by Felix Martin, Labor Editor

Ford Motor Co. and the UAW top negotiators reached a tentative contract settlement on Oct. 14. The same day GM workers ratified their three-year contract by a slim majority. An article in the Los Angeles Times stated the GM workers "would save the nation's two leading auto makers three years of labor peace. But the Canadian GM workers already showed that everything is not "peaceful", that thousands of auto workers in nine Canadian plants went out on strike against the concessions contract, forcing GM back to the bargaining table.

Last month I discussed how the so-called job security program offers far less than it seems to promise (see "Worker control needed for real job security," in Oct. N&L). And not only does the 2¼% average raise not become part of the hourly wage level, so that medical benefits, workers compensation, and retirement remain unaffected, but it actually means 3½% for the skilled trades workers and only 1½% for production workers! The capitalists love to pit the higher-paid workers against the lower-paid.

OPPOSITION WITHIN UAW

The fact that the contract was approved by such a slim majority shows that workers are thinking for themselves. The question now is, What is our ground when we oppose both the union bureaucrats and the company?

How could some workers who are against the union bureaucracy turn around and say that they are going to vote for that strike-breaker Ronald Reagan? I am thinking there are some white workers who think that was the World War II GM South Gate, and that we were trying to force the company to hire Black workers. They are not thinking there are some white workers who think that he is going to vote for that strike-breaker Ronald Reagan? I am thinking there are some white workers who think that was the World War II GM South Gate, that we were trying to force the company to hire Black workers.

Manila ghetto dwellers march against Marcos

by Kevin A. Barry

On October 25, thousands of anti-Marcos demonstrators once again surged through the streets of Manila. The demonstration followed the release of reports by the five-member panel investigating the killing of the opposition leader, Benigno S. Aquino, on Aug. 25, 1983. One commission report directly implicated Marcos' dreaded supreme military and police commander, General Fabian Ver, in the plot to murder Aquino. Even this hand-picked commission of Marcos was forced to call the killing of Senator Aquino "the concretization of the horror that has been haunting this country for decades" which "confirmed our fears of what unchecked evil could be capable of doing." If ever there was an "evil empire", it was to be found in that hated dictator's nearly twenty-year reign over the 53 million Filipino people, backed to the hilt by U.S. imperialism from Nixon to Ford to Carter, and especially by Ronald Reagan and Co.

The streets of Manila have been filled with hundreds of thousands since Aquino's murder. One million people attended his funeral in 1983 and marched right by the gates of the U.S. Embassy, which had closed for that day. A full year later the anniversary demonstration of Aug. 21, 1984 had some 500,000 marching, yet U.S. newspapers chose to bury the story on the back pages. The opposition to the Marcos regime has involved ever deeper layers of the Philippine population from youth and workers to women and to a growing guerrilla movement.

This Sept. 3,000 revolutionary youth and students tried to march right onto the Mendiola bridge next to Marcos' Presidential Palace, Malacanang. "We just want Mendiola, not Malacanang," quipped march leader Agapito "Bato" Aquino, brother of the martyred Senator and Marcos' police chief Narciso Cabedo was not amused. A stand-off lasted until dawn. Then Marcos' police moved in against the young people and at a few opposition politicians armed only with lighted candles. The next week, at another demonstration eleven bodies of demonstrators were found scattered about Manila, all bearing stab wounds and marks of torture. Ninety-two youths were reported missing afterwards.

The Mendiola bridge has a long revolutionary history. In 1971 Left students fought pitched battles with Marcos' police before his 1972 martial law drove them deep underground. In Sept. 1983, students had also attempted to demonstrate on the bridge leading to the palace, resulting in deaths at the hands of police.

This past June some 30,000 Bataan workers, mainly women, paralyzed 90% of the firms in a solidarity strike in support of union leaders at Interasia Company who had been fired. The strikers set up barricades sealing off the whole "free enterprise" zone that Marcos had set up on Bataan in 1974. This "free enterprise" zone and supposedly "strike-free" zone is where U.S. and other foreign capital can reap obscene profits by paying working women workers $5 per day, yet forcing them to shape up (to report for possible work) six days a week. Sometimes they only get two days pay.

