Begin terror's intensities

Eight Palestinian youths have been killed by Israeli soldiers, 21 others including 11 children were wounded, and another young man was beaten to death by the terrorist religious fanatics of the Shiloh settlement on the West Bank. All this was instigated by the rule of the reactionary Israeli government.

Israel violated its own democratic rules when it ousted the duly-elected Palestinian Mayors and Councils of two towns and tried to install puppet regimes in their place. The Arabs responded with a general strike. Resistance is still continuing.

By Raya Dunayevskaya, National Chairwoman, News and Letters Committee

The depth of the economic crisis has sent capitalists and ideologues to search for a new expression rather than to face the truth that the U.S. is on the brink of a Depression. The front page of the Business Section of the March 14, 1982

New York Times has come up with the expression, "The Great Repression." It also names "who" is responsible: "The Government caused it." This is an absurd description of the crisis both economically and politically, at a time when the genocidal war in El Salvador is being propped up by the Reagan Administration. While the New York Times parrots Reagan's claim of the capitalism system as the culprit, it is impossible to avoid confrontation with the irreversible decline of capitalism.

The military buildup, the ever-deepening chronic unemployment, the industrial stagnation, and the political repression — in Latin America, in the Middle East, and indeed globally — characterizes both the U.S. and Soviet regimes.

The Palestinians complain that the fanatic settlers at Shiloh terrorize the Arab communities at night, raiding through the towns firing weapons, capturing youth, beating them up and then turning them over to the army. "Incidents" such as these reminded all who had lived through the Nazi Holocaust how Nazism got started. No wonder the Palestinians were shouting "fascists" at the Israeli soldiers. All this was shown on Israeli TV.

It is widely believed that all this is part of the attempt to annex the West Bank, in clear violation of all existing agreements. Palestinian resistance will continue. It is high time the Israeli people organized a mass movement in the support of Palestinian self-determination on the West Bank.

(Continued on Page 2)

UAW strike at U.S. Auto Radiator

Workers battle scabs, low wages, lead poisoning

Highland Park, Mich. — We have been out on strike at U.S. Auto Radiator since Feb. 16. At first they didn't have scabs, but then they brought them in in the middle of March. The violence started the next Monday when the police came. Everyone decided to do mass picketing because of the scabs getting in.

The scabs were arrested by grabbing them by the arm and taking them in. We tried to talk to the scabs and tell them about the working conditions — how bad it is in the plant, but the police were pulling us away just when we were trying to reason with the scabs.

This plant has workers from many different countries — Arab workers, Yugoslav, Indian, plus a small percentage of Americans, both Black and white. The police threatened all the people from different countries, saying they were going to deport them. Someone said that a man from Immigration was there.

The police began arresting strikers, and one woman was arrested when she stood in front of a car while everyone started yelling, "No Scabs! No Scabs!". The police told her to move or they would arrest her. She said to go ahead. Two workers were beaten up by the police. One was sprayed with mace, and another was held down and hit on the head with a flashlight. All the fighting was mainly because of the police.

The UAW brought some picketers to help us, and after the violence and mass picketing, no scabs showed.

We are making about $4.20 an hour. People are asking $5 an hour, which isn't much. In fact we asked for $5 an hour three years ago, but they broke the strike.

What really bothers me are the conditions in the plant. There is the smoke and the acid. You brush the acid on the radiators and it really smells bad. Just being near the acid makes your eyes water. The company claims that they are going to work on it and put something in the roof to get rid of the smoke.

Or take the break. It is ten minutes, but after eight minutes the buzzer goes off and you must get up and go to your work area. If you take your full ten minutes and don't go to the work area you will be docked. They want you right there, and when you complain about it, they say, well you don't have to work until after ten minutes. But you can't eat at your work station because of the danger from the lead.

They have to take blood samples from you every six months because of the lead. Once that lead poisoning gets to you, and you become pregnant, it is really difficult. Because if that lead poisoning gets to that baby and it has defects, it will suffer for the rest of its life. The women continue working when they get pregnant because there is no maternity leave.

The majority of workers in the shop are women. They have the hardest time getting jobs outside and will stick with this one even with these conditions.

(Continued on Page 2)
A dialogue on 'This Bridge Called My Back'

Dear Editors,

This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color is a new book that has initiated much discussion within the Women's Liberation News & Letters Committees. I found that my view is quite different than that of two Black Marxist-Humanist women, Diane Lee, and Bobbie Joyce, the authors of the book. I would like to present all our views in this column, as a continuation of the discussion on racism, women's liberation, and Marx's philosophy that was begun in the November 1981 issue of News & Letters.

This book is a collection of essays, poetry, articles and conversations by Latin, Black, Asian and Native American women. What struck me was how fearless and fearless all of these women totally repudiate separatism. Andrea Canaan says it best: "The buck stops here and I would like to present all our views in this column, as a continuation of the discussion on racism, women's liberation, and Marx's philosophy that was begun in the November 1981 issue of News & Letters."

Throughout the book is a struggle for wholeness. The best example is Merle, who writes, "Today, I am myself either a Black, American Feminist or Yellow Feminist. The two terms are inseparable because race and sex are an integral part of our lives."

On the one hand, it seems as if many of these women have had to break with everything — men, the family, the culture, tradition, the church, the community — to live as separatists. Yet, on the other hand, what absolutely kills you is that there is a great critique of just about everything. They all want to break totally with the white WLM. The question of "theory in the flesh" surely didn't originate with women of color, but revolutionary separatism — comes to you directly from the WLM.

Rather than merely exposing the racism of the WLM, as this book does, isn't it necessary to dig deeper to find out how a movement that started out 10 years ago demanding totally new human relations, that had its roots in the Civil Rights Movement, that challenged the Left on its narrow concept of revolution, is now so racist that a book like This Bridge had to be written?

