The domino theory and Central America

Under the impact of El Salvadoran rebel victories in a number of provinces in January and February, including the city of El Salvador, the Reagan Administration has not only requested an additional $100 million in military aid for El Salvador this year. The money figure for weapons, munitions, training and so forth came as part of a whole barrage of propaganda directed by the Reagan Administration at Congress and the American public.

Thus, Jeane Kirkpatrick took a trip to Central America and reported back to the President on the state of military affairs in El Salvador. Reagan, Secretary of State George Schultz (acting like former Secretary Alexander Haig), Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger all began two weeks of speeches, of journeys to Capitol Hill, of “background” briefings of Congressmen and reporters.

Once again the domino theory

One of these meetings had one theme - the domino theory par excellence. Nicaragua was gone. El Salvador was under attack (after all it is closer to Washington than it is San Francisco) and needs immediate military help. Costa Rica, Panama (the Canal which provided Reagan with his first cold war attempt to gain the Presidency in 1976), were in danger. And most of all Mexico, right on the U.S. border, could also be a falling domino. Thus U.S. racism:

by Charles Denby, Editor
Author of Indignant Heart: A Black Worker's Journal

I feel sure that many of you have already heard about the awful tragedy that happened in Montgomery, Ala., on Feb. 27, when some 38 Black men, women and children were beaten and jailed, and 11 of them charged with attempted murder of two Montgomery police. At the same time there was another race rebellion in Florida, with over 100 arrested.

In recent years practically every Black and many whites were shocked about the gains that Blacks had achieved during the 1960s and early 1970s. In fact many Blacks were saying that the South was a better place to live than the North. Yes, we have been able to vote without intimidation, and to use any public facility, but that is a long way from having complete rights. What happened in Montgomery, and is still happening, proves that point better than anything I could say.

The Smell of Racism in Montgomery

I have been speaking with my sister in Lowndes County, and she says that the cause of the 11 members of the Taylor family who were arrested is what everyone is talking about. The story that Montgomery police Captain Charles Swindall tells, and the facts that the family have spoken are so different that you know the whole incident comes from racism.

The members of the Taylor family were down in Montgomery to attend a funeral. Suddenly they came down from Pontiac, Mich. and at one time or another there was a funeral that Montgomery police went to. They had to go to the deceased’s house for a dinner, which is natural with many Black families. They reported that after 11 p.m. one of the men went to his car and two white men dressed in plain clothes began to use racist language. The other man took his gun and knocked these two white men down. “Hey, nigger, come here!” He ran back toward the house, and they shot at him. He got into the house and slammed the door, and began to tell them what had happened in the house.

But at the same time these two white men kicked the door down and went in with pistols drawn, and the only (Continued on Page 9)

Rising campus protests confront militarism, Reaganomics, racism

by Olga Domanski, National Organizer, News and Letters Committees

When Jean Kirkpatrick, Reagan’s delegate to the UN, was booted off the platform at Berkeley as she tried to deliver a defense of U.S. foreign policy in Central America, the specter that haunted the Administration (both Reagan’s and the University’s) was the historical student revolt that had swept across the land in the 1960’s. Indeed, it was precisely the name of the Free Speech Movement (FSM), born on that same campus 18 years ago, which the Administration dared to invoke—and distort beyond all belief—by claiming that the demonstration was a violation of Kirkpatrick’s “free speech” when, at her first mention of El Salvador, she had been drowned out with cries of “40,000 dead!” (See story, p. 11).

That the Administration has good cause for worry can be seen in the rising militancy on campuses in every part of the country over all kinds of issues. Thus:

- Two weeks later, Kirkpatrick met the same kind of protest when she tried to speak at the University of Minnesota, and had to cancel her plans to be a commencement speaker at Smith College in Massachusetts when protests erupted at the mere announcement that she had been invited.
- The day after the Kirkpatrick protest at Berkeley, 4,000 students filled Sproul Plaza in a demonstration that began as a protest of a 25 percent increase in the Spring quarter fee, but soon grew also into a support rally for Third World students and the Ethnic Studies programs now in danger, as well as a protest against the Solomon Amendment linking tuition aid to draft registration, and support for the rights of university employees. One placard summed up the attitude of all: “America better change, Ronald Reagan, or we’re going to change America.” The same day, students at Northwestern University in Evanston, 11., also rallied against the Solomon Amendment—one of the largest demonstrations there for some time.
- Earlier, there had been a weeklong series of protests at a dozen California state campuses to protest: 1) nuclear research at the universities; 2) the planned testing this Spring of the MX missile at Vandenburg Air Force Base north of Los Angeles; 3) arms shipments to El Salvador from the Concord Naval Station near San Francisco—where the students were joined by dozens of peace, religious, union and political groups.

The depth of the protests and the width of the spectrum they represent is seen in the activity of Black students, especially.

(Continued on Page 10)
Dear Sisters:

My first thought on hearing the horrifying report of the gang rape of a woman in a New Bedford, Mass. bar was not of the sexist nature of the crime nor of the machismo gang rape of a woman in a New Bedford, Mass. bar was does show that the views of Marx's daughters are not man's screams for help. They cannot possibly be accused of merely "following the just geneologically but politically and philosophically. Eleanor herself could not critique Marxism by looking directly at women revolutionaries who don't agree with her, but all the things she said are true. Indeed, that is one of the most important points that women is raped, indeed, whenever a woman does anything which society disapproves of, her sexuality is immediately called into question to be used against her. For example, we can recall those who tried to discredit the Irish activist Bernadette Devlin when she gave her a child "out of wedlock." When a question of race is also involved, the attacks are especially vehement, as in the case of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo. The case brought by her five children implicating the FBI in her murder by the Ku Klux Klan in 1965 and proving that J. Edgar Hoover himself made sure that it was "pressed an attitude of "Well, what did she expect, going into the proletariat was not rhetoric but a perspective for well-known activity with unskilled, unorganized workers.

