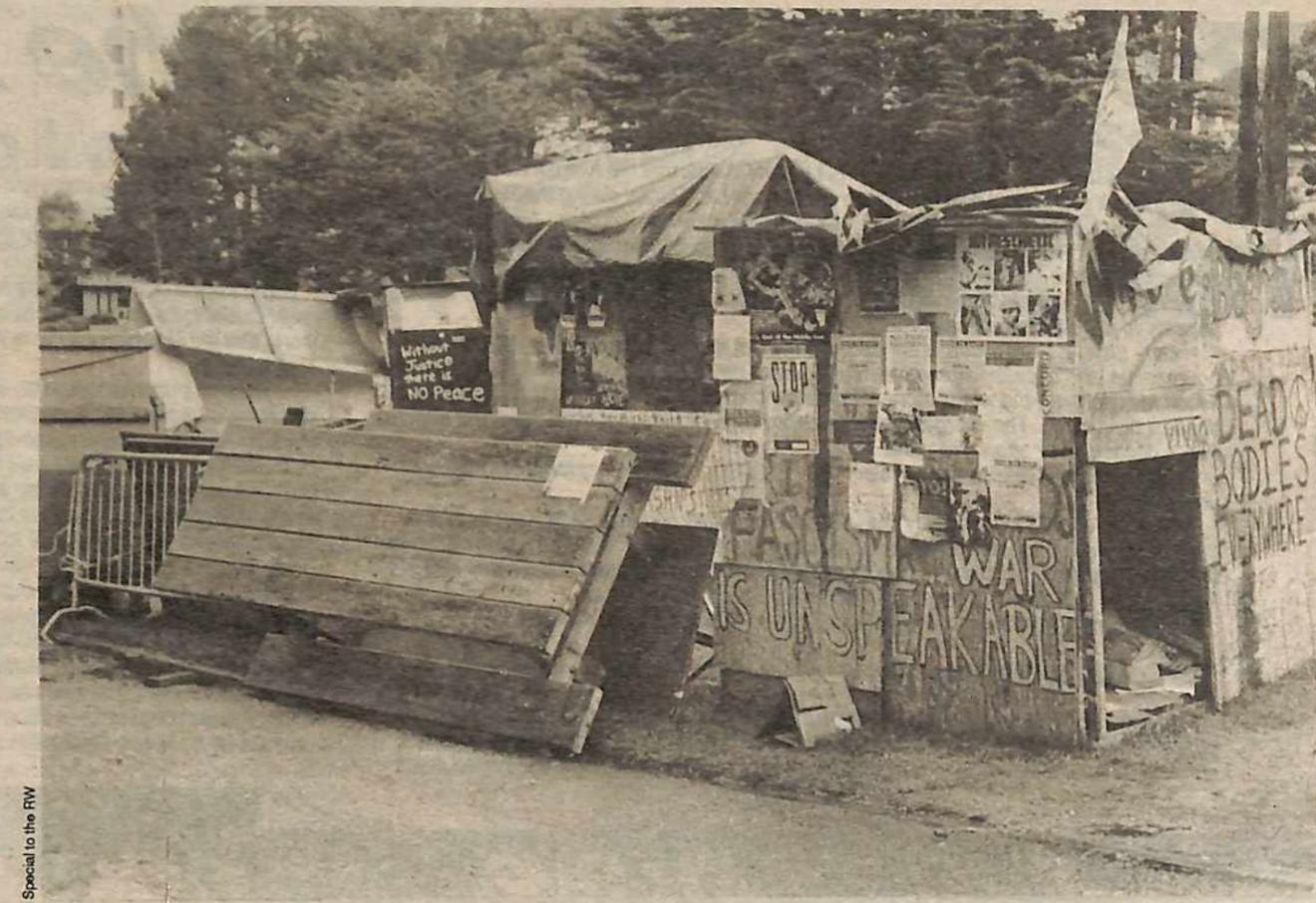
SF State Stalks Anti-War Activists

The San Francisco State University police are going after student activists who were involved in the antiwar shantytown protest at the SFSU campus in March. The police announced that they are conducting an investigation of the students and might bring serious criminal charges against them. During spring break the university police arrested one student activist at his home and put out warrants on two other activists. According to recent articles in the *SF Weekly* newspaper, the chief of campus police claimed cops found molotov cocktails near the shanties and threatened that "serious criminal charges" may be brought against shantytown activists.

The shanties, a group of wooden structures covered with antiwar and revolutionary messages, were built as a protest of the Persian Gulf war. Started by a group of militant students, the shantytown caught on and drew in new activists in the last weeks of the war and even after the U.S. declared victory over Iraq. The protest also drew out loud and often physical opposition from the backward and attacks from the powers that be.

The three activists targeted by the SFSU police are well-known political activists on the campus. One is also a defendant in the "Bush Street 13" case which stems from a takeover of an S.F. recruiting station shortly before the Gulf shooting war, another is a radical black South African activist, and the third has been outspoken in the struggle to kick out university president Corrigan.

The singling out of the three activists is a vindictive attempt to punish them for their politics and actions and to chill out protest in the future. But it's also a sign of the



Special to the RW

powerful impact that the shantytown made on the campus. One Black student told the *RW*, "When I joined the shantytown, I realized what is going on is hypocrisy. Here we are in this country where all the people of color—I don't call it minority anymore—are constantly being persecuted. I feel that. I have experienced it. At the same time the government is saying, 'We want peace and democracy. We want to make this world as free as possible.' Well, here at home they are fucking people of color. They really don't count. Like in L.A. Then they use people of color to commit the same kind of atrocity against people of color in Iraq, for example, that is being committed here against people of color. This is bullshit."