Supposedly we all want revolution, and we know it can't be total unless women are much more than just co-signatories to this movement. How do Black women do that? Why don't women of color have something very unique and important to say about that? What is the future? Are we going to ignore our demands until "the day after revolution," never can that same WLM expect women of color to stifle their unique ideas until after the revolution?

Isn't this where Marx's method is indispensable? Marx had worked out a relationship to the movements for freedom which he saw arising out of this horrible racist, sexist, capitalist world. Marx saw these forces as Reason whose creativity could both overthrow this existing world and create something new. Throughout his life he never gave up his own vision of a new society where human beings would finally know what it meant to be free, and what it means to be human beings, and experience the "absolute movement of becoming."

It is that ground, that methodology, that the white women of This Bridge have done so well. For example, Linda Albright-usually called "Marxism" — the Left who didn't trust on any other question. Which road are these com­

In the introduction to This Bridge, I was hopeful in reading the few pages that mentioned the writings of women of color who want nothing short of a revolution . . . . But the book never gives a view of this revolution. There is a lot of talk about women working as housewives unions. The women denounced the dictator­

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Make new beginnings out of plant shutdowns

by Felix Martin, West Coast Editor

March 10 is the deadline for acceptance of the Van Nuys Strike
work on GM South Gate. While we're being thrown onto the
unemployment line—1,500 of us—the politicians give
speeches, the GM management and the press say, "Don't
worry, everything will be all right." Yet the union says
there will be no jobs. -GM has already laid off about half
the workforce. It's really crazy. The other plant is working
for 300 more workers—by coining down so hard on
the workers that they are still
— They shut down, they shut down. So said a textile worker
with 25 years in a shop that just closed up for good.

My plant is on a four-day work week now. After the last
lay-offs, the company threatened to lay off 140 more
or put everyone on a four day week, so we had to accept
the reduced week for now. There is no telling when things
will pick up.

Now management is shipping us around like cattle
from department to department, trying to get the five
days' work out in four. Workers have been saying
that the company can get away with it maybe they'll
never call back our buddies from lay-off, so we've been trying
to work slow.

It's really crazy. The other plant is working
6-7 years seniority. Every worker that's left in the
plant never even brings this up.

Seniority doesn't mean a thing anymore. If you
ever get a half the workforce was laid off, but
 Response was firm and quick: a shutdown of the line
and blocking the gates to the plant.

The final fig-leaf was an announcement that Toyota
sent that 'to prevent workers from tearing up the plant
on their last week of work.'

That's the only way we'll be able to turn this crisis around.

Auto workers in Iran strike
against mullahs and guns

Tehran, Iran.—In December, 1981 more than 8,000
autoworkers at the Iran National plant went on strike
in favor of "freedom." The company, which was run by
Gene Morrison, president and chief executive of
Geo, Detroit, Mich. — The latest companies trying
cash in on the obsessions of the war are the Detroit area
grocery stores. They are earning millions by taking
a group of workers two to three years wage freeze and cutting
an annual COLA raise. Despite the fact that Kroger, Spartan and
Bormans (Farmer Jack) have all had profitable years
since 1973, they've been giving us so-called raises,
which is simply not knowing. We are not told anything
by either the company or the union.

You come to work not knowing if there's going to be
a lay-off in the evening or 4:00, or some
new plan of the company like the four day week.

New York, N.Y.—Our new transit contract is definite-ly a sellout. They give you that garbage you're
lucky to have a job. These give-backs don't work. They
used to pay us $7.50 for a doctor's appointment and then the bill
was treated as human beings.

The President goes on TV and tells workers: "It is
perfect order. He had to give them two days notice. But when
the union says it can't do anything about that. Of course
they shut down, they shut down. So said a textile worker
with 25 years in a shop that just closed up for good.

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That's the only way we'll be able to turn this crisis around.
Today the Kurdish movement, despite the blockade of \textit{kurdish} areas by the Iranian Republican Party (IRP) and the Republic of Iraq (RIQ), has progressed to a new level. This progress has been made possible in the difficult conditions prevailing there. The Kurdish movement is the result of the people's struggle against foreign rule. It is rooted in the history of the region and has been shaped by the experiences of the people. The Kurdish movement is a national struggle, aiming for the liberation of the \textit{kurdish} people and the establishment of a \textit{kurdish} state. It is a struggle that is gaining momentum and is gaining strength. The Kurdish movement is a struggle for freedom, for justice, for equality, for democracy, for peace. The Kurdish movement is a struggle that is not only for the Kurdish people, but for all the \textit{kurdish} people, for all the people of the region. The Kurdish movement is a struggle that is not only for the present, but for the future. The Kurdish movement is a struggle that is not only for \textit{kurdish} people, but for all the people of the region.
Salvadoran women writes on revolution in his land

Editor's Note: Below is a printing excerpt from El Salvador exile Francisco Aquino's essay, "El Salvador in Revolution." The full essay is available in Latin America's Revolutions a bilingual News & Letters pamphlet advertised below.

The whole story of Salvador Martí is the biography of the struggle of the Salvadoran people. Martí, an indefatigable combatant, fought alongside General Sandino in Nicaragua. He was executed in January of 1932. This shooting marked the beginning of a ferocious repression against the Salvadoran peasantry which cost nearly 30,000 precious lives.

One of the fascinating aspects of this struggle was the inner disunity that characterized the army that fought with sticks, machetes and defective firearms, they fought against an army that was beginning to organize itself into a more or less cohesive unit. The former made a parricide against its own people, one of the most genocidal in Latin America.