The immediate demonstrations by over 3,000 women, men and children in New Bedford demanding justice in this case and an end to rape were very moving. I was shocked, however, when some people interviewed expressed the thought, "What did she expect, going into a bar alone?" That such attitudes still exist ten years after the emergence of women's liberation as a movement made me ask myself what questions this horrible act raises for all of us and what significance it might have for our movement.

WOMAN'S SEXUALITY

What came to my mind immediately was the whole question of sexuality and women and the dilemma not of a selfish act, but one of violence and domination of one person over another, but it nevertheless affects a woman's sexuality for the rest of her life. Not only that, but whenever a woman is raped, indeed, whenever a woman does anything which society disapproves of, her sexuality is immediately called into question to be used against her."

Indeed, that is one of the most important points that we have that totality, is the time for us to develop those foundations for our own liberation, as Marx's daughters tried to develop his philosophy for theirs.

Mary Holmes

Workers organize TIPS

Flint, Mich. — Waiters and waitresses are organizing a chapter of TIPS (To Insure Proper Service), a statewide organization which is trying to repeal or at least lower the receipts in addition to the amount of tips claimed by the employee.

The assumption that allocating tips is easy and that every person is a tipper is a high road which meets the world of charge accounts and fancy meals that may prevail in Washington, D.C., but not in places like Flint. Also, many employees must report these tips as having tips income of at least eight percent of their gross receipts in addition to the amount of tips claimed by the employer.

The Women's Movement in Sri Lanka

Shenelle Liuzzo, who is on trial for the murder of Viola Liuzzo,jerne philosopher, has been imprisoned in a Sri Lanka prison since 1983 and sentenced to life in prison. Contributions of articles, letters and funds are needed. We hope that this horrible event could become a turning point for the women's movement. I share hope with her and I thank her for your support and this discussion. Please write to me c/o Women's Liberation—News & Letters, 2832 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI, 48211.

Suzanne Casey

South African police RAID home of Winnie Mandela

South African police RAID home of Winnie Mandela on Jan. 7 while two white liberal members of Parliament, Helen Suzman and Peter Soal, had been visiting. Mandela and her husband, Nelson, who is imprisoned for the sabotage of the police, were forced to lock their doors to stop the police from entering. After Mandela refused to answer the police, they RAIDed the home, breaking in the door to search for weapons and other evidence of sabotage. The police RAIDed the home because they suspected that Mandela was planning to take part in a "restless" protest against the apartheid regime. Her husband, Nelson, is still imprisoned by the government.

(from Big Mama Rag)

No More Cages is a publication of Women Free Women in South Africa. Since November, 1982, Nirmala Nithiyandanan, a journalist and feminist, has been imprisoned in a South African army camp, under a repressive "Prevention of Terrorism Act." Her supporters fear for her health and safety. She has been actively fighting for the emancipation of the Tamil women, and has organized women's liberation campaigns. For more information on the women's movement in Sri Lanka, TIPS Women's Newsletter, 18/9 Chitra Lane, Colombo-5, Sri Lanka.

More Cages is a publication of Women Free Women in Prison, with contributions from women prisoners in jails and mental hospitals. It is presently read in 150 prisons and jails. Contributions of articles, letters, and funds are needed — a donor subscription is $6.00 per year. Write: Women Free Women in Prison, P.O. Box 96, Brooklyn, NY 11215.
GM-Toyota attack workers

by Felix Martin, Co-Editor

General Motors' plan to produce a new compact car with Toyota will mean the end of one of the most vicious attacks on labor I have ever seen. GM says it needs Toyota's "expertise" to build a new compact. Every worker that GM puts on the assembly line will be a threat to the power of compacts all over the world. The real reason for the deal is to open Fremont under "joint ownership" of a "new" GM-Toyota enterprise. It could be similar to the way the UAW or hire back the laid-off Fremont workers.

They will use Toyota to cut wages, take away any worker say on hiring and firing, and worsen working conditions so anyone could be fired for coming in a minute late. The workers would not be free to collectively bargain or co-operate with the UAW or hire back the laid-off Fremont workers.

Newt Bambini, a local union bureaucrat here in California, said he hoped the deal would go through as planned. "The workers can't win if they can't create a socialist United States."

I leave it to you to figure out what I believe in this union or any other union. They're all sold out to the bosses. Our only protection is our own unity on the shop floor. When all else is lost, I hope you will find something in me... that makes you feel that way myself most of the time. I think these unions are beyond saving. We need a new form of organization.