Another student activist said about the shanties: "They [the authorities] got pissed, they didn't like it. But students saw us as doing something positive, something that hadn't been done on this campus, and we got a lot of support."

The shantytown became an even sharper question on the campus when the activists



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decided to continue the protest after the U.S. declaration of victory over Iraq. Their leaflet explained, "Although the cease-fire was called weeks ago, the Shanty Town has remained, determined to provoke thought and instigate discussion on this war, what created it, and what faces us in the future."

The backward students complained that the shanties were no longer relevant since the war was over and that they were an "eyesore." Frat rats and other reactionaries physically attacked the shanties and circulated an unsuccessful petition drive to remove them. One student, in the spirit of Bush's "new world order," was quoted in the school paper, *Golden Gator*, as saying, "Burn it down, the war is over." University officials claimed that the shantytown was a "fire hazard."

But other students as well as professors and the KPFA radio station defended the shantytown activists. Another student quoted in the *Gator* said, "Now it goes beyond the war. It's asking people to wake up. I appreciate people that stand out from the crowd. They give me hope for the future."

One student told the *RW* that during this period there was an atmosphere of intense discussions, arguments and even fist fights over the shantytown protest, the war and all kinds of politics. The shanties just couldn't be ignored, and everyone on the campus was drawn into the debate in some way.

The university gave ultimatums to the students to tear the shanties down. On March 8 they surrounded the shanties with riot cops and a bulldozer, but they were forced to back down by people mobilized to defend the shanties. Supporters built a barricade of dumpsters, tables, chairs, and garbage cans. A student described how they got broad support: "We knew they were going to come with warrants and try to remove the shanties so we had to plan accordingly. We got the word out. We had a lot of information tables, leaflets. We were out every day talking about the war. We had a billboard talking about, for instance, what is being hidden on TV and the mass media.

It was an alternative site to learn about what's going on. At the core there were at least 40 people involved. But [there was] broader support—one time we had 200 people here to defend the shanties when police came. The numbers fluctuated in terms of people sleeping here. Some nights there were 50, some nights 60 people. But what kept us going was the fact that the response from people was overwhelmingly on our side."

After the March 8 confrontation the students agreed to negotiate with the administration. The shantytown was taken down when the university promised to carry out several of the student demands—the university has already broken their promises.

The debates and struggles on the campus are continuing. One woman who attended the SFSU stop of the "Yo! The World Is Being Turned Upside Down!" tour of revolutionary journalists and who was active in the shantytown struggle talked about how students like her were changed. She said she was "jarred awake by the war," became really active and angry when she realized she had been lied to all her life, and now her "critical mind has clicked on." A lot of students say their eyes were opened by the war and the shanty struggle—and they "want to know everything" about the world and how to change it.

Instead of intimidating the students, the threats and vindictive actions of the university administration and the police are helping to fuel new resistance on campus. Even some who did not support the shantytown are angered by the police moves. For example, the academic senate has called on the administration to drop all criminal charges against the activists. There is growing outrage and struggle against the state budget cuts which will mean higher tuition and cuts in classes and faculty. On April 23, students occupied the lobby of the administration building to protest the cuts. The occupation is continuing as we go to press. □



Special to the RW



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Barricades built by supporters to protect shantytown.

The True Story of the Arms-To-

In the last weeks, it was revealed in the official media that the Reagan election campaign made a secret deal with the Iranian government and Israel during the 1980 elections. Gary Sick published a prominent piece in the New York Times (April 15). The article documents that Reagan's men promised to send arms to Iran if the Iranian government agreed to keep the U.S. hostages in captivity months longer—long enough for Carter to be defeated in the 1980 election campaign. This was not a swap of arms for hostage. This was an arms-to-keep-them-hostage deal!

Gary Sick was a top aide in the Carter White House. Because Sick is a member of the bourgeoisie, and because a prominent ruling class newspaper like the New York Times published his charges—the whole story immediately became an acceptable topic for official political discussion. The charges were discussed on Nightline that night. And next night on PBS's documentary show, Frontline.

The evidence Sick is offering is not new. But the story was suppressed in the media until now.

Readers of the Revolutionary Worker know this story. On August 24, 1987 the front page of the Revolutionary Worker newspaper carried the article "The Intrigue, the Lies, and the '1980 Surprise.'" At the time, the only other places this information appeared was in the film Coverup by Barbara Trent, the Miami Herald and In These Times.

This is more evidence that "If you don't have the RW, you just won't know."

The So-Called "Hostage Crisis" of 1979-81

In February 1979 a powerful revolution in Iran overthrew the hated Shah—chief U.S. puppet in the Persian Gulf. In the fall of 1979 hundreds of revolutionary Iranian students stormed the U.S. embassy and took the U.S. agents there captive. They uncovered much

evidence of how the U.S. had dominated their country—including proof of the wholesale recruitment of Iranian military officers and government officials as CIA agents and evidence of U.S. training of torturers for the Shah's Savak secret police. For the masses of people around the world, the seizure of the U.S. embassy was an exciting blow to the U.S. dominators.

But for the U.S. powers, the embassy takeover was a nightmare. The fact that rowdy rebel students could defy and humiliate the U.S. government this way was a sign to the world that the U.S. is not all powerful. The U.S. powers were looking like a paper tiger—and they hated it.

The U.S. put an embargo on Iran. Then, in April 1980 the U.S. powers tried to pull off a commando "rescue mission" that ended in the famous fiasco at "Desert One"—where U.S. commando helicopters crashed into each other and blew up. The U.S. looked even more ridiculous, to the delight of basic people throughout the world. In the summer of 1980, the U.S. supported Iraq in launching a war of conquest against Iran. But none of this succeeded in reestablishing U.S. control in Iran.

