Alabama struggle deepens
by Charles Denby, Editor
Author of Indigenous Heart; Black Worker's Journal

I am turning my column over this month to Lous Turner to report on the latest developments in Alabama
— Charles Denby.

In a special letter to subscribers and friends in Alabama which accompanied the April issue of News & Letters, Charles Denby wrote: "I believe that there is a greater crisis in Black freedom in my home state today than at any time since the days of the Civil Rights Movement nearly 20 years ago."

Like the Taylor family from Ohio and Pontiac, Mich., who were arrested in Montgomery, Ala. in February and bled into custody for defending themselves against two white police attackers, Denby had left Alabama long ago for the factories of the North. Like the Taylors he has never lost touch with "home", and has always written about the Black people who were left behind — Black working people of the North and the South.

BLACK MASS MILITANCY

Today, once again the South has become the scene of Black mass militancy. Scenes from the Black freedom movement in Alabama have unfolded in quick succession since the Taylor family incident.

"The Montgomery Advertiser" recently reported "some 150 community people turn out to the first mass meeting following the Taylor arrests. And since then there have been mass meetings every Monday night where 300-500 have attended. To fix the Taylor family on bonds ranging from $20,000 to $40,000 some Montgomery residents have pledged their homes."

Even the Montgomery Advertiser had to declare in an editorial that "By now most Montgomerians suspect that"

South African metal workers have been active in wave of strikes that have swept the country in the last several years.

MAY DAY, 1983

Workers from Poland and South Africa to U.S. strive for freedom

by Michael Connolly

Ronald Reagan's public relations bandwagon proclaiming his "new economic recovery" received a rude shock, April 6, when he travelled to Pittsburgh to proclaim the Administration's latest panacea — retraining programs in computer "hi-tech." The grimming president was met by 5,000 furious unemployed

ed, many of them laid off from steel mills who had to be kept away from Reagan by cops with dogs. In this largest demonstration at any Reagan appearance since he took office, the workers' signs gave the lie to the Administration's claim that "America's on the mend": "We want jobs, not talk."

As Reagan spoke, the unemployment figures were undermining the demonstrators' charges that the recent anemic increases in production have meant no real creation of jobs. On the contrary, West Virginia's 21 percent unemployment rate in March set a record for any state since figures began being kept over 40 years ago. And unemployment for Black America nationally continued at levels over 100 percent higher than that for whites.

OPPOSITION NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

Opposition to such unconscionable conditions kept appearing throughout the month of April. In California, workers from the closed GM Fremont plant rallied to demand that the UAW convention take a national strike vote to back up their right to jobs when the plant is re-opened as a joint GM-Toyota venture. And in Chicago, where unemployment and housing conditions have steadily worsened since the failure of "poverty programs" in the 1960s, a massive mobilization in the city's Black neighborhoods drew world attention as they succeeded in throwing an entrenched racist machine out of office.

Indeed, so deep is the continuing crisis of capitalism today, and such new forms have the revolt by workers against it takes, that both "official" economists and movement activists have had a fresh view of the world dimensions of labor thrust before their eyes. On the one hand they have had to contend with no less than 30 million unemployed in the OECD nations (the industrial "West"), as well as a decline in the real standard of living for factory workers in those lands of 15 percent since 1967. On the other hand they have witnessed a stream of demonstrations, strikes and street riots by employed and unemployed alike, from Argentina and Brazil to Ireland and France.

(Continued on Page 9)

Black Chicago on the move

Chicago, Ill. — "This is a people's movement that says we can do it no set or do. Not just for Harold Washington,

who had to be kept away from Reagan by cops with dogs. In this largest demonstration at any Reagan appearance since he took office, the workers' signs gave the lie to the Administration's claim that "America's on the mend": "We want jobs, not talk."

As Reagan spoke, the unemployment figures were undermining the demonstrators' charges that the recent anemic increases in production have meant no real creation of jobs. On the contrary, West Virginia's 21 percent unemployment rate in March set a record for any state since figures began being kept over 40 years ago. And unemployment for Black America nationally continued at levels over 100 percent higher than that for whites.

OPPOSITION NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

Opposition to such unconscionable conditions kept appearing throughout the month of April. In California, workers from the closed GM Fremont plant rallied to demand that the UAW convention take a national strike vote to back up their right to jobs when the plant is re-opened as a joint GM-Toyota venture. And in Chicago, where unemployment and housing conditions have steadily worsened since the failure of "poverty programs" in the 1960s, a massive mobilization in the city's Black neighborhoods drew world attention as they succeeded in throwing an entrenched racist machine out of office.

Indeed, so deep is the continuing crisis of capitalism today, and such new forms have the revolt by workers against it takes, that both "official" economists and movement activists have had a fresh view of the world dimensions of labor thrust before their eyes. On the one hand they have had to contend with no less than 30 million unemployed in the OECD nations (the industrial "West"), as well as a decline in the real standard of living for factory workers in those lands of 15 percent since 1967. On the other hand they have witnessed a stream of demonstrations, strikes and street riots by employed and unemployed alike, from Argentina and Brazil to Ireland and France.

(Continued on Page 9)

Labor, rebellion and socialism in
American history .................... p. 4
Wounded Knee, 10 years later ........ p. 5
Editorial: Unleashing the
security cops ................... p. 7

This collection of essays has a title that is most intriguing because it captures the essence of the questions of categories which many feminists are obviously re-examining: the marriage of Marxism and feminism. The major essay, however, is by Heidi Hartman, entitled, "The Unhappy Marriage of Marxism and Feminism." Hartman argues that categories which many feminists have been like the marriage of man/woman relations in the late 60's-70's, concluding, "we need either a healthier marriage or a divorce."

Hartman argues that while categories of Marxism provide essential insight into the laws of historical development, Marxism is sex blind. She says that feminism, an analysis on the other hand, is blind to history and insufficiently materialist, and therefore, both Marxism and feminism must be drawn upon if we are to understand the development of Western society in which partnership of patriarchy and capitalism has evolved.

UNDISTRIBUTED MARXISM:

However, when it comes to writing about "Marxism," she makes no attempt to distinguish the Marxism of Marx (which she doesn't even bother to comment upon) from that of Marx's totalizing Enlightenment bloc who call themselves "socialist." Nor does she go beyond Engels' Origin of the Family as to what Marxism has to say on family and the division of labor.

She stresses that since capitalism and private property are inseparable consequences of the division of labor, and women, an end to capitalism will not result in the end of women's oppression. She concludes that while any change in the economic domain, and fail to see his writing as a full social uprooting including man/woman relations as a whole. She further argues that, if Marxists, view Marx's goal and methodology as concerned only with the economic, fail to see his writings as a full philosophy of liberation.

