A woman is clubbed to the ground by riot police, then stands up again to berate them as they walk away. A group of young women link arms to block a street against the Basij militia. A woman raises her fist against the approaching police—a moment reminiscent of Tiananmen Square’s “Tank Man.” These are scenes which have been repeated thousands of times in the mass demonstrations following Iran’s disputed June 12 election. Tehran has seen massive outpourings, perhaps as many as three million June 15. Other cities, Isfahan, the Azeri city of Tabriz, Shiraz, and villages across Iran have also seen demonstrations and street fighting. In the wake of these demonstrations, the regime has mobilized both mobile and mobile telephone forces, and placed op- position political figures and journalists on the president under arrest. Dozens have been killed, including students pulled from their dormitories after midnight. These youth are attacked because they are in the forefront of the mass move- ment. In spite of all, mass unrest has reached levels not seen since the Revolution of 1979.

The claim that current president Mahmoud Ah- madinejad won re-election with 62.6% of the vote to challenge Mir Hossein Mousavi’s 37.7% was thor- oughly rejected. It is just as likely that the real num- bers would be the reverse—considering the massive level of discontent with the regime, the unprecedented mass demonstrations that broke out in the week before the election, and the massive voter turnout, on an order that was last seen when the “reformer” Khatami was elected.

WORKERS, WOMEN, YOUTH DISPUTE VOTE

Significantly, an Iranian Labor Union associa- tion poll taken in the week before the election showed Mousavi with 52% support among workers to Ahma- dinejad’s 36%, with 11% agreeing that labor’s condi- tions have worsened under the current administration. One Iranian worker said after the results were an- nounced, “Ahmadinejad says that workers are as free as chickens! I know you voted for Mousavi but Ahmadinejad is being declared the winner. The government announcement is nothing but widespread fraud.”

Mousavi was hardly an ideal figure. He was a prime minister during the 1980s, an era of harsh repression of all opposition to Ayatollah Khomeini’s regime. Mousavi made the decision to serve that mas- ter, and it haunted him during the election campaign. Asked by a student at Babol University about his role during the massacre of thousands of political prisoners in 1988, he was asked if he knew what was going on. Mousavi, to be polite, said, “I was the head of the executive branch and not the judiciary.” Nevertheless, as one voter put it, “The fact is, there are vote counters out there who know very well exactly how we and millions of other Iranians voted. They know, and it terrifies them. If we had not been able to send that message at all.”

Mousavi’s cam- paign was conceived as a way to deal with divisions among the ruling circles. It wasn’t planned to go farther than that. The situation has gone much far- ther now.

Divisions among the rul- ers were exposed when Ahmadine- jad attacked se- nior regime figures and clerics during the televised presidential debate. They were as apparent with the maneuvers by former president Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani and others to support Mousavi. (It is also significant that some members of the Revolutionary Guards have refused to attack demonstrators, and there have even been reports of police arresting demonstrators, violent members of the Basiji.)

DIVISIONS AMONG RULERS

However, there was also enough content in Mousa- vi’s criticisms of the Ahmadinejad administration that his campaign could be said to represent an “opening,” not so much to “the West” as to the Iranian people themselves. While he rightly criticized Ahmadine- jad’s Holocaust denial and military threats, Mousavi also said at the televised debate, “Whenever I go there is protest; wherever I go we have been humili- ated, we have been arrested, we have been expelled from university and so on.” This has been true for itself in the people’s eyes, but was horrific to see in them a vision of its ending.

Of course, the elections aren’t the ultimate ground being contested. Women’s determination to tear up their oppression by its root has been continu- ous. New Iranian Revolution of 1979 held promise of becoming the most profound social revolution since 1917. Women’s liberation was a vital part of that revo- lutionary ferment, and a primary target of the counter-revolution that came from the very inwards of the revolution.

WOMAN REASON

THEORY / PRACTICE

Tragedy of Dr. Tiller’s murder

by Terry Moon

The murder of Dr. George Tiller by an anti-abortion fanatic is a tragedy. Tiller was a courageous freedom fighter and by all accounts a kind, generous, dedicated doctor who said, “I am a woman-educated physician in every aspect of my understanding about abortion and about responsible choices. Of those I know in the family, both so- cially and financially.” His death is also a tragedy for the women he has helped who had life-threatening pregnancies, disabilities, or fetuses so deformed that if born their lives would have been short, wracked with pain, and devastating to their parents emotion- ally and financially. It is especially a tragedy for those woman who will need his help in the future and have nowhere to turn now that he will die because they cannot get to the two doctors left in the entire U.S. who will perform late-term abortions; or who will suffer unnec- essary health consequences, or who will be forced to have those deformed babies, born without brains or complete nervous systems or whatever horrendous abnormality caused the woman carrying them to resort to such a soul-wrenching and medically serious decision.

These women have been lost in the noise generated...
The religious fanatics who killed Dr. Tiller believe that a biologically developing fetus is a human being. And so, they say, abortion ex-ists—never mind that it is within a woman’s body—because a fetus can remain god’s perfect, mute creation, innocent, holy, and untouchable, in the same level as those who are working for women’s free-dom, if as both are extreme positions. There can be no compromise, because a horror cannot be framed to stand in the middle so long as we are being forced to give the women of freedom and endangers all those who fight for our rights.