And just let a member get up at a meeting with some criticism. They'll jump down your throat, screaming "anti-union" and "save the union" and making you look like Reagan or worse, and all the while they're the ones tearing up the union.
I would like to turn over my Theory/Practice column to Eugene Walker who has written to me on the concluding part of my new book. — Raya Dunayevskaya

In the concluding chapter of your book, Rosa Luxemburg, Women’s Liberation and Marx’s Philosophy of Revolution, you write: as a “trail to the 1980s” and “A 1980s View” of Marx. A lot of people have written very recently about Marx’s Marxism not as a 100-plus-year-old body of documents, but as becoming a new decade of the 1980s view: the contributions of Marxist-Humanism. Our origins are not alone in the 1980s, but stretch back ten times a year, monthly except for January-February and August-September, by News & Letters, 2832 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Michigan 48211. Telephone: 873-8969, Subscription: $2.50 a year; single copy 25c; for bulk order of five or more, 25c each.

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‘A Trail to the 1980s’ and ‘A 1980s View’

Dear Raya,

The failure of the Left and Marx’s Marxism, but also to the fact that a new generation of revolutionaries is ready to identify with and become part of a new revolutionary movement from below. It has on hand the challenge and the opportunity to go beyond that realm to a truly new human beginning.

For Marx, it is a matter of defeated, but not yet defeated. It is a matter of defeating, of being defeated, of being able to defeat capitalism, of being able to defeat the capitalist system, of being able to defeat the capitalist world.

Raya Dunayevskaya’s Trilogy of Revolution

Marxism and Freedom

"There is nothing simple about a commodity. It is a great fetish that makes the despotic conditions of capitalist production appear as if they were self-evident truths of social production. Nothing can be further true.

Philosophy and Revolution

"Because to Marx, history and the actual dialectical development were one, he could begin with that 'unit' of capitalist wealth, the lowly commodity, in this way he could show that the appearances of that value-category of labor are quite different. Only by examining the way in which the commodity is created, the way in which it is used, the way in which it is destroyed, can we begin to understand the true nature of the commodity."

Rosa Luxemburg, Women’s Liberation and Marx’s Philosophy of Revolution

Thus, as we enter the feminism of commodities, it is clear that it is neither just appearance that we are dealing with, nor even just essence, the state remains quintessential for understanding appearance, for knowing what lies behind. But to get to the totally we cannot leave it at objectivity. The objective may may have the unanswerable. As Marx wrote of the truth of both, we can never be free. And freedom is what all the struggle is about.

All three books published by Humanities Press for the Marx Centenary

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Order from News & Letters, 2832 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Michigan 48211
**Peruvian woman on feminism**

Detroit, Mich. — Virginia Vargas, coordinator of the Centro Flora Tristan, a feminist center in Lima, Peru, recently spoke on the feminism in Peru at the University of Michigan.

She discussed the many achievements of Centro Flora Tristan in working with and organizing radical women and their efforts to unite theories of feminism — which they had learned from their American sisters with their actual experiences, while trying to avoid the mistakes of American feminists. Indeed her presentation had much to teach us on the relations between the feminist organizations and working class women, a very crucial failure of our movement.

**WOMEN IN THE BARRIOS**

The many forms of “women’s wars” find yet another expression. As was spoken “women’s wars” will not only be fought by women but by everyone who wants to keep to the agreement on movement of labor.

The movement faces, such as the question of autonomy, especially in relation to the parties of the Left. Discussion of the movement has been about this agreement for a long time, telling people they must not work as directed if they want to keep their jobs. They use the high unemployment and the strike as an intimidation tactics.

This kind of management has stated that the right to “move as directed” if they want to keep their jobs. They use the high unemployment and the strike as an intimidation tactics.

On each line, the workers elected delegates, who met unofficially beside the canteen. It was all completely unorganized and “out of procedure.” Some shop stewards took part, but the majority of people who negotiated the management or the union’s full time officials who knew about it, they had been victimized.

Officially, no action should have been taken for a long time, until all the negotiating procedure had been gone through.

The movement stated that this agreement on “move as directed” if they want to keep their jobs. They use the high unemployment and the strike as an intimidation tactics.

They all walked out and left the lines running. By the time the senior stewards got to know about it, something had happened everyone had gone home.

Next day, management met with the senior stewards at the Qantas Airline complex at Cowley, took strike action, 7 March, against the company’s attempt to direct them to move to different areas of the factory, which says they can only do this by mutual consent with union representatives.

The movement has been about this agreement for a long time, telling people they must not work as directed if they want to keep their jobs. They use the high unemployment and the strike as an intimidation tactics.

This kind of management has stated that the right to “move as directed” if they want to keep their jobs. They use the high unemployment and the strike as an intimidation tactics.

The Center has only not helped in the formation of grass roots organizations, but focused on research in the areas of women in the factory and women in history.

This history, Virginia Vargas was quick to point out, was not being written in isolation of the movements, but was based on discussions with women workers at their workplace.

In the discussion period, Vargas stated that the most significant failure of the American feminist movement was the inability to reach the Black dimension in this country as well as working women. In their work, Peruvian feminists have begun to raise questions that we in the U.S. need to raise in our movement.

**Qantas fires workers**

San Francisco, Ca. — Qantas Airline locked us out Feb. 6 and contracted out baggage handling work at minimum wage. Ever since contract negotiations started in March of 1982, the company would only negotiate a severance package being that we would be out the door.

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Qantas is saying they can fire whoever they want to, but to encourage them to know and demand what they have done throughout history.

**New York Book Fair**

1983 marks the 9th year that a New York Book Fair will be held. The New York Book Fair will be held this year between May 13th and 16th, at the 7th Regiment Armory, Park Ave. and E. 67th St. in New York City.

