



REVOLUTIONARY WORKER

Voice of the
Revolutionary Communist
Party, U.S.A.

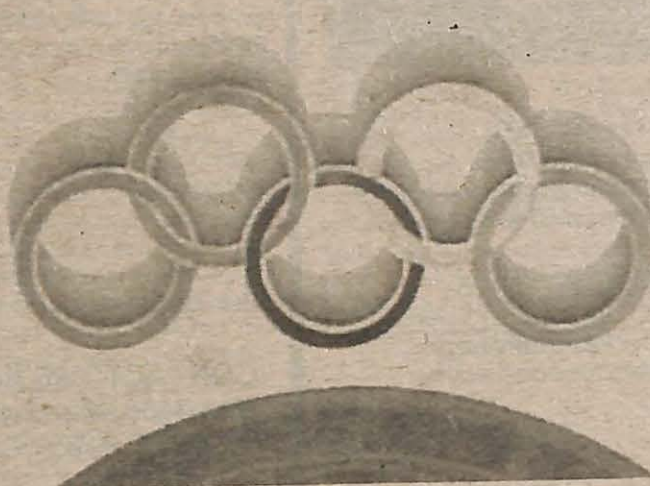
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PERFECT SOLDIERS



America's authorities and official philosophers are unanimous — the 1984 Olympic Games are a smashing success. Congratulatory praise must be properly bestowed on those who merit it. Some have tried to single out the L.A. Olympic Organizing Committee (LAOOC) and its President, Peter Ueberroth, but Ueberroth knows he couldn't have done it alone. "The Organizing Committee is just part of an outpouring of the American spirit," he says. What an understatement! It's not just the Committee but the entire spectacle itself — and it's not merely a part but a *concentration* of America and its spirit that is on display here. Every hackneyed stereotype calculated to bring tears to the eyes of middle-Americans, every reactionary "Father Knows Best" fantasy of the suburban home, family, two-car garages and friendly policemen not seen since the glorious demise of the American '50s has been dredged up to inspire America's go for the gold. Most of all, a vicious outpouring of *USA number one, let's roll over everything in our way* imperialist chauvinism has been befouling the atmosphere like the stink from a rotting corpse. Indeed, we really must thank all

the responsible parties for bringing us the 1984 Olympics and thereby reminding us once again just how putrid America really is.

These Games have thrown up many levels of such awareness. For example, the stylistic gauge of the U.S.'s position in the world — and where it is headed — was demonstrated; the nation that brought us crabgrass, Alligator shirts and paintings of pseudo-children with big eyes has now achieved the level of *overkill* tacky. *Time* magazine captured the spirit in this little vignette: "Mel Carpenter, a Hacienda Heights dentist who brought to the show the 200 white homing pigeons that circled around toward the end, got into the act on a mission of peace. Carpenter thinks the doves mentioned in the bible may have been pigeons instead. 'I feel these pigeons symbolize peace,' he said, 'and for an Olympic event I feel they are important in light of the world's problems.' Carpenter, who lives 30 miles from the Coliseum as the pigeon flies, is a serious pigeon man. He keeps 400, spending \$300 a month on feed. He thinks 'men who have pigeons relax and cope better with business problems and family prob-

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Seneca's Missile America Pageant

Eighty-five women held hands forming a huge circle at the main gate of the Seneca Army Depot. It was Sunday, August 5th, 5:15 p.m. At that hour 39 years ago the U.S. had dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. From the Women's Encampment for Peace and Justice in Romulus, New York, women gathered at the doorstep of this warehouse of death and destruction, the Seneca Army Depot, to mark the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. Vivid accounts of survivors of Hiroshima were read. Overhead an army helicopter patrolled the base, a major storage site of nuclear weapons.

One woman had a paper crane, a symbol of peace, in her hand and explained to everyone that she had made it out of her "banned and barred" letter issued to her by the base the first time she went over the fence. With paper crane in hand she wedged herself underneath the Depot fence. No light matter. Just days before two women were tried and convicted by federal authorities as second offenders and ordered to serve 30 days in jail.

The following morning, Monday, August 6, women were back at the depot. A group of women from Rochester tied thousands of pieces of red yarn onto the Depot fence to symbolize how many times the nuclear arsenal has grown since

the bombing of Hiroshima. As more women arrived a web of yarn was strung clear across the entranceway to the depot. In a mocking exposé of the U.S.'s nuclear weaponry, and other things, Missile America Pageant took place with cardboard facsimiles of the Trident, cruise, Pershing II and MX missiles on view and their destructive powers outlined. The cardboard weapons were then torn up.

Affinity groups of women and individuals started to go over the fence. One group of anarchist women went over chanting furiously, "Angry, angry." Women began to cheer as one of the apprehended women, now handcuffed, got up and simply started walking further into the base undetected until the Depot police went scurrying after her. There were songs like "we are gentle, angry women. . . ." In all, 29 women went over the fence on Monday. Six of them were second offenders and will soon face a federal trial.

A handful of die-hard patriots showed up, like one woman who clenched the American flag in one hand and started to yank down the yarn web with the other. No sooner did she snap strands of yarn than they were quickly retied and back up again.

The Women's Peace Encampment reopened for a second summer of activities on the weekend of July 14. For the opening a group of about 15 women successfully walked from Seneca Falls to the Encampment, a walk, readers may recall, which was brought to a halt last year in Waterloo by local GI-Joe types with 54 women being arrested. On Hiroshima Day women paid tribute to Barbara Deming, a 76-year-old feminist peace activist, who died of cancer on August 1. Barbara Deming was among the 54 women who were arrested in Waterloo last year.

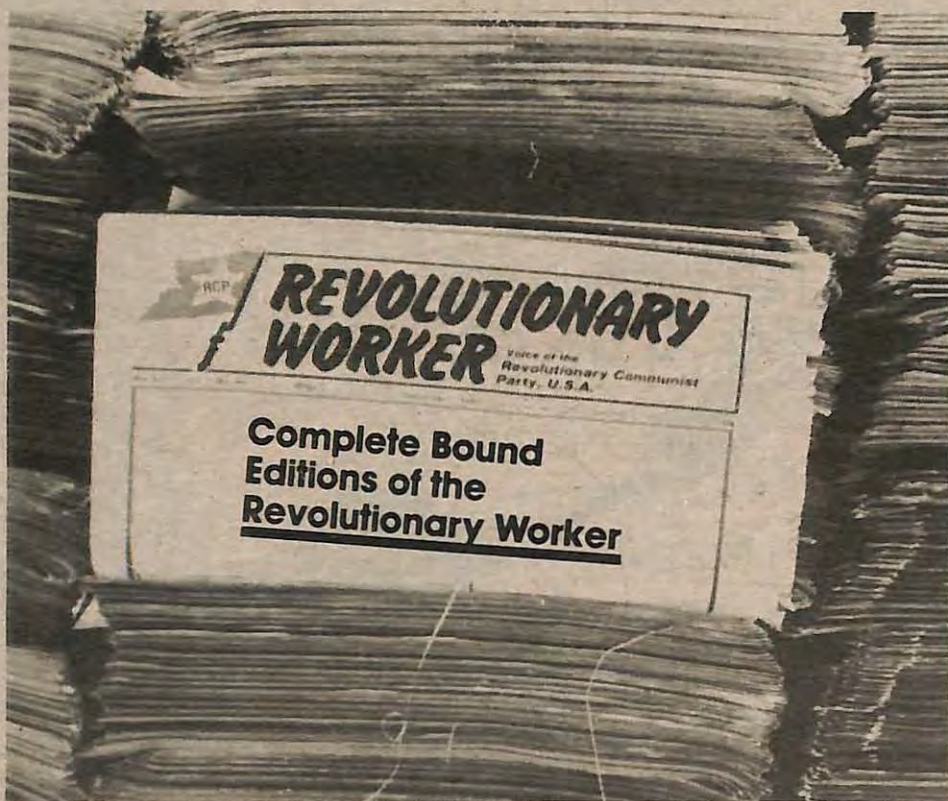
Monday, July 16, was a "day of focus" marking the 39th anniversary of

the first atomic test. A number of affinity groups went over the Depot fence. One group dedicated their action to the Plowshares activists who were being sentenced on that day. As one woman went over the fence she stopped to read the statement describing the women as "an all-woman, multinational peace and justice, air, land and sea mobile liberation force. . . ."

One-hundred to one-hundred-fifty have been at the Encampment on weekends since it opened, with women coming from the upstate New York region, the northeast and midwest and as far away as Texas and New Mexico. Women have come from Canada, France, Argentina, Great Britain and West Germany. A group of women from West Germany presented a slide show about a peace encampment in Hunsruck, West Germany. Two new peace groups have formed in neighboring towns since the Encampment opened last year.

A classic surround-and-suppress campaign has been mounted by the authorities against the Encampment since last year, of course, and this summer the campaign is, if anything, more pronounced. There are insistent calls to turn the Encampment into a center of polite, relaxed, and loyal opposition, some of it coming from high levels indeed. For instance, just prior to the Encampment opening, local officials were holding back on giving the Encampment a permit for camping on the grounds. The Encampment was ready to open anyway, using nearby camping facilities if necessary. But the State Health Department stepped in, providing their own toilets, and then making sure that the permit was issued. According to one local official this was done at the direct request of Governor Cuomo. As far as the local scene, officials and the press have run out that the

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The Imperialists Study Nuclear Winter A Matter Of Survival



"It was the consensus of our group that...we could not exclude the possibility that the scattered survivors simply would not be able to rebuild their populations, that would over a period of decades or even centuries, fade away. In other words, we could not exclude the possibility of a full-scale nuclear war entraining the extinction of *homo sapiens*."

These words of biologist Paul Ehrlich are confirmed by the many scientists who have recently publicized the "nuclear winter." This is a discovery that a nuclear exchange would hurl so much soot and dust into the atmosphere, through blast and by setting fires, that nearly all sunlight would be blocked out long enough to wipe out a significant portion of all life on earth, possibly including, as Ehrlich says, people.

Is the U.S. government listening to these reports? Will they react? You bet your life they will. . . . The imperialists will react just as you would expect from a gang of ruthless killers with all their turf at stake. This was clear from the first reports on a new, \$50 million federal plan to study the effects of nuclear war on climate, a study which includes a dozen federal agencies and groups, will last five years, and will be reviewed by the government's official scientific elite institution, the National Academy of Sciences.

But to get the full impact of some of the U.S. imperialist concerns in this area, one needs to take at least a quick look at the astounding discovery of the nuclear winter (though we cannot here discuss many of the important issues raised by the discovery). Wide publicity of the nuclear winter was first gained at an international conference last fall, initiated by a group of scientists who had written a paper on the subject: they were Richard P. Turco, Dr. Owen B. Toon, Dr. Thomas Ackerman, Dr. James B. Pollack,

and Carl Sagan. Their paper is commonly called the TTAPS study, using the authors' last-name initials. At least eight other studies have been launched, including two in the Soviet Union, and all have basically confirmed the nuclear winter effect.

The TTAPS study looks at the devastation of nuclear war *after* the so-called "prompt" effects of blast, fire, local radiation sickness and other unchecked diseases — a World Health Organization study showed that an all-out war would immediately destroy more than half the earth's population, over two billion people. But again, what follows *after* this, TTAPS showed, would be even worse. In the case of a war in which 5,000 megatons of nuclear weapons were exploded by all sides, which is much less than half of what the imperialist arsenals can now unleash, 200 million tons of soot, ash, dust and smoke would be thrown high into the atmosphere (some scientists estimate much more). This black cloud would absorb almost all sunlight, while on the surface, as Sagan says, "an unbroken and deadly gloom would persist for weeks." Except for narrow strips of coast, temperatures would quickly drop to minus 13° F, and stay below freezing for months. No plants can photosynthesize in these conditions — in the northern hemisphere all crops and farm animals would be destroyed, and most human survivors would starve.

After the dust finally sifted or rained out of the air, light reaching the surface would be extremely dangerous. Because nuclear weapons partly destroy a layer of ozone in the atmosphere, a flux of ultraviolet light would bombard the planet, with the effect of severely damaging human resistance to disease.

Neither would the cold and dark envelop only the Northern Hemisphere. Carried by global air currents, the dark

clouds would drift across the Equator and into the Southern Hemisphere as well; countries in the south would experience drastic effects of nuclear winter, *even if no targets were struck south of the equator*. The Southern Hemisphere is also set up for destruction by the relations forced on these countries by imperialism. For example, although surplus grain is stored all over the U.S., on a world scale there is not enough food to last even one year without a harvest; destroy one world harvest and food will run out. What's more, only a handful of countries export grains — most of the rest are not self-sufficient in basic foods — and it is these exporters, the imperialist countries, which will be most completely devastated.

Destruction wreaked by all this is not even limited to a simple sum of these different effects, but is caused by an interaction that vastly multiplies the havoc. Sagan gives the example that people will be much more vulnerable to disease because of ionizing radiation from fallout and post-nuclear ultraviolet exposures. And just when the war survivors become more vulnerable to disease, medical services have practically disappeared and disease-carrying insects will have multiplied wildly because they resist radiation effects and because their predators are gone. Bacteria and other virulent micro-organisms will also spread rapidly because they, too, resist radiation, and are breeding in hundreds of millions of corpses, especially as the thaw begins.

The Worry

Now after a period of officially downplaying the nuclear winter (and a history of ignoring the whole line of inquiry), the federal government is stepping into the fray. Some hint of its reasons can be found in an August 5 article in the

N.Y. Times. Writes the Times author,

"Even a modest pall of soot, smoke, and dust, for instance, might hamper the operation of radar satellites, and airborne command posts meant to be used by the President and military for directing the course of a war and for negotiating a halt to hostilities."

While hundreds of millions are dying of sickness and starvation in the darkness below, these imperialists are worried that, flying above the clouds in their command craft, they wouldn't be able to see what they've destroyed in order to give the orders to destroy still more! These are plans for cold-blooded mass murder of the highest order!