Out of this profound tragedy has emerged a re-newed commitment of those in the movement for repro-ductive justice to make women’s freedom a reality. In the depth and breadth of the demonstrations against Tiller’s murder that have swept this country from end to end, we can see that beginning. In Dr. George Tiller’s name and to honor his life, the struggle continues.

Below is a talk given by a participant at the vigil for Dr. Tiller held June 5 in Chicago. Below is a talk given by a participant at the vigil for Dr. Tiller held June 5 in Chicago. Below is a talk given by a participant at the vigil for Dr. Tiller held June 5 in Chicago. Below is a talk given by a participant at the vigil for Dr. Tiller held June 5 in Chicago.

Prayer

We were left with a sense of purpose, of history, and of determination.

"Abortion on demand and without apology." On June 10 about 20 people counter-demonstrated against "Pro-Life Action League," who assaulted Chicago with huge blow-ups of supposedly aborted fetuses and pamphlets full of lies about abortion in general. Their glee over Dr. Tiller’s murder was unambiguous.

OBAMA NOT BLAMELESS

And where is President Obama? His two-sen-tence utterance of “shock and outrage”—followed by his attempt to frame the question in that manner only helps the foes of women’s freedom and endangers all those who fight for our rights.

A march of 5,000 people in May protested Joe Ar-paino’s reign of terror over prisoners in the Durango Jail in Phoenix, Ariz. More than 500 women prisoners there then organized and declared a hunger strike. Five days later, 400 male prisoners joined those women and to-gether they are still fighting an end to the inhuman rights abuses, racial intimidation, wretched living conditions, and their inability to communicate freely with other convicts. The guards have threatened to send them back to the electric chair. Meanwhile, 400 male prisoners there later organized and declared a hunger strike. Five days later, they were joined by 400 female prisoners. The guards have threatened to send them back to the electric chair.

Obama’s call for “common ground” between those opposing abortion rights and those for a woman’s right to choose is artistically hollow. When he在他的T-Shirt says: “I had an abortion.”

The Dominican Republic’s National Assembly has voted to amend its constitution to say “the right to life is inviolable from conception until death.” Only women’s lives are not included since there are no excep-tions for abortions in case of rape, incest, or the endan-germent of a woman’s life or health. The issue is clear and women face prison sentences.

One clinic to another due to lack of appropriate services and of being shamed by a doctor who examined her later, and demanded to know what she had done to herself. Another woman related her story of having to travel all over the country for contraceptive supplies, and then to have to keep running to the nearest hospital when she got in trouble with the “ward outraged," some said “justice.” The organizer stood looking at her and told her to take both, that she needed abortion when I was 24 and I’m not sorry. I don’t feel

Boston vigil for hero

Boston—The vigil here on June 1 for Dr. Tiller drew several hundred downtown. Speakers who knew Dr. Tiller told personal stories about his persistence, optimism and unswerving bravery. One RAWAL activist spoke of meeting him at a conference where he was giving out pieces of carved wood which he gave to people with the word “courage,” some said “justice.” The organizer stood looking at her and told her to take both, that she needed abortion when I was 24 and I’m not sorry. I don’t feel never been activists before promised to take up the ban-

The organizer stood looking at her and told her to take both, that she needed abortion when I was 24 and I’m not sorry. I don’t feel
Capitalism restructures GM at workers' expense

Detroit—The most massive attack against the work- ing class in the U.S. moved full speed ahead with the bankruptcy of the United Auto Workers. Under the threat of bankruptcy, the United Auto Workers, under President Ron Gettelfinger, made many concessions in order to keep the company out of bankruptcy and secure its benefits. This has caused a knee-jerk run on the stock market, which will increase speedup and reduce relief time and days off.

In addition to previous concessions that included a two-tier wage scale, UAW promises slashed the pay for new employees from $27 to $14 an hour. The most stun- ning concessions were a wage freeze and a non-periodic provision. The most egregious of all the union-bust- er con- cessions was the elimination of all UAW Un- ion Health Workers (UHW), but what is to become of all our brothers and sisters? Stern, only to admonish us to be team players in man- aging to the obvious inability of this economic system to provide even the bare necessities of life and calling for a societal reorganization to meet human needs, labor leaders capitulate to maintain existing conditions that cry out for abolition.

Those who look to the Obama administration for answers are doomed to failure. Some reforms may in- deed be made, along with pronouncements of “prog- ress,” but Obama has assembled an administration to save a failed system. Their way of thinking is totally conditioned by capital- ism in a world where he cannot do anything. That is the objective of the trillions of dollars being devoted to try to rescue the failing banks, financial institu- tions and crumbling societal infrastructure. This is the kind of thinking these experts must practice because it is all they know, and why they cannot solve the problems of simple human needs. That requires a totally different way of both thinking and do- ing.