The fair is a gathering of alternative and independent presses: Black, Women’s Cultural, and radical; and its growth each year will be featured the works of third World Writers in Exile, from Latin America, Africa, the Orient, and the Caribbean. The grand opening will be on May 13th at 8 p.m., the first night of the fair.

The New York Book Fair, 321 W. 94th St. NYC, 10027.

**Shop floor organizing shuts British Leyland**

Oxford, England — Over 4000 workers at the Pressed Steel & Fisher plant, in London, were to be negotiated a severance package while trying to avoid the mistakes of American feminists. Indeed her presentation had much to teach us on the relations between the feminist organizations and working class women, a very crucial failure of our movement.

**Central America**

(Continued from Page 1)

**THE REAGAN CONSPIRACY**

If there is a conspiracy in Central America, it is the conspiracy of what the Reagan Administration is doing to crush the Sandinistas.*

* the U.S. government’s support for the Sandinistas, some of whom have launched an offensive against Nicaragua.

* the millions in aid to Honduras, including recent joint military exercises with the Honduran armed forces.

* the recent American invasion of the Bocas del Toro coastal region, run by the U.S. military to train Latin American officers.

* the latest revelations of a vast spy network initiated by the Sandinistas and operating in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

This is the conspiracy which needs to be rooted out. It is one which is not alone for Latin America, but can have its most dangerous aspects right here at home in the Reagan Administration’s determination to impose its view of “American exceptionalism” upon a human situation. This opposition to Reagan’s militaristic policies abroad, needs to begin with working out a different future here at home. - E. Walker

**Nurse looks at Health Association conference**

Madison, Wis. — The American Public Health Association’s (APHA) 110th Annual Meeting was held in Madison, Wisconsin this November to seek pleasure in their individual relations, and these lessons in sexology apparently have brought cousins closer together.

**Peruvian Women’s War**

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U.S. LIFE AND LABOR: EMPLOYED, UNEMPLOYED, HOMELESS

Hundreds of Van Noy workers held a demonstration in the pouring rain outside their plant in late February, demanding that GM sign a written promise to keep the plant open. Even though GM says it intends to hire back the second shift, every worker knows it's only the beginning to boost up production before closing the plant once and for all. Even the Van Noy workers union leaders were known for sitting around and waiting for orders from GM, attended the rally.

"When about 500 of us showed up at a South Gate union meeting, all complaining about GM's decision to lay off thousands of workers, one said we should move to Oklahoma to get the work. They wanted to know what the union leadership is doing to protect our members. Why aren't they inquiring about workers' families being torn apart, and they wanted to know why the leadership hadn't informed the workers about it."—GM Fleetwood worker, California

One night I was watching "Nightline," and a young reporter interviewing workers laid off at the plant in Ohio was interviewed by Ted Koppel. He had been called back on the second shift, but the dealership said he should leave before that and called back before, so this call-back could lead to another lay-off. He told the truth that the upturn that Reagan is touting is about nothing but another of his many up-turns he predicted since he took office.

Three of the four economists interviewed next were forced to agree to this worker. Could this mean that for once "mental" labor is beginning to see that "mental" labor has a head too? Or were they just intimidated by the plain truth of what he said?

Retired worker
California

CHICAGO ELECTION

The article "Black Chicago Unites" (Mar. N&L) gave me a lot of pleasure. I saw for myself years ago what a racist chic is that can be created by living in a segregated white color. Never did I think that our community would ever come to be dominated by machine, but they are on the path to victory now. But before we count the election over, we should remember that power never gives up without a fight, and the old machine will fight. I hear that now they are being flushed out of power, and flooded with KKK leaflets and the police are openly campaigning for the white color. So it looks like they have lost, though they always backed the Democratic before. This time unity is needed even more.

Subscribed to
Detroit

THOUGHTS ON MARCH 8

I think we still have a long way to go in this movement. I was leafleting the campus for our International Women's Day meeting this week. I don't like to see the Union of University Women having "just a cafeteria worker here." I was so taken back that it came to the idea of attempting to work myself as a woman, who International Women's Day was created by and for. The division between myself and the students was obvious. I work with high school students. I feel the divide is deep in this sick society.

Women's liberationist
Windsor, Ontario

CRISIS IN EDUCATION: PARENTS SPEAK OUT

My children are attending the Detroit Public Schools, and what I am noticing lately is a change in the teachers. Teachers aren't teaching any more. They have become0 in charge of the students. They don't teach anymore. They just do the administrative thing.

Laid-off auto worker
Southern California

John Marcotte's column (Mar. N&L) told the truth. In this country it isn't unemployment or overwork—it's both. At GM Fleetwood we are working nine hours a day, and eight hours every other Saturday. And this is with over 1,000 members of our local union on lay-off. They try to blame the unemployment on "Japanese competition", but the real black.”—GM Fleetwood worker, Detroit

GM Fleetwood worker, Detroit

Under Reagan's new plans to have low-income students pay a larger share of college costs before becoming eligible for any Federal grants, the minimum a student would be required to raise would be no less than 40 percent. To call this a "self-help" incentive is not merely disingenuous but obscene in a land in which the unemployed and hungry are being made much higher for young. There's no way they can raise the money themselves.

College student, Camden, Pennsylvania

I'm glad the college students are protesting all the cuts in education, but the problems start at the very beginning, with the youngest children. If you can't read your education stops right there, and if you're hungry you can't learn to read. It isn't only outright educational things Reagan is cutting, it's things like lunch, too. Kids standing in lines with their parents at soup kitchens and cheese lines. When your belly is empty you're not interested in anything but dreaming about food. I know.