Nor is this just a passing point in the article. An official of the Defense Nuclear Agency says "There're a lot of military implications. And frankly, there's been a lot of high-level military interest in our program."

A whole section of the piece then goes on to describe various effects of a nuclear winter on military hardware, such as the following:

"... 'infrared, visible, and ultraviolet obscuration' (may lead to) decreased sensitivity of various sensors in planes and satellites."

"For example, those in the military would be unable to monitor troop movements or see their targets... nuclear warheads reentering the atmosphere might have 'lowered survivability and/or accuracy due to suspended particulates.' In addition, the report said, 'air-breathing vehicles' such as the military's various airborne command posts and cruise missiles might have 'lowered survivability due to dust-induced turbine flame-out.'"

Never accuse the imperialists of unconcern about survival. It's just that to them the "survivability" of cruise missiles is more precious than that of *homo sapiens*.

The Times article also coolly draws out some strategic questions prompted by nuclear winter. Since the climate catastrophe is more easily triggered by a widespread and simultaneous set of nuclear strikes, might the military not consider smaller, more scattered strikes over a longer period of time? Also there is the issue of the threshold for nuclear winter, the minimum-scale nuclear strike at which nuclear winter would be produced: the TTAPS study estimates this at around 100 megatons. The Times quotes one government official as suggesting that "an attacker might be tempted to strike first, right up to the threshold of nuclear winter, knowing that the prospect of going over the threshold would inhibit the response." Ah, so many factors for a truly war-ready military to consider!

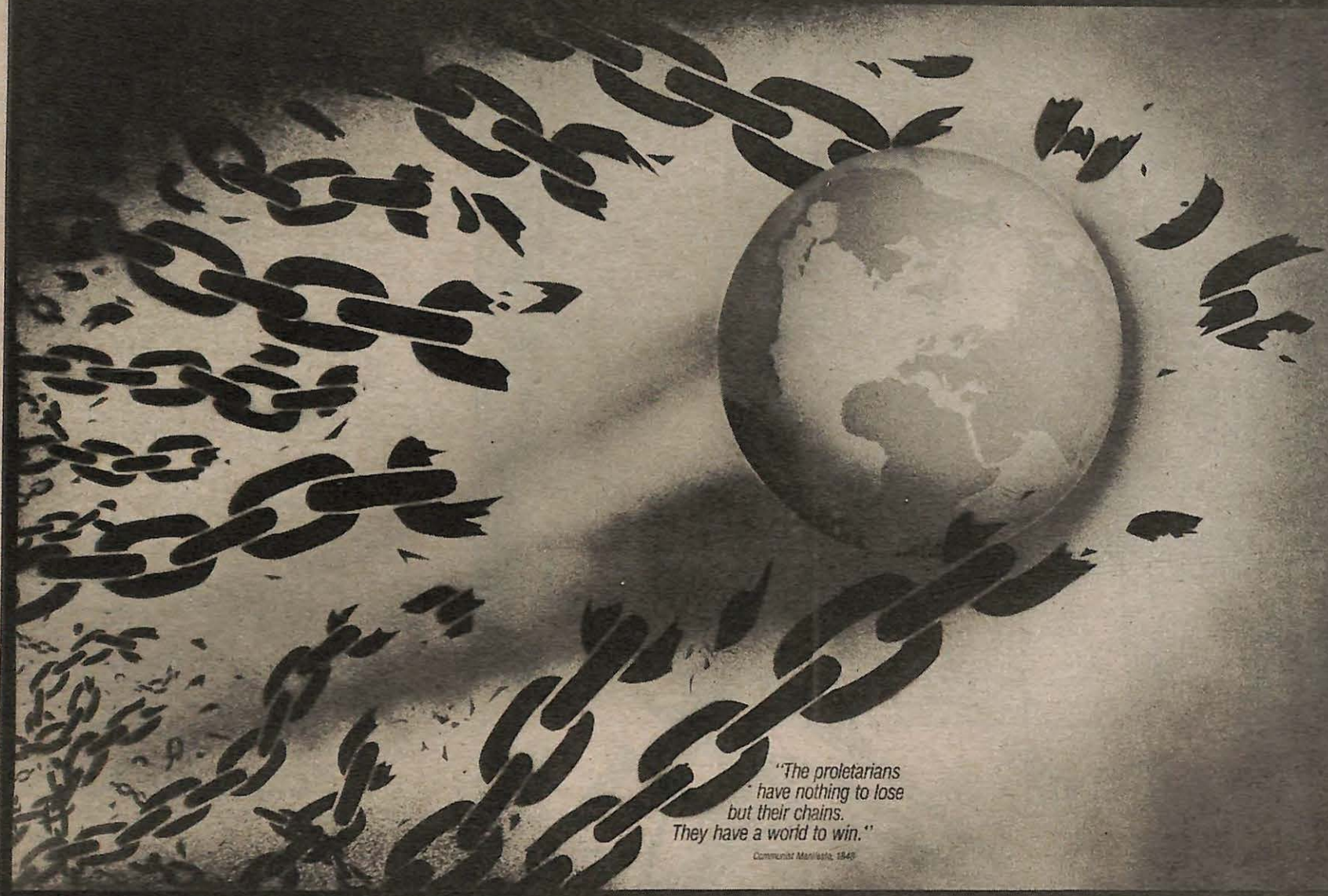
Political Aims, Too

Naturally, there are political, as well as military, reasons, for the launching of a major government study now. The scientists around the TTAPS study, and others, have had the initiative and the authority on this issue, and have put it out in a general framework of striving to prevent nuclear war. Many of the scientists are at the same time taken with the illusion that imperialist leaders can be convinced finally of the horror of nuclear weapons through this issue, or that such a majority of people will be so outraged that the imperialists will be forced to "listen to reason." Still, it seems clear that the government wants to elbow the TTAPS scientists and others off center stage, and place itself as the main authority, as the last word, and also as the clearinghouse for all further technical information (we're sure the military is concerned about this aspect).

What this last word will be of course remains to be seen, depending on what form of propaganda the government feels will most effectively win over the public and assuage its own disturbed scientific personnel. It's worth noting in this connection that historically the government has understated nearly every aspect of the effects of nuclear weapons. The yield of the first thermonuclear bomb test, for example, was underestimated and the effects of wind not calculated, and as a result the residents of Rongelap Island were nuked, producing

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*"The proletarians
have nothing to lose
but their chains.
They have a world to win."*

Communist Manifesto, 1848

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- **Full support for the launching of a worldwide fund drive called for by the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement by pledging and gathering funds.**

The Republican National Convention is being hosted by the city of Dallas this month, and the city fathers are preparing Dallas for its big moment in a manner appropriate to its status as an "all-American city." Downtown streets are being resurfaced; thousands of junked cars are being hauled off city roads; inspection for fleets of taxi cabs has been moved up from the fall to early August; trees and flowers are being planted around the Convention site to offset the sterility of central Dallas's steel and glass landscapes. It is, as the *Dallas Morning News* put it, a "well-financed public relations drive to try to polish Dallas's image as an efficient, modern, growing, businesslike community."

Dallas's image is a strutting one—high-tech, high-profile, high-power. This is after all the city that boasts as home of the Dallas Cowboys, "America's team" in football, the city whose bourgeois intrigue and decadence has been serialized and beamed around the world. This is the city where developers point to a construction site when asked for a "characteristically Dallas" locale; an enormous financial and insurance center, and home to one of the largest concentrations of military related spending in the country. It is, all in all, a quite fitting site for the Convention to conduct the benediction of Ronald Reagan's upbeat, apocalyptic candidacy. Nonetheless, civic leaders are concerned about the picture of Dallas the world will get to see, as a recent announcement indicates. Coming on the heels of a month of flagwaving at the Democratic Convention and the Olympics, the Republican Convention is charged with continuing the battle for god and country in a manner fit to further arouse the most reactionary and loyal social base of U.S. imperialism as this system lurches toward World War 3, and they will do their damndest to see that the yahoos are not disappointed. Plans are already underway for cowboys with American, Texas and Confederate flags to drive 150 head of cattle through the Trinity River flood plain near downtown Dallas every day during the Convention.

And for the past year and a half, other "all-American" events have occurred in Dallas, events which bring home what U.S. imperialism means for people all over the world and which illustrate well Ronald Reagan's statement that "Dallas is an especially appropriate city to host our party's convention, because the spirit of this city is... dedicated to America's traditional values of looking forward to the challenges of the future." Because for the past year and a half, a virtual state of war and occupation has been unleashed by the Dallas Police Department (DPD) against the Black people of Dallas's south and east sides. In a grim and brutal application of the bourgeoisie's repressive state machinery, 29 people were shot, 16 of them fatally, by the swine on the DPD last year. Most of the people targeted by these killers were Black. Thus far in 1984, 16 people have been shot by Dallas police, and eight of those have been killed.

In the past few weeks, some forces have brought complaints of these killings to the Dallas City Council, and have demanded investigations into police activity more thorough than the queries allowed by existing laws. On July 18, Dallas deputy mayor Jim Hart gave his response to the criticism in a public session of the city council. "If I were on that force and anyone produced any kind of weapon in my appearance, they'd have an immediate ticket to the undertakers, and that's exactly what I want the chief of police to do. Because as you well know, if you don't hang somebody on the courthouse steps and leave him there where they can be seen for two or three days, you're not going to get the attention of these kind of people." The following week, when he was asked for an apology from people who went to the next public council session, Hart refused and added that, in addition to his being an advocate of lynching, "I am a strong convicted person that if someone is caught stealing, they should have a finger cut off, because these kinds of things can get some attention." When a Black man (who the week before had had the microphone he was using cut off by the mayor) once again asked for an apology, another council member screamed at him "You'll rot in hell before you get it."

Dallas is as thoroughly and openly a racist and segregated city as one could ex-

pect to find this side of Johannesburg. Many of the changes and face-lifts that took place in the superstructures of many major American cities in the wake of the '60s upheavals — changes designed to help provide a buffer against the most oppressed sections of the masses — for the most part occurred in Dallas belatedly, and in an even more constricted fashion than elsewhere. For instance, there were no Black-faces-in-high-places in the city government until well into the '70s, and there has yet to be a Chicano-face-in-a-high-place here. But there are more than a few people in Dallas whose main concern seems to be making up for this delay by demonstrating their ability to channel the growing anger of the masses at the police killings. Many among the masses think of Dallas as "exceptional," and think that the police in Dallas function in a way that wouldn't be tolerated elsewhere. And while this is not the case, it is true that few of the police or others in authority have ever felt compelled to speak in anything other than the most blatantly racist terms. For instance, a Dallas paper, referring to the November 1983 shooting murder of a Black man in South Dallas by a pig known even to the other killers on the DPD as "Mad Dog," said of the dead man, Michael Frost, that "many police officers, who have trouble seeing Frost as a victim, talk about what a low-life they believe he was — a dope dealer with a violent streak." The paper also consistently referred to Frost as "fleabag," a name they say the police gave him "because he had fleas." This type of crude, naked racism has been belched forth in sickening volumes following virtually each of the killings, at least those that have been deemed worthy of media coverage. An inevitable accompaniment to this shrill chorus has been the time-worn and transparent claim of the pork that they are being attacked by drunken maniacs with guns, knives or cars, before they, as a last resort, of course, blow away their attackers.

For the past 18 months, a deadly dynamic has been operative in Dallas; a systematic reign of terror and coverups that have received little or no publicity elsewhere, even in other Texas cities. Many youth throughout the South Dallas and South Oak Cliff ghettos told the *RW* of the anger that has been barely contained and barely containable at different points of this onslaught; and that now is one of these points. Another youth expressed these sentiments: "Blacks have been beaten down so long around here, so that maybe their spirit was a little bit broken. But there's a new breed now. People have been coming here from other places, and there's a new breed growing up right on these streets, too. What I mean is, we don't believe that just because this shit has gone down before, it's got to go down now."

And even now, in the wake of the latest revelations about police beatings and murder, as two Black city council members seek once more to channel this seething outrage into supporting yet another call for yet another method to "oversee complaints of police misconduct," the *Dallas Morning News* threatened that now is not the time for "pushing the issue when Dallas wants to put on its best face for the Republican National Convention." The gist of this is unmistakable, and deadly — the killings will continue, the job of the Black firemen in the city council is to explain them away.

When William Gregory Smith was shot and killed by Dallas Police on June 21, 1983, his death was the culmination of a particularly bloody and sustained onslaught by the DPD that had resulted in their shooting 11 people, 9 of them fatally, in a ten-week period. It should be pointed out here, however, that not all the blood that flowed during that period was the result of pigs shooting people. On May 3, 1983, a cop named R.D. Baker was shot and killed. Immediately howls of dismay were heard from the leaders of responsible citizenry, and DPD chief Prince vowed revenge. As he gave the "Rookie of the Year" award (an engraved .44 Magnum) the following day, Prince said, "There are some very sorry, very bad people out there, and most people don't want to deal with them." Implicit was the threat that Prince and the rest of the gunslingers on the DPD were not afflicted with any of this alleged hesitancy. And to accompany their



The Murdering Marauders of Dallas

subsequent maraudings, a lynchmob atmosphere was orchestrated.

While police hauled in numerous "suspects" and subjected them to days in jail as well as repeated lineups and interrogations, a \$10,000 reward was immediately put up. The *News* chimed in with its contribution, saying, "It is for good reason that the killing of a policeman is considered one of the most serious crimes, punishable by death," and calling for the public to "insist on swift and sure punishment for those who would attack the protectors." In the following weeks, the death toll mounted in a grim tally, as the local media kept a running count of what they came to call, with scarcely disguised approval, the "record year for Dallas police shootings." The finale to this particular sequence of executions came on July 16, 1983. Hundreds of riot-equipped Dallas cops swarmed through the downtown area, as police helicopters buzzed overhead, and a huge number of pigs trying to look human roamed through the crowds that lined the streets roaring its opposition to this ugly spectacle. In the midst of the helmeted, flak-

jacketed cops were some of their white-sheeted brethren — the Ku Klux Klan was expressing its support for the DPD's method of lynching.