In the very same 1844 Essays (Economic-Philosophic Manuscripts) in which he writes of alienated labor and the exploitation of capital, Marx hits out against "vulgar communism" and singles out alienated man/woman relations in marriage. It becomes quite clear that he meant something quite different from what many view as "Marx's" writing on family and the division of labor. "The free development of each is the precondition for the development of all." Any "socialist" society that still remained patriarchal would not, in Marx's view, be socialist!

One of the respondents to Hartman is Aziza Al-Bakri, a Lebanese writer whose writings deal with Third World women in particular. Her essay, entitled "Capitalism is an extension of Patriarchy," argues that "exploited" does not define capitalism as an advanced stage of patriarchal society. To her this patriarchy is driven by man's desire for immortality, which unlike woman, who reproduces herself, can only be fulfilled through the process of production and control over women.

The most surprising of the contributions is Glenda Gilroy's historical vision, which credits the whole history of the development of humanity to man, as woman is reduced only to her role in reproduction. "Men's society," she says, "is not an extension of women's, it is a new one." Gilroy's perspective is an important one, and one that is often neglected in discussions of women's liberation.

NEW BEDFORD: readers respond

I used to live in New Bedford, so the horrible rape there was especially close to me. Your column was magnificent! It's so true what you say about sexism in our society. As a girl in this community to be used. I have seen this view in both men and women. The column is original in discussing and dialoging across full personal spheres. I was glad to see this discussed in N&L.

— Looking for new human relations. Los Angeles

Your article brought together so much that is so often separated: the questions of rape and of sexuality, the exploitation of minority women in the workplace in Ireland to the American Civil Rights Movement, and Marx's philosophy of revolution. The quote from Marx was so well to the condition of women in my home country of India, where in the rural areas there isn't even the social status of women could be treated equally. The Women's Movement is growing in India, and women have been organizing against rape, against beatings by their husbands, and against low wages and high prices for food. I wish there would be a serious study of these essays in the Women's Liberation Movement now, instead of some of the nonsense on sexuality that's printed. Subscriber, Detroit

New Bedford was so terrible, so stunning, that it tends to number number 1. I don't bother when I was made the connection to think about it in the way. Suzanne Casey did in her article (April N&L), where she quotes of Hartman's "Humanist Essays on the "infinite degradation of man." I felt compelled to re-read the whole essay it came from, "Private Property and Communism" and then on my reading of some of Marx's "Philosophy of Algernon." I just read a book by an Iranian woman Raya talking about her lecture tour: that Marx's "new humanism" from the beginning was not only not new revolution, but that the division of labor in society, wish there would be a serious study of these essays in the Women's Liberation Movement now, instead of some of the nonsense on sexuality that's printed.

— Indian woman living in the U.S.

New Bedford was so terrible, so shocking, that it tends to number number 1. I don't bother when I was made the connection to think about it in the way. Suzanne Casey did in her article (April N&L), where she quotes of Hartman's "Humanist Essays on the "infinite degradation of man." I felt compelled to re-read the whole essay it came from, "Private Property and Communism" and then on my reading of some of Marx's "Philosophy of Algernon." I just read a book by an Iranian woman Raya talking about her lecture tour: that Marx's "new humanism" from the beginning was not only not new revolution, but that the division of labor in society, wish there would be a serious study of these essays in the Women's Liberation Movement now, instead of some of the nonsense on sexuality that's printed. Subscriber, Detroit

U.S. Auto Radiator

Women's Liberation for us, not for management

Detroit, Mich. — At U.S. Auto Radiator the treatment of women workers is nothing to boast about. As N&L has written many times before, the company is clearly in violation of the law and men have made money women the most vulnerable to rape and they have or­ganized the so-called "Women's Rights" movement around the experience of rape.

Some of the earliest Take Back the Night marches in the U.S. took place in the Roxbury section of Boston protesting the lack of concern over the rapes of 13 women, 12 of whom were Black.

We do need some type of women's liberation. Not one woman marcher who opposed the ban on men marching in the University of Michigan, which many women we talked to argued, conditions of life and labor have made minority women the most vulnerable to rape and they have or­ganized the so-called "Women's Rights" movement around the experience of rape.

The coalition has taken on many activities both on campus and in the community, including establishing a fund for emergency medical aid to rape survivors, and an annual Take Back the Night (TBTN) demonstration.

Subscribers — Miriam C. Drew

Women's Liberation - N&L Committees

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

A U.S. Commission on Civil Rights report entitled "A Growing Crisis: Disadvantaged Women and their Children" stated the increase in the number of poor families headed by women is "a time bomb in American society." Families headed by women are living in tremendous numbers of one-parent families, has been growing since 1976. In particular there are Black and Hispanic female-headed households that face "sex-stereotyped education, segregated jobs and wage discrimination," the report said.

In 1982, there were 33 reported attacks on abortion clinics in the U.S., by right-wing "right to life" groups. An association of doctors and nurses, known as the National Abortion Federation said these attacks include six firebombings of clinics and the kidnapping of a doctor. The attacks have increased on a local level, now that abortion procedures have been unsuccessful in restricting abortion nationwide.

— "Women worldwide"

Very sketchy reports have begun to come from Iran that there was a march-and-celebration there on Interna­tional Women's Day, by women who were not wearing chador or veil — in a country where women have been whipped to death for this! We salute our brave Iranian sisters, and appeal to readers to publicize and support their continuing freedom struggle. Information, both in Farsi and en English, on the women's liberation struggle in Iran in the period 1905-1969 Iranian Revolution, can be obtained from Women's Liberation - News and Letters through this news.

Two women from the Peace Camp at Greenham Common, England, will be touring the U.S. during May to present the situation. For War Resisters' League, 339 Lafayette Street, NY, 10012 for more information.

Correction

The Indian women's liberation collective, Massahi, has asked us to inform readers that "Jyoti," who submitted the letter printed in the March, 1983 N&L, as a member of the Massahi collective, is a person unknown to them — ed.
Workers battle GM on forced moves and jobs

by Felix Martin, Co-Editor

About 500 workers came to the local 216 (GM South Gate) union meeting on March 20, angry about GM’s plans to ship laid-off South Gate workers to the plant in Oklahoma. GM chose workers who were receiving GIS (Guaranteed Income Stream) payments, and said they would lose their GIS if they didn’t report to the Oklahoma plant, saying washing up time must cease, and didn’t offer any concessions, apart from an extra one-hour break. They wanted to get their four-hour call-in pay money backdated to the start of the strike. The other union involved, the Amalgamated Union of Electrical Workers, representing mainly skilled workers, is expected to decide the strike soon.