For over a year, from 1979 to 1981, the powers tried to use this "Hostage Crisis" to indoctrinate a whole new generation to support U.S. aggression around the world. Reactionary forces were whipped into anger by the propaganda image of "America Held Hostage." Yellow ribbons made a big appearance. And in that dirty institution known as the presidential elections, the challenger, Ronald Reagan, portrayed his rival, Jimmy Carter, as a weakling who had let small Third World countries "push America around."

However, even as he was saying this, Reagan's own people were negotiating with the Iranian government to keep the embassy spies under Iranian control for six months more—until Carter had been defeated in the 1980 election. In exchange, Israel would start deliver-

WHAT THE RW SAID

Revolutionary Worker #419, August 24, 1987

"Imagine the following story is true: Reagan's arms dealing with Iran started long before the 1985 negotiations; they started in 1980, before he had won the presidential election. Imagine that it was then, in preelection 1980, that Reagan cut his first deal for an 'opening to Iran,' a deal which demanded special treatment for Tehran's fifty-two embassy hostages. And then, finally, imagine that what Reagan



Iranian students carry garbage from the U.S. Embassy in an American flag.



The hostages at the U.S. Embassy

wanted was not that they should be released quickly but that they be kept imprisoned until after Reagan defeated Carter.... Evidence has surfaced which appears to document this 'October Surprise' theory.

"Such a scandal would expose eight years of hysteria about hostages and 'terrorism' as a series of cynical stage gimmicks serving high-level purposes. (Only last week, Reagan again explained his 1985 dealings with Iran in terms of his anguish over 'Americans in chains.')

... The scandal would question the very integrity of the 1980 elections; it could rattle faith of loyal Americans in the legitimacy of this regime and in the political process.... It seems likely that the mainstream press will by and large stay away from such a story."

Revolutionary Worker #419, August 24, 1987, "The Intrigue, The Lies, and the '1980 Surprise'"

"The heads of Reagan's campaign, William Casey and Edwin Meese III, established a 10-man unit for dirty tricks and intelligence. It was headed by Richard Allen [and] soon called the 'October Surprise Group'.... On October 15, 1980 Allen sent a memo to Reagan and his inner circle warning that a hostage release could come like a 'bolt from the blue' because of Bani Sadr's eagerness to resolve the extreme state of tension with the United States.... Allen, Laurence Silberman and Robert McFarlane met in a Washington hotel with 'a man who said he represented the Iranian government' in 'early October' 1980."

"In this same fall of 1980 Barbara Honegger worked as a researcher in the national headquarters of the Reagan campaign. She now makes a charge: in late October, she says, the almost paranoid fears of an October hostage release suddenly evaporated in the Reagan camp. 'We don't have to worry about an October surprise,' a jubilant staffer at the campaign's operations center told her. 'Dick cut a deal.' Dick is Richard Allen. And that 'deal' would be that Iran would keep 'Americans in chains' a little longer. Reagan, in exchange, would deal with the regime and approve arms shipments for the war with Iraq."

"A journalist, Cynthia Dwyer, was arrested in Iran in May 1980. She was not released with the other hostages in January 1981. In an interview on MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour last November, Richard Allen said Reagan told him to threaten the Iranians. 'Get the word out that the deal is off unless she's on the plane,' Reagan had said in early 1981.... A simple question: If Allen and Reagan had not 'cut a deal' with the Iranians in the fall of 1980, then what 'deal' were they threatening to call off over the Dwyer case?"

Revolutionary Worker #419, August 24, 1987:

"The reason for this blackout is pretty obvious: this new scandal, arriving on the heels of Iran-contra, could be too damaging to be allowed into broad public view. A high-level decision has been struck to sharply limit the current scandal and keep Reagan in office. He is being shielded from total disgrace. You don't have to look far to see evidence of such bourgeois consensus: editorial pages (including those of the flagships of liberalism) repeat that 'impeachment would be unthinkable' as if it were gospel. For them, it is "unthinkable" because dethroning yet another president would simply cut too deep into the stability of the system. Especially now in this hyper-tense prewar period.

"In keeping with this, the 'October surprise' is ignored in the official political arena, at least for now.... The United States is a dictatorship of a ruling class. Active control of information is a very important part of maintaining that dictatorship intact."

"All three members of the Tower Commission (in charge of the Initial Irangate investigation early this year) are linked into the 1980 affair.

- Senator John Tower was McFarlane's boss during the pre-election period when McFarlane supposedly negotiated with the unnamed Iranian. Tower at that time was a wheel in the Reagan election machinery.
- General Brent Scowcroft was also closely connected with McFarlane; he was McFarlane's boss and sponsor from the days when Scowcroft was President Ford's national security adviser.
- And the third, the Democratic member of the commission, Edmund Muskie, may well have been in all this up to his neck, playing a double role: According to Richard Allen, the secret source who leaked high-level information from the

"Further evidence of this 'deal' is circumstantial. However, there were apparently secret negotiations between Carter and the Iranians which collapsed.... Another thing known for sure is that the hostages were released."

Revolutionary Worker #489, January 16, 1989

Barbara Honegger explains: "There were two meetings, that we know of for certain, that happened. One in Washington, D.C and one in Paris, France; both before the 1980 elections, in October of 1980. At those meetings, George Bush, then the vice-presidential candidate; Richard Allen, who became Reagan's first national security adviser; and Donald Gregg, who became Bush's national security adviser; passed millions of dollars to the Iranians to delay the release of our fifty-two hostages an additional seventy-six days."