Police spokesmen were at pains to point out that more of the same could be expected. All the killings were condoned by either the internal review board of the DPD, or the Dallas County Grand Jury, or both. A police study released at that time claimed that there had been no "rhyme or reason," i.e., no consistent pattern to the shootings. What these cops expect people to swallow is amazing. Almost all the shootings are of Black people, and most of the rest are Chicano or Mexican people, almost all occur in South Dallas or South Oak Cliff, and there is supposed to be nothing systematic to it? It would seem that W.R. Patterson of the Internal Affairs Division perhaps let the cat out of the bag a bit when he said "I never in my wildest imagination could have predicted this many shootings so soon." Now what could he have meant by "so soon?" Did he think that heavy-duty assaults were supposed to step up as

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The Struggle in Papua Island on the Firing Line

The island of New Guinea recently starred in the Western press, as cameramen flocked for colorful "photo opportunities" of Pope John Paul blessing painted warriors and bare-breasted tribeswomen in Papua New Guinea, while a native choir sang, "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." It was all very picturesque. But neither the news, nor still less the Pope, had anything to say about the massive campaign of terror going on at that very time against Papuan people in the other state on the island of New Guinea, carried out by the Indonesian army and backed up by the U.S. and Australia.

This spring, thousands of villagers and rebels crossed the border into Papua New Guinea to escape Indonesian massacres on the western half of the island, which Indonesia calls Irian Jaya and claims as its province, and which independence fighters call West Papua. (It is also known in the West as West Irian.) Papuan defectors from the Indonesian army were also crossing the border, bringing their weapons.

This new crisis stems from a recent upsurge in rebel activity in the Indonesian West Papua part of the island, following the reunification of OPM (Free Papua Movement). This nationalist independence movement maintains a guerrilla army and government operating in the West Papuan countryside. On February 13 an uprising in the West Papuan capital city of Jayapura was launched by about 150 Papuan soldiers in the Indonesian army, including a major. They broke into army barracks, seized large quantities of guns and ammo, and carried out a series of hit-and-run attacks on troops in and around Jayapura, joined by growing numbers of Papuan deserters. The capital was totally blacked out as power and telecommunications were destroyed, according to OPM. The West Papuan flag was raised over the parliament building and the Indonesian flag hauled down. The rebels dispersed into the countryside and Indonesian troops began sweeping through, attacking guerrillas and villagers alike.

In March, Indonesian aircraft and army battalions crossed into Papua New Guinea (PNG) in pursuit of the refugees so blatantly that the PNG government, which has acceded to the territorial invasions for years, was forced to protest and expelled the Indonesian military attaché. Still, the real brunt of the PNG government's attacks was on the refugees, not the Indonesians. Immediately after the PNG foreign minister returned from a meeting in Jakarta in March, 73 refugees were arrested and publicly tried for illegal entry. Outrage was so widespread in PNG that the resulting jail sentences were suspended. But then, in late May, PNG agreed to repatriate all refugees back to West Papua.

Even this groveling was apparently not enough for the PNG's long-time imperialist sponsor, Australia, which finances the PNG government to the tune of \$300 million a year. Australian policy documents were "leaked" to an Australian newspaper, the *National Times*, this spring. One called for increased Australian pressure on PNG to "suppress the activities" of OPM in the border region; the other announced that in the future Australian aid to PNG would be tied to specific projects and "supervised." Australia hopes to use the present crisis of the PNG government to force it into an even more direct military dependency on ANZUS (Australia, New Zealand, and U.S. treaty organization).

Indeed, New Guinea is a striking exam-

ple of how the global dynamic of imperialism and its strategic military needs draw the whole world, even the most backward regions, into its vortex.

New Guinea is one of the last unexplored areas of the world. Its cordillera, a central mountain range, and its highland valleys are formidably inaccessible. Numerous tribes, the Dani people of the central highlands, for example, have had contact with the West for only 50 years. Eighty-five percent of the island's six million people live by subsistence farming in the countryside.

The island was originally carved by various imperialists into Dutch New Guinea in the west, and British New Guinea and German New Guinea in the east. It served as a buffer between different regional colonial spheres, but aside from this function was considered a wasteland and very little economic or social penetration occurred for generations. Australia seized German New Guinea in World War I, and after World War 2, had their conquest formalized with a UN-mandated "trusteeship" over all eastern New Guinea, now called Papua New Guinea.

When MacArthur entered New Guinea after World War 2, he brought with him a geological team to check out the value of the region. Soon rich deposits of nickel, cobalt, copper, and chromite were discovered; oil in West Papua was found to be almost pure distillate and became the highest flowing well in Indonesian history. West Papua became a prize and a source of contention.

Indonesia came into being after the war as independence fighters wrested from the Dutch all of its former Dutch East Indies colony except for Dutch New Guinea. The Papuans in Dutch New Guinea were also fighting the Dutch but came into contradictions of various sorts with the emerging independent state of Indonesia, and held out for a separate independence against both the Dutch, who continued to rule, and the Indonesian state which also coveted the prize. The situation came to a head in 1960 when war threatened to break out between Indonesia and the Netherlands; Indonesia was at this time moving to annex the colony outright, while the Dutch had turned around and supported a separate Papuan state in the hopes that they could maintain Dutch influence there.

It was above all the U.S. which engineered the Indonesian takeover of West Papua. In 1962 Kennedy personally intervened, warning the Dutch in a secret letter to back off from their support for Papuan independence, because, he said,

"only the communists could benefit from such a conflict." Kennedy's aim was not only to replace the Dutch as powerbroker in the region, but more, to woo the Indonesian bourgeois forces. Kennedy sent his brother Robert to Jakarta twice to work through the negotiations. Ultimately, the Indonesian takeover was engineered by the U.S., working through the UN which mandated a six-year interim period leading to a "decision" which the West Papuans were to make, it was said, as an "act of free choice."

The reality of this "act of free choice" was not long in making itself brutally plain to the West Papuan people. In 1963, right at the beginning of the so-called interim period, Indonesia landed 15,000 troops on the island, which immediately went to work to ensure that the "choice" would be the right one. In those six years, according to the governor of West Papua then, 30,000 Papuans were killed by the Indonesian troops, especially in response to a rebellion in Manokwari where a "Free Papua State" was declared and the first armed OPM units were launched.

After the 1965 Generals' Coup, which brought the reactionary Suharto to power in Indonesia, massacres in West Papua became more bloody and indiscriminate, and resistance intensified as well. In 1969, the "act of free choice" came off as scheduled, and looked like this: about 1,000 Papuan "representatives" were brought to Jayapura by Indonesian troops and "voted" unanimously to join Indonesia in a proceeding observed by the Australian ambassador, a UN team and Richard Nixon himself. As one of the Papuan representatives described, an Indonesian general met with the Papuans, and, with a laugh, told them that they did have an alternative to annexation by Indonesia — "we could write to the Americans. They had already set foot on the moon and perhaps they would be good enough to find a place for us there."

Under Suharto, Indonesia received massive international credits from the U.S. bloc and economic exploitation of West Papua took off. Tanks were still rolling in the streets as Freeport Sulphur Co. began its mining operation at Mt. Erstberg, the largest base metal outcrop in the world, with a three-year tax holiday and a free hand in the entire area. Land and livelihood of tribespeople were destroyed in many formerly isolated highlands. Timber companies use Indonesian troops to force tribespeople into labor gangs to cut timber in the rain forest for weeks at a time, for which they might,

if lucky, receive \$15. Famine and disease have for the first time become epidemic.

Meanwhile, exports from West Papua, chiefly oil and gas, and copper, are earning Indonesia \$350 million a year. The main investors are from the U.S., Japan, and South Africa.

A major feature of all this development is that the native Papuan people have been economically shoved to the wall. For example, between '73 and '78, the percentage of oil workers who were Papuan fell from 80% to 20%, on Indonesian instructions. Most Papuans have been pushed out of the cities, especially Jayapura and surrounding areas, by settlers from Indonesia. Estimates of the number of these Indonesian migrants vary from 300,000 to 1 million. Many are families of troops, sponsored, housed, and given land by the government in order to secure the urban areas and border region against the OPM. Others are poor families from overcrowded Java or other minority regions, whom the government encourages to migrate to relieve the pressures (and hence potential rebellion) on Java, and to further isolate and dispossess the Papuans. Ultimately, as Indonesian officials have announced, they plan to resettle 9 million.

Today in West Papua, even the word "Papuan" is illegal. It seems Indonesia aims at nothing less than to destroy the Papuans as a people. The number of Papuans who have died from executions, bombings, and famine since Indonesia's takeover range from 100,000 to 150,000 — perhaps 5-10% of the West Papuan population.

One sharp example of the brutality, and resistance, is in the Mt. Erstberg mine area. In 1977 guerrillas in this region attacked the police station and sabotaged an airstrip; they then blew up part of the mine and cut the ore pipeline, causing \$10 million in damages. According to the progressive newsletter *Tapol*, fully a quarter of the local tribespeople participated in this struggle. In a quick response, government troops completely razed three villages. U.S.-supplied OV-10 Bronco aircraft dropped "Daisy Cutter" antipersonnel bombs, which scatter shrapnel at body height. The death toll: 3,000.

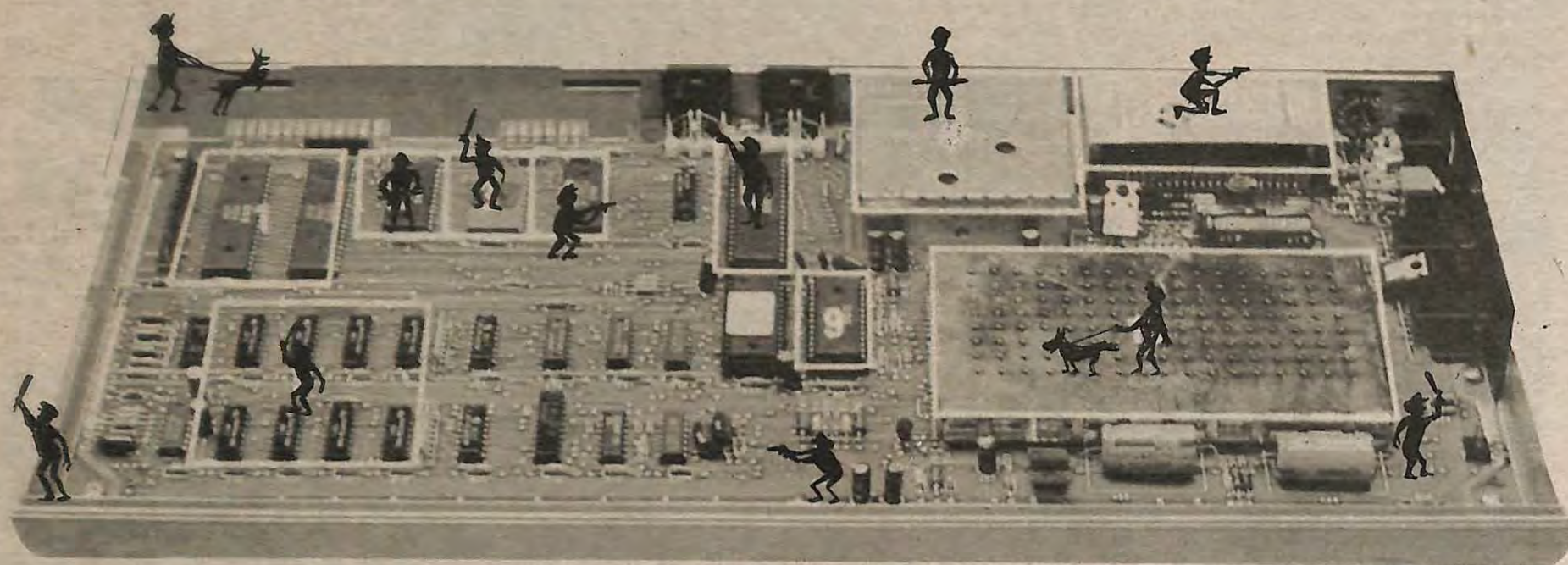
By late May 1982, OPM reported that 13,000 people had died in the central highlands from napalm and chemical weapons in indiscriminate air bombing.

The U.S. can hardly claim ignorance or innocence of this mass murder. Not only is the Suharto regime a loyal child of U.S.

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DANGER IN THE VALLEY



A week ago, INS agents burst into California Circuit Assembly, a small printed circuit board manufacturing plant in Silicon Valley. They were armed with a list of 46 "possible illegals," prepared with the aid of the firm's owner. They sealed exits, apprehended 20 people on their list, and then, as those arrested were handcuffed and grouped on one side of the plant, the agent in charge read from a prepared statement, which was translated into Spanish so it could be understood by the workers not arrested.

He announced that this was "Operation Cooperation," a "pilot program" for Silicon Valley. He made it clear that the INS was quite determined to succeed, that all "illegals" were going to be forced out of the plant one way or another, and he alluded to the fact that he and his colleagues were being closely monitored by higher-ups. He stressed that the INS, which had staged a raid at California Circuit just a month before, would return a third time if need be.

The "pilot program" was engaged with great brutality... many of the workers arrested at California Circuit were secretly whisked hundreds of miles away to El Centro, near the California-Mexican border, as the INS refused to tell their families where they were being held. Only a "pilot program"... in which El Centro functionaries screamed threats and orders at the incarcerated workers, demanding they sign "voluntary deportation" forms, demanding they give "real addresses," demanding they "tell the truth" about whether they were from El Salvador.