—Andy Phillips

Roots of GM decline

Flint, Mich.—General Motors officially sought bank- ruptcy protection on June 1, 2009. The corporation filed a “Chapter 11” bankruptcy petition. That means that it will emerge from bankruptcy by selling its “viable” as- sets. The sale will consist of the majority of its assets. GM had $82.3 billion in assets and $172.8 billion in liabilities. The bankruptcy court schedule requires the sale of the viable assets to be concluded within 90 days. The new corporation will be owned 60.8% by the U.S. government, 11.7% by the Canadian government, and 7.9% by the Voluntary Employee Benefici ary Association (VEBA) trust fund set up to cover healthcare expenses of GM hourly retirees (not by the UAW as is erroneously reported), with the balance of the one loan stock going mostly to existing bondholders.

A VESTA establishes a trust fund to provide for life, sickness, accident and other benefits. GM will have no obligation to provide healthcare benefits for UAW membersbeginning Jan. 1, 2011. The VESTA trust fund is invested $8.75 billion in preferred stock and an IOU for $2.5 billion. The VESTA trust fund has the right to remove the GM board of directors with the consent of the UAW. However, the VESTA-designated member must vote as directed by the UAW International President. Although the VESTA has no real control, this ar- rangement pits current workers against retirees be- cause they received payment for lost benefits only from the surplus value extracted from the current workers. Pension benefits are not in danger, but retiree healthcare benefits, because largely depend entirely on the health of the VESTA healthcare fund.

The presence of the government is far more of a burden than a help to GM workers. To get the $50.8 billion bailout money, GM signed a “Loan and Security Agree- ment” with the Bush administration last Dec. 31 that requires “labor and management” to agree on “compensa- tion reductions” and “work rule modifications” by March 31, 2009. The agreement also provided that the loan come with a 10% decrease in wages for 2009.

The Obama administration did not change those conditions. On March 30 it issued a report claiming that GMIII’s net debt is about $9.5 billion. This is an understate- ment. Among other things, GM “legacy liabilities” related to retiree health benefits, which are a serious burden in 2013. It was under this pressure that GM forced the UAW to reopen the 2007 four-year collec- tive bargaining agreement for further concessions.

As recently as June 2008, the Auto Specta- tor reported that GM had improved productivity considerably between 2002 and 2007. This year’s “Auto Industry Scorecard” of the “U.S. News and World Report North America 2008.” At that time total labor hours per vehicle had been reduced to 125, excluding assembly wages, engine and transmission manufacturing. The perspective governing the UAW has been that of retaining GM’s viability, which is possible, and there is no reason to believe that the relentless at- tack on labor will abate when GM emerges from bank- ruptcy. The Obama administration has no interest in a viable GM. The U.S. has declined for many years, despite productivity gains. More accurately, it has declined because of pro- ductivity gains, since an ever smaller work force has to produce more and more surplus value.

—Dan

Stella D’Oro strike

Benz, N.Y.—The Stella D’Oro bakery workers’ ma- nagement announced plans to close the plant, which is on Broadway to the Stella D’Oro plant on 237th Street, was the largest to date. The Stella D’Oro strike has dragged on for nine months. The Stella D’Oro Board of Directors and the bargaining Committee has been organizing rallies. It meets every Monday at 7:00 PM at the Church of the Mediator, at Meddor, 201 St. Although the company has published statements and given money in support of the strikers, they have not mobilized their resources to show in large numbers to support the workers and rally. The plant owners, Brynmored, Partners, and the power of the local politicians, have taken a big hand on key symbolic importance. The power elite is try- ing to convince the unions and their members that they have made a choice between a political system and an economic meltdown. This is what is happening to the auto work- ers, but there are examples that workers will fight back, such as Republic Steel. New York City UFCW Local 1500 continues the ef- fort to unionize the Agata & Valentia food store on the East Side. Factory takeovers by workers in Argentina, when that economy collapsed, show how powerful work- ers can be. If the Stella D’Oro workers win, it will be a clarion call to other workers to fight for their rights.
Iran: Revolution and counter-revolution

Not only has ambivalance been Bani-Sadr’s conception of democracy, of workers’ control of production, of women’s liberation, but it has been either gone since once Islam came first and ‘socialism’ came later. This is NOT THE FIRST TIME, historically speaking, that revolutionaryists tried to dilute Marxism by a strange admixture with religion, be it U Nu’s Buddhism or Ben-Gurion’s Zionism, whether it is Senghor’s admixture with Marxism, which he calls African Socialism, or Poland’s Catholicism with a “new” socialism, or Islam’s Marxism. This is the third that was made for total confusion, one single-party rule, one ideology, or one single religion which is on an even deeper false consciousness than the bourgeois revolutionaries. 

First of all, that didn’t keep the counter-revolution in Russia, which just crushed its own revolution, from returning to Iran to crusade the revolution.

The SECOND CHAPTER of that first revolution, as the second chapter of this era’s 1979 Revolutionary War IS—though not yet—undeniable. In fact, the Iranian revolutionaries. Part II appears here. Part I was published under the title, "The People's War: Iran and the Cold War." A look back into history and forward from the present. Let’s begin at the beginning, at the installation of a new power that has been so characteristic in Iran from the very dawn of the Islamic revolution. We’ve been talking about the type of amendments that restored most powers to the reigning power. But, once a democratic Constitution was created, the clergy began burdening it with the type of amendments that restored most powers to the church, including the exercise of sovereign power over the clergy. They moved to do exactly that in quite capitulatory fashion. They moved against the movement, but set up an alternative paper, The Muslim Woman, edited mainly by men. On the 30th anniversary of the Iranian Revolution, was begun by women liberationists. How fantastic, then, that the abysmally opportunistic Trotskyists are so anxious to be “in” that they know how to stick to the rulers that win.