It was in the decade of the 1970s that, in a most brilliant manner, the Salvadoran people began their organized struggle against the oppressors. One of the most important vehicles, in the decade of the 1970s, which was the main focus of the International Volunteers (ISV) under the leadership of the General of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc, Juan Chacón, who, in the middle of the cruellest political repression and the most vicious terrorism, was assassinated in 1980, one of the most combative revolutionary movements of the country. In November, 1980, he courageously gave his life to avoid the same fate that befell thousands of the executives of the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR).

In 1980, Lil Milagro Ramirez was the revolutionary woman of the year. A founder of the Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) and the Unified Popular Action (UPA), she is, together with Ana Guadalupe Martinez, one of the most prominent Salvadoran revolutionary women. Ramirez also participated in many of her comrades. Her deed is, in fact, one of the initiators of the Salvadoran guerrilla movement. She had been captured and imprisoned. She was counted as missing and has not been found to this day. Most likely she was murdered by the government, as she was one of the most wanted persons in the country.

THE CASE of Ana Guadalupe Martinez is of extreme importance, as she is a member of the Revolutionary People's Front (FRP), which has been a political prisoner, who had to bear torture and rape. She was later recognized by one of the demands for the memorandum signed by Roberto Landeros, a political prisoner, who had been kidnapped by the ERP. Her experiences were written into the writing of a book, widely circulated in Latin America. This book is soon to be published in English under the title of clandestine Prisons, which she describes all her experiences as a prisoner.

Furthermore, another characteristic of women's revolution, it is to be emphasized that around 30 percent of those fighting in the guerrilla organizations are women. The sole of women will be arrested at the airport, and a Committee of Mothers of Political Prisoners and Missing Persons, which demanded the release of their sons and denounced all kinds of abuse leveled against them.

The attitude of solidarity of all the peoples of Latin America and other peoples of the world is contributing to the success of the objectives of the Salvadoran people.

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U.S. out of Central America!

Washington, D.C.—Tens of thousands of demonstrators rallied and marched here on the eve of the phony March 28 El Salvador elections contrived by the junta. The elections are an attempt to fabricate legitimacy on paper which the junta cannot possibly win in life from the workers, peasants and revolutionary fighters. The elections are a show of force designed to bolster the junta and give it another term or to divide and confuse the Salvadoran people.

A group of Latinos marched behind a banner reading, "We Stand with the Salvadoran People's Revolution." In fact the Latinos were a vivid presence, marching independently or in large contingents from Casa El Salvador, Casa Nicaragua, and Puerto Rican Solidarity groups. The march itself passed through a Latino neighborhood where whole families of Salvadorans, many of whom have been exiled, learned a lot from the workers and youth, that is, the movement from practice. That is why they won in Nicaragua and this is where Regis was murdered. He wrote 15 years ago in Revolution in the Revolution, that there was no room in the guerrillas for "women and children of the middle class.

I do know that the test is now in Nicaragua, whether the new society can be established.

—Marti-Humanist

Japanese Americans focus on war relocation hearings

New York, N.Y.—Last Dec. 9, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRI), charged with investigating Executive Order 9066, issued February 19, 1942, which interned 120,000 Japanese Americans in concentration camps across the United States, held its first public hearings.

The Commission came into existence as a response to persistent efforts by Japanese Americans, particularly from the West Coast, to seek some form of redress for the wrongs committed by the U.S. government during the war. The Executive Order was based on the belief that Japanese Americans were a threat to national security and that they were loyal to Japan.

The Commission's hearings were held in seven cities across the U.S., including San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York. The hearings were open to the public and included testimony from former internees, their family members, and community leaders.

The hearings lasted from December 1982 to September 1983 and were broadcast on public television and radio. They were widely covered by the media and attracted strong public interest.

The Commission's final report, released in 1984, concluded that the internment was illegal and unjustified and recommended that the government issue a formal apology and compensation to the survivors of the camps.

Today, on the 40th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066, the Japanese American community remains committed to ensuring that such abuses do not happen again and to working towards a more just and equitable society for all Americans.

—Teru Duki

Concentration camps in LA

Los Angeles, Cal.—It’s good to see so much attention being focused on the plight of the Salvadoran people, for every day they are being attacked, slaughtered, and mistreated by the agents of U.S. imperialism. Indeed, the contradictions, the pain, the anger and, above all, the frustrations experienced by women of color in relationship not only to society, but to the WLM, are the contradictions, the pain, the anger and, above all, the frustrations experienced by women of color in relationship not only to society, but to the WLM.

Women's liberation and revolution in the context of something to be guessed at. By not wittingly placed women's liberation and revolution in the context of a philosophy of human beings, and to allow their sense of wholeness being an expression of rage, it does point out that even the contradictions, the pain, the anger, and above all, the frustrations experienced by women of color.

The women who made self-deliberation and spoke for themselves — all this, to me, means that the problem with the book; —Bobbie Joyce

This Bridge Called My Back

(Continued from Page 2)

with my own newly recognized/discovered feminism.

I had looked forward to a book written by "radical" women offering their militancy. Such a book would certainly help me deal with my growing sense of feminism, as well as my growing distrust of the so-called WLM. I was mistaken.

There are a couple of beautifully written and profoundly moving pieces that simultaneously express an attempt by the writers to see themselves as whole human beings, and to allow their sense of wholeness to direct their vision. At the same time, they express the contradictions, the pain, the anger, and above all, the frustrations experienced by women of color in relationship not only to society, but to the WLM.

While I believe that the bridge is by no means beyond being an expression of rage, it does point out that even among the radical women of color whose self-definition includes the centrality of women's liberation and of revolution remain separated. From the absolutely unbelievable mumbo-jumbo of projecting charms and "juju" to the self-imposed isolation of shrouding one's self in "magic" and some mystical, narrow nationalistic-type of spiritualism, as so to be called, the whole image of goddesses and "magic" is a sort of make the revolution; to the beauty of the vision expressed by M. Woo, including the concrete opening statements laid on in her preface, it is clear that what is lacking in this anthology is a unifying vision of women of color and revolution.