In the Silicon Valley electronics plants, California Circuit Assembly has served as a special focus of a major offensive, a lever into the INS "pilot program." In the course of the last month, the INS has launched the beginnings of an effort to purge Silicon Valley of all undocumented immigrant workers. The launching of a concerted effort to tear out a whole section of the workforce of the electronics industry in the Valley stands out not only for the vicious clampdown it has imposed on immigrants, but also because it starkly reveals the system's need to prepare the electronic heartland for world war. This campaign, which has already sent shockwaves through many sections of the masses in the area, is a product of the same necessities of empire which have forced the U.S. to come up with the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill, and it is closely linked to that bill in a number of ways.

The same slimey spirit of cooperation between the INS and employers, exemplified by Operation Cooperation and typical of the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill, was also displayed in an earlier raid at the beginning of July. That time, INS agents played an almost invisible role. The floor lady at that time, an ever-loyal overseer, took the lead. She called workers out of the production area, one by one, at five-minute intervals, sending them to the boss' office for what they thought was a problem concerning their pay. Initially unsuspecting, 12 people walked right into the waiting arms of the INS. Who knows how many would have been apprehended had not some other workers spotted the

agents, and spread the alarm. The 12 nabbed were interrogated, cuffed, and taken to jail. Most were deported the next day.

The offensive in the plants has been reinforced by raids ranging throughout the San Jose area, raids which have amounted to a kind of open season on immigrants. A gang of agents swooped into the massive San Jose Flea Market, which draws thousands of people on summer weekends, and chased "possible illegals" through crowds of shoppers; another INS crew hit a large dance hall in East San Jose on a weekend night; private homes, including of "legal" immigrants, have been raided and those living there carted off to detention centers. In the last few months, hundreds of people have been caught in the INS net in the area, and many sent back to grueling poverty in Mexico or to death squads in El Salvador.

As the furious INS assault in Silicon Valley has unfolded, and the accompanying publicity that has tried to justify it all with the chauvinist refrain of "U.S. jobs for U.S. workers" has been spread all over, there has been widespread controversy and opposition among diverse class forces in the San Jose area. The basic response of the authorities to this controversy has been to make clear that what is going on in Silicon Valley is no accident or local aberration. After the last California Circuit raid, the *San Jose Mercury* said, "Policies emanating out of Washington and the (INS) district office in Los Angeles have put a top priority on raids in search of undocumented workers, particularly in Silicon Valley firms."

A *San Jose Mercury* article in early June highlighted the developing "cooperation" in Silicon Valley, specifically predicted raids at California Circuit Assembly, and made the goal of the raids crystal clear: the article was headlined "Area Firm Joins INS To Purge Illegals." Every indication is that the aim of Operation Cooperation is precisely to forge the INS's ability to literally *purge* the Valley's electronics plants of a whole strata of potentially "un-American" and politically volatile immigrants. Beyond that, Operation Cooperation is a pilot program for the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill: it has required setting in motion at the local level some of the apparatus of repression that will be geared up fully nationally with the passage of the Bill.

Operation Cooperation hinges on a new, higher level of collaboration between the INS and firms in Silicon Valley. Employers who are involved first turn over names and green-card numbers of their immigrant employees for a computer check. Workers are then identified as either "legal" or "illegal." The employer is told the number of replacements he will need, and is given time to find them to minimize disruption to precious production. For those hiring new workers, the INS has prepared and circulated a list of questions for employers to ask prospective immigrant workers, and a toll-free phone number has been distributed so that work-permit or green-card numbers can be immediately checked when new immigrants are hired. That is, if immigrants are hired. At

California Circuit the replacements for those driven out have not been immigrants, a sharp change from past practice. Immigrants have been flatly shouldered out of the plant for good. To throw salt on the wounds (and also in contrast to past INS practice) immigrants who have been caught in the California Circuit raids and who have then bailed themselves out of detention centers have been denied temporary work permits.

Six months ago no official source would even admit the existence of a strata of undocumented immigrants working in Silicon Valley. Today the INS is gearing up for a vicious and highly-publicized effort aimed to drive them all out of the industry. The U.S. is feverishly preparing for a war which may not be very far off; the U.S. chances of victory hinge heavily on its vaunted "high-tech edge" in areas ranging from spy satellites to AWACS planes to cruise missile guidance systems to command and control of nuclear forces overall. With Silicon Valley already the scene of one spy scandal after another, and with counterintelligence agents of every kind crawling all over the place, the people in charge of such matters have apparently decided that they cannot tolerate in Silicon Valley a strata of workers that are not only not particularly taken with the U.S. No. 1 idiot ideology but who are also "un-counted and unaccountable" and for whom the "proper authorities" do not even know real names and addresses. And if it poses potential dangers to the authorities to take the course of purging this strata from the Valley, the decision has been made that this is a risk worth taking for the imperialists.

Purging Silicon Valley of immigrants, in an area in which the labor of undocumented workers has been a growing and integral part of the economy, is bound to be a massive and potentially disruptive process, politically and economically. To "purge" the Valley and keep it purged will require efforts like the California Circuit raids multiplied many times over, but it will also require methods of terror and control beyond the present capability of the INS — in a word, the government needs Simpson-Mazzoli to really do the job.

It is therefore a measure of the urgency of the times that the government has not waited for the new repressive bill to at least begin to act on its military security "problem" posed by immigrants in the electronics plants. There is no time to waste and they have clearly plunged ahead. At the same time, the "pilot project" in the Valley will help forge the basis for implementing the bill once it does pass.

Silicon Valley poses the imperialists' immigrant "problem" in an acute way. For domestic and international reasons, the flow of foreign-born into this part of California cannot be simply shut off. Instead, the imperialists aim to "purge" the sensitive war-related plants of Silicon Valley, and overall in the region, to identify, control, and terrorize immigrant workers. Of course, there is a special security problem in the Valley, and this has made for some particularly extreme measures. Still, the INS "pilot program"

in this area can be seen as a forerunner of Simpson-Mazzoli, even though the bourgeoisie will not everywhere move to "purge" plants as they are doing here. The heart of the matter is the clamp-down, combined with measures to minimize business disruptions.

The ruling class knew in advance that launching such a campaign in the Silicon Valley area was bound to create political opposition; so part of their efforts has been the familiar propaganda campaign pitting "illegals" against "legitimate American workers." They set out, in other words, to polarize things in a way favorable to their ends.

An example of this has been the furor in the San Jose city government surrounding John Senko, the agent in charge of the San Jose INS office. Senko was a former border guard and an 18-year veteran of the INS, and he charged into San Jose with hobnailed boots. Along with launching Operation Cooperation he went on local TV and said things like, "If a person has dark hair, dark eyes, and brown skin he is a possible illegal," and that that criteria alone was enough to justify suspicion — and action. All of this evoked loud protest even from some in the city government. The mayor of San Jose called for Senko's removal from his job and even the San Jose chief of police announced that he wouldn't allow his men to cooperate with the INS agents. Some on the City Council even drew public comparison with Nazi Germany and with the internment of the Japanese in the U.S. in World War 2.

At first, the INS professed to be somewhat surprised by the intensity of this kind of opposition. However they responded not by firing Senko, but by backing him to the hilt by adding staff to the San Jose office and by reaffirming the necessity of their assault and the crucial chauvinist dividing line: "Criticism of the INS enforcement tactics in San Jose doesn't change the fact that we have a job to do. These jobs are jobs that belong to U.S. citizens. They don't belong to illegal aliens, who don't have the right to work here."

After Senko publicly offered that he was "derelict in establishing strong ties to the community," most of his critics in the city government were quite willing to go along with his stay in office. Apparently, to some, sending immigrants to their death in El Salvador is fine, if you offer a mild apology for disrupting the lives of a few "legitimate Americans" in the course of carrying out your bloody business.

Among the masses things have fallen out differently, and not as the INS had hoped when it set out to polarize things around "Americans First and U.S. No. 1." This is not to say that the INS has not succeeded at all. For example, some electronics technicians, "techs" as they are called in the plants, who opposed the raids in the Valley when they first started months ago, have been won to the position that "illegals" should not be allowed to work in the Valley. The INS also claims to have met with some success in its campaign to solicit information and recruit snitches from among the backward workers in the Valley. And in

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The following account was sent to the RW from the staff of Red Flag magazine: On the heels of the wild protests outside the Democratic prewar convention in San Francisco, youth in L.A. crashed the Olympic prewar party midway through the Games in the streets of Hollywood on Monday, August 6.

The day before, Sunday the fifth, the sleepy atmosphere at Survival Fest was jarred when the RCYB hung a huge Sam The Olympic Eagle piñata in the back of the crowd. Immigrant youth from Central America joined with punks to trash the piñata, and spent the rest of the day broadly spreading the Brigade's call for the next day's protest.

The RCYB call went: "...You've been getting programmed with the message for a week now, so who needs to hear another week of it. USA number one. USA kicks ass. USA = beauty, truth and beautiful god-given grace and bodies.... Why wait? Join the 1984 Olympic March Off To Die In World War 3 before the Games even come to their patriotic orgasm end."

The next day the punks took the message into the streets of Hollywood. At first the pigs pulled up in Federal Express and UPS trucks, and went after the RCYB agitator. He had called on the youth gathered for the march to "storm heaven" and not let anything stop them from making their statement. And they did. After the pigs succeeded in chasing down the agitator, the youth regrouped and marched off to the Hollywood recruiting station. Picking up forces on the way, 60 of them surrounded the door, and half of them did a die-in in the street.

Heading back to the world famous Mann's (formerly Grauman's) Chinese Theater, the crowd chanted "Join the Army, learn to kill, that's the real Olympic skill," "Glad we won the right to vote, pick which one will cut our throat," and other antiwar slogans. The Brigade banner was unfurled with its "War Fever, the Official Disease of the 1984 Olympics" message. The Yippies had their "Ray Gun's Olympics" sign, along with a punk who made a sign saying "Nuke the Olympics."

This wild looking bunch, including punks with painted mohawks, next hit the plaza in front of Mann's where all the tourist buses let people off to take pictures of the stars in the sidewalk. Today there was an unscheduled surprise of a nuclear countdown and die-in, and leaflets for all. A young Black guy who had taken on the role of scout alerted the march to the approach of the Tac Squad which was trying to sneak up on the march. In the spirit of refusing to quit until the government gave up and cancelled the Olympics, the youth moved down the street and regrouped again as dusk was coming on. After some struggle on how to make the most powerful statement, two American flags were burned, one in the middle of the street.

The pigs busted about a dozen people at this corner, bringing the total arrested to over 20 for the day. But they had been completely unsuccessful in stopping the outpouring of anti-Olympic and antiwar fury right in the middle of image-land itself.

Youth Against The Official Disease of the 1984 Olympics



Soldiers

Continued from page 1.

lems.' His very home, he went on, was bought because pigeons did not defy local zoning laws and because, once he saw the grounds, 'I thought this was the place to pursue pigeon excellence.'" Actually, much more so than his house, America's Olympics turned out to be the place to pursue pigeon excellence.

Ah yes, those opening ceremonies. Not fifteen or thirty but *eighty-four* pianos playing Gershwin at the same time. John Philip Sousa-lovers' wildest dreams were surpassed, with a 76-member trombone section and nearly double that number Olympian trumpets; just imagine the body counts that could be achieved if this group were blowing the cavalry charge. Jet-man — or is it Rocket-man — flies into the L.A. Coliseum and certain Hollywood stars have tears streaming down their cheeks. Observers noted that the

Olympics Opening Ceremonies achieved an emotional depth not seen since John Wayne's heyday — that is, especially in the '41-'45 years.

And what about the official outfitters of the U.S. Olympic Team — Levi-Strauss? Their representative informed us that the athletes' casual wardrobe, provided free of charge by Levis, would consist of only red, white and blue clothing. This is not only for patriotic reasons, mind you, but so that all items would match all others; this way, the athletes "wouldn't have to think about anything other than their performance," but could still make a fashion statement. It is conceivable that these Olympics may have set some *standards that will never be surpassed*.

Determined not to be outdone by the Olympic trend-setters, U.S. law enforcement provided their own embodiment of the American spirit for the Games — a high-tech fascist garrison. Seventy-seven military helicopters joined the already numerous local police models to enable over 100 armed vehicles (the exact number is classified) to fill the friendly skies over L.A.; all that was missing was

Wagnerian music and the smell of napalm in the morning. To offer a more overall view than the helicopters can provide, two blimps manned by officers with infrared sensors also constantly circle the area. A new \$12 million radio communication system, a new \$10 million "intrusion detection system," computerized systems in every police car to enable instant character reference checks of all suspicious types — this is what has been publicly revealed; only the most trusted know what other spy apparatus is in place for the Games...and beyond. And it is all backed up, of course, by troops with M-16s, submachine guns with silencers and so forth. After all, the dream begins with freedom — and the U.S.'s rulers are desperate to be free of all potential opposition from the masses.

And what could more typify the spirit of America than the single-most prominent feature of this celebration of international sport — brutal chauvinism? Every Olympic venue becomes home cave for the biggest collection of troglodytes since the Stone Age. At UCLA's Pauley Pavilion, Ecaterina Szabo is in a nip-and-tuck contest with an American gymnast on the floor exercise; she performs to perfection, and as soon as her score of "10" is flashed on the board, a large sec-

tion of the gathering sports fans starts booing. At the Sports Arena, where boxing is held, the crowd begins booing as soon as any American fighter's foreign opponent is simply *introduced*! If the American draws his opponent's blood, the fans achieve a frenzied nirvana, while Howard Cosell urges the home viewers to join the euphoric bloodfest. For the world's athletes, a warm welcome to the Home of the Brave.

In the "What's in a Name" department, how appropriate that all of this is being televised by the *American Broadcasting Company* — not that the others couldn't do an equally ugly job. Openly and blatantly rooting American athletes on, complaining about the judging on the rare occasions that what is shown is not an American victory, trying to ascribe any medal-winning performance by a non-American athlete to their association with the U.S. (Norway's Greta Waitz loves America and came into her own in the New York Marathon, all good foreign runners learned how to do it at U.S. universities, all good foreign fighters "fight like Americans" or learn from American coaches) — that is, when they can't ignore them entirely. This is especially sharp with those athletes from countries dominated by the U.S. For example, the 800-meter run was billed a grudge match between two British runners, although Joaquim Cruz from Brazil was favored by nearly all running experts; when Cruz won going away, and then carried the Brazilian flag around the track (thereby preventing the announcers from using his attendance at the Universi-



The following item appeared in the August 4 edition of the Los Angeles Herald Examiner

Red, White and Blue Alert

USA! USA! (Shut up! Shut up!)