The contradications of the revolution are exposed in an article, “The Drive to Oust Bani-Sadr,” which opposes the ouster, at least insofar as it means “repression,” especially since they believe that the repression will beget also against them, and that their paper was among the six that were immediately shut down. That isn’t the only thing repression means to the clergy. Along with the thresh that is still whole do not decide an attack on Bani-Sadr, for the situation in the army and for the lack of any decisive victories in the war, they know that was Bani-Sadr’s strong base of support among the hard peppered command. (Interevential Press, June 22, 1981)

So strong that not a single army commander came to his official, against Khomeini and the IRP must not the truth, but just like the Tudeh. They are busy trying to work out a way to remain “legal” that all else takes a subordinate role. This is perhaps the most important thing that the Iranians have had in over twenty years. For that matter, it is not even in the mainstream of Sunni Muslims, but it is an enemy is plotting against us.” Furthermore, let us not /not underestimate the dissatisfaction of the peasantry that, after all the provocation to say this, he hasn’t yet to witness any redistribution of the land. Moreover, the economic conservatism of the mullahs is as deep as their social and political conservatism was. “I must tell you that during the previous dic-

tacional regimes, strikes and sit-ins pleased God. But now the Khomeinists, whose political program is similar to that of the phenonemon of strikes is now a manifestation that “the enemy is plotting against us.” Furthermore, let us not forget that Khomeini’s early opposition to the Shah was so feudalistic as even to oppose the mild so-called ‘White Revolution’ because of the global relations on the land.

But, let us keep our eyes open and have our interna-
Gaza appears to have drowned in silence, despair and anguish by Rabha

Gaza appears to have drowned in silence for now. It seems that the Palestinian political establishment under the leadership of Hamas, the movement that took control of the Gaza Strip following the 2007 elections, has been unable to respond effectively to the growing humanitarian crisis in the territory, which has been exacerbated by the Israeli military operations and the ongoing blockade imposed by Israel.

The situation in Gaza has been described as "a human rights catastrophe," with reports of widespread poverty, unemployment, and lack of access to basic necessities such as food, medicine, and clean water. The blockade of Gaza, in place since 2007, has been a major factor in the deterioration of the situation, as it has severely limited the flow of goods, including humanitarian aid, into the territory.

The situation in Gaza is not only a humanitarian crisis but also a political one. The internal divisions within the Palestinian leadership, as well as the external pressures from Israel and other actors, have contributed to the current stalemate. The Israeli government has been under pressure to lift the blockade, but so far, it has refused to do so, citing security concerns.

In conclusion, the situation in Gaza remains dire, with the people living under the constant threat of violence and the lack of basic freedoms. The international community needs to take immediate action to help alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people and to work towards a lasting solution to the conflict.

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1. "The Palestinians say: ‘This is a war of extermination,'" Guardian, 1/17/09.


5. "Israel wanted a humanitarian crisis," Times Online, 1/20/09.


7. Hegel, Philosophy of Right, p. 222.


10. For an extensive and in-depth discussion of this topic, see Raya Dunayevskaya, Raya Dunayevskaya on ‘Hobbes’ Leviathan,’ and Marx’s Philosophy of Revolution, Chapter XII, pp. 180-181.


12. The Political-Philosophical Letters of Raya Dunayevskaya, I/582.


Leon Despres — A Lifetime of Battles for Humanity

Leon Despres was a remarkable human-being — a lawyer who tried to keep those he represented "out of the courts whenever possible to allow reasonable men to settle their differences," a man who was "great good fortune to have had." He was a "Trotskyite," like his Trotskyite friend and comrade-in-arms News and Letters Committee holds Leon Despres in high esteem, as something totally different. In short, the word "great" is used too lightly to describe a man who had an enormous number of discoveries she made about Marx, to be celebrated in April. She was a woman, not just a woman, but a woman of a different character.

As a stop-gap measure, I some-
to special education teachers, custodi-
an and “lunch ladies,” students are de-
prived of that many more caring adults,
with those left to do the job streched to
the max. Those who came out to support
the Stulla D’Oro workers recognized that
workplace abuses hurt the entire
community, whether it is a school or a factory
that previously provided decent
jobs for their students.

Susan Van Gelder
New York

THE IRISH REVOLUTION
30 YEARS LATER

The article by Raya Dunayevskaya in
her From the Archives column April–May
2009 (N&L) was written almost 30 years
ago on the process in which Bani-
sadhe and his followers overthrew
having won 75% of the people’s vote. New,
people are using Mr. Hossein Mousavi’s
campaign to wage their struggle and
voice their aspiration for full-fledged
freedom. What is important to remember is
that Freedom is not just a philosophic
concept but a real human need that
people are fighting for. Are Marxists listen-
ing to this voice for freedom, or are they
called in the election analysis and shy
to act because Ahmadinejad is spewing
“anti-imperialist” rhetoric?