The women who made self-deliberation and spoke for themselves — all this, to me, means that the problem with the book.
WORKERS' STRUGGLES, IDEAS VS. ECONOMIC CRISIS

I was glad to see the front page article in last month's News & Letters take up the issue of the miners. We've all heard how dangerous mining is, and how Reagan is making it even more dangerous with new cutbacks. If you look at California, you'll see that many workers are killed in accidents here too. Out in the Desert there is a lot of construction going on, like building septic tanks. They have to dig a trench in the desert, and line the walls of it before they can pour the black dirt into it. A lot of times the walls just crumble from pressure of the earth, and workers get killed.

Worker Los Angeles

Like the District 65 UAW member (March N&L), I was disappointed in the article on the miners. We've all heard how dangerous with new cutbacks. If you look at California, you'll see that many workers are killed in accidents here too. Out in the Desert there is a lot of construction going on, like building septic tanks. They have to dig a trench in the desert, and line the walls of it before they can pour the black dirt into it. A lot of times the walls just crumble from pressure of the earth, and workers get killed.

Worker Los Angeles

Several months ago there was a sit-down occupation by workers at the Fraser Shipyards in Superior, Wisconsin. This is the largest labor struggle in the Great Lakes. Not much publicity has been given to the occupation, for obvious reasons. Several hundred workers were involved. One of the major points of objection of these workers was private security-police "the Nazis." After the occupation was uprooted, management fired one whole shift as retaliation, even workers who had been sick and thus never took part. 300 to 400 workers were fired. After several months of arbitrating the state government ordered only about half the workers rehired. And now they have ordered the workers to purchase any vacation, death or disability welfare, etc., they may have received. But the more important thing is that the occupation did happen.

Seamus C. Cloquet, Minnesota

Something is going on in management workplaces which never used to happen before, I believe. They are talking about "semi-autonomous work groups" about "self-manage work groups," and a lot of middle-level managers having a role in that administration of the workplace. About "craftsman" and "craftsman outlook." About "centers for creative leadership," about "spontaneity," all of this much desired by the AFL-CIO bureaucrats, but also a lot of managers trying to find ways to manage and take over the control of the workplace.

Some see it as a threat to those pre-conflicts and others say that without the unleashing of that energy, the industrial leadership of the U.S. is doomed. Personal managers now have Ph.D.'s in anthropology, sociology, psychology, cultur tural anthropology, etc. — no business administration.

Some say America sent over 3,000 workers to the Soviet Union last year. I believe, they are talking about "semi-autonomous work groups" about "self-management work groups." A lot of middle-level managers have a role in that administration of the workplace. About "craftsmen" and "craftsman outlook." About "centers for creative leadership," about "spontaneity," all of this much desired by the AFL-CIO bureaucrats, but also a lot of managers trying to find ways to manage and take over the control of the workplace. Some see it as a threat to those pre-conflicts and others say that without the unleashing of that energy, the industrial leadership of the U.S. is doomed. Personal managers now have Ph.D.'s in anthropology, sociology, psychology, cultural anthropology, etc. — no business administration.

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DEEP RECESSION, MILITARY BUID-UP, PULLING APART OF POLITICAL ALLIANCES

(Continued from Page 1)

Force (RDF) in the Gulf region, expressed its opposition. John C. Campbell in his article, "The Middle East: A House of Containment built on Shifting Sands," puts it this way: "Most of the Gulf states view the RDF as a threat to their oil rather than as a protector of their national interests."

Thus, F-16 fighter bombers were sold to Venezuela, the first time any such weapon was sold to Latin America, Pakistan was to prolong the arms transfers went from $9 billion in the 1970s to more than $20 billion in 1980, and 81 percent of the exported weaponry went to the Third World. It is not only that arms sales to nuclear proliferation has reached such proportions under Reagan that, far from a nuclear holocaust being "unthinkable," that is precisely what the world worries is an approaching reality.

So massive have been the anti-nuclear demonstrations, both in the U.S. and in the West in general, that this opposition is the element that has the government teetering throughout the world, and their ideologies, so concerned that they are trying to hide the relationship between the militarization and the state of the economy.

Clearly, the militarization is hardly only for purposes of "defense" of the U.S. It is in a global, imperialistic, at present, West European focus, the Reagan Administration aims to deploy in Europe 572 missiles capable of reaching Russia. It is true that Russia has just as many missiles and that they are just as lethal to Europe and the U.S. Nevertheless, even Helmut Schmidt, the West European leader who favored stationing U.S. missiles in West Europe, wanted Reagan to first exercise what he called a "zero option," that is, to ask Russia to remove the missiles and that the U.S. would only deploy theirs. Russia is presently playing that card, calling for a "freeze."

And Reagan is rejecting that play by claiming that Russia would be freezing a superior position.

The central dilemma of the national political order on both sides. The fact that both poles of world nuclear power are playing this type of lethal game in order to diffuse the massive anti-nuclear war movement throughout the U.S. as well as Western Europe cannot hide the truth that both are preparing for nuclear holocaust.

It isn't only the Reagan Administration but the whole capitalist system that seems to be lost in Latin America, Pakistan was to prolong the arms buildup. We can see the integrity of capitalist economy and actual war not only in general, but very specifically during the last decade. Although the quadrupling of oil prices following the 1973 Arab-Israeli War enabled Western imperialism to blame the whole, deep, and aging crisis and to blame "oil riches on the oil sheiks," that, as much as the quadrupling exacerbated it, was the Vietnam War that was the main cause of the crisis.