BREAKS CUT IN HALF

Stewards and other workers are being careful to avoid being quoted by name in the media as criticizing the company or giving their opinions because of the threat of victimization. The GM bosses always use these tactics. I wouldn’t last two minutes in the job. The union district official gives all the statements because he’s not on the national level. He’s saying we have high turnover and that’s why the strike I can remember.

We had a meeting, and we had two of the men from another GM plant, South Gate to another GM plant in Oklahoma.

When South Gate workers go to Oklahoma, they lose all their seniority. They could be laid off any time, after they uprooted their lives for the move. If GM can get away with forcing workers to go from South Gate to Oklahoma, without a vote, it will set a precedent for all the corporations to follow.

The workers at the meeting were demanding that our union represent them against GM, so that GM should take only volunteers for Oklahoma. The union leadership didn’t want to take on this proposal, but we voted; it was almost unanimous.

If our local leadership has not exactly been leading the fight for our jobs, they have certainly had nothing to do with this. The workers are trying to get respect and work in human conditions.

— Computer analyst

Lives expendable at Puerto Rican refinery

Washington, D.C. — In February at the Gulf Refinery in Catano, Puerto Rico, Edgardo Borrero and Hector Baez were manually operating a 15-year-old boiler that had been damaged by a violent explosion. The order came out at the meeting of the sub-councils in New Orleans on April 8.

There were two sub-councils, one headed by Pete Beltran, president of the Van and one headed by Benny Burgess of Wilmington, Del., voted to authorize the 28 local unions in those sub-councils to conduct votes on whether to strike if the laid-off Fremont (Cal.) workers are not rehired by seniority when Fremont opens again as a joint GM-Toyota operation.

The day after this report appeared in the Los Angeles Times, the UAW international leadership decided that local unions would no longer be allowed to conduct votes on whether Beltran really wanted to help the rank-and-file, or to help workers get support to advance himself in the international. Burgess said he considered himself a supporter of the international leadership, but he is not a member of the international leadership, General Motors is the enemy," I say the international is the enemy also, because they take the same grass and then they are going to make it a profit, which means more wealth produced by the workers going to the capitalists. Last year GM made one billion dollars in profits.

With all these questions, and particularly Oklahoma which affects us so directly, South Gate workers have begun to hold our own meetings, at our union hall but without our local leadership. Everyone says we have to do something, something has to change. I have been discussing this together. It’s only the beginning.

— Daniel S. Marcano

Even hi-tech jobs vanish

Chicago, Ill. — On April 7, while 5,000 steelworkers outside the Pittsburgh Hilton championed "Reagan you jerk, put us back to work!" President Reagan was inside telling a group of steelworkers that he was ready to test the new national pastime of crying broke, cutting wages and layoffs, sending out lay-off notices. All the while the union played along to scare the workers, the ink was dry on another sell-out contract. Then we got busy again.

I could go on giving examples of what you see daily, in the fields, in the job, you know. In my department washing up time must cease everywhere around our pipes — the pressure is being applied to squeeze every dollar out of working people, while the rich man who has built the plant is going back to his office in London or New York, richer than ever. But I think it is important to single out the way women and Black workers are treated.

When they hire in my shop, they have men’s and women’s jobs. The jobs for men are skilled or where a skill can be learned, and for women’s jobs are invariably the most menial, as light assembly, and pay at or near minimum.

There is a man working in the press room because she was hired during World War II, and that certainly puts the lie to their claim that the jobs are too heavy for women to do. It was even more outrageous when I worked in the shop I was talking about. There were several women left who were hired during World War II, and all the rest were men.

As to how Black workers are treated, my experience in various New York shops leads me to the conclusion that the bosses would still rather hire anyone before they’ll hire a Black worker, especially a young Black man. The one exception was a night shift at one factory — we who worked there heard young Black workers were getting only half the pay that a New York state program against unemployment.

My message to those who rule industry and government is simply, you who sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind.

— John Marcus

Several Latin American workers in my shop said they were shocked at the way working people were treated here. The country has a separate Social Security system for its "Third World" workers, in a separate hospital system. In the same Social Security hospitals, it is this one where workers pay so much in taxes. But here workers have to pay everything out of their own pocket. If you’re sick and have no Blue Cross, they won’t even let you in the hospital. No, everything here is the dollar.

Then when a fellow worker retired, we observed how we’ll never live to retire under this Social Security system. Now that they’ve raised the age to 67 and say it’s still short of money, they mean to all but take it away if they can.

Of course when our contract was coming up last year our bosses joined the new national pastime of crying broke, cutting wages and layoffs and sending out lay-off notices. All the while the union played along to scare the workers, the ink was dry on another sell-out contract. Then we got busy again.

I could go on giving examples of what you see daily, in the fields, in the job, you know. In my department washing up time must cease everywhere around our pipes — the pressure is being applied to squeeze every dollar out of working people, while the rich man who has built the plant is going back to his office in London or New York, richer than ever. But I think it is important to single out the way women and Black workers are treated.

When they hire in my shop, they have men’s and women’s jobs. The jobs for men are skilled or where a skill can be learned, and for women’s jobs are invariably the most menial, as light assembly, and pay at or near minimum.

There is a man working in the press room because she was hired during World War II, and that certainly puts the lie to their claim that the jobs are too heavy for women to do. It was even more outrageous when I worked in the shop I was talking about. There were several women left who were hired during World War II, and all the rest were men.

As to how Black workers are treated, my experience in various New York shops leads me to the conclusion that the bosses would still rather hire anyone before they’ll hire a Black worker, especially a young Black man. The one exception was a night shift at one factory — we who worked there heard young Black workers were getting only half the pay that a New York state program against unemployment.

My message to those who rule industry and government is simply, you who sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind.