Mansour
Los Angeles

REMEMBERING RICHARD PEGUE:
MOVEMENT DJ AND SONGWRITER

Chicago disc jockey and songwriter Richard Pegue died March 3 after suffer-
ing from a “corridor” from Nepal to Sri Lanka.

At the time of his passing, Pegue
was a “corridor” from Nepal to Sri Lanka.

In 1969 he began his regular
programming on WVON, WGCI FM and AM, WOPA,
friends who were the core mem-
ers of those groups. The party of Senia Gandhali’s
success was much better than BJP, which won the elec-
tions in our area and wants to make all
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CORRECTION

Our thanks to readers who pointed out
the article about the “Death of John
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headline. It was also an error to state
the day of his death. It was Jan. 5. We regret the errors which we corrected immedi-
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disc jockeying and songwriting.

In 1969 Pegue wrote a political
power movement song, ‘Nobody
Gonna Turn Us Round,’ released when
Chicago Black Panther activists Fred
Hampton and Mark Clark were assassi-
nated. At the time the tune was heavily
exposed on WVON and WGRF.

At the time of his passing, Pegue
wrote columns for the local Street
newspaper and a Chicago South Side
publication The Crusader.

Darrell G.
Chicago

ELECTIONS IN INDIA

We have just finished the general
elections in India. Everything was
absolutely paralyzed for nearly one month.
There is a very strong Marxist group
who were against the elections and spread
that ‘whoever goes to vote, his/
her height will be diminished’ (= they
will cut their hair off). Therefore, many,
people, especially indigenous, did not
vote. The Marathi are very caring
and we have continuous strikes, during
which offices and schools, transport
and shops are closed out of fear. And they
are increasing their power. Actually, there is a
corridors’ from Nepal to Sri Lanka.

You can never go to Mr. Hossein
Mousavi’s supporters. Those who are the core
members of those groups. The party of Senia
Gandhali’s success was much better than BJP, which won the elections in our area and wants to make all
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Darrell G.
Chicago
slow success story at At-Tuwani, Palestine

Editor's note: Human rights worker Ceylon Mooney spent time with Peacemaker Teams and Operation Dove in the village of At-Tuwani in the South Hebron Hills. It was his fourth trip to Palestine to support Palestinian nonviolent struggles.

At-Tuwani—Typically I wake up at 6:30 am to watch the Israeli army escort Palestinian children on their way to school. After breakfast, I go to the primary school, where many local Palestin-
ian shepherds as they take their sheep and goats out to graze, just as their fathers, grandfathers and ances-
tors have done for generations. If it weren't for the con-
stant roar of the F-16's overhead, I might forget why I am here and soak up the austere beauty of this dry area's thorny brush, rolling hills and seemingly endless blue sky.

Resisting Settlement Expansion

For several years, families have been here for hun-
dreds, if not thousands, of years; others arrived during the creation of Israel in 1947-1949, a time known to the native Palestinians as "al Nakba," the catastrophe. Isra-
eli authorities have, in the past two decades, taken from them more than 200 Jewish-only colonies (called "settle-
ment blocs") throughout the West Bank, most of them built well after the 1949 armistice. Everywhere I see new con-
struction and settlement expansion. In 1981 Israel creat-
ed the M'ar'ah settlement on land belonging to At-Tuwani families. In 1997, the Israeli army forcibly removed many residents of two nearby villages to build the Havat Ma'on colony. M'ar'ah and Havat Ma'on are now so close to be lo-

The steadfastness of Palestinians to maintain what lands they still possess is part of an ongoing campa-
ign of nonviolent struggle. In 1987 and 1988, the interna-

tional peace activists assist this struggle. In 2004 villag-
ers in the area I am working in invited the Christian Peacemaker Teams and Operation Dove to witness and support their nonviolent struggle.

The international community is joined to accompany shepherds, farmers and their land in order to witness the sensitivity and dedication of peace activist, and to support their nonviolent struggle. The international community is joined to accompany shepherds, farmers and their land in order to witness the sensitivity and dedication of peace activist, and to support their nonviolent struggle.

Free Efrén Paredes!

Efrén Paredes, age 15, was wrongfully convicted of murder and sentenced to three life terms without pa-
role. As a youth, who needed time to murder the murder of a good friend and mentor, he scrambled to defend himself in a system completely foreign to him. He is sentenced to three life terms and is due to testify from five youths, four of whom admitted complicity and are presently free, but Efrén, who refused to confess an innocent youth, entrance to the system, was locked up at the Michigan Parole Board granted Efrén a hear-
ing in December 2008. More than 100 people came to support Efrén's release, whom he said was a thoroughly competent person who would contrib-
ute more to society if free. He assists other prisoners with their cases and helps ease their depression; he is a thoroughly competent person who would contrib-
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ute more to society if free.

Terrence likes that only rich people can afford to buy a future. He is a de-

Third World Warriors

The Third World Warriors movement was a part of a global trend of the late 1960s and early 1970s that advocated for a new form of political resistance, particularly among students and young people around the world. The movement was characterized by its emphasis on nonviolent resistance, education, and community organizing. It was inspired by the examples of struggle in the United States, Latin America, Africa, and Asia, where students and workers were fighting against imperialist domination and colonialism.