THE CRISIS DEEPENS IN AGRICULTURE AS WELL AS INDUSTRY

No doubt either creates the same world panic that the constant rise in the world's food prices, the famine in Ethiopia, the drought in the Sahel, the fact that both poles of world nuclear power are playing this type of lethal game in order to diffuse the massive anti-nuclear war movement throughout the U.S. as well as Western Europe cannot hide the truth that both are preparing for nuclear holocaust.

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THE EUROPEAN SCENE

I am still traveling. My first two months were spent in London where I went to visit the meetings of the British Marxist-Humanists and helped distribute leaflets at the big anti-nuke rally in November. The most interesting aspect of life in London was the housing movement co-operatives. It would not be impossible to imagine them being superseded by various forms of local community government (Labor Councils, Housing Councils, and self-help/cooperatives) — to start running the civic aspects of the city in the areas where they live.

The night before I left for Amsterdam for Paris the military crackdown took place in Poland. The Krackers (squatters) held a spontaneous demonstration of about 700 people in front of the Polish and Russian consulates and at Instituto, the Soviet travel agency.

The squatting movement seems to have lost some of its energy since they put a bit of work into finding a building then the police come and destroy everything. There are about 50,000 squatters out of a population of 750,000.

Still traveling

Amsterdam, Holland

RESPONSE TO YOUR APPEAL: WE NEED YOUR HELP!

I am an academic, and not an activist (except sometimes), but I try to keep in touch with things. You are more right than I according to the Guardian, or the SWP's journal, because you keep both theory and voices from practice involved in all your reporting. I am closing $50 to help with your work for the year ahead.

Subscriber
Cambridge, Mass.

It was great to see the direct reports from the Carrollton to Montgomery march in last month's N&L. I was reminded of the way the freedom movement in Alabama and the rest of the South changed the whole face of American politics and brought new energy to the squatter movement. As you know, in 1968 the Guardian, or the SWP's journal, because you keep both theory and voices from practice involved in all your reporting. I am closing $50 to help with your work for the year ahead.

Black student
Detroit

As a whole I like N&L, but I have two major criticisms. One, there are too many self-congratulatory letters each issue. Two, some of the articles get too abstract and philosophical, but I guess the overall theoretical basis.

Intellectual
New York

I have heard your Appeal for help.

Here's $50, with $50 more to come in 1981.

Still with you
Toronto, Ontario

I am a prisoner, and have very little money, if any at all. But I do enjoy the paper and thePhi will gladly appreciate it if you would keep it going.

In human struggle
Menard, Illinois

I think N&L is a great, little newspaper. Keep up the good work. I am the editor of a weekly small-town paper in Illinois. I cannot write freely as the owners are capitalists and I freeze each time I write an editorial against the system.

Reader
Pennsylvania

Editor's Note: Our thanks for the contributions from many of our readers to our urgent appeal for funds to carry on the work of News and Letters Committees. Every dollar is needed in today's fight against Reagan's military build-up, pulling apart of political alliances.

Special offer!
Two works by Raya Dunayevskaya on Marx's Capital
Outline of Marx's Capital, Vol. I
$2.50
Marc's Capital and Today's Global Crisis
$2.00

Get both for only $3.50 (includes postage)

From: News & Letters, 2832 E. Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48211
Alabama Blacks stand against bank land grabs

by Gardenia White

Lowndes County, Ala.—I want you to know about the bad situation we have in White Hall, Ala. We are a newly-organized town located between Montgomery and Mobile, and 1,000 miles from the nearest bank. We don’t have a sewage system. We don’t have running water. We have been seeking to have our own water system owned by ourselves. But when our petition to tie us in to the Collirene water system, which will cost us more money. If we don’t have our own system, we will be able to bring in indirectly our farming jobs for people who need the jobs, especially our young people.

So many are unemployed, or they are in school now asking if they will ever be employed. Many of them are the young people who are the ones that the fight marched to Montgomery last month.

Another problem that we are fighting against now is that we are being foreclosed on Black-owned land. My cousin went to the bank and borrowed $5,200. She paid back the whole amount, but it was late. They said that they could not accept the $5,200 because she couldn’t pay the $100. She paid back the whole amount, but it was late. They said that they could not accept the $5,200 because she couldn’t pay the $100. They had her rent. She had already paid $500 rent for staying in her own house. She was making arrangements to pay the total amount when they began trying to evict her from her home. They are still trying.

They have all kinds of ways of getting money out of your home. They talk about being a beautiful site for a business and all that kind of stuff. Another man I know paid the whole amount, and they took away his property and left him in the mud. He doesn’t have money we can use, as a town, for what we need because the money is already earmarked by the government to buy the land, and they are going to give us more so that we will be able to help people who fall into these kinds of situations.

It seems that white people are no longer concerned about Black people. I don’t think they ever have been. It was just your job they cared about, what you did for your employer, how you spent your people to do their work, so Black people are unemployed. All the money now is mostly in the white hands.

But I want you to know you have some dedicated people here in Lowndes County. People that are still out here willing to fight and sacrifice to maintain and hold to freedom, to be able to help ourselves and our people. Somebody has got to hold fast and hold steady...

Union separate from company

There was a time when the union was separate from the company. We were told that the company was our enemy. I know that Edna Kline, one of the members of the president of the union who accepted two baseball tickets from Briggs, and that was enough for them to call it. They told the president of Ford can give Doug Fraser a sweater on TV for the whole world to see, and there is nothing said. It is all shows how the owners have gone from what once were, and you can bet that there won’t be any reduction in union dues.