Because you asked for it, here's the latest from the loosely organized "Ban the Chauvinists Coalition," whose spokesman is a self-avowed supporter of the Revolutionary Communist Party.

Beginning Saturday, announced Travis Morales, 28, the group will issue daily "chauvinist-pollution alerts" — based largely on its monitoring of ABC's coverage of the Olympic Games and of such phenomena as "spontaneous flag-waving on the streets."

Morales said the chauvinist alerts, like Los Angeles' popular "smog alerts," will come in three stages.

But instead of first-, second- and third-stage alerts, Morales said, the coalition will issue red, white and blue alerts.

The mildest stage of chauvinism, he explained, is red — "sickening and offensive to everyone of normal intelligence."

The intermediate stage is white — "nauseating to everyone except people who uncontrollably begin weeping and singing the national anthem when they see the American flag."

A blue alert marks "a level of chauvinism so disgusting that people begin to vomit, except career military officers."

The chauvinist-alert hotline number is 484-2907, which connects you with the Revolution Books store.



Sam the Olympic Eagle piñata in Damián García Park, one of the Chauvinist-Free Zones.



ty of Oregon to turn this into another "American" victory), he was simply ignored. A little racist chauvinism fit in quite nicely as well when a Chinese gymnast performed a particularly stunning routine, veteran war horse Jack Whitaker commented, "Nothing inscrutable about this." And wrestler Randy Lewis, interviewed on ABC after a gold medal win, declared: "I knew it would be a wild match with that Jap."

Many of the visiting athletes and journalists have been up in arms over the disgusting nature of ABC's coverage, and IOC president Juan Samaranch (of "God Bless America" fame) was even forced to lodge a mild protest, before quickly backing off. Some might have thought that the network would try and tone down its most blatant abominations, but ABC's reputation was on the line and the network proved equal to the challenge. One after another, ABC's mouths defended their previous foaming and promised even more of the same. Jim Lampley followed one of his tirades by summing up the network's and the nation's attitude: "If that sounds jingoistic, so be it." And the subsequent high praise that the network has received from *Time*, *Newsweek* and most of the rest of the free press shows that contrary to its ads, ABC is not "uniquely qualified to bring you the world (as America wants it to be seen)"; any of the U.S.'s major media can do it.

America's Olympian chauvinism may seem excessive in its brutality, but it's meant to train millions for the coming brutality — one far beyond all previous achievements. Watching red, white and blue-clad boxers pummel others into submission is like mood music for the day when red, white and blue nukes will be doing the pummeling. Boxing seems to be

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A Police Story

This story is all too familiar.

Scene No. 1, May 1983: a 19-year-old man was confronted by police in the streets for being slightly tipsy and ended up arrested in an argument over showing his identification. A friend reported how later, at the police station, he had maintained his defiance as police beat him into unconsciousness. With utter disdain the swine dumped him in the back of an ambulance without a stretcher and left him sprawled on the floor of a medical clinic. Two days later he died there of injuries.

Scene No. 2, July 1984, the courtroom: At the end of the trial the judge tells the court that "the truth of what happened had been hard, sometimes impossible to determine." The prosecutor, supposedly assigned to expose the criminal conspiracy of police and doctors which allowed this youth to die, actually focused on the testimony of his friends and family, saying that their remarks "led to the origin of the peculiar idea that beating up detained people is a daily occurrence at police stations." The final verdict:

police were released because of "lack of evidence." Doctors were condemned for their "failure to diagnose the youth's critical injuries" and then absolved of culpability under the terms of a year-old amnesty. And finally, the two ambulance drivers (obviously the most minor characters in this whole murder) were pinched for "negligence in exposing a person in their custody to serious injuries." One was sentenced to two and a half years in prison and the other to two years. As the verdicts were read, some 25 spectators, including the dead man's father, left the courtroom one by one, without waiting for the chief judge to finish his statement.

As we said, all too familiar.

What is worth noting, however, is that this story was written up in a prominent article on page three of the *New York Times* (July 17). In an astonishingly compassionate and indignant account, the *Times* paints a picture of the tragedy of his murder and the travesty of the trial. An 80-year-old retired school teacher is

quoted musing about the dead man's poetry, deploring the verdict but saying it was all predictable. The *Times* reports her saying, "Everyone knows what really happened." Not a single quote from one of the killer cops, nor even from their testimony, appears in the article. In fact, the *Times* even goes beyond the personal tragedy here to touch on the possibility of "political motives" behind the police brutality — reminding the reader that the victim was the son of a well-known government critic. As the article closes, an angry contrast is drawn between the white-washing prosecutor and two women who drop by the dead man's grave to drop off a flower each.

Has the *Times* relented? What explains this radical departure from the kind of coverage we all know and hate — the kind that created public opinion in favor of the cold-blooded murder of Black youth in Miami?

The answer is that *this* killing took place in *Poland*. The victim here is not Black, nor an inmate of that prison called

America, but rather is a young Pole named Grzegorz Przemyk. Isn't it remarkable how clearly the *Times* can perceive oppression when it happens in "the other bloc"? How quickly they can detect a lying and murdering cop, or pierce the desperate rhetoric of a supposed prosecutor fighting for an acquittal? How compassionate they become when a tipsy, rebellious youth mouths off to a pig in *Poland*. (They call him "ebullient"!?) Maybe they even like graffiti in *Warsaw*!

Two essential instruments of bourgeois dictatorship have shown their hand here. On the one hand, clearly a pig is a pig — and the cops of East-bloc capitalism reveal themselves (once again) as quite comparable to America's swine. And on the other hand, the prostitutes of the American media reveal themselves as an equally willing servant of imperialism — U.S.-style. Remarkable, isn't it, how a skull-bashing they would ignore or justify when it occurs around the corner becomes a poignant human tragedy when it occurs under *another* boot. □

Soldiers

Continued from page 9

particularly appropriate for this — which along with the fact that the U.S. keeps winning, undoubtedly explains why TV coverage of this sport is proportionately higher than that of any other. But really, any sport will do in a pinch. One might think that a four-foot nine-inch female gymnast would present certain problems for the military metaphor crowd, but one should never underestimate imperialist compulsion; America's Mary Lou Retton was a "tightly wrapped package of explosives," "dynamic and aggressive," with "muscular American brashness," who fixed her Romanian opponent with a "hunter's look." Isn't it wonderful how America appreciates its athletes?

That is, provided they display the proper attitude — "go for it! for yourselves, for your families, for your country," as the Gipper said in his pep talk to America's hopes. One doesn't have to be totally and completely dedicated to the greater good — as was the relay swimmer who said it didn't matter whether he got the anchor-leg in the race because it was all for Team USA, or the gymnasts who refused to complain about their position in the team competition line-up even though it might have hurt their individual scores. In the individual competitions, it's okay to compete for yourself, for the house in the suburbs (or furniture to put in it), or a brand new Porsche; after all, the fans are given their individual incentives, like "when the U.S. wins, you win" a Big Mac. One's self-motivation can even extend to not carrying an American flag around the track in a victory lap, as long as you exude the proper thrill of victory — and allow the TV directors room for exciting camera angles or superimposition shots which locate the athlete's joy and tears right next to Old Glory. However, you have to get the me/us relationship right. U.S. backstroke swimmer Rick Carey had predicted that he would break the world record during the Games, and when he didn't, even though he had won a gold medal, he was so upset that he wouldn't let the hordes chanting U-S-A "embrace him," as they say in sports announcing; he was a picture of dejection on the victory stand, robbing America of its chance to gloat and strut through his victory. He later apologized for such individualistic behavior, saying that his coach had finally convinced him at midnight that winning the gold medal was the most important thing.

The "self, family, country" drama is being played out before a national TV audience to provide basic training — Ideological Indoctrination I — for the tens of millions required to keep America number one. Everything that tugs on the emotional heart strings of the heartland, that "gets you right here" — home, family, neighborhood, "your right to be an individual" — is all being drawn together

and the leading edge through all this is obviously *country*. From beer commercials featuring hardhats who were never before into flagwaving or who sacrificed their vacations so a fellow worker's daughter could compete, to the patriotic tears emanating from athletes on the victory stand, the noble message of unity behind the national interest is being laid on thick and heavy. Today, it's an ideological mobilization for the Olympics, tomorrow it's for something much bigger... and bloodier.

As the case of Rick Carey shows, it is vitally important for the heroes to fulfill their allotted roles in this process. Even Carl Lewis, with his Modified Marine look can run into trouble here. One would think that an athlete who appreciates fine crystal and his million-plus annuity, and also carries the flag on his victory laps, knows all he needs to know on this score. But in the long jump, Lewis stopped jumping at just over 28 feet — good enough to win a gold medal but over a foot and two inches off Bob Beamon's world record. And while Rick Carey's obsession with a world record was a no-no, Lewis was booed for not continuing his quest for the record books. How can this be?

Beamon's record was set at the Mexico City Olympics in 1968 — the scene of a number of record-breaking performances by Black athletes from the U.S. In addition to Beamon's long jump, Lee Evans's 400-meter time also still stands as a world record, while Jim Hines's 100-meters is still the fastest anyone has ever gone in the Olympics — tremendous achievements considering the developments in sports science and technology which have occurred in the 16 years since. But the U.S. has never been able to use these performances to trumpet its "superiority" — indeed, they were products of, and inspired by, the '60s upsurge *against* the U.S. America is desperate to overthrow this legacy of '68 and the vision of Tommie Smith and John Carlos on the victory stand, eyes cast downward and black-gloved fists raised during the Star-Spangled Banner that has come to symbolize and concentrate the struggle of the oppressed in the realm of sports. One form this has taken is the constant denigration of those world and Olympic records, attributing them to the "high altitude" and "thin air" in Mexico City — somehow failing to mention that only the Black athletes from the U.S. seem to have benefited from those conditions. But far better than these blatant cheap shots would be some new world records by someone like Carl Lewis to wipe out the memories — and the inspiration — so critical in the coming period. Thus, the booing of the new Jesse Owens (now there's the right image for the oppressed, especially in prewar times) when he failed to keep jumping for America. Lewis tried to make up for it in his first Olympic interview, stating that he would have jumped again if another competitor had taken the lead — "especially a foreign athlete," he said. But it remains to be seen if such pledges

of allegiance and a rerun of Owens's four gold medals will be enough.

For the Games of the XXIII Olympiad are truly desperate theater for the U.S. bourgeoisie. Never has so much been riding on the proper image emanating from the playing field. In addition to Carey and Lewis, U.S. weightlifter Ken Clark got a massive dose of Olympic fever when he failed to perform up to expectations in the Clean-and-Jerk. ABC's interviewer demanded to know "How could you not be ready for the Olympic Games... after 12 years of training?" and added that he had been talking to Clark's wife about his failure — family, you see, is an incentive for *winning*. And anchorperson Kathleen Sullivan added, "Ken Clark — apparently with the physical ability to win a medal here, but according to weightlifting experts, not the willpower or the correct mental attitude coming into these Olympics."

Pretty serious stuff, eh? But then, America's go for the gold is indeed a serious — one could say, *life and death* — matter. Victory is a necessity, and not just a little win but a big WE'RE NUMBER ONE AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT-type win to boot. The kind of ideological mobilization at hand needs a clear-cut demonstration of America's superiority, its will to win, its determination to roll over everything in its path, its blood and guts — this is the "correct mental attitude" that must be shown by the athletes so that it can be transferred to the populace at large in the near future, when the scene shifts from the playingfield to the battlefield and the other imperialist side will most definitely not be absent. The pressure is ratcheted up to an unprecedented degree. Any hint of failure — as experienced by the hockey team at Sarajevo, for example — can not be tolerated.

But not to worry — ABC will make sure that we don't have a chance to dwell on such scenes. At press time, the U.S. had won 26% of the medals and 36% of the gold medals, but the average TV-watcher would assume that the percentage was closer to 95%. One stark example: soccer, the most popular spectator sport as judged by ticket sales and attendance at the 1984 Olympics, has hardly appeared on television at all. Even the U.S. soccer coach complained, declaring that they ought to put his team on the tube since this was the first time that the U.S. was competitive in the sport. Apparently, just being competitive is not good enough. As ABC news/sports president Roone Arledge said, "It is an experience trying to decide what to put on and what to leave out."

Of course, America's Olympics has been chock-full of victories for the U.S. as the home team has beaten out all comers for the most medals of any nation. Laughably, this gold has often been portrayed as "miracles" and described as "unbelievable" as "we come from behind once again." It's no great surprise. In the first place, following the U.S.'s piss-poor showing at the Munich Olympics in 1972, there has been a

12-year effort to rectify the situation — including a federally-funded sport-by-sport study of the problem, the passage of the Amateur Sports Act putting the U.S. Olympic Committee in charge of all amateur sports in the U.S. (backed up by force of law), the mobilization of the considerable resources at the U.S.'s disposal to provide advanced equipment, biomedical techniques, teams that stay together for four — or eight — years and so forth. In the four-year period of this Olympiad, the USOC has a budget of \$95 million, and this doesn't even include additional funds accrued by the various national sports federations, athletes' endorsement and prize money, etc. The U.S. men's volleyball team raised a half-million dollars from selling a donated poster of Tom Selleck, while U.S. women's gymnastics has been incomparably aided through the million dollar addition of former Romanian gymnastics coach Bela Karolyi. In other words, Olympic sports has been thoroughly "integrated into the free enterprise system," as U.S. officials like to say, and America's go for the gold takes full benefit from the rampant parasitism and massive production base of a great power sitting atop a worldwide system of exploitation and lopsided imperialist development, based on squeezing as much blood as possible from the oppressed of the world. This is where America's great gold-medal triumph comes from.