"In a written statement shown in the film Coverup, former Iranian Prime Minister Bani Sadr says that 'Iranian intelligence reports' that came to him at that time describe such meetings with Bush."



The Tower Commission: Brent Scowcroft, Edmund Muskie, John Tower

Carter White House to the Reagan campaign, including information on hostage negotiations, was Edmund Muskie, then Carter's Secretary of State.

"This suggests that the Tower Commission may have been constructed out of deeply implicated men who could be relied on to keep their focus on post-1985 negotiations with Iran."

Revolutionary Worker #489, January 16, 1989,

Barbara Honegger points out that congressional hearings on Irangate were a coverup: "The most important thing to come out of the hearings didn't even get asked at the hearings. And that was: Reagan cut a deal with Iran before the 1980 election to send arms to Iran in exchange for Iran's agreeing to delay the release of our fifty-two hostages.... The bottom line is that the Iran-Contra committee and the Walsh investigation, because their mandates only take us back to 1984, are in and of themselves a coverup."

"In Coverup, Karen Parker (a specialist in international law) says: 'The American people may very well feel that the important questions didn't get asked. So they don't have the whole picture. They have a few little transactions and nauseating detail on those few transactions. But they were cheated out of the whole ball of wax.'"

THE BASIC

STORY

THE EVIDENCE

THE COVERUP

Keep-Them-Hostage Deal

ing arms to Iran. It has now come out that Israel began delivery of spare parts to Iran in October—even before the election happened. This suggests that the Reagan team urged the Israeli government to break the official U.S. boycott of Iran and start arms deliveries to reward Iran.

As the arms-to-keep-them-hostage deal was negotiated, the Iranian government took the hostages away from the control of the most radical students, moved them out of the embassy and dispersed them under government control to various points in the Iranian capital city. Through all this "hostage" frenzy, a new president was put in power: Ronald Reagan, billed as a war-ready strongman. The hostages were released five minutes after Reagan took the oath of office.

Creating the Myths of "Resurgent America"

For the next years, under Reagan, it was said "America is back." War preparations and aggressions (that had started under Carter) were intensified.

A Carter speechwriter, Patrick Caddell, recently described the mythmaking of U.S. rulers in this period: "Truth is the enemy of anyone presiding over a nation in decline. Anyone who acknowledges the truth is out, because it is an acknowledgement of failure. The only other option is denial. And that can only be carried off by offering a counter-reality that is further and further removed from the actual reality facing the country."

The story of the Reagan Hostage Deal shows that censorship is nothing new. A presidential election was stolen in 1980, and extremely hypocritical deals were made. And much of this was known throughout the ruling class. The truth was simply suppressed until it served the interests of powerful forces in the ruling class to reveal it.

In 1988 when asked why they would not cover this story, a spokeswoman for

Washington Week in Review TV news show said: "If it's a news topic, we'll probably cover it as soon as it comes up in the news."

Now the story of Reagan's secret deal with Iran is allowed into public discussion. Regular readers of the Revolutionary Worker may not be surprised. But for many millions of people this news about the 1980 elections will be shocking.



Reagan and Casey

WHAT IS COMING OUT NOW

Gary Sick, *Frontline* April 16, 1991:

"When the hostages were released just thirty minutes after Ronald Reagan became president, the timing seemed peculiar. A lot of people suspected right then that some kind of a deal had been done."

Gary Sick, *New York Times*, April 15, 1991:

"Later, as it became known that arms started to flow to Iran via Israel only a few days after the inauguration, suspicions deepened that a secret arms-for-hostages deal had been concluded.... In the course of hundreds of interviews, in the U.S., Europe and the Middle East, I have been told repeatedly that individuals associated with the Reagan-Bush campaign of 1980 met secretly with Iranian officials to delay the release of the American hostages until after the Presidential election. For this favor, Iran was rewarded with a substantial supply of arms from Israel."

Hodding Carter, *Carter White House Press Secretary, Nightline*, April 15, 1991:

"This all sounds extremely wild until you remember there were people connected with the Nixon campaign, in his campaign against Hubert Humphrey, who met with the South Vietnamese in an effort to derail the negotiations for the peace in an effort to prevent that from helping Hubert Humphrey. This is well documented. Nobody denies this."

Bani Sadr, former Iranian president, *Frontline* April 16, 1991:

"If there had not been contacts with the Reagan-Bush group, the hostages would have been let go six months before the U.S. elections."

Gary Sick, *New York Times* April 15, 1991:

"According to Mr. Hashemi, William Casey, who had just become Ronald Reagan's campaign manager, met with him in late February or early March 1980 at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington. Mr. Casey quickly made it clear that he wanted to prevent Jimmy Carter from gaining any political advantage from the hostage crisis.... In a Madrid Hotel in late July 1980, an important Iranian cleric, Mahdi Karubi, who is now the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, allegedly met with Mr. Casey and a U.S. intelligence officer who was operating outside authority. The same group met again several weeks later. Mr. Hashemi told me that Mr. Karubi agreed in the second Madrid meeting to cooperate with the Reagan campaign about the timing of any hostage release. In return, he was promised that the Reagan Administration, once in office, would return Iran's frozen assets and help them acquire badly needed military equipment and spare parts....

"At about the time of the second meeting in Madrid, according to two former Israeli intelligence officers I interviewed, individuals associated with the Reagan campaign made contact with senior Government officials in Israel, which agreed to act as the channel for arms deliveries to Iran that Mr. Casey had promised.

"From Oct. 15 to Oct. 20, events came to a head in a series of meetings in several hotels in Paris, involving members of the Reagan-Bush campaign and high-level Iranian and Israeli representatives.... At least five of the sources who say they were in Paris in connection with these meetings insist that George Bush was present for at least one meeting....