It looks like the “new generation” of UAW leaders coming in after Fraser will be even worse. I heard Donald Ephlin, the head of the UAW-Ford department, speak at a meeting of labor historians. He said that the task of the union is to put profits. They told the president of Ford can give Doug Fraser a sweater on TV for the whole world to see, and there is nothing said. It is all shows how the owners have gone from what once were, and you can bet that there won’t be any reduction in union dues.

Local News & Letters Committees can be contacted directly in the following areas:

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CHICAGO: PO Box 159, Chicago, IL 60695 (312) 527-6506
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Back to Hoover Depression

When Reagan was first elected he said he was going to put this country back into the days of the Hoover Depression. No one can deny we seem to be headed in that direction. But there is a big difference. During the Depression everything was so low in price that a person could buy something. This is that everyone has everything so high you can hardly pay for anything.

It seems that Reagan is in a mad rush to get this country back into the days of the Hoover Depression. No one can deny we seem to be headed in that direction. But there is a big difference. During the Depression everything was so low in price that a person could buy something. This is that everyone has everything so high you can hardly pay for anything.

The front line at IRS

They call it the “front line”—where the government and the taxpayer meet. Your ear and mouth are wired to a computer regulating a bank of calls coming in from around the country. IRS is the government agency in charge of making sure people who have some combination of fear and anger. You have to have nearly instant recall of a volume of tax law because if you even ask a question or answer, you miss the work norms of 23 calls an hour.

There are also a number of people monitoring and evaluating your performance. You hope someone will stay on the line a few seconds so you can finish writing their name and address because as soon as you call is in between someone who wants a new call. As soon as there are a few seconds between calls someone get a shorter workload and others are overworked.

The systems analyst makes sure you’re plugged-in for every minute except for your two breaks and each one is a half an hour.

The price of Reagan’s weapons systems and record deficits isn’t abstract in the many incidents when poor people break down on the phone because of a tax they have to pay that they can’t pay. No one can deny we seem to be headed in that direction. But there is a big difference. During the Depression everything was so low in price that a person could buy something. This is that everyone has everything so high you can hardly pay for anything.

The day they have picked to lay off 20 percent of the IRS agents is May 1. It is the only in the last five years that they were forced to hire Black women as drivers, and many of us have the lowest seniority, and because 20 percent of the IRS workers, they will be laying off many of the Black women drivers.

When we are speaking about Black women, we are speaking about the liberation of the whole lower class. It is nonsense to say that history in a new way. in the manuscript of Raya Dunayevskaya’s book, "New York: News & Letters," the author has been united for freedom. I am thinking of Black women as thinkers, and not just as sufferers, is still not complete. The struggle has been united for freedom. I am thinking of Black women as thinkers, and not just as sufferers, is still not complete. The struggle has been united for freedom. I am thinking of Black women as thinkers, and not just as sufferers, is still not complete.
Kurds' continuous struggle challenges Khomeini regime

(Continued from Page 4) interfere with its universalism of freedom and new human realism. And Lenin was right after the Russian Revolution, theoretical and practical aspects of a Marxist position on the self-determination of nations. It becomes necessary to look at the political area especially since some parts of the Left, including the Kurdish Left, have been distorting Lenin's position on the relation of the right of nations to self-determination to the process of social revolution.

IV. LENIN ON THE NATIONAL QUESTION AS INTEGRAL TO THE DIALECTICS OF REVOLUTION

After the outbreak of World War I the "national question" became a central question of the revolution for Lenin, one in which he had to battle other Bolshevik leaders until the last days of his life.

Prior to 1914 all Bolsheviks agreed to "self-determination of nations" as a "principle." With the outbreak of WWI and the betrayal of the established Marxist organization, there was a new theoretical ground on which Lenin was standing collapsed. In search of a new revolutionary perspective he felt compelled to return to the Hegelian dialectic. It was this reorganization of his own thought that transformed the national question from a general theory of the revolution when the Irish dared to revolt against the British in the midst of the war.

In Lenin now a new urgency in the question of self-determination. He saw the national struggles as "one of the bacilli which help the real power against imperialism to contaminate the scene, namely, the imperialist, and is already in the process of welcoming defense Forces (IDF), especially in the occupied territories. Today the Kurdish revolutionaries continue to demand a vision of revolution that would mean genuine freedom being worked out. What is necessary is not for the Iranian, revolutionary, Kurdish revolutionaries, American revolutionaries — is to work out a philosophy of revolutions that would help us articulate full humanity's quest for freedom. There are no short cuts, not from state-capitalism calling itself Communism; certainly not from western capitalism; nor from the religious reaction of Islamic Republic of Khomeini regime. The only way out is through a tour de force of religious trappings, order for the masses to accept it. Such ground opens the way to counter-revolution in today's imperialist, theocratic state, or in a future state-capitalist one "cleanse" of religion, but having all the totalitarian aspects of today's theocratic state. Self-determination can only be fully realized within the context of a socialist revolution, then the unity will only be "real" and not a genuine, deeply-rooted unity.

The police suspected the arrestees of supporting IDF deservers by giving them lodging space and money. The defense of desertion is almost impossible for a court without direct confession, as the proof must consist of "intention not to return to the army." Furthermore it is hard to prove that a person who supports an alleged deserter knows of that person's intentions. So it is quite obvious that the police attempts were directed to getting "confessions.

A silent movement of resisters started who refused to serve beyond the Green Line. They were leftists, young men who were against the Green Line and revolutionary interchange. After all, the Iranian Revolution was one of the greatest of the decade. It threw out both

2 For a study of Lenin's Philosophical Notebooks and his attitude to the national question see Raya Dunayevskaya's Marxism and Freedom and her Philosophy and Revolution. See also Micho Lewin's Lenin's Last Struggles.