Young working woman
Detroit

It's nice to be back in Britain, but finding it quite a shock after the states. It is an expensive place, but the contrast to that is that it is quite a lot of fun. The anti-nuclear movement has grown incredibly since I left, with about seven peace camps in England and Scotland. On one day in Scotland there was a woman's day of action at Faslane (a submarine base). 1,500 women were there to end the nuclear plans of the government. I'm going to spend a few days at the peace camp.

On my way I began to appreciate the demonstrations in California. Here there is quite a lot of fun in the anti-nuclear movement. It's all a woman's affair and I personally feel that at some point men have to be included. One of the things that most excites me here is to see people acting from their beliefs and not from the directive of any big organization. In one place I feel the nuclear holocaust is just around the corner, so apart from the excitement I feel pretty sad as well.

One of my criticisms of the movement here is the tendency toward being middle-class women. I hope it will broaden to include all of society. However, it's still wonderful to see women organizing and growing and learning every day.

Female and peace activist
Glasgow, Scotland

NEW QUESTIONS FOR MOVEMENT IN FRANCE AND GERMANY

I'm not surprised that the Greens in Germany have trouble controlling the labor, as Kevin B. Barry showed in his article last month. The Greens were saying capitalist wants to have subsistence production. As a former auto worker I can tell you that this capitalist has to over-produce. That is the only way they can squeeze their surplus value out of the workers. To stop overproducing, the workers have to have workers seize production in their own hands; just to say, "we are the workers and the workers produce less, without changing the factory relations, is like wanting nuclear power without the old machine will fight. I hear that now they are being flushed out of power, and flooded with KKK leaflets and the police are openly campaigning for the white color. So it looks like they have lost, though they always backed the Democratic before. This time unity is needed even more.

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MARXIST-HUMANISM'S 'TRILOGY OF REVOLUTION' CHALLENGES POST-MARXIST MARXISTS

Like her previous books, Raya Dunayevskaya's valuable new work gave me great pleasure to read. She has written of the original Martinist view of the importance of women's work, the origins of the method of Marx's humanism, and the dynamic force that is working people as a bridge between the text and contemporary forms of human life. The list of merits could be greatly extended, and all of them constitute elements that I could learn from this book.

But we see many things differently. Those substantive differences arise from our different experiences and different cultural environments, and also from the fact that the contemporary world is drawn to a truly "human" society, which would ordain with the European idea of individualism, freed from social regimentation...

This is, to this day, despite the common use of the term (Marxist) "tradition", what is the predominant feature is the poverty of theoretical development in this sphere.

The mass development of Russian history of Marx's Capital and early 20th century: October 1917 included — seems to me to center above all in this: that they opened a discussion of the consequences of the Westernization of Russia and made possible the definitive triumph over the fine traditions of the social and cultural traditions of Western civilization — the principle of power... You see Russia as a slave-class country... I agree with the first half of your formulation.

I don't know how many of your readers have seen the new film General Strike, but it is a truly "human society" which they see as a "human society," and not as a "human society," that the achievement of Indian independence was held back for a decade. Gandhi.

But, just like so many post-Marxist Marxists, refused to see more than one path to social transformation. The category of "post-Marxist" must, I believe, include not only Marx's followers, but his critics.

Student of dialectics

California

I have just finished reading Marxism and Freedom and I am about halfway through Philosophy and Revolution. So far, I have enjoyed a more profound understanding of Marxism and revolutionary dialectics. Previously, I had never really grasped the sense of revolution, as an emotional experience. However, Raya's "works" clarified an understanding of Marx that is very much from the influence of orthodoxy. Marxism. They also put some "meat" into my own thoughts and helped mine working out the contradictions of present-day revolutionary developments.

The philosophy of praxis, as Gramsci put it, is just that: not dogma, not doctrine, nor a "science" in the narrow context of "Marxism-Leninism", but as the dynamic force that is working people as Subject, ever developing, becoming, renewing itself beyond the mere confines of capitalism's constrictions. This is what freedom means...

Bi-lingual teacher

Washington, D.C.

In the letter signed "Anthropologist and activist, Illinois" (Jan-Feb. N&L), the author asks for discussion on Dunayevskaya's treatment of the relation between Marx and Engels. I don't think that's what's important here is that Dunayevskaya found new depth in Marx's Ethnological Notes. Engels tended to base his things in the university. And now they are cutting back what few programs we have do. Did you know that from 800 Black Studies programs in the USA ten years ago, today there are only in 525?

Black student

Ann Arbor, Mich.

Did you know that National Public Radio had an observance of the Marx Centenary? "Things Considered?" The two Marxists they talked to were Harry Magoff and Daniel Singer. They also interviewed Black Heilbronn, and other bourgeois idealists who promptly displayed their willful ignorance. Singer was the only one who didn't reduce Marxism to mere analysis of capitalism's economic workings. One of the newspapers even recycled the old myth that Marx considered Russia very backward and particularly unripe for revolution.

Listening, but not learning

Illinois

The March issue of N&L is a living proof of the power of human ideas. The "Worker's Journal" column shows how the thinking of two workers changed after "meeting Marx". I liked the column very much because it really shows the Marx of Marx, how both mental and manual labor are needed in the same person to break down the barriers that separate and fragment people. I would like to ask other workers who read N&L to tell how they "met Marx".