Obviously, all this still leaves out the fact that U.S.'s main rivals for world, and athletic, dominance aren't even playing. On the rare occasions that the commentators choose to mention this, it is only to speculate that the U.S. would probably have beaten the Soviets (or East Germans or Cubans) in that particular event anyway. Or to note that the Soviets are not letting their people watch this spectacle (a propaganda point which could easily have the reverse effect of that intended). But mainly, you're not supposed to think about the fact that the U.S. is winning all the gold without its chief competitor in the hunt. In fact, you're not supposed to think at all. Like the headless Official Sculpture of the 1984 Olympics, you're supposed to take it all in and mindlessly believe what you're told. Today's perfect sports fans on the way to becoming tomorrow's perfect troops.

Overall, it is a peculiarly American vision of the world being portrayed in these Olympics — one where the U.S. is able to run roughshod over everyone else, where no imperialist rivals are able to compete at the U.S.'s level, where America, in all its putrid glory, is unchallenged and unhindered in its pursuit of total domination.

But that's the way it's "supposed to be," not the way it *is*. No small quantity of mindlessness has been required to accept such a worldview as fact. But then again, it will be all the more required as the U.S. attempts to transfer this "vision" into fact. □

The American Torture Marathon

A typically moralistic fairy tale is told about an evil, greedy man who requests from the gods the power to turn everything he touches into gold. At first he is ecstatic when granted this moneymaking power. But he soon realizes that he can't even enjoy this new wealth because *everything* he touches turns to gold — his wife, his friends, his clothes, and even the food he tries to eat.

The lords and ladies of ABC or the U.S. Olympic Committee would perhaps like us to think of the Olympics as just such a real-life fairy tale... that is, at least the part about everything the U.S. team touches turning into gold. But, quite in keeping with the rest of the Olympics this week, the Women's Marathon demonstrated how America turns things into shit.

For the first time in history the Women's Marathon took place as an Olympic event and anyone watching couldn't but be inspired by the strength and athletic talent of the full field of women who ran the 26-mile, 385-yard race. In particular, the winner, Joan Benoit, ran a tremendous and powerful race, going against conventional wisdom of "race strategy" and taking and keeping the lead after only three miles to win by over 400 meters. Benoit's time of 2 hours, 24 minutes and 52 seconds was the third fastest time ever by a woman (almost breaking her own world record of 2:22:43) — a time that would have won 13 of the 20 men's Olympic marathons. Grete Waitz (from Norway) who came in second (2:26:18), and Rosa Mota (from Portugal) who took third (2:26:57, a Personal Best), also ran very good times, especially considering the humid and smoggy conditions. And as one TV commentator put it, "the race should put to rest any ideas that women are too weak to compete in such events."

But if people felt excited by such a first in women's sports — or if your heart skipped a little faster when Joan Benoit (who won the Olympic qualifying trials only 17 days after arthroscopic knee surgery) crossed the finish line and looked as strong as she had throughout the race — America, U.S.A. was going to make sure such an event was completely ruined with the stench of patriotism and male chauvinism.

First off, the whole coverage hypocritically portrayed the race as a great victory for women and the bourgeois-democratic way of life — as if to say "only in America could this happen for women." Camera's followed Benoit around the track with the big American flag that someone had shoved into her hand as she greeted the crowd. And commentary on Grete Waitz focused on how much she has "captured the hearts of Americans" by winning races like the New York Marathon. Newspapers painted Benoit's victory as a victory for the true "American spirit." One article compared Benoit's white racing cap to the "bonnets" that American pioneer women wore as they fought off "the wilderness, savages and ruffians..." And the *New York Times* started off their article on the race saying, "In feminist circles, the summer of 1984 will be remembered as a time when women were judged fit to run: For Vice-President of the United States and for the gold medal in the Olympic marathon."

The truth is that the women's marathon in the Olympics was only achieved after a decade-long struggle against all kinds of male chauvinism that declared women too weak to run anything longer than 800 meters. And only recently an "international suit" (filed by women runners from 21 countries) against the International and U.S. Olympic Committees, demanding the Olympics include the 5K and 10K races for women, was denied in California court due to "lack of sufficient evidence." (Bowing to the inevitable, the IOC has

just announced they will include the 5K in 1988.)

As if to shove it in your face even more, ABC introduced Katherine Switzer, who did commentary on the race, as "the first woman to run the Boston Marathon" period. They just forgot to mention the fact that Switzer registered and ran in the Boston Marathon in 1972 when it was exclusively a "men only" race — or the fact that when a race official realized a woman was running he physically tried to pull her off the course. Neither did they mention that although Switzer finished the race she was subsequently suspended from the Amateur Athletic Union for breaking the rule that barred women from running in marathons. And for this "historic American first" Switzer was surely instructed to avoid any mention of her present involvement in the continuing legal suit mentioned above. (Benoit, right after the race, did thank all the women runners who made it possible for her to race and added, "I hope we can run the 5,000 and 10,000 next time.")

Even the on-the-scene coverage of Benoit's achievement revealed disdain below the surface. When Benoit took the lead after three miles, commentators openly expressed their disagreement with this "unconventional" move. *Sports Illustrated* reported that commentators had worried about her early move and that "for a while the television picture supported them, showing the lone figure of Benoit in the foreground, her stride not pretty from that angle, her foot placement slightly splayed, with the predatory pack looming in a wall behind." (Undoubtedly, if Joan had lost she would have been criticized for such a rash, "emotional" move.) But when it appeared that she would keep her lead the angle of both comments and TV cameras changed.

Another announcer changed his initial description of Benoit's running style from "rhythmic" to "machine-like" at the end of the race, comparing her to the movement of an oil derrick along the route. Winning coverage must, of course, also have enough lauding of the all-American competitive spirit. So charts were already being made up for press release to illustrate mile by mile the great victory of Benoit over Waitz — even as Joan walked up to Waitz at the end and simply said, "I took a chance. And I lucked out." If there was any of the fraternization that frequently goes on between women runners in such events, it was not shown on TV.

The Torture of Women

Then, at the end of the race, completely maddening and quite appropriate to all the flagwaving, the whole event was turned into the *torture* of women. Gabriela Andersen-Scheiss of Switzerland came into the stadium already suffering from severe dehydration and heat exhaustion. It was obvious, even to an untrained eye, that she needed immediate medical attention. But for over five minutes there seemed to be perverse delight in beaming the image of a woman runner staggering around the track with twisted torso, barely placing one foot in front of the other. As no one came to her aid, Marty Liquori, a race analyst and former champion runner, said: "Her temperature must be so high now, there is a possibility of brain damage. If this was a fight it would have been stopped." One commentator speculated that she might never be able to run well again. Yet the 70-plus thousand fans cheered her on and none of the medics on the field stopped her. And when she collapsed at the finish line and medics finally helped her, she was then taken on a bizarre "lap of honor" around the track in an open electric ambulance as the crowd continued to cheer!

The press coverage of this was quite in tandem with this theme of torture — as if to say, "Well, if you girls want to play

with the big boys, you'll have to pay the price...." Coverage of the marathon itself was almost evenly of Benoit's victory and Andersen's "defeat." The first pictures in *Sports Illustrated's* overall article on the women's marathon were of Gabriela and only four pages later were the pictures of Benoit. The *New York Times* carried four pictures of Andersen in various "stages" of her "profile in courage." Then runners were quoted upholding the decision to not stop Gabriela — much before the doctors who said she should have been treated immediately.

Contradicting the decision of the Olympic officials, a doctor from Canada was quoted, saying her desire to finish should have been ignored because "When you are getting heat stroke, you don't know it." Andersen herself later said in an interview, "I was hurting. I think I had some blackouts. I remember parts of it, and parts of it I don't." And

Benoit later commented, "I can understand her feelings, wanting to complete the run, but at the same time, I think she was risking her health and her life — and nothing is more important than life." Meanwhile, the *New York Times*, still gloating two days later, ran an interview with Andersen (right above the article on Benoit which focused in on her wedding plans!!): "Andersen is on her way to being the transcendent symbol of these Summer Games, the athlete who may be remembered after the gold-medal winners blur together."

From their hypocritical, self-congratulatory claims of "giving" women such athletic opportunities, to their misogynist delight in Andersen's pain — the women's marathon was indeed taken and twisted to serve the U.S. of A. And fittingly, TV coverage was brought to us by Avon — and all the sickening social relations we know and hate. □

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Dallas

Continued from page 5

the Convention nears? If so, it seems the dominant thinking was to get this off to a running start, because throughout '84 the killings have not abated, and the tension felt among the masses continues to be drawn more and more taut.

The principal method by which an official seal of approval has been affixed to these murders has been through a group known as the "Citizens/Police Relations Board (CPRB). This board was set up in 1980 following another spasm of police murders of Black people. Whether or not it was to be created and what powers it was to be given were the subjects of some fairly intense city hall feuding at that time. Police opposed its creation at all, and two council members, while hailing the eventual formation of this board, also argued that it should have a special investigator and subpoena power. Neither of these was granted, and they have been an illusive wisp held up since by every hack who would seek to "perfect" the workings of the DPD and confine opposition to its onslaughts to legal criticism. "If only we could issue subpoenas," the routine goes, "we could really straighten out the department." While many people sincerely determined to end police attacks have been somewhat influenced by what is, at best, this type of wishful reformist thinking, its appeal is running increasingly thinner as the deaths mount.

And no wonder, the function of this board, as is the case with others like it elsewhere, has been to provide what is called a "multiracial" cover to the systematic terror against Black, Chicano, and Mexican people. The response of police spokesman Bob Shaw on August 1st this year, when he was asked if the DPD intends to change anything in its policies, helps illustrate this. After mentioning that of course the first step is internal police department reviews of all use of firearms, Shaw said, "Not only did the grand jury review all the shooting incidents last year, but the police relations board reviewed all these shootings. The board is appointed by the city council, it is multiracial, and they said they were all justified. It makes us think our policy is good." And in fact, it must be granted that the CPRB did go through its routine with a precision worthy of such a prized collection of trained show dogs.

It is chaired by a man named George Dillman who is a professor at Bishop College, a small, mainly Black religious school in Dallas. In December 1983, as the DPD was nearing the end of its "record setting year," Dillman had this to say. "My own impression is that the police department has appeared to be thorough and conscientious." He clearly added that "I am not aware of a single case where it was the collective judgment of the board that the use of deadly force

did not comply with state statutes."

That is a pretty safe statement to make, though. Gunning down the oppressed is a time-honored pursuit in Texas and every other state in the U.S. But as these killings persist, some people have been taking matters into their own hands and struggling to force out some of the truth. An example is the murder of Michael Frost. The pig who killed him, Melvin Cozby, said of Frost, "He vowed he'd never be taken alive. He was going to kill a cop. It's just fortunate for us that he ran into someone who knew how to handle himself." In the report he filed, Cozby claimed that Frost grabbed his gun and the two began to fight. Cozby said he was able to force the gun into Frost's chest and then fired it, but Frost kept fighting despite being shot in the chest with a .38 at point-blank range. Cozby said that he then once more managed to twist his gun at Frost's chest, and shot him again.

Frost's 16-year-old sister Brenda and several other youths told a different story. She said Cozby came up to her brother and began hitting him on the head with his nightstick. Then, "Michael fell into him. That's when he shot him. Michael landed on his chest. Then he kicked him over and shot him again." Several people also pointed out that Cozby had many times threatened Michael Frost. His mother said, "If somebody got shot or murdered or robbed, the police would knock at the door. They'd say, 'Where's Michael at?' Everytime somebody got shot they thought Michael did it." She continued, "He (Cozby) came into the yard when we were living on Grand. He said to Michael, 'They tell me you've been pushing dope. I'll either kill you or see that you're put away.'" Another man said to a Dallas reporter "I was rolling with Michael about two weeks ago. He stopped Michael. He told Michael that the next time he stopped him, he would kill him."

Cozby was routinely and quickly cleared. One young woman told the *RW* of some of the repercussions of this killing, and of the "benefits" of having a Citizens/Police Relations Board. "They've been killing people a long while, you know, but now it's got a little show to it, like maybe something is being done about it. And some kids around here, 16, 17 years old, saw what happened to Michael Frost, so they went in to testify when hearings were held on his death. And what happened? They testified, then they got warrants for perjury when their story conflicted with Cozby's so people are all saying, 'Well, even if you tell the truth, you'll do time,' and that sparked more heat, which is still smoldering."

Another revealing case involves the shooting death of 16-year-old David Manning last November 14th. The *RW* obtained a copy of the DPD's "Offense Incident Report" filed for this shooting. It describes how DPD's Phillips and O'Donnell were called to a South Oak Crest locale because of a "prowler, and then says a "witness" gave "Phillips a description of a prowler who was identified later as complainant Manning. Suspect O'Donnell and witness Phillips stopped complainant Manning in the 900 block of East Claredon Drive to talk to him. Complainant Manning matched the description of the prowler and had a tan or white rag with an object inside his right hand." The report claims that Manning broke and ran during this face-to-face encounter, and that he was able to elude the two cops for several blocks. While they were chasing him both on foot and in a car, a running gun battle supposedly started. It then says that O'Donnell, "in fear of his life and his partner's life," fired and "hit complainant Manning in the back and complainant Manning fell to the ground." It says that Manning, though he was shot square in the back with a .357 and was "lying face down in the street," was approached by these two pigs who told him to "drop the gun and put his hands in front of (him)." The report states that "Manning's gun" (which it claims was found under the tire of a nearby car) "was stolen in an aggravated robbery" the previous day. The "throw-down method" of falsifying and covering over police executions is obviously very much operative in Dallas. David Manning was pronounced dead by a "unknown doctor" at Parkland Hospital.