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NEWS & LETTERS

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date of "anti-imperialism" which buries the contradictions which is true that unity under the whip of a theological counter-revolution which despite its anti-imperialist rhetoric is not anti-capitalist. As a result the Left the Left groups theoretically how self-determination of n how self-determination of nations is integral to social revolution and unless the Kurds fight for it, they must not be allowed to .

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Deep recession, military build-up, pulling apart of political alliances

(Continued from Page 2) culture could hardly have survived. Profits have plunged from $31.5 billion in 1973 to $13.4 billion in 1980.

It is not only because of the current high cost for energy and the effort being put forth for combines, herbicides and pesticides, but because of the long period of slide in the rate of profit, that we see today no less than 25 percent of the farmers being thrown out of business. Of the 1.8 million farms expected to survive, the largest 100,000 — that is only the top 3 percent — will account for more than 50 percent of the total cash sales. In a word, once again, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, and the small family farms disappear altogether.

Business failures in industry are also mounting.

Have you read?

Indignant Heart: A Black Worker’s Journal by Charles Denby

Now they’ve added a new dimension to automation—animation . . . What concerns me most about that is the new automation introduced in the auto shops over 20 years ago, and how workers revolted against this “man killer” for the profit of the capital in a white collar way (UAW Pres. Fraser) have been busy capitalizing to the capitalist class, the thoughts and actions of the Black and Latin workers and their families in the experience of their continuing revolt.

Paperback $4.80 — Hardcover $12
Order from: News & Letters, 2832 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48215

Where, in 1978, there were 24 failures per 10,000 businesses now there are 83 per 10,000. This brink of Depression is now terrifying people. The UAW is looking within to see how and why the numbers are increasing, and the French Minister of Finance, Jacques Delors, called the high American interest rates good for is the slaughter of millions.

Yet all that seems to concern the capitalist ideologists is that the government and the central banks can absorb 75 percent of all private savings and choke off capital formation and productive growth. So much for Reagan’s give-away to the rich in anticipation of productive investment and the “turnaround” of the American economy. The truth is that even the capitalist ideologists are now pointing to the fact that “as the Orwellian year of 1984 approaches, stimulation has become repression.”

West Europe and NATO

The depth of the global crisis is seen in the highest levels of unemployment in Europe since World War II, where 16 million are jobless. That slowdown is now two years old. It is blamed, in large measure, on the recession in the U.S., where the French Minister of Finance, Jacques Delors, called the high American interest rates good for is the slaughter of millions.

That the U.S. recession could be placed in the same category as what is by now the fantastic 12-fold increase in the cost of energy is not an accident. It is part of the process which set the U.S. economy is with that of the West. Although the U.S. may not be the dominant global force it once was, it is that global economy. The recession in Europe was caused by the French Minister of Finance, Jacques Delors, called the high American interest rates good for is the slaughter of millions.

But it is by no means the only reason for the economic crisis in West Europe.

The Common Market's goal of Great Britain, France, West Germany — is pulling apart and pulling away from the U.S. politically as well as economically. As the economic crisis in West Europe is, capitalistically, native-born. The economic slowdown in Thatcher’s England has constantly been referred to as a “loss in power: industrial production has fallen to the levels of the late 1960s. Employment soaring to 12 percent from an 8.4 percent level in 1979.

At the same time, though West Europe opposed Reagan’s invasion of Afghanistan and threats to Poland, they are oppressively aware that they would be the first to go in a nuclear war, and their isolation is now one of the capital’s political contentions. The result has been the extension of these economic pressures, the growth of automation and the Middle East. Industrial production has fallen to the levels of the late 1960s. Employment soaring to 12 percent from an 8.4 percent level in 1979.

At the same time, though West Europe opposed Reagan’s invasion of Afghanistan and threats to Poland, they are oppressively aware that they would be the first to go in a nuclear war, and their isolation is now one of the capital’s political contentions. The result has been the extension of these economic pressures, the growth of automation and the Middle East. Industrial production has fallen to the levels of the late 1960s. Employment soaring to 12 percent from an 8.4 percent level in 1979.

In 1978, where there were 24 failures per 10,000 businesses, now there are 83 per 10,000. The brink of Depression.


Many of the anti-war youth called it a “dress-rehearsal” for the March 27 national demonstration on El Salvador in Washington. Some people had said would be a turning point in the struggle to stay. Reagan’s hand from more direct military intervention against the Central American nation by sending in a new-level of opposition to his Administration’s policies of oppression at home.

Demonstrations were felt in force, with demands such as immediate peace and the Equal Rights Amendment, and the right of all women to be in the struggle. In a strange twist, however, in the year of the “abortion” of Reagan, we are facing the absolute general contradiction of capitalism. On the one hand, its technological revolutions are always calling for more and more constant, and less and less variable capital, and are increasingly calling for more and more constant, and less and less variable capital, and are increasingly calling for production expenditures. The call for more and more constant, and less and less variable capital, and are increasingly calling for production expenditures. The “pains policy” of Reagan is the “real barrier of capitalist productivity is capital itself.”

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Over 100 years ago, Karl Marx, who had removed political economy from an intellectual debate and centered it on the relations of capital and labor at the point of production, as well as in the political class struggles, summed up the year, “Demand and supply are the bread and butter of capitalist demands with the mass of profits—and only in oil and high technology is there much profit.”

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* See also: John Kenneth Galbraith on “The Budget and the Future” (April, 1982)

Demonstrators against Reagan in Harlem

Los Angeles, Cal.—When Ronald Reagan came here March 10 to promote his “new federalism,” he was met with a huge turnout at the El Segundo Pavilion. Most people there didn’t think there was that much support.