Ex-auto worker

Pico Rivera, Ca.

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Howard U: Black writers, student protests in two worlds

Washington, D.C. — I arrived at Howard University during Black History Month for the Fifth Annual Afro-American Writers' Conference in the middle of student protests, and marches denouncing the resignation of James Cheek, the president of the university since the late 1960s when I had been a student there. Unfortunately, the student protests and the proceedings of the writers' conference remained in two separate worlds.

It was the first convening of the writers' conference since 1978 with the purpose of looking at recent Black literature within the social and ideological context of today's Black condition. The conference ran for two days and explored topics ranging from Black autobiography as history to the political dimensions of nationalism, Marxism and feminism in recent Black literature. The conference addressed the neglect of Black women's studies were given by James Spady and Joanne Braxton. In speaking about Black historical biography, James Spady singled out Black labor as a neglected subject of Black literature, and presented some research on Arthur Fausett, the brother of Harlem Renaissance writer and feminist, Jessie Fausett. Arthur Fausett had been a prominent Black intellectual and writer, and had authored two journals which took up labor and socialist issues and had founded the Philadelphia teachers' union.

Jeanne-Brazill Braxton, the only one during the conference to note that it was no surprise that the only day of the recent Black literature was by women, was joined by Black feminist and writer, Joan Hachtman, literary critic Houston Baker, and Black activist Amiri Baraka.

Two of the most interesting papers which showed the serious contribution of Black intellectuals to Black labor and women's studies were given by James Spady and Joanne Braxton. In speaking about Black historical biography, James Spady singled out Black labor as a neglected subject of Black literature, and presented some research on Arthur Fausett, the brother of Harlem Renaissance writer and feminist, Jessie Fausett. Arthur Fausett had been a prominent Black intellectual and writer, and had authored two journals which took up labor and socialist issues and had founded the Philadelphia teachers' union.

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McGhee and Swinton's essays are undoubtedly a response to the deep and continuing depression in the Black community that is compelling Black intellectuals to go beyond the comprehensive studies on how bad conditions are, and move on to the cause of those conditions in capitalist production. At the same time it has to be pointed out that McGhee and Swinton are saying nothing new — what they are saying is that the world economic system of capital is what really matters, and that it is not the cause of Black unemployment and poverty.
The main burden of Angela Davis' book, *Women, Race, and Class*, is its attempt to reconstruct the history of Black women during the 19th century anti-slavery movement. It is true that Davis does point out such a historic original as Maria Stewart as the first American-born woman to speak in public, but she does not bother to relate that to the fact that it was 189 years ago. That Nat Turner led the greatest slave rebellion in U.S. history, is that not because Davis' main burden of these essays is to show the division between middle-class white women and Black male suffrage, rather than to concentrate on the unique contributions Black women made in this crucial period?

The struggle for the 14th and 15th Amendments was a critical time, Davis claims, that the Black women in the leadership of the Black and women's movements. Instead, she rewrites history to separate Black liberation from women's liberation.

When Davis does get around to quoting Sojourner Truth on the passage of the 14th Amendment, she does it in a confusing way. She writes that "Two years earlier Sojourner Truth might possibly have opposed the position of Frederick Douglass and Abigail Scott Duniyevskaya's Rosa Luxemburg, Women's Liberation shows that Black women are not only revolutionaries but revolutionaries. Sojourner Truth, women's liberation, is a great stir about colored men getting their rights, but not a word about the colored women theirs. She sees the colored man will be master over the woman. And it will be just as bad as it was before. So I am for keeping the thing going while things are stirring; because if we wait till it is still, it will take a great while to get it again.

DAVIS' HISTORY WITHOUT PHILOSOPHY

Sojourner Truth's conception of how total the uprooting must be if we are to gain a new direction for Black and we must do more than just revolutionary force but revolutionary action. Angela Davis' book is not a new direction for us today. It focusses on the "lesser evil" or not vote at all. That is what is happening today. If you would like to send help for the legal defense of the comrades, send help to the Office of Defense Fund, 30x944.

Chicago and Illinois
- "On the Marx Century: Facing the Challenge to All Post-Marx Marxists" — Tues., April 18, 5 p.m. U. of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago Circle Center Forum 464, Women's Studies, Black Studies, Anthropology
- "Dialectics of Revolution: Confrontations with Marx" — Sat., April 15, 3 p.m., Midland Hotel, 2nd floor, Holabird Room, Chicago, News and Letters
- "The Trail from Marx's Philosophy of Revolution" — Sun., April 16, 3:30 p.m. U. of Ill., at 8th-12th-Champaign Conference on Third World Women and Feminist Perspectives
- "On the Marx Century — Facing the Challenge to All Post-Marx Marxists" — Thurs., April 21, 8 p.m. U. of Chicago, ASCC, 5th floor, Berkeley Feminist Alliance, Slavic Studies, Berkeley Journal of Sociology
- "On the Century of Marx: Revolutionary Consciousness of Minorities and Women" — Thurs., April 21, 8 p.m., in State U. at Los Angeles, Union, Room 218, United Programing Organization, Departments of Philosophy and Sociology, News and Letters Youth Committee
- "On the Marx Century: His Relevance to Women's Liberation" — Wed., April 27, 4 p.m. UCLA, Haines Hall 118, Center for Afro-American Studies, Women's Studies, History
- "On the Century of Marx" — Thurs., April 28, 7 p.m. U. of Cal. at San Diego, Undergraduate Science Center, Room 272, Associated Students, Women's Center, Political Science.