One man we spoke to said he and a

friend had spent over 30 hours after David Manning's murder investigating the circumstances around the shooting, and had reached conclusions totally at variance with the police reports. He explained that "lots of times you read in the papers, when they shoot somebody, so and so had a knife or a gun and was trying to kill the officer. And usually you don't know the facts to contradict that. But I knew David for 16 months, and it struck a nerve with me when he was shot, in fact, this was what got me involved. Because I know anyone can be challenged, anyone can be pushed to a point where they've got to respond, but with David that point was very high. So I started looking into it." He pointed out that, counter to police claims of an eyewitness who gave an accurate description of a prowler, there is a distance of at least two hundred yards from the spot where this "witness" allegedly was and Manning was. In the darkness of a November night, even seeing anyone, much less recognizing them, is nearly impossible under those conditions. He pointed out that the area where Manning was killed is "totally isolated; warehouses, empty lots, dead ends, alleys" — in short, ideal for the police carrying out their dirty work removed from the eyes of the masses. He said he has interviewed several youths who said they saw two cops carrying a body into the alley where Manning was found. He also pointed out that he investigated the area where Manning's body was supposed to be lying when he was shot, and that only a tiny amount of blood was there, nothing like what there would be from a man lying on the pavement bleeding to death from a gaping .357 wound. He then described sitting in on a session of the CPRB, and learning a little of their functioning. "The coroner comes in and gives his report, they spend about two minutes on each body. Then they spend a little time looking at the report made by the police and say, it looks all right."

As the Convention nears, a desperate scramble is underway to shore-up illusions about the utility of these hearings, or proffer a slightly modified version of the same routine, as if what is needed is another panel to give official sanctification to these deaths. At the same time, tension and anticipation are mounting in the ghettos and barrios sprawling through Dallas, and the deadly assault continues. On July 28th a man named Guadalupe Martinez was killed when he was hit in the head by five shotgun blasts from the swine of the Dallas police department. Police claimed that Martinez, whose pregnant wife and ten-month-old son were in the front seat of the car with him, tried to run over a cop. In the wake of this murder, two city council members have called for a "special master" to ensure that "citizens will be able to file one more complaint against any city of Dallas police officer with the special master if they are not satisfied with the results of the other two." The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) sent a letter to Attorney General William French Smith, as well as the mayor and police chief of Dallas, asking for a special U.S. Dept. of Justice investigation of this killing. The letter read, in part, "Justice demands as

we at LULAC request, that you do all within your power to investigate the actions of the officers involved here." But the DPD higher-ups are well aware of just what the social functions of these investigations are, and the service they perform in aiding the police in the implementation of their systematic brutality and murder. When told of LULAC's request for still another investigatory form, DPD Executive Assistant Chief Harold Warren responded "the more the merrier."

Some people are beginning to conduct other types of investigations into how to respond to these outrages, with completely opposed purposes. When Dallas City Manager Levi Davis met with people in a community center in South Dallas on July 30th, the fierce references to Watts and Miami were so numerous that the chair of the meeting disavowed them, apologized for them, and predictably said they were all the doings of "outsiders." Youths throughout the city are expressing the same sentiments, however. One said to us, "People are studying history, and I don't mean ancient history. We're looking at the fact that they shot forty or fifty people last year, which is what they say, so it's probably more, and not one got punished. Then again, we're looking at what the brothers in Miami did, too." Another young woman said, "These cowboys got that slavemaster mentality. I guess they think, 'well, this is Texas, you're gonna stay oppressed.' But this place could change and be like Miami, or those cities in the '60s. Right now, there's a lot of tension and frustration in the air. Fear is the order of the day. And you know, people who are the victims of that fear will begin to rebel. I'm not saying I know anything about when anything is going to happen, but I do know that this process is brewing, and that the powers that be are trying to crush it. People are finally beginning to feel like not just accepting it anymore. People are on the verge of doing something."

It is clear that as these killings have continued, the murders have been increasingly viewed by both the state and the masses in the context of the Convention. Various anti-Reagan reformists are hoping to parlay this situation into the ludicrous dead-end of a massive voter registration drive. But some among the youth are viewing the Convention as a potential opening to make a statement to the world about life in America. One youth told us, "When I was in school, they always taught us about Washington, D.C., with all its monuments and statues, and how it's the birthplace of democracy. It was one of the biggest shocks of my life when I went there and saw what it's really like. That's what I want to happen here. Everybody thinks they know Dallas from the TV show, and that has nothing to do with this place. I want people to know what's really going on here." □

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1st Nihilist Games Resume

U-Turn Daring Stuns Crowds

Competition in the Nihilist Olympics resumed August 3 with one of the finest U-turn competitions in the annals of nihilist athletics. Commentators ascribed the high quality of the competition to, among other things, rising levels of traffic and smog. Some 50 U-turns, performed at five venues, marked the grinding competition which lasted from 2 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Action got underway outside Gorky's Cafe, a skid-row eatery catering to artists. After a slightly sluggish start, the driver of a U.S. Mail truck pulled out to an early lead with a very smoothly executed U-turn. Judges were particularly impressed by the fact that this particular U-turn was illegal. "I think it's incredibly nihilistic to be illegal," commented one judge. Informed of the achievement during a post-turn interview, the mailman commented, "Just don't use my name."

Of special note was the Russian team performing at the West L.A. venue. Identifiable by the Soviet flag flying from their antenna, the team appeared undaunted by conditions which led to the withdrawals marking certain other athletic competitions in the area. However, they did not score particularly high marks: the Russians still appear to be unable to mount the kind of effort that could challenge the traditional American domination of this sport. It was the outstanding sportsmanship and teamwork, long a trademark of U.S. U-turners, which marked the competition at the Pasadena venue. Explained one high-

scoring Pasadena competitor: "This Pinto, as I was doing the U-turn, this Pinto tried to cut me off and started swearing at me. So, it was really a group effort."

At the fourth venue, the judges — worried about the difficulty of the course and the fact that the locations of this venue had been kept secret — feared there would be no competitors. The judges obviously underestimated the enthusiasm L.A. motorists have for this sport when they find themselves ensnared in Friday afternoon traffic jams. Particularly impressive was the fact that drivers rose to the occasion and performed U-turns despite signs announcing all U-turns and left turns were illegal. Nihilist officials

concluded the signs were probably placed on the course by some prankster. High marks at this location went to a couple from Maryland, driving a white BMW, who appeared to be completely lost.

Particularly noteworthy at the final venue was a performance by a three-woman team in a black Camaro. They executed an excellent stall in the middle of their turn, effectively blocking three lanes of traffic. Winning outstanding marks for his competitive spirit was one entrant who, lacking a car of his own, flagged down a passing taxi and then a passing motorist, convincing them both to perform U-turns. Just as it appeared the competition was winding down, a shiny, late-model Volvo with a sunroof screech-

ed to a stop just past the intersection. Many thought the driver had simply taken too fast an approach to the course, a problem which plagued competitors throughout the day. But the driver then lurched into an impeccable high-speed reverse U-turn. As the Volvo sped off, the gasps of judges and spectators alike mingled with the squeal of burning rubber.

This stunning performance quickly resulted in a nagging controversy that had plagued officials throughout the competition. The Official Nihilist Instruction Packet states "judges will hold up scorecards with numbers from 1 to 10." This rule — in nihilist spirit — was promptly ignored, with judges giving out scores ranking from minus three to twelve. This only intensified charges, so common in such international competition, of favoritism by the judges. But it didn't really matter, since nobody ever totaled the scores anyway. Instead the judges declared that the Volvo had won and retired for the day.

On August 4 the next Nihilist event, the Johanna Went Projectile Vomiting Marathon, was staged. The event, incidentally, is respectfully named in honor of a local performance artist, inspired by her endeavors in the artistic realm. Unfortunately our reporter was unable to attend, having consumed a Big Mac shortly before the competition was scheduled to begin. We were, however, able to speak with the winner — and only participant — in this event. He informed us that following the competition he delivered a moving victory speech, centering on the importance of being No. 1 and the benefits of steroids, and crediting the American way of life for inspiring his prize-winning performance.

Nihilist competition is scheduled to return on August 9 with the "Run and Shoot Competition." Following this come the "Drop Drill Event," the "Lazlo Toth Art Defacing Competition," and the "Decathlon of Housework." □



Island on the Firing Line

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imperialism's conception, but Australia, the U.S.'s junior partner, has been active behind the scenes.

Australian military aircraft have been carrying out mapping and surveillance of the central highlands for Indonesia for years, and there has been evidence of Australian and Indonesian military cooperation in West Papua. Mainly, though, Australia has acted through its neocolony, PNG. (Australia gave up its UN mandate over PNG after Indonesia's annexation of the western half of the island.)

PNG has done its lackey best to keep the border closed to refugees, and to cover up all news out of West Papua. Over the past three years it has shut down a refugee information center, threatened printers against producing a refugee newsletter, denied all press access to the border region, and raided homes of refugees and OPM supporters in the capital. Just this June, when an Australian Broadcasting Corp. reporter taped a one-minute interview with James

Nyaro, OPM president, PNG announced it would deny the reporter a work permit. ABC squelched the interview and criticized its foreign correspondents (though the interview later was screened due to the ensuing outcry).

Why is Australia — and behind it, of course, the U.S. — supporting Indonesian genocide in West Papua?

First, Indonesia is a large and important nation, fifth most populous in the world, and under Suharto, a pro-U.S. bulwark in Southeast Asia. U.S. military aid to Indonesia in the last ten years totals over \$500 million; Australian military aid has risen to \$12 million a year. Squashing rebellion is the main purpose at present for such military aid. There is a real fear that, just as the more publicized struggle in the neighboring island of East Timor helped strengthen resistance in West Papua, the West Papua rebellion might, in turn, further destabilize Indonesia, which encompasses many diverse and oppressed nationalities.

Second, New Guinea is a particularly

strategic part of this region. The island lies directly across from Australia, and has figured prominently in the military planning of that nation. As part of ANZUS, Australia is responsible for controlling the vital straits and passages in the New Guinea/Indonesia area, and conducts naval maneuvers frequently in the region. Oil from the Middle East to Japan, or warships from Pearl Harbor to the Persian Gulf, must pass through here, making the area's stability of critical strategic importance.

Just as backward New Guinea has been caught up in the knot of world-power machinations, so too have the "native" peoples of the interior been drawn into resistance. For all its brutality, the Indonesian military controls only one tenth of the country — the cities. Elsewhere, the army travels by helicopter "for safety." From 1976 to 1978 alone, 3,500 soldiers were killed, and many disappeared in ambushes, often carried out by tribespeople with only bows and arrows or bayonets made from leg bones of a

large native bird called a casowari. Patrols and police posts are attacked with regularity and weapons seized. The OPM's army of 35,000 operates throughout the countryside and controls one quarter of the country — without any supplier of weapons other than the Indonesian army.

A French reporter, observing the mass rebellions against the "act of free choice" wrote, "Primitive tribesmen, supposedly bow and arrow natives, not supposed to know the difference between their country and any other, have shown a marked degree of sophistication."

This is in striking contrast to the arrogant — but much more typical — recent statement of an Indonesian official who praised the tourist attraction potential of the Papuans, "most of whom still live in 'fossilized' state — relics of the Stone Age."

And this from imperialist servants carrying out the most savage acts of war! Just who, we might ask, are the *real* fossilized relics here? □

Missile America

Continued from page 2

Encampment should be ignored — quite a change from last summer.

The effort is, in short, to defuse confrontation at the camp and try and ease it into reformist and electoral channels. Against this background should be viewed an event that seems to be shaping up as the kind of "confrontation" with which the bourgeoisie feels very comfortable indeed: a confrontation with no essential choice at all. State Republican leaders have recently invited Reagan to an August 26 dedication of the Seneca Falls home of suffragette leader Elizabeth Cady Stanton. So naturally up pops the prospect of Gerry Ferraro, who is considering speaking at a "counter-dedication" and "women's equality day" planned by local women's groups for the same day. And so, the Encampment women and local women's and peace groups may very well receive a grotesque invitation — to join up with the vice-presidential candidate who has said that "a strong and ready military establishment is key to a successful foreign policy!"

Meanwhile, even as the defusing efforts proceed apace, attacks have stepped up against women who have acted outside the bounds of loyal opposition. One woman reported that she was strip-searched by a female guard and molested with male guards present. The Depot has also begun to try and force women to submit to fingerprinting (technically, the Depot is not supposed to fingerprint

unless formal charges are lodged). When one woman, from Greenham Common, adamantly refused to be fingerprinted, a guard held her by the neck and only let go of his grip because she continued to scream in protest. The Depot has also let it be known that \$6.9 million is being spent to beef up security at the base.

The woman from Greenham Common, Cassea, 18, and another woman, Luna, 21, were also just tried as second offenders for twice going over the Depot fence. At their trial the women refused to pay any fines and, when asked if as a condition of probation they would agree to stay away from the Depot, the women said only that they would follow their consciences. In less than half an hour the federal magistrate sentenced the two women to 30 days in jail, the first time that women from the Encampment had been given jail sentences for actions at the Depot. The women were led out of the court in shackles. It was all intended to deliver a broader message: Unrepentant women and their opposition to nuclear weapons and war will be dealt with.

However, three days after the pronouncement of sentence, a banner of a new type was hung on the Depot fence on Hiroshima Day. It read "Free All Political Prisoners" with Cassea and Luna's names on it. Of the 29 women who went over the fence, six did so knowing that they would be charged as second offenders. These women have begun a 65-mile peace walk from the Encampment to their upcoming arraignment in Rochester. □

Minneapolis Hiroshima Day



HIROSHIMA DAY IN MINNEAPOLIS was marked by a spirited procession of women around the Sperry-Univac plant to protest the company's production of cruise missile guidance systems. Two giant puppets, in the form of hands with the faces of women of many different nationalities, wound their way around the plant, while a smaller group slipped into the rear loading area, blockading in front of a company truck. More from the crowd then streamed around back, chanting "No More War!". Thirteen altogether were finally arrested.

What does it mean to join the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA?