"Immediately after the Paris meetings, things began to happen. On Oct. 21, Iran publicly shifted its position in the negotiations with the Carter Administration, disclaiming any further interest in receiving military equipment. From my position at the



U.S. helicopters crashed in failed rescue attempt, 1980

N.S.C., I learned that Cyrus Hashemi and another Iranian arms dealer secretly had reported to State Department officials that Iran had decided to hold the hostages until after the elections.

"Between Oct. 21 and Oct. 23, Israel sent a planeload of F-4 fighter aircraft tires to Iran in contravention of the U.S. boycott and without informing Washington.... On Oct. 22, the hostages were suddenly dispersed to different locations. And a series of delaying tactics in late October by the Iranian Parliament stymied all attempts by the Carter Administration to act on the hostage question until only hours before Election Day... The hostages were released on Jan. 21, 1981, minutes after Ronald Reagan was sworn in as President. Almost immediately thereafter, according to Israeli and American former officials, arms began to flow to Iran in substantial quantities. A former senior official in the Israeli Ministry of Defense told me that the shipments by air and sea involved hundreds of millions of dollars worth of equipment...."



Richard Allen

The 1980 plot is being discussed in public. But not ten years of coverup by the Democrats, the Tower Commission, the congressional Irangate hearings, the Walsh investigation and, above all, the media.

The Reader (April 26, 1991), a Chicago alternative paper quotes Robert Parry, researcher for PBS TV documentary show, *Frontline*:

"...conventional wisdom shapes the parameters of what people in Washington can talk about. [The hostage story] was an issue that was really uphill until last week. It was not suitable for polite conversation. You couldn't mention it without derision. I guess it changed because of Gary Sick and the *New York Times*—when they took the issue seriously that does change the conventional wisdom in Washington. And obviously *Frontline* is a respected program. What happens next, I don't know. But it now can be discussed over the dinner table."

Nightline, April 15, 1991

Richard Allen, while defending the 1980 Reagan campaign team, pointed out that the Democrats in the Carter White House were conducting their own secret arms-for-hostages deals with Iran during the 1980 election. Allen read on-the-air from a book by Carter's National Security Advisor Brzezinski: "By the middle of October we were even discussing among ourselves [in the White House] the possibility of prepositioning some of those spare parts in Germany, Algeria or Pakistan so the Iranians could then promptly pick them up with their own aircraft."

Allen's point: people who live in glass houses should not help unravel coverups.

The Gang in Blue vs. The Revolution

The videotaped beating of Rodney King demonstrated to millions of people around the world that the Los Angeles Police Department is in the forefront of police brutality attacks against the oppressed people. Less well known but no less real is the fact that the LAPD is also in the forefront of political repression against those who sharply challenge the status quo. Under the leadership of Chief Daryl F. Gates, the LAPD has been especially virulent in its attacks on members, supporters and followers of the Revolutionary Communist Party. Here are just a few examples of the repressive campaign the LAPD has waged against the revolutionary people associated with the RCP in the past twelve years.

• Damián García, a member of the RCP, was murdered by police agents in an East L.A. housing project on April 22, 1980. An undercover LAPD officer was standing within five feet of him at the time. The cop was assigned to an LAPD political intelligence agency, formerly known as the Public Disorder Intelligence Division (PDID) and now called the Anti-Terrorist Division (ATD). The undercover cop later admitted that the LAPD had assigned him to "target" Damián García. Damián was considered by the LAPD to be the "director of recruitment of Latin people into the revolution."

One month before his murder, Damián scaled the walls of the Alamo in San Antonio with two others, took down the Texas flag and replaced it with the red flag of revolution. Two weeks before his death, he

received death threats from uniformed LAPD officers. A couple of months after the killing, the LAPD held a press conference to announce that Damián's murderer was a man who had been killed in a fight in East L.A. Apparently the man was well known to the LAPD, since he was identified to the County Coroner by an LAPD Hollenbeck Division detective who "personally knows" the deceased, according to the Coroner's report. The man suspected of killing Damián's alleged murderer was never brought to trial—despite eyewitness accounts that he had started the fight.

• Two years later, in an effort to stop courtroom probes into PDID's operations against Damián García and the RCP, LAPD Chief Daryl Gates wrote a letter to a judge asking for the dismissal of charges against people arrested at two RCP-inspired demonstrations. Gates wrote, "I am concerned about the ability of the Los Angeles Police Department's Public Disorder Intelligence Division to fulfill its responsibilities and maintain the integrity of ongoing criminal investigations in light of the current status of the above-enlisted cases...certain court orders have issued which require the production of information which, in part, could jeopardize the successful completion of ongoing investigations as well as possibly endangering LAPD personnel." The judge dismissed the charges, preventing the defense team from delving further into the LAPD's spy operation against the RCP.

• For several years, the LAPD conducted a secret project to distribute and store com-

puter files on political activists—including people associated with the RCP—through a supposedly "private" organization known as Western Goals. This was an effort to keep political-police spy information secret from possible disclosure through Freedom of Information Act requests and other public measures. Western Goals was originally headed up by a U.S. Congressman from Georgia and later by one of Oliver North's chief covert fundraisers, Carl Channell. The LAPD sergeant in charge of the Western Goals computer files later admitted that, at the time of the murder of Damián García, he had been in charge of an "RCP overview project" for the LAPD.