Many women writers and historians have written on the Women's Suffrage Movement of the 19th century and recognize the role played by women. But so far, the whole of the story has been told. Now, in "The Majority Finds Its Past, NAL, March, 1980.

The struggle for Black liberation and women's liberation, when history is written its role is seen as a "detour" from the mainstream of women's history or is shown as the fight for Black liberation first and their liberation second. —*See my review of Gerda Lerner's The Majority Finds Its Past, NAL, March, 1980.*

(Continued from Page 1)

thing the Blacks could do was try to protect themselves, which they did. One woman in the house called the Montgomery police asking for help against these white men who had broken into the house, but the police now claim that they made no record of the call because the tape equipment "malfunctioned." The two whites turned out to be police, and crowds of police stormed the house to arrest them. Women and children were beaten and forced to crawl to police cars and be arrested.

Anyone who has read the articles on what happened can see and smell the racism of Montgomery. I remember tape equipment "malfunctioned." The two whites turned out to be police, and crowds of police stormed the house to arrest them. Women and children were beaten and forced to crawl to police cars and be arrested.

The POLICE COVER-UP

The FBI says that they are investigating why the tape recorder "malfunctioned" when the Black woman called police headquarters for help. But I remember several years ago a system of police "malfunctioning" the tape equipment planted police shot and killed a mentally retarded Black man. The investigation later proved that a gun was planted on the man's dead body, and the Mayor, Robinson, had to resign. Swindle was involved in that cover-up too.

The truth is that what is happening, as I see it, has a lot to do with these elections. The racist whites put up two runners against each other, and Blacks have to choose the "lesser evil," or not vote at all. What happened in Lowndes County, Ala., now, where the white Probate Judge Hammond said he was the only liberal white in the county. He would say that he let Blacks move a trailer home, but on tour they said "Police!" They saw I had a pistol in my hands, and they asked me where did I work. After I told them I worked for a lawyer, they said they were looking for some man and left in a hurry.

That was many years ago, and we have had the civil rights revolution which is supposed to have changed everything. And yet Montgomery has a Police Chief, Swindle, who says to his attentive audience, "That is the way we treat the people in the manner of wild animals." This is the man who refused to give the Taylor family any medical treatment after they were beaten by the state employees in the jail. Swindle and Mayor Emory Falmore are two of the worst racist gun nuts we have ever seen. They are wearing guns everywhere, even to church.

Compare that to the Taylor family in Pontiac. Everyone who knows them says they are good, law-abiding citizens. They held a rally in Pontiac to start a support organization for the 11 defendants called the Montgomery Defense League, and 1,200 people turned out. There were also rallies in Montgomery. No one can believe what happened to them. They say these two police were mad when they saw Blacks had Cadillac and Lincolns parked near the house.

If you would like to send help for the legal defense of the Taylor family against the racist charges of the Montgomery police, contact:

Montgomery Defense Fund
P.O. Box 3273
Pontiac, MI 48069

No new direction in Angela Davis book on Black women
Reagan's non-solution to the farm problem

Chicago, Ill. — While voicing concern about the plight of the small family farmer, President Reagan's proposed solution will have the opposite effect from what he says is intended.

Reagan has proposed the payment-in-kind (PIK) program as his solution, whereby farmers will be given grain as their payments instead of cash. This would increase costs, not decrease them. And it will drive farmers out of business, not help them.

Farmers who grow crops that are not on the list of eligible crops for PIK payments will not be able to keep the prices of their crops from falling even further. And farmers who plant crops that are on the list will not be able to sell their crops for more than the government pays for them.

This is a disaster for the farm economy. It will lead to more farmers going out of business, not fewer. And it will lead to more food prices rising, not falling.

Reagan's PIK program is a complete failure. It is a non-solution to the farm problem.
by Jim Mills

Perhaps it isn’t only Marxist-Humanists who say that the most alienated groups are the “new moments” in Marx’s last decade. Marx, in his doctoral dissertation, created a new concept of theory.

Thus, Marx’s doctoral dissertation, the humanist perspective of having an all-kids blockade this summer. The number one thing we couldn’t talk about, side by side with the women’s movement in history and to Marx’s analysis of capitalism. When Dunayevskaya discussed the coincidence of Marxism and the women’s liberation was that the black alienated had not only new layers of youth revolt emerging to challenge its inhumanity, but that it was that is now coalescing with resistance to the administration’s dismantling of curricula not geared to business or war. A creative protest by Fine Arts students against the new pedagogy was held at the school when a woman student at the lecture wore a tag on her lapel that read, “If you think education is too expensive, try ignorance.”

New forms of campus militancy are being expressed in the last decade. Yet so deep are the crisis in capitalism in this, the Marxian way, that not only are there new moments of youth revolt emerging to challenge its inhumanity, but that it was that is now coalescing with resistance to the administration’s dismantling of curricula not geared to business or war. A creative protest by Fine Arts students against the new pedagogy was held at the school when a woman student at the lecture wore a tag on her lapel that read, “If you think education is too expensive, try ignorance.”

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The military dictatorship which calls itself the “Islamic Republic” is using the threat of nuclear war to intimidate the youth. In February police teargassed and then opened fire on thousands of striking students, killing three. The role of the student unrest, including its Coup where 98 pupils were disciplined for a distributing leaflets, two were expelled and one interned.