— John Marcus

Several Latin American workers in my shop said they were shocked at the way working people were treated here. The country has a separate Social Security system for its "Third World" workers, in a separate hospital system. In the same Social Security hospitals, it is this one where workers pay so much in taxes. But here workers have to pay everything out of their own pocket. If you’re sick and have no Blue Cross, they won’t even let you in the hospital. No, everything here is the dollar.
by Andy Phillips

Selecting May 1 as the day of national demonstrations against the martial law regime of General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Poland's outlawed but very much alive Solidarity movement continues a nearly 100-year-old tradition that began in the U.S. when American workers launched their nationwide struggle for the eight-hour day in 1866. Solidarity's action not only underscores the international character of May Day, it also dramatically reveals that it is not a "Russian" holiday, since the protests

Detailing Debs' frustrations and disillusionment with the narrow vision of the craft-oriented railroad brotherhoods, Solidarity action not only underscores the international character of May Day, it also dramatically reveals that it is not a "Russian" holiday, since the protests

Debs AND SOCIALISM

Worker of Woodstock's-received socialist pamphlets and was visited by Milwaukee Socialist leader Victor Berger, who gave him the three volumes of Karl Marx's Capital. Debs was not impressed by the socialist movement, but little of Socialism had yet to learn the workings of the capitalistic system. He was to be baptized in Socialism in the roar of conflict... in the glean... of every bayonet... and the flash of every rifle... the class struggle was revealed." His reading of Marx proved "the very first to set the wires humming in my system."

Debs, however, did not become a socialist theoretician, and always considered himself to be theoretically inferior to Berger. But despite Berger's feeling of theoretic inferiority, which consistently resulted in his failure to openly confront Berger's opportunism, he nevertheless maintained principled positions. He always challenged Gompers and craft unionism, castigating both as obstacles to the transformation of the U.S. into the most highly industrialized nation in the world. He was aware of the collusion between the Socialists and the established labor leadership (supported Gompers and the AFL), and passionately advocated industrial unionism.

The author discloses the fierce factionalism that divided the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), the various brands of Socialists and the established labor leadership represented by Gompers. Debs disagreed with the IWW's decision for capitalistic politics and policies. But hopes for reconciliation were high following the historic Lawrence, Mass., strike of 1912, sparked when immigrant Polish women textile workers refused to accept a slash in wages and won through the united efforts of the IWW and Socialist Party. No sooner had the victory been won than the factional bickering again arose to thwart unity.

The historic test of established international socialism came with the first World War in 1914, when the Second International, comprising the organized European Socialists, capitulated to their own bourgeoisie's imperialist war plans. Berger followed Karl Kautsky, head of the German Social Democracy and theoretic leader of the Second International who led the betrayal of the workers by voting war credits to the Kaiser, and supported America's preparations to enter the war based on Kautsky's positions. Debs, however, opposed Berger, Kautsky, and U.S. war preparations, and spoke out against U.S. involvement in the war. Charged with violating the Espionage Law of 1917, Debs was arrested. While in prison, Debs ran for president on the Socialist Party ticket and received over 900,000 votes.

Though Debs and the Communist Party became opponents in the 1920s, Debs wholeheartedly supported the 1917 Russian Revolution calling himself "a Bolshevik." In addition, in 1917 Trotsky, during his visit to New York, singled out Debs for praise for his opposition to the war. And Lenin, in his 1918 "Letter to the American Worker" also noting Debs' principled anti-war stand, wrote: "I am not surprised that [President] Wilson...has thrown Debs off the program to show the bourgeoisie to be the true

A direct link between Karl Marx and the American workers' movement in the period after Marx's death can be seen in the work of his daughter, Eleanor, who undertook a speaking tour of the U.S. in 1884 to defend the defense of the Haymarket prisoners, falsely accused of planting the bomb that exploded at the May Day rally to support the eight-hour day, is one of the finest statements yet made about the U.S. labor movement in this period. As such, it is as valid today as on May 1 as an international workers' holiday, has been too little recognized.

News & Letters
Vol. 28, No. 4 May, 1983


Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairwoman

Charles Denby ------- Editor

Felix Marcus ------- Co-Editor

G. Demuski ------- Staff

Second Class Postage Paid at Detroit, Michigan

Southern West Virginia coal miners at the turn of the century.

paid, often made more than other coal miners because they worked more days.

A turning point was reached with the introduction of the Baldwin-Felts coal guards, company thugs hired by the operators to oppose union organization at first, but then expanded to terrorize and subdue individual miners and their families who dared to question any company action.

By 1912, indiscriminate beatings, murder, rape, property destruction and looting became everyday occurrences, as well as jailings, firing and denial of company store purchases. And at the end of the year, in one of the finest statements yet made about the U.S. labor movement, in this period. As such, it is as valid today as on May 1 as an international workers' holiday, has been too little recognized.

News & Letters
Vol. 28, No. 4 May, 1983


Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairwoman

Charles Denby ------- Editor

Felix Marcus ------- Co-Editor

G. Demuski ------- Staff

Second Class Postage Paid at Detroit, Michigan

Southern West Virginia coal miners at the turn of the century.

paid, often made more than other coal miners because they worked more days.

A turning point was reached with the introduction of the Baldwin-Felts coal guards, company thugs hired by the operators to oppose union organization at first, but then expanded to terrorize and subdue individual miners and their families who dared to question any company action.

By 1912, indiscriminate beatings, murder, rape, property destruction and looting became everyday occurrences, as well as jailings, firing and denial of company store purchases. And at the end of the year, in one of the finest statements yet made about the U.S. labor movement, in this period. As such, it is as valid today as on May 1 as an international workers' holiday, has been too little recognized.

News & Letters
Vol. 28, No. 4 May, 1983


Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairwoman

Charles Denby ------- Editor

Felix Marcus ------- Co-Editor

G. Demuski ------- Staff

Second Class Postage Paid at Detroit, Michigan

Southern West Virginia coal miners at the turn of the century.

paid, often made more than other coal miners because they worked more days.
Native Americans: 10 years after Wounded Knee

Editor's Note: Ten years ago a Lakota woman who participated in the Indian occupation of Wounded Knee, B.D., told N&L: "From Feb. 27 to May 8 there was the Independent Oglala Nation, established within the boundaries of the state of South Dakota, USA. It was the first time we had ever known freedom. For 71 days there was power in the hands of the Indian people, men and women stood side by side in the kitchen, in the bunkers, on patrol. The governing body of the Oglala Independent Nation consisted of every resident."

On this tenth anniversary of the Wounded Knee occupation we asked Native American activist Shainapee Sheapape to speak about what the ten years since Wounded Knee have meant to Native Americans.

I would have to say that economically the conditions of Native Americans haven't changed a heck of a lot. Indian fishermen in Michigan, like on the Bay Mills reservation, are nowhere. Many are on welfare, not fishing because they want to be. They were frozen out economically. And it isn't just in Michigan. On my reservation in Fort Totten, N.D. there was a factory started after Wounded Knee, with CETA programs and government contracts. They set it up to be dependent on war production. It was planned to employ about 400 from different reservations, making parachutes for the Army and shell casings. Now the contracts are being cut off and they are constantly in danger of closing down, with no private contracts. Only 150 workers are left.