The Third World Warriors were a group of young people who identified with the plight of the oppressed peoples of the world, particularly those in the Global South. They sought to build a movement that would challenge the dominant power structures and promote a more just and equitable world. The movement was associated with the broader anti-war and anti-colonial struggles of the time, and it sought to connect these struggles with the struggles of students and workers in the United States.

The Third World Warriors movement was short-lived, lasting only a few years before it was absorbed by other movements, such as the Black Panthers and the American Indian Movement. However, its legacy lives on in the continued struggle for social justice and human rights around the world.
Questions on Sotomayor

The Republican and right-wing hysterical attacks on Judge Sonia Sotomayor are not just mind-boggling, they are revealing not only how much is at stake with a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court, but how afraid they are of a judge whoBreaking through the racial, class and ethnic barriers that have long kept most women from the very top of the judicial ladder, Sotomayor promises to bring a different perspective to the day-to-day business of interpreting the Constitution. She is not just qualified, but well qualified, to perform this vital public service. There is wide support for Judge Sotomayor’s nomination, and a strong, growing majority of Americans think she is qualified to serve on the Supreme Court.

But Republicans are not interested in substantive or even factual questions about Sotomayor. All they want to do is make political hay out of her record. With charges that she is a “liberal activist” or an “activist judge,” Republicans have resorted to falsehoods and half-truths to paint a distorted picture of Sotomayor’s judicial philosophy. As is the case with many politicians, those who want to oppose her are going to go to great lengths to avoid answering factual questions about her record.

For example, despite the fact that Judge Sotomayor consistently ruled in favor of abortion rights when she was a district court judge, Republican legislators and potential members of the U.S. Senate will vote to advance a bill that would continue to overturn Roe v. Wade and severely restrict abortion access. Even if the Senate fails to pass such a bill, the Republican members of the court have the power to do serious damage to Roe v. Wade and women’s reproductive rights.

Sotomayor will be the first Latina on the U.S. Supreme Court, and only the fourth woman in history to serve on the court. She has served for 17 years as a federal judge. In her 17 years on the bench, Judge Sotomayor has made many important decisions that affect the lives of millions of women and the nation as a whole.

In a particularly challenging case involving affirmative action in employment, Judge Sotomayor ruled that employment decisions should not be made on the basis of race, ethnicity or religion. However, she specifically pointed out that her ruling does not necessarily mean that affirmative action is unconstitutional. Judge Sotomayor’s ruling is important because it recognizes the importance of diversity in the workplace.

For example, Judge Sotomayor has been a strong advocate for affirmative action programs. In a 2003 case involving a lawsuit brought by a group of African American and Hispanic workers at a New York City police station, Judge Sotomayor ruled that the plaintiffs were not entitled to the benefits of affirmative action programs because they had not shown that they had been harmed by the lack of such programs.

In another case, Judge Sotomayor ruled that the city of New York was not required to provide affirmative action to minority contractors. The city had contracted with a minority-owned business to provide services, but Judge Sotomayor ruled that the city was not required to provide such services because the contractor was not a genuine minority business.

In 2008, Judge Sotomayor ruled that the city of New York was not required to provide affirmative action to minority contractors, even though the contractor was a genuine minority business. However, Judge Sotomayor ruled that the city was not required to provide such services because the contractor was not a genuine minority business.

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Women protesting today, asserting their drive to change the life of women, has galvanized women and youth the world over who have endured 30 years of ruthless oppression. Many dissidents, who did not have the chance to show an indelible mark on Iranian society, now feel like the same irrepressible spirit of the revolution 30 years ago—the same uncompromising will with full knowledge of the dire consequences. The sacrifices must be made in pursuit of freedom and justice.

Even the slogans, and actions—like the prank newspaper headline on June 17, reading: “Ahmadinejad is gone! The regime’s responses to women’s demands began from an idea whose time has come to a mass movement. The One Million Signature campaign has become an unavoidable category of political life in Iran, and most other women’s rights groups, have made it clear that their struggles for civil rights are also connected to the road to a classless society on truly new humanist beginnings. This is not merely an abstract question.

Today’s mass movement is raising demands, from the end of the religious regime to new elections, even replacing the position of Supreme Guide which Aya- tollah Khamenei inherited from Ayatollah Khomeini. The kind of people who are being raised by this new movement directly address central historical problems of the Iranian revolution. Just as the tendency of the masses has been to go beyond the issue of a stolen election among regime insiders, so it would be wrong to fetter our thought to the maneuvers of these insiders.

As much as any crisis of our time, today’s events in Iran show the need for a return to the fullness of Marx’s Marxist-Leninist dialectics and brought Marx’s philosophy of revolution together with Women’s Liberation here. It is necessary to take responsibility for articulating this. To take any other ground would be to fall into the trap pointed to by the great Irish revolutionary James Connolly: ‘Don’t be “practical” in politics. To be practical in that we are writing our history. You have to think along the lines, and in the grooves those who rob you would desire you to think.”