Article 1

Any proletarian or any other person involved in the revolutionary struggle who accepts the Constitution of the Party, is committed to working actively in a Party organization, to carrying out the Party's decisions and to observing Party discipline and paying Party membership dues, may become a member of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA.

Those who join the Party should be fearless in the face of the enemy and dedicated in the cause of the proletariat. They should expect and be prepared for persecution, imprisonment and murder at the hands of the enemy, and not a soft job, a comfortable position and a career. But beyond that, they must be guided by the largeness of mind characteristic of the proletariat, study energetically and actively apply the science of Marxism-Leninism and be prepared to go against any tide that is opposed to Marxism-Leninism, be vanguard fighters among the masses and be ready to take up any post, fulfill any task that serves the revolution, not only in the particular country but internationally. The Party must be made up of people whose lives are devoted to the revolutionary struggle of the international proletariat and the achievement of its historic mission: worldwide communism.

from the New Constitution

New Programme and New Constitution of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA

Order from: RCP Publications
P.O. Box 3486 Merchandise Mart
Chicago, IL 60654

\$3.00 (include 50c postage)

The following is a report from an RW seller:

I wanted to pass on some discussion held with picketers at the strike against the AP Parts plant in Toledo, Ohio, which made national news after a pitched battle with police at one demonstration at the plant. AP makes "original" parts for cars, and bids for contracts to different companies, mainly GM. According to one striker, it was recently bought by an "investment group," after which layoffs and wage cuts quickly followed. The workers had already taken a pay cut two years ago, but the pay cut the company was proposing this time would have amounted to 35 percent of combined wages and benefits, or about \$5.84 an hour. Not only did AP lay off 200 people, but fired several more. Strikers said that it was common practice for the company, in order to underbid other companies, to bid so low that they couldn't possibly do the work for a profit without cutting production costs, i.e., layoffs and wage cuts.

The workforce of several hundred is mainly white male, many over 50, Korean War and World War 2 vets, and some Vietnam-era vets in their mid-30s. There seemed to be a few Black workers (there's a Black committeeman) and a few Mexicans. Out of 15 or so people manning the gates the morning we were there, one was Black and one Latino.

The strike has been going on for six weeks. Strikers are getting union (UAW) benefits, about \$95 a week. There were 2-3,000 people at their major demonstration, which, in one guy's words, "turned into a riot," with several people arrested. Now there is a court injunction limiting pickets at gates to four at any given time, a planned parade at the plant was denied a permit, and the UAW cancelled the parade. Scabs going in seem mainly white, some Black, a few Latinos. Strikers said at first the scabs came in with "nice cars." They quit, and now scabs are those who've been out of work some time — more desperate. Newspaper coverage in *The Blade*, Toledo's main paper, has largely been unfavorable (the president of the company is on the board of *Blade*). One Black minister has been preaching against Black people scabbing at the plant, in favor of "working class solidarity," etc. The larger rallies have had a lot of workers from surrounding plants mobilized by UAW, along with other strikers.

As to the mood of the strikers, on the one hand, there is a certain amount of demoralization that things don't seem to be going anywhere: "The union doesn't tell us anything." There's a dejection and a certain amount of resignation about the injunction: "it's the law." On the other hand there's also anger, mainly directed at the company, but it did seem linked to some broader questions. It seemed like people felt they'd been pushed to the limit. One guy described the atmosphere in the plant "like working under the Gestapo. You'd go to pee and they'd write you up. You'd get a drink of water and they'd write you up." Another guy called the chief administrator "a Nazi," and had called it to him to his face.

A description of the march that one worker said turned into a "riot" seemed relevant to the mood. He said a couple of thousand people were marching alongside of the plant, "peacefully." A cop inside the gates threw a teargas canister at the march and fighting broke out between marchers and cops. He said, "When you push hard enough, even the meek fight back." He felt that "respect for the authority of the police" had kept things from going further, but also, the teargas canister failed to explode, and if it had he felt that the situation "really would have gotten out of hand." There was a certain amount of anger at the police for this incident (including against the Chief on TV who tried to shift the blame to the rent-a-pigs hired by the company), but still people said "they haven't treated us badly since then."

But the anger definitely seemed related to a vision of where things are headed, in the U.S. in particular.

On the one hand, there was a lot of anti-Reaganism — especially the view that this is a "test case" to facilitate the union-busting efforts of Reagan and

Notes from a Picket Line

Co., and that there is a litany of unfavorable "anti-labor" legislation by Reagan. One guy said he's 56 years old and "you always did better under the Democrats, worse under the Republicans."

On the other hand, there was more. It was almost like these guys had a line of "the capitalists are betraying the national interests." This came out in a number of ways. One guy said it straight up. When we were trying to get into the international dimensions of imperialist crisis and their need for a war to redivide the world, this one guy said "it's all international now. The capitalists don't respect any countries, they don't really have a country." I asked one guy how he thought the strikers would respond to having the American flag shoved in their faces — as with the injunction forcing the miners back to work under Carter. He said, "I'm not into the flag anymore. Haven't been since the end of World War Two. Since then, they've sold parts of this country to just about every other country in the world." He especially brought up Japan — "They own Hawaii," etc. — but was open to struggle over the leading role of the U.S. in the bloc and could see it especially in military terms.

A couple of guys we talked to, one especially, were more advanced. They were pretty skeptical about a lot of things the U.S. is doing in the world. They asked us what we thought of the 007 incident — both said they'd always thought it was a spy mission, and agreed that the U.S. had likely coldly sacrificed those people for propaganda purposes. One guy said he vividly remembered the U.S. invasion of the Dominican Republic. They asked us what we thought of the elections, and if we support any candidates. When we told them our line, one guy said he used to love John Kennedy, had been to a rally supporting him in Toledo and wore a Kennedy hat, etc. But he said "Looking back on it now, I realize he was tarnished, too."

One guy, a Jehovah's Witness, who had read the *RW* before, bought a *Declaration* from us. He said that out of the last Depression the capitalists had

given concessions to the working class "to cool it out and keep it from getting too radical." But now, he said, they didn't have anything to give anymore. He saw, in a way, that world war was the only way the imperialists have out, but he flipped back and forth from some pretty secular anger about it and sympathy for those seriously trying to stop it, to a religious thing that God wouldn't let the world be destroyed. He interpreted the Jehovah's Witness conscientious objector positions towards war as "the capitalists divide working people around the world and say one group should fight another — we can't go along with that."

It was interesting that out of about 15 people picketing, we got to talk to 6, and they were all pretty open to discussing revolution. (There was a little anticommunism, one guy said "I killed Commies in Vietnam and liked it," a couple of other people wouldn't talk to us.) Three people expected some kind of revolution. You'd certainly have to call these bourgeoisified workers; even after the pay cut two years ago they were making \$11.20 an hour not including benefits; some do incentive work and make more. But they're seeing this position eroding, their American dreams going down the tubes, and most of them seem to take some kind of social upheaval, even revolution, as a given. But what kind of revolution they envision, and how they see it coming about, is definitely influenced by their position in society, like the guy who said, "People are getting more and more fed up, losing everything they have, and when they get fed up enough, there'll be a revolution."

There was more advanced understanding — one guy not only saw conditions becoming intolerable, but understood that for Black people and some others; it is *already* intolerable. But still, he said, it's hard to envision a revolution in this country. "There's so many people, and look, there's only three of you out here. How could it happen?" He wasn't just asking rhetorically, he really wanted to know about our strategy for revolution, particularly the relationship

between international developments and the possibility in any one country, including the U.S. When we brought up the revolution in Peru, he wanted to know why the revolution seemed to be succeeding there and not in other countries. He asked about India, and how this affected the possibilities for revolution in the U.S.

Another guy said he thought pure communism was great, but that it seemed like revolutions always produced worse governments than what they overthrew. He brought up China, and asked why they were returning to capitalism. He thought that it was human nature, that power corrupts. When I got into how this present imperialism couldn't continue without much more misery including an unprecedented mass slaughter/world war, that the possibilities and necessity for abolishing it and moving forward to world communism came from within the contradictions of the system, he said he could see what I was saying. He agreed that world war was coming, but didn't see any possibility of preventing it. He fell back on religion: you could really see the "opiate of the masses" aspect when he said, "If I didn't believe in a life after death, I'd jump right into that fire (in a can) there."

One obstacle to people seeing our analysis was this social chauvinist thing of seeing everything in terms of bosses and workers in the U.S. Except for the last two guys, that was a real thing. Like this one guy who talked angrily about "runaway" plants and how the Southern workers will work for less and it undermines the whole working class. Or this whole union busting thing — "the capitalists are trying to get out of their crisis by squeezing the workers in the U.S. harder."

It was interesting that the two guys who were most advanced overall also had the most fighting spirit around the strike. The first guy had been on TV and turned his arm to the camera and said, "See my number? It's a prison in there, a concentration camp."

VALLEY

Continued from page 7

places like large electronics plants with a large strata of higher paid and more privileged workers, some strongly support a chauvinist stand on all this. Still, what has been most pronounced and significant has been the mounting anger and indignation at the INS among basic masses of all nationalities.

An indication of the turmoil and anger came last weekend when supporters of the RCP took out a banner denouncing the INS attacks, going especially to areas where many "legal" immigrants live. The banner read, "We Are All Illegals/We Are Proletarians/We Have No Country/Down With Simpson-Mazzoli." It was signed by over 300 people of all nationalities, and more than once throughout the day groups of 50 or so gathered around the banner struggling with each other over whether to sign, expressing hatred at the attempt to divide people and drive down the immigrants, and disgust at the intense U.S. No. 1 atmosphere surrounding the whole effort. A particular point of debate was the declaration, "We have no country." Over 400 people throughout the day also took up the task of gathering signatures on a petition denouncing the raids, Operation Cooperation, and the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill.

The INS campaign is more than a continuation of the same old oppression and exploitation. In the last month, the INS and other authorities have opened up a new INS office in San Jose; started a series of raids and developed new methods for raids; worked to establish a whole new set of relations with employers in the Valley, both through setting up examples to show that Operation Cooperation "works" and won't disrupt production, and through setting up a whole system of computer ID checks of the immigrant papers; coordinated raids at locations in the community designed for maximum creation of the atmosphere of

terror and coercion; and utilized the media for a grand propaganda campaign. They have put much in place that will allow unleashing of Simpson-Mazzoli with great fury in the Valley — they themselves admit it is only a "pilot program," preparations for something much bigger.

What they don't admit is that all this is connected to their plans for world war and crisis. They well understand the need to drive down that section of the immigrant proletarians who have a poten-

tially critical role to play in the process of revolution in the world, a process that shows every possibility of running both ways across the Mexico-U.S. border.

In the face of such moves it would certainly be a fine thing if new and fragile shoots of opposition to all of this from the masses of all nationalities in the Silicon Valley area grow into a real battle in opposition to these moves, a battle which could be a critical part of preparing for bigger and more decisive battles ahead.

Survival

Continued from page 3

cancers and other medical problems in almost all children on the island. The duration and intensity of fallout has been consistently understated, with yet higher estimates of fallout resulting from the nuclear winter research itself.

As for effects of smoke on climate, this has been ignored and denied from the beginning, even though, as the TTAPS authors say, this line of inquiry should have been obvious. The U.S. extermination of Hiroshima and Nagasaki produced huge clouds of smoke (and local temperature drops), but no fire and smoke measurements were ever made during the days of atmospheric tests. It has also long been known that smoke clouds, such as those from volcanoes, cause temperature changes which severely affect weather. As far back as 1815, the eruption of the Mount Tambora volcano in the Dutch East Indies produced a "year without a summer," as 1816 was called in Europe and the U.S.; in New York it snowed in June 1816, for example. Yet, a major study in 1963 by the National Academy reported that after a nuclear war "ecological imbalances that would make life impossible are not to be expected." A 1975 Academy study noted

the damage to the ozonosphere by nuclear explosions, but nothing like a nuclear winter was predicted. The 1979 study, *The Effects of Nuclear War*, by the U.S. Office of Technology Assessment makes no mention of smoke effects on climate. The TV movie *The Day After*, based largely on this scenario, thus takes place entirely in daylight (among many other aspects of nuclear war that were ignored or prettified in the movie).

There has been a long history, in other words, of attempting to paint nuclear war as survivable and winnable, and this clearly has made for a public downplaying or shrugging off of what nuclear war will really be like. Will this latest "authoritative report" be fundamentally any different?

But government studies of nuclear war have always had a double edge. While in public its effects are downplayed, deep in the think tanks the war planners study each new discovery like crazy in order to prepare even more thoroughly for a war from which they have no intention of backing off, no matter how horrible. Though there are many who are tempted by the notion that the terrible prospect of nuclear winter will make nuclear weapons "self-detering," too awful to be unleashed, in fact the imperialists are building such weapons *to be used* and not as deterrence. Plainly they are studying even the nuclear winter with exactly that criminal aim.

American Patriotism — A Challenge

By Bob Avakian

One of the positive things that derives from — or more correctly, that can be drawn out of — living outside “your own” imperialist country in another imperialist country, is that in seeing the philistine and reactionary character of patriotism (and nationalism generally) there, it is possible to get an even sharper sense of the same essential qualities of patriotism in the “home country.” You can see even more clearly how silly, stupid, narrow, rotten and vicious it is.

This prompts me to issue a challenge, and here it is: I challenge anyone to give an explanation of why they are patriotic Americans or why patriotism for the USA is a good thing, which cannot be shown to come down to a statement of why they want to perpetuate a situation where they have a position of privilege — relatively greater or lesser, but privilege all the same — at the expense of, and at the cost of tremendous suffering on the part of, the great majority of people in the world. This, I am convinced, cannot be done, but the attempt to do it would, I am also convinced, prove to be very educational.

And in order to avoid falling over backward into chauvinism myself, but instead to act consistently with the spirit of internationalism, I extend this challenge to anyone who wants to make the same argument about patriotism on behalf of any other imperialist country.