The factory in Shiprock, N.M. that received so much publicity is the same way — it's nearly as big as it was used to be. Even when it was hiring it was no good. I wrote about it years ago in N&L and called it "sweatshops on the reservation."

After Wounded Knee the government also started some programs. I go to the factory of this kind in Detroit. It's the cheapest kind of housing, and three years after they put it up for the factory on our reservation, it is still standing. People are freezing in the North Dakota winter. They didn't take into account the environment.

WE WILL FIGHT FOR THIS LAND

Today people remember Wounded Knee. They will never forget it. But they are very careful now; they know where and when to talk. They are talking quietly among themselves, trying to keep South Dakota in the dark. They don't just run off and do anything old, but they are thinking and planning about how to change conditions, how to challenge the people on reservation councils.

Eight years ago I wrote: "The most important accomplishment we have made is not that we have found ways to make the government listen to us, but that we have gained a new awareness of our own strength and ability.

Today I feel that is more true than ever, because we are not ever going to put up with the kind of thing they tried to do in the 1950s, when they tried to get rid of the whole reservation system. We didn't do anything about it, they called it "termination." Watt and Reagan want to try that again, but they will have much more trouble than they did in the 1950s. Watt and Reagan want to run a public relations campaign, but their plans won't have much more trouble than they did. Watt and Reagan are running a public relations campaign, but their plans won't work.

They are mistaken if they think we will just give up the reservations and leave. We will fight this land, because it is all we have after America was stolen from us. In the 1950s they did "terminate" the Menominee and the Klamath, and they were working real hard to do the same on a lot of other reservations. People were willing to leave then and try it in the cities. My brother and I did. When we went to Chicago we had no idea what we would find. Today people know better; they won't go because there is nothing for us in the cities. They know what the conditions are.

When I remember Wounded Knee today, it isn't the guns we had or the stand-off with the FBI and the marines. It's how we organized ourselves and made Wounded Knee work despite the conditions of being under firing. It's how decisions were made and people of many tribes learned to work with each other. The generation that grew up since Wounded Knee feels differently about being Indian, about our culture. They know the struggle isn't over. Some of them are talking of getting real health care. Not the kind the Public Health Service brings to the reservation, but health care that considers people. The doctors we now don't understand us. You talk to them and they don't hear what you are saying. Forced sterilization was something they practiced so easily because it wasn't people they were dealing with, it was Indians.

FEMINISM IN OUR MOVEMENT

I feel that it is much easier to talk about racism and about sexism in the Indian movement than it used to be. But there is still a real need for feminism. It's so sick of the way men often view women in our movement. It's like: "We're helping the women's liberation, you're here. Make food, watch the kids, and that's it."

On my reservation women still have to struggle, and we are getting stronger. After the tribal meeting last November, a very important meeting to consider what to do about the government's offer to settle the suit we brought to get back our reservation. They didn't want women in the meeting. Then they said women could come to it, but only men could vote.

I was opposed to accepting the government's money offer, and I wrote a letter about it. But they said women's votes shouldn't be considered because when the Fort Laramie treaty was signed in 1868, only men could agree to it. That was the way it was negotiated then, so they said that was the way it should be considered now. Many women protested and they had to let women participate. The offer was turned down and we are still demanding our own land.

Actually one of the most important parts of our movement today is in Central America. I just finished reading 'Latin American Revolutionary Speaks,' an exciting, so impressive, to see what the Indian people have done in Guatemala to organize themselves and rise up against oppression. Very few people on the reservations today know about this. I wish they did. It made me want to be in Guatemala and see it for myself. What they did, bringing in Indian nations in need now. We have learned to join together with other aboriginal peoples of the world.
When I opened my morning newspaper today and saw the Gardner Report (the Commission on Excellence in Education) which had been made public yesterday, I thought that my head would roll. The report has failed, I thought, because in the next two days, the media has consistently focused on the idea that the report failed. But as I read on through the findings and recommendations of this commissio, I realized that the real cause of the crisis in our education system is the lack of women and minority faculty. He has always been the Achilles' heel of this crisis, and the idea that the report failed is just another way to get the way millions of young people are conscripted to custom-fabricated education at best.

But as I read on through the findings and recommendations of this commission, I realized that the real cause of the crisis in our education system is the lack of women and minority faculty. He has always been the Achilles' heel of this crisis, and the idea that the report failed is just another way to get the way millions of young people are conscripted to custom-fabricated education at best.

I am working mother Queens, NY

At the Black Studies Conference in Berkeley last month, I met a student from the University of North Carolina who was part of a group of students who were demonstrating against the lack of African American studies. They were there to voice their concern that the school was not doing enough to ensure that African American students had equal opportunities to succeed. I disagreed with them, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

We have worked hard to create a model of education that is not only responsive to the needs of young people, but also to the needs of their families. This model is one that we have developed through our own experiences as parents.

At a meeting several of us were discussing the front page article on campus protests April N&L accused Kirkpatrick of being a hypocrite. He said that "Grant Kirkpatrick is a horrible person, but he's doing the right thing." I don't agree that we have a monopoly on truth. I've been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I told him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

But the really hilarious part came when Rany spoke here. I asked her if she knew what it meant to be a black woman in America. She said that she had no idea what I was talking about. I told her that I was speaking as a black woman, and that I believed that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. She said that she didn't see how I could possibly have a right to speak, because I am not a black woman.

I told her that I was speaking as a black woman, and that I believed that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. She said that she didn't see how I could possibly have a right to speak, because I am not a black woman.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.

Recently I had a long discussion with a Solidarity member here in California, a man who was active in putting out Solidarity in high schools and universities. He was concerned about the way millions of youth are "expendable in the era of youth." I told him that I didn't agree that we have a monopoly on truth; I've even been in the position of having to support free speech for Nazis.

I had to tell him what I felt, that "pure democracy" is a sham, that Kirkpatrick is representing a movement that monstrously suppresses free speech in Latin America. It is not a position that I would ever take, but I believe that everyone has a right to voice their concerns. I am a working mother, and I believe that it is important for parents to be involved in the education of their children.
The March conference in Winnipeg seems to have had more confrontations. I talked to a friend who attended, who said that the participation of the audience was especially intense. They seemed to equate Marxism with the Maoist-type Left parties in Canada, and equate Mao with this basis that Marxism was “just another male ideology for seizing power.” They juxtaposed feminism to this, with much debate coming in, and during the lecture — which was structured around Rosa Luxemburg — they took up Marx from 1843 to 1883 and to women’s liberation. There was the most responsiveness to Raya I’ve ever seen.