LIBERATORY VISION OF THE FUTURE NEEDED

As much of our time, men’s rulers will be likely to prefer Ahmadinejad. He represents all that they have left; the whip arm of the institutionalized counter-revolution. Ayatollah Khamenei affirmed this at Friday prayers June 19, threatening anti-Ahmadinejad dem- onstrants with death. He also replied to the Iranian regime that can’t deliver jobs, dignity, or peace can de- liver oppression and murder well enough. Some dem- onstrators are now chanting “Death to Khamenei” in response.

Ahmadinejad was also favored, in the early hours after his “re-election,” by some hawkish elements in the U.S. and Israel who were using him as an excuse to pre- pare for possible military intervention in Iran. At least some of that talk has been of course, that the Point of No Return has been passed. The regime can’t deliver jobs, dignity, or peace can de- liberate, pollution and murder well enough. Some dem- onstrators are now chanting “Death to Khamenei” in response.

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Indigenous people from the Amazonian region of Peru have been the subject of a movement battling President Alan Garcia over the country's direction. In early April, 30,000 Indigenous people began a blockade of roads in the state of Bagua, shutting down the oil flow and stranding 41 oil and gas company ships. The protests started last year against laws devised by Garcia to implement Peru’s free trade pact with the U.S., which would make it easier for foreign companies to take over Indigenous land. Communaval, an Indigenous organization, said it wanted to protect areas of oil for drilling, logging, mining, and plantations.

On May 5, the government pulled out all stops in an effort to destroy the movement. Riot police and helicopters shot at protesters, killing five and wounding hundreds. Tens of thousands of people were thrown into the Utcubamba River to cover up the killings, according to movement leaders. Security forces then rampaged through nearby towns, while soldiers were accused of burning and killing Awajun indigenous protesters on May 15 in Bagua, northern Peru, after armed police had attempted to destroy their movement, thousands of native people had to flee the land and small farms to open up to intensive, eco-destructive exploitations by transnational corporations. Faced with this vicious attack, movement leaders called on people armed with spears to wade to maintain highway blockades to defend their ancestral lands. Hundreds of thousands of people occupied the border between Bagua and Chosica on June 5, in conjunction with a general strike. Solidarity protests were held that day in Quito, Ecuador; Washington, D.C.; and several other cities throughout Canada and the U.S. Some 20,000 marched, chanting, “The forest is not for sale.”

Thousands of Indigenous communities have built this movement, which is part of their own decision-making structures. They have raised the banner of another kind of development as against global capitalism’s push to commodify resources. They have also begun to think critically. They can be said to have been an attack on the human power to think critically. It is no coincidence that one of the first prominent American Holocaust deniers, Arthur Butz, is a professional engineer. The murder of six slaves started on May Day, hunger and poverty and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership.

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**Franklin Rosemont, publisher-poet**

Poet Franklin Rosemont passed away on April 12 in Chicago. He was a significant thinker and publisher, a leader of the left, and a giant of the labor movement. As a teenager he was greatly influenced by Black scholar st. Clair Drake. He engaged with the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) through Jack Kerouac’s The Dharma Bums, “a book about freedom,” and a few years later he became a major force in revitalizing the IWW. He and his young colleagues, including lifelong partner Penelope Rosemont, began to publish the important journal The Rebel Worker and established Solidarity Bookshop. In 1966 the Rosemonts founded the Chicago Surrealist Group, which has continued its activities to the present day.

**in the 1970s FRANKLIN and Penelope Rosemont were part of the group that helped revitalize the Charles H. Kerr Publishing Company, which reissued out-of-print revolutionary classics, as well as new works and translations, and works by revolutionary writers like T-Bone Slim and Cottom Vigil. As Marxist-Humanists we appreciate the dialogue with Rosemont which began in the early 1960s when the IWW’s Fred Thompson “...handed me a copy of Raya Dunayevskaya’s Marxism and Freedom and said, ‘Here’s a book that shows that old Hegelian sense after all‘” (Dunnic in the Streets! 2005). Rosemont’s important essay on “Karl Marx and the Iro- quois” in the 1968 edition of the original of Indian people’s revolutionary struggle against the capitalist class. Raya Dunayevskaya, a revolutionary Marxist and co-founder of the philosophy of revolution in Britain, was the author of Marxism and Freedom. While we rallied against Caterpillar’s deadly prof- it from the occupation in Palestine, we have not been alone, and that together we can win. Please, join the movement and struggle. It is necessary and with dignity and poise.

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**L.A. schools protests**

Los Angeles—On June 9, 700 to 1,000 mostly Latino/a and some Black students from inner-city high schools along with teachers, community activists of all races, marched in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) downtown, where the Board of Direc- tors met to vote on budget cuts. (“Students are not numbers,” they chanted. “We are human beings.”) Several signs read “Black & Brown = Most Teachers Cut.” A woman professor of Chicana Studies said, “We won’t stop until every last one of us is in school.” A 10th grade teacher said, “Of the $1 billion stimulus money received, half has been put into a savings ac- count.” There are hunger strikes at various schools to try to hold on to the terminated teachers. Teachers and ac- tivists plan to camp out in front of the LAUSD building to keep up the struggle. On May 15, 38 teachers along with A.J. Duffy, president of United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA), were arrested for blocking traffic on the LA10 Freeway, protesting the termination of 2,500 teachers and larger class sizes. They chanted, “Don’t raise class size” as the police men try to arrest them.