• LAPD Chief Daryl Gates has, both in public and in sworn testimony, lied about the RCP, tried to justify police attacks on the party and its supporters, and sought to define the party's politics as illegal. In a 1982 L.A. Police Commission meeting where the murder of Damián García was raised, Gates repeated a fabricated "threat" quoted in the *L.A. Times* against the U.S. President falsely attributed to RCP Chairman Bob Avakian. At the time Gates repeated this fabricated "threat," the *L.A. Times* had already retracted the story. But Gates used this phony "threat" in response to questions about possible covert LAPD involvement in Damián's murder, as if it were a justification for such criminal acts by the police. In a deposition taken shortly afterward, Gates admitted that the RCP was a "target" of LAPD covert action "because they advocate the violent overthrow of the government and advocate violence against

the police in particular. According to [an undercover cop], they actively planned to eliminate all police officials in the city. By 'eliminate' I mean they planned to kill all police officials in the city. Plus they openly advocate disorder, disruption." Gates' story about alleged RCP plans directed against police is a total lie and fabrication, and he has never offered a shred of evidence (of which there is none) to back it up. In the same testimony, discussing the LAPD's pretext for conducting secret operations against the RCP, Gates declared that advocating the overthrow of the government is not illegal if done by a lone individual but would be outlawed "if there is an organized, well-planned, well-thought-out effort that has the potential for carrying out the threats." In other words, to Chief Gates, if a political organization that might ultimately succeed advocates revolution, it is illegal.

• In 1987 a lawsuit was filed against the RCP and 27 individuals by officers and high officials of the LAPD claiming to be the victims of a conspiracy to commit assault and battery. The event referred to in this lawsuit was in fact an unprovoked LAPD assault on demonstrators at a City Council meeting. One of the "citizen"-police plaintiffs, Lt. Kramer, had previously been in charge of refurbishing the LAPD political intelligence operation from Public Disorder Intelligence Division to Anti-Terrorist Division. Kramer and the other officers were supposedly acting as "private" citizens while being advised by a lieutenant from the LAPD's Criminal Conspiracy

FBI Hounds Activists in Chicago

A blatant example of political police harassment of activists happened in Chicago on Monday, April 8. Teams of FBI agents paid visits to at least 14 political activists at their jobs and homes. Some agents went around to the activists' neighbors and attempted to snoop around. Several of the activists are teachers, and the agents went right into the classes they were holding. One woman said that the agents refused to leave and so she was forced to leave her class.

The FBI gave a phony excuse that they were reopening an investigation into cases of some people involved in the FALN and the Puerto Rican independence movement. The agents showed photos of "fugitives" to those they questioned. But clearly this was a political-police operation to intimidate progressive activists.

In a press statement, the activists said: "We are in many different organizations or no organizations at all. We are people who were demonstrating day after day against the Gulf War; who have been out in front of abortion clinics to insure women access to reproductive rights; who have consistently fought to expose the racist U.S. prison system or who have worked to stop police abuse or who have supported the Puerto Rican struggle for independence. Among us are students, teachers, lawyers, health workers, and social workers. We view this intrusion of the FBI into our lives as a deliberate attempt to intimidate us from our political pursuits. Because they very publicly intruded into our jobs and our neighborhoods, we further view their actions as attempts to isolate us from our co-workers and neighbors."

The activists said that they all refused to tell the FBI anything. They also said, "As far as we know, all our neighbors and co-workers viewed the FBI accurately, as intimidators up to no good."

Bob Wells, one of the activists, was visited by the FBI at his office. He said that "if they had wanted to actually find something, they have ways of doing it" and that "this is not one of them." In other words, it was just plain harassment. "When they say they are conducting an investigation," Wells said, "I take that with a grain of salt." □



Maurice and Lenie Richmond.

CHA Evicts Fighters for the People

In a cold-blooded move, the Chicago Housing Authority evicted Sylvester (Maurice) and Lenie Richmond and their three children from their apartment on April 17. Their crime? Lenie and Maurice are activists with Fight the Power. They are leaders in the fight against the CHA lockdowns of the high-rise projects. They have organized against the widespread searches of the apartments and the arrests of many people for living "illegally" with family and friends. They have spoken out widely in the media, at political events and in the housing project against the lockdowns. The eviction of the Richmonds was an openly political move by the powers aimed at silencing opposition to the lockdowns.

As the Cook County Sheriffs began moving things out of their home, Maurice and Lenie dropped a banner from their apartment reading "No More Evictions! Stop the Lockdowns!" Maurice tore to shreds a page from the U.S. Constitution to mock the so-called "freedom of speech" and "equality" for Black people. The CHA tried to intimidate angry tenants who gathered around by photographing them and threatening them with eviction if they tried to interfere in any way. Supporters of the Richmonds were outside the building. A

member of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade, a member of the Campaign to End the CHA Lockdowns and an RCP supporter were arrested when they attempted to move the Richmonds' belongings back into the building. They were charged with mob action, resisting arrest and criminal trespass.

The eviction of the Richmonds exposes once again the CHA's lie that the lockdowns are aimed at "stopping gangs and drugs." According to the CHA eviction notice, the reason for the eviction was Maurice's participation in a militant political protest against the lockdowns last year on May 1st. Last year the government dropped all criminal charges against Maurice from that protest. But several weeks ago the CHA reinstated the eviction proceedings against the Richmonds based on those same charges. The eviction is part of the moves by the powers to impose *maximum security apartheid* on the Chicago projects, enforce the oppression of Black people and suppress the revolutionary potential of the people who are in an increasingly desperate situation. A day after the Richmonds were evicted, a young Black man who supported the Richmonds was arrested by the guards, and his mother

was threatened with eviction. His "crime" was bringing a stack of anti-lockdown leaflets into the building.