As just as soon as the discussion was over, lots of people rushed up to talk to Raya and buy literature. We were swamped by all the people who wanted to buy and steal and say the most. We hope we can make it the beginning of a solid organizational presence in Madison. Young Marxist-feminist...
In the 1960s I became aware of the Women's Liberation Movement. It was a direct outgrowth of the Black women's frustration with the injustices that were occurring in the community. Women's liberation became a nationwide movement, and the National Women's Liberation Movement was launched. Perhaps we as Black women should have had our own movement and leadership.

When I was in Cambridge and in dangerous situations with men, role differences melted away. Now, unless there was a barrier, men and women expected to treat each other the same in whatever situation. Another mistake is that the Women's Liberation Movement tried to meet the challenge of the Civil Rights Movement and now, when there isn't a Civil Rights Movement, the women's movement is up in the air.

IN MY FAMILY Black women were held up as examples; everyone in Cambridge knew that Harriet Tubman came to my family. Being a Black woman had to work, they always played significant parts in the movement.

Today, we need to be involved to keep the thing human, and to raise issues such as the kind of education their children get, the nuclear weapons, etc. They also need time to do it. Black women spend too much time in the home and kitchen. They need to get out of the church and into the community.

Shortly after I came to New York in 1965 someone asked me if I thought there should be more women in leadership positions. At first I didn't think so. I thought the implications until a woman reporter said that they hated me in Maryland as much for being a woman as for being Black. At the time, the movement today is not creating the same kind of Black women leaders as then. I don't think only involvement in the Women's Liberation Movement will do that; more is needed around mobilizing and fighting for Black women.

The relationship between Black men and women needs to mature. The Black man is not a whole person because of the fragmentation imposed on him by this society. He can act one way up close, but has to act another way downtown. During the movement Black men and women shared the same goals, now there is an uncertainty about the goals. Of course, there are still those "crazy" Black men we appealed on the side.

I couldn't see being a Black man in this society. I would be either dead or pacified. The pressure on the Black man in white society rubs off on his other relationships. Black men and women were probably freest during the movement Black men and women were freest in relationship to each other and in relationship to the larger society.

Funeral for Hamp and Anthony Charles Russaw of Eufaula, Alabama

KING, the recent events have produced the spectacle of State Rep. Alvin Holmes walking the streets of Montgomery telling Black youth to be calm. And if that wasn't enough Holmes has asked that the National Guard be brought into the Black community!

One thing for sure is that something new is emerging in Montgomery. It's a movement of Montgomery, not Alabama. As the scenes of Black struggle from the movement of the 1960s to the recent events unfold it is clear that there is a very real movement of Montgomery.

Quebec teachers fight

Montreal, Quebec — The teachers' strike is realistically over now, but the resistance and tactical fights aren't. On April 15, the unions voted without a true majority to accept the forced conciliatory report (called the "Desleclere Report"), but only as an amendment to the government anti-strike decree which we refuse to sign away (see March 31's NEWS). At any rate, there were no champagne corks popping that night. Many of the people kept up the struggle.

At any rate, there were no champagne corks popping that night. Many of the people kept up the struggle. A few days later, we might have been able to bring down the government, but that's a big "if."

The struggle had two fronts. One is that we are challenging the decree as unconstitutional. The second is the repressive effort of the government to cut back school boards to give out the names of strikers or to be cut off from all funding. Three school boards, the Montreal Protestant, Montreal Catholic, and Lakeshore have refused and have been taken to court. Furthermore, the government wants to restructure education here, abolishing the school boards altogether to get total control.

But resistance to the government is high and pervades all the teachers' unions and student unions. The teachers have refused and have been taken to court. Furthermore, the government wants to restructure education here, abolishing the school boards altogether to get total control.

May, 1983
POLAND'S SOLIDARITY CALL FOR MAY DAY

When the underground leadership of Poland’s Solidarity issued a call March 28 for May Day demonstrations, they suddenly stripped from that holiday all the debris of military parades and speeches by party leaders, revealing suddenly stripped from that holiday all the debris of military parades and speeches by party leaders, revealing

SOUTH AFRICA’S BLACK TRADE UNIONS

In that year of 1899 which Solidarity was created, that Black South Africans began joining independent trade unions. In the far-reaching discussions on the meaning of the “present moment” of the liberation struggle, delegates considered how to combat the government’s plan for a three-chambered parliament (White, “Coloured” and Indian), as well as the dangers in the collaboration of “Bantustan” leaders with state security police.

The strong parallels between the workers’ movements in Poland and South Africa today are of course not merely due to the last three years of struggle they share. Nor are they confined to the underground Black Consciousness Movement which has offered Polish workers, and the fact that many Solidarity supporters have worked for AZAPO.

In challenging the whole basis of the capitalist, racist, neo-colonial ethic in which they live, Polish and Black African workers in two very different lands have broken the narrow confines of what usually passes for trade unionism and are in doing so, repeating the solution on the true meaning of May Day — full human liberation.

*Coverage of the AZAPO Congress, as well as reports and discussion on continuing struggles inside South Africa.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AZAPO FRONTLINE

Azania Frontline, BM Box 6863, London WC1X 3XN. Friends of the Black Consciouness Movement will continue to receive reports of us with funds, news items, and identity reports.
New study of Russia

tional economic or philosophical foundation. Where Raya Dunia-
particularity of the totalitarianism emanating from Rus­
sing, at one and the same time, the narrow Great Russian
in of the state militia cowed the UMW leaders who accept­
mands of the rank-and-file: recognition of the UMW and
Martial law declared by the governor and his ordering
of in of the state militia cowed the UMW leaders who accept­
publicly proclaiming his philosophic past, The cause of
in of the state militia cowed the UMW leaders who accept­
Marx's Ethnological Notebooks, we can see for ourselves .. . (There are) sharp differences between
writing, to Tire of the organized labor movement, "Solidarity Forever."

JOALFIELD BATTLES CONTINUE

The Socialist Party, active in the struggle, encouraged
and supported the miners with both aid and theoretical
preference for genuine freedom movements against totalitarianism
let with the Baldwin-Felts guard system was
operators closed ranks against the UMW, and the legisla­
tory of the Strike but later became the president of UMW District 17 which was
for the third time defeated. The operators to reinforce their brutal terroristic system.