Those cutbacks are coming down all over, and hitting hardest in Black communities like Watts. “This is another way of saying that Reagan was right,” said a participant at the El Segundo Pavilion.

One woman spoke of the need to improve conditions down here after seeing the “starving” at Martin Luther King Jr. Hospital. The hospital was built as a direct result of the 1965 Watts riot.

Come in the May News & Letters: Labor unrest, anti-nuke mobilizations sweep West Europe
Salvador book exposes U.S.,
but ignores Central American masses

by Peter Werthum


Hardly a day goes by without the Reagan Administration getting caught red-handed fabricating some new lie to prove El Salvador's revolution is part of "a Cuban plot to take over the hemisphere." Now a book has been released where writer is not quite so na"ive as to believe the hollowness of the entire United States policy in that region.

El Salvador: Central America in the New Cold War is a section of fifteen essays, consisting of statements by architects of U.S. policy (like Haig, Kirkpatrick) followed by leftist critiques by writers and activists inside and outside Latin America. It doesn't take long before the intentions and designs of U.S. imperialism are laid threadbare.

ARCHITECTS OF U.S. POLICY

"The problem is not that those who are clever enough and persevere can make it. But we never get to read of the participation of women in the military. While I was following the war, I saw a large percentage of the guerrilla movement — something that was not seen in the guerrilla "focos" of the 1960s. New guerrilla movements as a whole have a more firmness and consistency of the entire liberation movement than we have ever allowed to you, the voices of the movements within El Salvador."

We do read a transcript of a broadcast from the guerrilla-run Radio Venceremos which speaks of how the Army's force "have no arbitrary and cruel chiefs in it. All its members see each other as brothers without distinction in seniority, social position, and rank."

FMN STATEMENT

There is also a statement from the FMLN saying "the revolution on the march is not the work of a group of individuals, but of an entire alliance that has proven to be the most solid base for guaranteeing the firmness and consistency of the entire liberation movement."

WHAT IS EDUCATION?

Hunter students are facing another problem. Arthur Jefferson graduated from this school. We have had more students graduate from Northeastern than any other Detroit school. We don't know why the assessment for property surrounding our school is so high.

"Yeah, we're smarter than Cass (Tech. High School), Yeah, we're so cool. This time we won money. And now you want our school!"

On our first confrontation with the school board, Deputy Superintendent Hopkins "greeted" us, but we were the ones to have our say. We made it known that: 1) We don't have money to go to other schools. Northeastern is just the other corner. Arthur Jefferson graduated from this school. We have had more students graduate from Northeastern than any other Detroit school. 2) We want the assessment for property surrounding our school being raised. What is the real reason for closing Northeastern? Is it high test scores?"
Central America's revolutions intensify

by Peter Mallory and Kevin A. Barry

The courageous, defiant actions of Orlando J. Tardencillas, the Nicaraguan youth who, after spending more than a year in the jails of the El Salvador junta, refused to be a pawn in the Reagan Administration's war on Nicaragua, represents the tremendous spirit of the Central American revolutions.

Tardencillas, who the government had brought to Washington in mid-1981 to testify about Nicaraguan and Cuban ships, 3,900 new planes, 8,800 tanks, 14,000 strategic bombers, the Nicaraguan youth who, after spending

...unemployed, homes for the homeless, roads without potholes, bridges that are not in danger of collapse, flood control?

A good start could be made by retiring 50 percent of the top brass, the project hatchers that demand and get more and more expensive arms.

Haitian refugees

A class action suit against the U.S. government, brought by the Haitian Community Center of Miami, was filed in March. The victims of government persecution are the 3,000 Haitian refugees who are being held in U.S. detention camps, under inhuman conditions, without trial. Over 500 are being held at the Krome Detention Center near Miami. The suit is to free the Haitians while they await their hearings.

The suit is categorized under the dictatorship of "Baby Doe" Duvalier in Haiti, where political and economic conditions are so bad that they flee in leaky boats risking death at sea rather than starve to death at home under repression.

The U.S. policy of detaining "illegal aliens" was supposedly abandoned in 1964, when Ellis Island, as well as other detention centers around the country, were closed. Charles Gordon, former general counsel for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, testified that "hundreds of people" who arrived in this country and asked for political asylum had been paroled because the agency decided "incarceration was unnecessary."

The fact that these refugees are Black, not white, seems to be the deciding issue.

Belgian steel workers

Over 10,000 Belgian steel workers demonstrated in Brussels to denounce the nationalization of the industry by the government that they feared would eliminate over 5,000 of their jobs. So violent was their protest that 179 police and 22 workers were injured.

Prime Minister Wilfried Martens, who heads the 32nd government since the 1968-70 government, has suspended emergency powers to rule by royal decree instead of by parliament. announced an 8.5 percent devaluation of the currency, suspended strikes and announced a plan to spend $1 billion to reorganize the steel industry with 5,000 less jobs.

In opposing the capitalistic, racist, sexist, exploitative society, we participate in all class and freedom struggles, nationally and internationally. As our country is our goal, as well as our" notion individuality "purified of all that interferes with its universalism, i.e., with freedom itself, we organize with our friends and committees rather than any elitist party "to lead."

Who We Are and What We Stand For

News and Letters Committees, an organization of Marxists-Humanists, stand for the abolition of capitalism, whether in its private property form as in the U.S., or its state property form as in Russia or China. News and Letters Committees were created so that the voices of revolt from below could be heard not separated from the articulation of a philosophy of liberation. As I said in 1960, "Communism, in order to express our solidarity with freedom fighters abroad as well as at home. Because 1983 was also the year when we worked out the revolutionary dialectics of Marxism in its original form, as well as the individuality "purified of all that interferes with its universalism, i.e., with freedom itself, we organized with our friends and committees rather than any elitist party "to lead."

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