Aaron Freeman, a comedian/political satirist currently starring in a stage production in Chicago, released a statement opposing the eviction. He said: "Sylvester & Lenie Richmond are being evicted because they did not like what the CHA was doing to them. They were opposed to the lockdown in the Prairie Courts housing project at 2822 S. Calumet where they live, they resisted and now because they dared to protest the way they were treated the CHA is going to evict them.... WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE RICHMONDS IS WRONG, MAKES ME ANGRY AND SHOULD MAKE YOU ANGRY TOO."

The Richmonds and their supporters say they will continue the fight. Lenie and Maurice have dared to stand up against the network of spies and snitches set up by the CHA, against warrantless invasions of their home by cops, against attempts to isolate them by denying visits to supporters—and now they are standing up against the eviction. The political repression against the Richmonds is an outrage. Their eviction is wrong, and people can't let it go down like that. □

Red Flags and Barricades for Damián García

Section. The suit was later dropped at least in part as it became clear that the police defense would be committed to exposing all the activities of the LAPD's political intelligence operations, including the murder of Damián García and LAPD connections with Western Goals.

- Staff and patrons of Libros Revolución bookstore in downtown L.A. have been the targets of a political-police campaign of harassment, death threats, car break-ins, physical attacks and surveillance—carried out by uniformed LAPD officers and non-uniformed “private” reactionaries. Some customers have been brutalized and/or harassed by cops after leaving the bookstore. Staff people have been interrogated about their political affiliations. LAPD officers have also blatantly tried to set up staffers on phony drug charges. A complaint against such covert and overt LAPD activity against Libros Revolución has been filed with L.A. Police Commission by the ACLU.

- Major demonstrations influenced by the politics of the RCP—involving revolutionary and progressive people, especially in Latino neighborhoods and involving the Latino masses—have been repeatedly and brutally attacked by the LAPD. Police beatings—using the “swarm technique” made infamous in the Rodney King incident—and hundreds of false arrests have occurred at demonstrations in downtown L.A., Hollywood and the Pico-Union *La Centroamericana* neighborhood. Annual May Day demonstrations for over a decade have been a particular target for LAPD assault.

- For the past year the LAPD has carried out a hidden campaign to suppress RCP-influenced political discussion, debate and expression, especially in neighborhoods locked down behind the LAPD's so-called “anti-drug” barricades. Between May and June last year, at least 60 people were arrested, many of them brutally beaten, for the “crime” of demonstrating against the well-known INS detention center located in the heart of Pico-Union's barricaded zone. Several Latino immigrants were singled out for arrest and brutality—just for being in the vicinity of the demonstrations. They, along with others, are still facing bogus charges. Since then, many others have been arrested and/or beaten for leafletting against the Persian Gulf War, promoting a speaking engagement by RCP national spokesperson Carl Dix, setting up a booktable in a public park, selling *Revolutionary Worker/Obrero Revolucionario* newspapers or using a bullhorn. The LAPD has repeatedly confiscated revolutionary literature and other materials. And they have arrested, beaten and issued death threats against those distributing such literature.

More than 100 arrests have occurred in the last year for distributing political literature, attending demonstrations or simply being in the “wrong” neighborhoods with the “wrong” politics.

- In the recent period, LAPD officers are issuing serious threats against activists—including well-known revolutionaries as well as people arrested at demonstrations or distributing revolutionary literature. A youth was told by a cop, “I should take you to a fucking alley and rip your heart out!” Two LAPD officers pointed loaded guns at the heads of people selling the *Revolutionary Worker/Obrero Revolucionario* in Pico-Union. Known revolutionaries are being singled out for particularly pointed threats.

Lucas Martinez, spokesperson for Libros Revolución bookstore, was openly threatened in the bookstore by a uniformed LAPD cop. The LAPD has also tried to set him up on phony drug charges. LAPD documents recently released to the ACLU, containing many lies and slanders about Lucas, indicate that he may well be another “target” of their political-police operation. Sasha, a well-known woman member of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade, has been openly threatened with execution by gunfire and strangulation (while a cop was choking her). She has been threatened with and marked for possible “death squad” assault by reactionary Salvadorans operating in the U.S. because the LAPD deliberately and falsely listed her birthplace as El Salvador on their arrest reports.

The “gang in blue,” as the LAPD has been appropriately called by the ACLU, must not be allowed to carry out its threats against these revolutionaries. □

Pico-Union barrio, Los Angeles, April 22. Thick clouds of smoke billowed from the burning tires and rose into the sky on Damián García Day. At Wilshire and Alvarado the streets were barricaded. A block south at 7th and Alvarado more tires and garbage cans blocked the street. But this time it was not the police hemming in the people—for a few hours the streets of La Centroamericana, as this barrio is known, became liberated territory as the police hung back.

The Committee to Celebrate May 1st had called for a demonstration at Damián García Park to mark the anniversary of Damián's assassination at the hands of the political police. Comrade Damián, member of the RCP, had been killed in 1980 a few weeks after he had raised the red flag on top of the hated Alamo in Texas. A communiqué issued by the “Members and Supporters of the RCP in La Centroamericana” called Damián “a revolutionary communist who lived and died fighting for the liberation of all humanity.” The communiqué said: “This comrade was assassinated by the powers because he had dared to put the red flag of revolution on top of the Alamo—a big symbol of U.S. domination over Mexico and the people of Mexican descent. Each year, especially as May First approaches, we feel his presence among us—we the proletarians who have nothing to lose but our chains, who burn with passion for liberation, who refuse to be enslaved.”