These tendencies, exacerbaded by the super-profits
colony coal operators realized during World War I while the miners
made their usual "patrician" sacrifices, culminated in the historic 1921 "March on Logan." Wildcat strikes following the end of the war steeled the coal operators, local, state and, this time, federal government in opposition to the miners.

A challenge to all post-Marx Marxists

Raya Dunayevskaya's Trilogy of Revolution

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

On Luxemburg — "What Marx is tracing in the historical tendency of capitalist accumulation is what results from the disintegration of capitalism: 'From that moment new forces and new passions spring up in the boom of society ... Luxemburg's failure to see that, in what she was trying to trace with impressive finesse, is the fact that the entire work. Luxemburg, the theoretician, by adding that 'long before' capitalism's downfall because of the absence of noncapital­
industrial growth, worker activity and socialist thought.

On Engels — "To what extent is Marx's 'spirit' reflected in Engels own work. The Origin of the Family, we have seen for ourselves ... (There are) sharp differences between
Engels' Materialism and Empiri-Criticism."

Marxism and Freedom

On Trotsky — "Trotsky was compelled to create identification between workers' state and stifled
syndicates of the rank and file. The miners condensed all the
tory to their commitment to the UMW. This time the operators to reinforce their brutal terroristic system.

Philosophy and Revolution

On Lenin — "On returning from Trotsky's trip, Lenin advised strikers to study everything Plekhanov wrote on Philosophy ..., and he repented his own Materialism and Empiri-Criticism."

A welcome addition to the library of women's writings.

Young women writers

Holding Her Own — An Anthology of Young Wo-

works, Chicago: Women Words Publishing Com-

Holding Her Own — An Anthology of Young Women's Works is just that — young women speaking for them­
self. The editors have done a beautiful job of integrating stories by young women of different
sections. There is a vast array of art work, journal excerpts, autobiogra-
phies, two pieces by high school Black women which ap­
pear to be the first of their kind, and a large number of
records, poetry and even a play about the early lives and present concerns of several high school women. They all deal with challenging issues facing women in school, family problems, institutionalization due to drug addiction, incest, sex with boyfriends, abortion and lesbianism.

Yet the book left me wanting more. Take the state-
ment: "Originally we intended to include a large section on working. To date we have received nothing on the topic. We reconsider what is it we wanted to say, reasons why we wanted to say it, but it's not clear. This book is not about a particular oppressed group, that is allocated to young people is alienating. Work is a place we go, work is a place we are not ourselves ... we don't have control over our work, we don't have control over anything. We do nothing to do with our lives ... We work part time and our work is just that — part of our time, and not part of our life.

I think this is a very true statement, for one who is now 24 and started working when I was 16, I never felt, and we young women feel about being oppressed. As one

Order from News & Letters, 2832 E. Grand Blvd. Detroit, Michigan 48211

$10.95 each

$10.95 each
Students protest overpriced education

Sacramento

Oakland, Cal. — Fifteen hundred students from all over California marched to the state capital, where a protest rally April 12 to protest tuition increases throughout the state's college and university system. The increases are being proposed for the new Reaganomics governor here, George Deukmejian.

What was different is that the bulk of these students came from the community colleges like Contra Costa College in Richmond where fee increases will hurt the most. The students weren't separating this issue from the whole attack on youth in this country, with banners like “in tears in brains not bombs” and “Deukmejian's policy: educate the rich, let the poor starve.”

In contrast, the speeches were mostly a stream of political lecturing the crowd on the need for lobbying and voter registration. It was too much when one speaker said we should learn to communicate our ideas to Deukmejian because he is a reasonable man. At that point the whole crowd started booing.

— Marxist-Humanist participant

New York

New York, N.Y. — Recently, the Committee Against Tuition Hikes at College Hunter organized a students’ general assembly at which the issue of student fee increases was discussed under the leadership of a 1968 activist who demanded only issue for students, and it was planned that the microphone be opened to students so that everybody could express themselves on how to fight the tuition hikes.

Two hours before the activity took place, the dean called the Student Government and said that the activity could not take place any more. The dean accused the students of disruption, and told us that we could have the activity, but, of course, many of the students who had come in support had left.

— Student activist

Los Angeles

Los Angeles, Cal. — On election day, April 12, some 400 students from various community colleges and state universities in Los Angeles and the state gathered against fee increases and tuition in front of the Los Angeles City Hall, while other students in Sacramento staged a similar demonstration in a “statewide coordinated” rally.

The student crowd at the L.A. rally was mainly composed of Chicano students, who carried placards that said such things as “Fee Hikes Hijack Poor Students” and “Support Ethnic and Women’s Studies.” Many students I talked with who were eager to have the April N&W with the Lead-Editorial on the campus protests taking place all across the U.S. said that it was one of the reasons they felt a “spiritual connection” with what she was doing and what many students did in the 60’s. Even though she wasn’t aware of all that happened then, she was happy that many of the youth

Draft opponents: ‘all are resisters’

David Wayte

Editor’s Note: David Wayte was indicted by the Justice Department and was tried in November for refusing to register for the draft. Although Judge Ferter dismissed the case, the government is appealing the decision. Excerpts follow from a talk given by David in April at a meeting of the California State U. Los Angeles News and Letters Young Committee.

I know one thing. No matter what the consequences I will never register for the draft. I don’t want to go to prison. I’ve been arrested twice. The first time I’ve just spent nine days in Terminal Island because of Van-デンberge. (See story on this page.) Although I know that I would suffer in prison any length of time, I know I’m safe as long as I’m doing what I believe in. I also don’t really want to spend a few years. But I would rather be in prison than the militar if I had the chance all over again. I still intend to register and I will never register.

I became a time will come when young people all around the world will refuse to fight for the government and war will cease to exist. This is a first step. I don’t know if there is a first step. But I do think that there is one. I believe that by the people’s efforts to go to the government and resist the war. They will spread. Like I said, for me this is a beginning.

Matt Meyer

Editor’s Note: Matt Meyer is a 21-year-old public non-resident who has been speaking to youth through out New York City. At one meeting, he responded to a question about the present state of the anti-war movement and the difference it makes for draft resisters.

Although I have been talking mostly about the legal details, you are right in raising the question about the movement itself. It really is what will make the difference, and I consider myself a part of the movement first rather than some kind of conscientious objector. I’m sure the other three-quarters of a million guys who didn’t register had their own reasons which were different than mine. Maybe they just said, “No way will I let the government have my name for this.” But suddenly it has added up to something very big.