The same day, 1,000 teachers, students, parents and supporters, dressed in black, demonstrated outside the LAUSD building. Hundreds of different high schools and colleges walked out to support the teachers. On May 19, Californians overwhelmingly defeated five state propositions put on the ballot by the state leg- islature. Especially, they were cut on various social services to help balance the state budget. Many teachers are protesting by going on a fast.

**Museum murder is attack on thought**

The murder attack on the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., a sacred place of the human power to think critically. It is no coincidence that one of the first prominent American Holocaust deniers, Arthur Butz, is a professional engineer. The murder of six slaves started on May Day, hunger and poverty and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America. Latin America.

**Caterpillar divestment**

Chicago—On June 10 a diverse coalition rallied outside a shareholders meeting of Caterpillar. Caterpillar is the largest manufacturer of equipment for the occupation of Palestine through its sales of equipment to the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). Caterpillar’s equipment is used to build the separation wall and illegal settlements in the Palestinian land and the illegal settlements. Caterpillar also sells weaponized bulldozers to the Israeli army, which uses them to destroy Palestinian villages. Despite years of condemnation, Caterpillar refuses to halt sales to the IDF, or even condemn the abuses. While we rallied against Caterpillar’s deadly prof- iting, on the opposite side of the street, a smaller group of demonstrators voiced their support for the Israeli occupation of northern Lebanon, chanting “I’m [heart] Na’aba.” Na’aba is the Palestinian word for “catastrophe” and is used to refer to the forced dispos- sesed of tens of thousands of Palestinians from their ancestral lands in 1948.

**CAMPUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST CATERPILLAR** is part of a growing movement to target corporations that profit from the occupation in Palestine. In February of this year, Hampshire College, a small liberal arts school in Massachusetts, became the first U.S. college to di- vest from companies that profit from the occupation of Palestine. Hampshire was also the first college to divest from apartheid South Africa in the early 1970s. Divestment at Hampshire brought about only as a result of tireless and organized pressure from Hampshire Students for Justice in Palestine (HSJP). In my two years of working with HSJP, I learned that it is possible to win against the odds. It was an inter- national divestment movement that helped bring the apartheid regime in South Africa to an end. Today, divestment is one of the most powerful ways to put an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine. The Palestinian movement has the human power to think critically. It is no coincidence that one of the first prominent American Holocaust deniers, Arthur Butz, is a professional engineer. The murder of six slaves started on May Day, hunger and poverty and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership. Latin America and small farms are being pushed by Peru’s capitalist type of ownership.

For more info see http://www.bdsmovement.net/ and the http://www.hsijp.org/
China 20 years after

Over 150,000 people marched in Hong Kong in the largest protest since China returned to govern the city, as thousands of workers and students killed by tanks and soldiers in Tiananmen Square 20 years ago were remembered. Square's was detained in March for expressing regrets for the army's role. Ding Zilin and other members of Tiananmen Mothers were confined to their homes for the first time since 1999 on June 4. This demonstration represented dissent that China's rulers suppressed elsewhere.

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North Korean threat

In its latest confrontational declaration, North Korea's ruler threatened to weaponize its stockpile of plutonium and to pursue uranium enrichment in defiance of the 1994 non-proliferation agreement, an agreement that was negotiated with the United States and South Korea. North Korea has launched several short-range ballistic missiles in recent months, including one that threatened to strike Guam, a U.S. base in the Pacific. The United States has said it would consider a pre-emptive strike if North Korea were to use nuclear weapons.

The government has now threatened to change its policy of nuclear enrichment in defiance of the existing non-proliferation agreements. It has also threatened to test a nuclear weapon and to resume ballistic missile launches, which it had agreed to freeze as part of the 1994 agreement. The United States has said it would consider a pre-emptive strike if North Korea were to use nuclear weapons.

Sri Lanka tragedy

A tragedy continues to unfold against the Tamil people of Sri Lanka. Tamil civilians—men, women, and children—died in the last weeks of the war in Sri Lanka, as they faced overwhelming force and threats from government forces and paramilitaries. Tamil civilians were used as human shields and subjected to rights abuses by both sides. Tamil civilians were used as human shields and subjected to rights abuses by both sides. Tamil civilians were used as human shields and subjected to rights abuses by both sides.

Within Sri Lanka, the Tamil movement against the Sinhalese majority has been brutally suppressed. The government has used military force and paramilitaries to clamp down on Tamil civilian and political activists. Human rights organizations estimate that more than 90,000 Tamil civilians have died since the beginning of the civil war. The Tamil Tigers, a separatist group, were defeated in a military campaign in May 2009. The government has since declared a state of emergency and imposed a media blackout.

Latin American Notes

El Salvador—Will the election and inauguration of Mauricio Funes, representing the FMLN (Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front), herald a new socialist beginning in that Central American country? Will the FMLN's victory end the clientelism, racism, and corruption that have marked El Salvador's political history? Will the FMLN, which has been the country's dominant political force since the 1980s, be able to break the cycle of violence and repression?

The FMLN inherits a country of enormous inequality where the top 10% of the population has a share of income 57 times greater than the bottom 40%. The country has a history of military coups and political repression.

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