By 5 p.m. a posse of the RCYB, proletarian immigrant youth, and others were right into the demonstration. Whistles blew. Red streamers marked off corners. Stickers with Damián's image appeared on walls and poles all over the area. Red flags decorated light standards and several banners with Damián's portraits were unfurled. The police had set up a pig station in the park last year as part of Operation MacArthur, an attempt by cops to turn the park into their turf. On that day the police station was drenched with red paint and sections of the fence surrounding it lay on the street.

Lucas Martinez, spokesperson for Libros Revolución, called out the police barricades in Pico-Union. He pointed to the U.S. atrocities in Iraq and said, “Today is the powerful answer of those of us who live in the belly of the beast on behalf of the people of the whole world. This is what May Day is going to be. Long Live Damián García! Long Live the RCP!”

More and more people from the neighborhood showed up and joined in. Hundreds of people were on the corners. A



bright, ten-foot-high portrait of Damián on top of the Alamo floated down from the roof of a building opposite the park. Shouts of “Damián está presente” filled the air. Youth ran to where the action was the hottest. Many were drawn by the firm political stand taken by the RCYB who marched

with a huge flag. Although a number of LAPD cops were massed a block away, they never moved on the demonstration. The day ended without any arrests.

Damián García's revolutionary spirit marked the day. And an exciting call for May First was raised. □

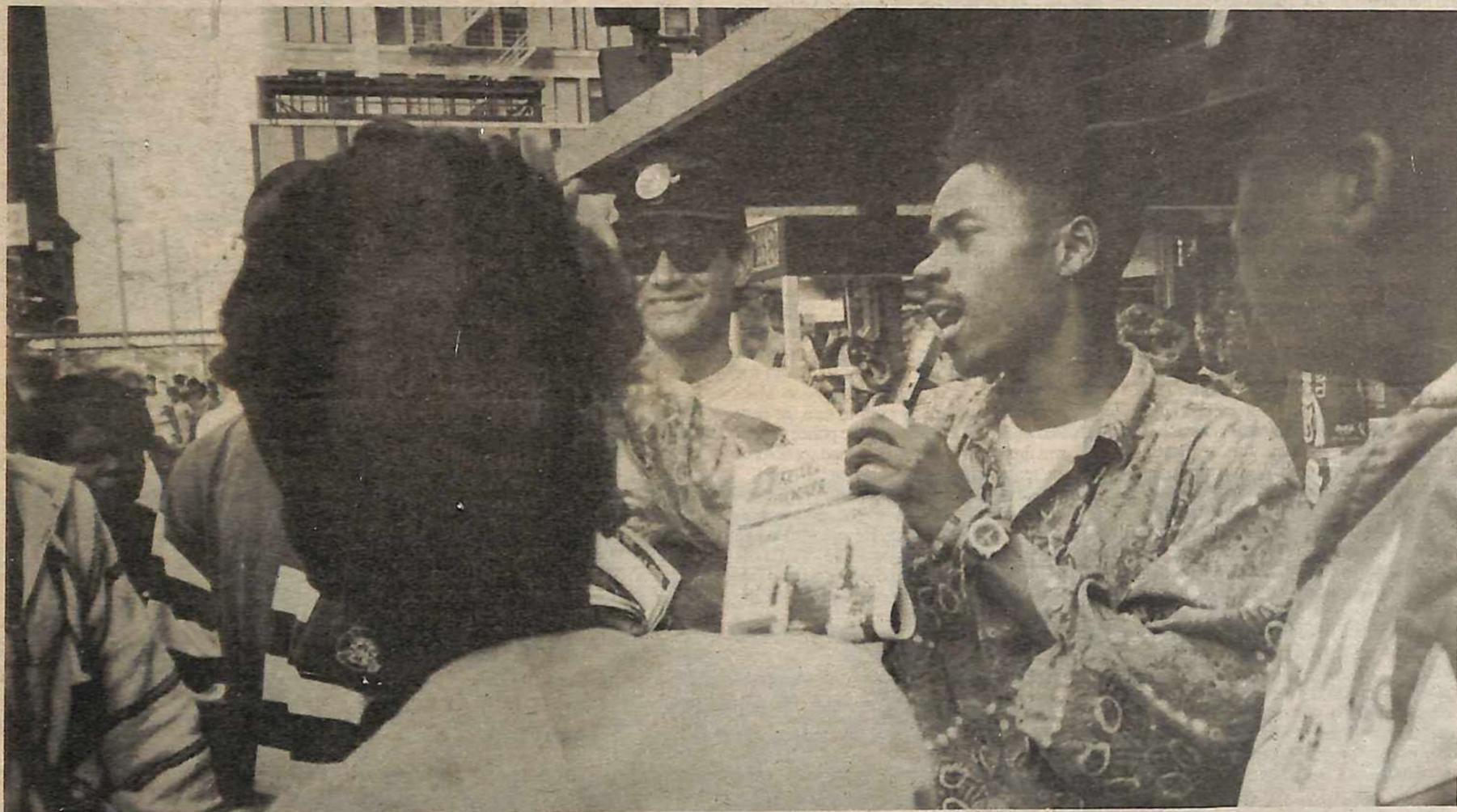


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Volunteers: Be prepared to find a part-time job. Project organizers will help you find a place to crash.

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The *Revolutionary Worker/Obrero Revolucionario*, the weekly newspaper of the Revolutionary Communist Party, is read by thousands around the world. It is known for its controversial Maoist analysis and internationalist stand. It is the only bilingual weekly in the U.S.—with editions in English and Spanish. In 1990-1991 the *RW/OR* sponsored the YO! THE WORLD IS BEING TURNED UPSIDE DOWN REVOLUTIONARY JOURNALISTS TOUR on college campuses across the country.