Now the government’s strategy is to direct attention to a certain type of youth — white and middle class. The Soloman Amendment (cutting education funds to non- registrants) makes it seem like the draft is just a campus issue. But this is because they know that draft registration has had the worst results in places like Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C. They know what groups like Black Vets for Social Justice are doing. They were prepared to have a confrontation with people like me — long haired, student “hippie” types — because it would seem that we are isolated and don’t have a community to support us. But the thing is I’m not isolated.

After I decided what to do my mother wrote a letter to the Selective Service Board saying she would never register. That’s why I keep saying, “Everyone is a resis ter.”

Solidarity at Vandenberg: soldiers and protesters

Berkeley, Cal. — Nearly 800 anti-nuclear protesters were arrested in several days of demonstrations in late March at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, where the government test-fires missiles.

But a new and exciting dimension came during the arrest, from the far side of the line where the officials had drawn separating the “legal” territory from the “illegal.” A soldier threw down his rifle and crossed the line to join the protesters; he now talked to them and he would not be taken away from alone. Two Black soldiers guarding arrested blockaders told them they agreed with us, but feared the consequences of being caught. “We’re living examples of prostitution.”

The 12 soldiers who had also been arrested a month before at Vandenberg and who would have been given much harsher sentences after the government sponsored military attacks, were not arrested.

It meant that the second offenders were given much lighter sentences, only 14 days, instead of longer ones.

— Laurie Cashdan

Academic Marxism stunts student interest

Iida Fuller

It was the desire to learn more about Marx’s ideas of revolutionary transformation which led me to take a class in Marxism this past semester. There were 120 other students in that class with a high percentage of Black, Latino and Asian students.

Many students actively participated in the discussions and showed a special interest in understanding Marx’s categories, especially in Capital. However, many traditional academic practices such as the professor’s opinion and the solely descriptive approach prevalent in the class represented a superficial “freedom” which was not historically true for Black workers and slaves. Many students wanted to know more about the role of racism in capitalism.

It was interesting to note that, according to our professor’s notes against capitalism, Black workers and slaves, to a great extent, have contributed to the production of that system. Racism always gives us the impression that we are workers, not productive enough. They are being systematically oppressed and treated. This actually gives the professors the opportunity to continue their existence in society.

— Third World Students

NARROW ECONOMIC CATEGORIES

Mono-category was only discussed economically. But socially it means that, free from the restraints of capitalism which tries to narrow down and politically restrict the social differences, can be more diverse in race, educa tion and family life.

Talking a class in Marxism is very different from taking any other course on ideas. Upon encountering Marx’s ideas, which are very complex and in depth, one can be confused by the great number of important ideas which interpret the world, but that they pose a deep criticism of our existing society along with a methodology which warns against the imposition of existing con tradictions. As Marx himself says: The point is not to interpret the world but to change it.
The recent television presentation by Ronald Reagan of his stand on peace and disarmament has been impressed by a laser or pulsar beams aimed at destroying incoming nuclear missiles, a claim of 1,300 new Russian warheads fails to mention that some 96 percent of the workforce joined the walkout. Workers were called to control the crowd's building, where police were called to control the crowd's fury after hours of waiting.

The hunger demonstrations originated in the vast proletarian slum of Santo-Andrade, where the great auto strikes of 1970/71, the poorest area of Brazil, where most of the unemployed and over one million have been out of work. Despite Reagan's failed attempt to influence us, it is to be expected that the press of a button, on less then ten minutes notice, they will off and away at their targets. Will they?

The debate in Congress is new shifting to the development of the MX missile. Each of these weapons will have ten atomic bombs each, placed in "hardened silos," perfect for the destruction of the homelands in the event of the pressing of a button, on less then ten minutes notice, they will off and away at their targets. Will they?

By March 28, the wave of labor unrest had crossed the winter in Santiago, Chile as illegal union demonstrations by workers has shaken the governments in the free world.

By March 28, the wave of labor unrest had crossed the winter in Santiago, Chile as illegal union demonstrations by workers has shaken the governments in the free world. A defense system that would knock out 90 or 95 percent would be a miracle — and the regaining 5 or 10 percent might be possible. There is no way that 100 percent effective response can be expected from even this missile system.

All across the most repressive region of South America — its "Southern Cone" — a wave of strikes and demonstrations have shaken the governments of Chile and Argentina, as well as Brazil. What began last winter in Santiago, Chile as illegal union demonstrations by workers has shaken the governments in the free world. Opposed to them are 400 warheads in NATO hands and another 400 on U.S. missile subs assigned to NATO. The U.S. has an additional 6,000 nuclear bombs available for delivery by aircraft.

The facts show that the U.S. has about 2,000 more deliverable warheads than the entire strategic arsenal of Russia.

Reagan's new schemes are more retrogressive than the old saw during the Nixon days, and invite even the Nixon-Brezhnev arms "limitation" treaty of 1972. The majority of the American people know that Reagan has no serious desire to limit nuclear arms. Senator Cranston's statement — that Kenneth Adelman's appointment as new Chief Arms Negotiator "leads us to the widespread suspicions that the Reagan Administration is not serious about reaching an arms control agreement with the Soviet Union" — is the understatement of the year.

A New York Times/CBS News Poll shows that, by 64 percent to 25 percent, the American people favor a mutual freeze on nuclear weapons with the Russians. The freeze movement which has gained overwhelming support in the West is growing stronger in the U.S.

In opposing the capitalistic, racist, sexist, exploitative system, Marxism-Humanism in the U.S., 1941 to Today is recorded in the Reagan Administration's "Star Wars" schemes: 'no defense' to the threat of the "evil empire," Russia. Reagan's 'Star Wars' schemes which spell out the philosophic foundations of Chile and Argentina, as well as Brazil. What began last winter in Santiago, Chile as illegal union demonstrations by workers has shaken the governments in the free world.

The same types of operations which led to the coup in Allende's Chile are at work in Nicaragua. One decisive difference is that in Nicaragua there has been the disarming of the old military forces and the arming of the population. The Nicaraguan people reacted with outrage to the "Star Wars" schemes of the U.S. Congress but the American people who will stop these programs, ones which now ask for an additional $298 national defense. But the same types of operations which led to the coup in Allende's Chile are at work in Nicaragua. One decisive difference is that in Nicaragua there has been the disarming of the old military forces and the arming of the population. The Nicaraguan people reacted with outrage to the "Star Wars" schemes of the U.S. Congress but the American people who will stop these programs, ones which now ask for an additional $298 million for fiscal 1984. But rather than saying it's a decisive "No" to Reagan's Central American war budget, they are looking for halfway compromise. It is not the United States that will stop these plans.