In a national day of protest, Feb. 21, students at several colleges in England occupied campus buildings and demanded recognition of their rights by the Tory government. At North London Polytechnic, police evicted students in indefinite occupation, who then occupied a neighboring building. A specific goal of that occupation was to save the college’s school of librarianship. Campus employees and teaching staff refused to cross picket lines, side by side with the women’s movement in history and to Marx’s analysis of capitalism. When Dunayevskaya discussed the coincidence of Marxism and the women’s liberation was that the black alienated had not only new layers of youth revolt emerging to challenge its inhumanity, but that it was that is now coalescing with resistance to the administration’s dismantling of curricula not geared to business or war. A creative protest by Fine Arts students against the new pedagogy was held at the school when a woman student at the lecture wore a tag on her lapel that read, “If you think education is too expensive, try ignorance.”

Despite the Polish authorities declaration of the lifting of martial law, military rule is still in place and has intensified the student unrest, including its Coup where 98 pupils were disciplined for a distributing leaflets, two were expelled and one interned.

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William G. Paddock was sentenced to one year Oct. 6 for refusing to be drafted into the South African military. Paddock’s overtly political objection to conscription comes from his view that South Africa’s war on Namibia is unjust. His sentencing preceded by one month a new military callup system intended to counter insurgent
China

Last year a magazine in Beijing printed an article on unemployed youth that quoted one young person: "I have spent my whole youth in communist camps, working on my own for a living, sometimes wandering to the east and sometimes to the west. When can I put an end to this wandering and start living as a worker?" (Cited in SPEAREHhead, No. 16.)

To say that there was no unemployment in China even a few years ago, you would have had to count being sent to a labor reform camp as having a job. Young people like the person above can testify that the "iron rice bowl," the notion that a labor reform camp as having a job. Young people like the person above can testify that the "iron rice bowl," the notion that if you have a job, you have a job for life, is slipping away. I was arrested on Dec. 20, 1981. Thus I have behind me the fact that on the 20th and 21st of each month we received from the National Council did not mention a word about the right of political prisoners to a separate status, despite the fact that on the 20th and 21st of each month we re-
mind authorities of it by undertaking a protest hunger strike.

The President of the National Council proposed, however, something else — an act of mercy. Only those who, as I went through the judicial process which was a grim face and had nothing in common with law and order, went through the interrogation, arrest and prison, can fully understand how heinous is this proposition. After a year of fighting with myself, despite all of the 20th, not to surrender to fate, suddenly I find out that it is I — sentenced to ten years imprisonment and five years of none of political rights, whose son received a three year sentence only for being my son — I have to ask for forgiveness and mercy, show repentance.

Only Mr. President did not say what forgiveness and I am asking. Is it the prosecutor Wojcieksa, or rather some other political official who falsified the record? I direct this question also to Gen. Jaruzelski who is chairman of the committee, called for a show of repentance. Who has to apologize to me?

Come out — yes! At any price — no!

Throughout Poland the struggle for freedom refuses to be crushed. On March 9, the opening day of the trial of Anna Walentynowicz, whose firing sparked the 1980 take-over of the Gdansk shipyard, the Communist government committed itself to a show of repentance: "We will have to organize protests, hunger strikes, strikes. We can't talk when so many people are in jails," Ms. Walentynowicz is being tried for continuing union activity after the imposition of martial law.

At the same time, a letter delivered to Parliament from over 200,000 people in the Baltic states asking for the renunciation of Solidarnosc and withdrawal of reprisals and warned the Gdansk junta — you cannot "turn back the tide of history."

Four days later the first new Gdansk rally of 2,000 protesters took place outside the shipyards. Other rallies occurred in Warsaw and Wroclaw. The next day another demonstration took place in Gdansk as workers returned to their homes. The Catholic Church continues to play an underhanded role in the demonstrations. "The voice of the streets, as well as from below could be heard not separated from the articula-
tion of a whole new Third World — that form the content
development for the same three decades, Marxist-Humanism
the birth of a whole new generation of revolutionaries,
to the last decade of Marx's life by disclosing in them a trail to
our day. By tracing and paralleling this age's 30-year
movement from practice to theory with our own theoretical
ist-Humanism in the U.S., 1941 to Today is recorded in the
History Archives of Wayne State University.

The influence Of the peace movement continues to grow.
In the West, it is trying to use the movement. They organized a 100,000-strong "official" peace march in February on the 25th anniversary of the allied genocidal bombing of Dresden in 1945. But hundreds of youth broke off from that official rally to attend independent rallies at Protestant churches. A banner reading "Germany, let our dream called in Cäs-
terna, and elsewhere, for Poles to stay away from the demon­

Japan

More than 7,000 snake-dancing demonstrators protested the visit of the nuclear-powered U.S. aircraft carrier Ent­

terprise to Sasebo, Japan.

News & Letters

Who We Are and What We Stand For

News and Letters Committee, on organization of Marx-
ist-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 the U.S.S.R. We worked for the development of a new human society based on the principles of Marx's Humanism as recreated for our day.

News & Letters was founded so that the voices of revolt from below could be heard not separated from the articulation of a philosophy of liberation. A Black production worker, Charles Denby, author of Indigent Heart: A Black Worker's Journal, is the editor of the paper. Rosa Duno-
evskaya, the Chairwoman of the National Editorial Board and National Chairwoman of the Committee, is the author of Marxism in the Human Tradition, Philosophy and Revolution, Russia and Marx.