(continued on page 8)

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News & Letters

Now that the election is over the real fight against Reaganism begins!

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(continued on page 9)
women-worldwide

The seven-year-old international boycott of Nestle's products ended Oct. 4, after the company adopted international marketing standards on baby foods. The boycott, a reaction to the company's promotional campaign of baby formula, which had been linked to serious illness and death of infants in many Third World countries.

Asian women textile workers struck Kewal Bros., Birmingham, England last May when three workers were fired for union activity while the Transport & General Workers' Union was negotiating a pay raise. In August their pickets were supported by striking miners. They feel their struggle will involve all 4000 Asian women textile workers in England. Send donations to: Kewal Bros. Strike Fund, c/o Shahid Ullah, 38 Boundary Rd, Handsworth, Birmingham, England B 20.

—Information from Outwright

On Oct. 9 in Detroit, 150 people held a protest vigil at the closed down house where the murdered baby girl was raped and murdered. The vigil, sponsored by ACORN, criticized Mayor Young's administration for failing to repair, renovate, or demolish abandoned houses. Last year Detroit women had organized themselves to combat over 50 schoolgirl rapes in a four-month period.

—German designer Karl Lagerfeld’s description of his new fashion collection as “shaped to be raped” created a storm of protest at shows in Milan last month. Carla Fendi, who designed five of Lagerfeld’s “fashions,” said she had never designed for, described it as a “terrible misunderstanding,” since, in Italy, “men may say of a woman, she’s so ugly that I wish I could rape her” without constituting violation of, only of Latin admiration.” Sexism, in any language, is sexism.

—The National Coalition of American Nuns has come out against the National Conference of Catholic Bishops’ current campaign “The Catholic Family,” which it feels would not stop abortion but “make safe abortions available only to the rich.” They rejected the charge that being pro-choice always means being pro-abortion.

California’s Prop. 41 cuts more human needs

Los Angeles, Cal. — Of all the “austerity” measures being proposed for voter ratification here on Nov. 6, none are as controvertial as Proposition 41, authored by Republican Assemblyman Ross Johnson from Orange County. The initiative would place a statewide 30-cent tax on fuel, the proceeds going to fund for AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children), including various employment and training programs, Medicare and unemployment insurance.

California’s allotment to the needy is presently near the top of the scale nationally ($800 a month for a family of six with no children in the U.S. as $112 in Texas). Some analysts project that passage of Prop. 41 would cut assistance for an unemployed mother and small child by $100 a month, or $1,200 less, would be reduced by 60% for workfare and job training, and cut family planning assistance by 80%.

Supposedly, the blind, the disabled and the elderly would be exempt from these reductions — though they would suffer reductions in Medi-Cal along with everyone else. The bill’s aim, in the author’s own words, is to ensure that “healthy, young welfare recipients will have to go to work or suffer reduced benefits.”

Well, I have news for Mr. Johnson. I am on welfare, and I was raised in a job shop economy. I got that way by working hard and caring for the ones that were more ill than I was. I have found many jobs “prospects,” but no job.

Nor are the elderly and disabled convinced that their benefits will be spared. One elderly woman, a stroke victim who I care for three hours a week said: “I’m no longer able to work since this stroke, and I have to depend on the Social Security checks to make ends meet. I think that the bureaucracy the way it is, Medi-Cal may find me ‘healthy’ enough to do without her services.”

Baseless because of Prop. 41, Los Angeles has seen unprecedented organizing from community groups, lawyers, and other public interest organizations to supply welfare recipients and get them to the polls. Most welfare recipients that I talk to, however, have been convinced that a political solution would be effective. For myself, I see this newest attempt at “welfare reform” as just the latest in a series of attacks on poor people, reducing us to pieces of paper, and then showing us aside. It has been public policy to force and condition people to be dependent and then penalizing us for being so.

—Angry mother on welfare

News & Letters
Vol. 29 No. 8
November 1984

Women, not bishops, decide on abortion

By Terry Moon

Before the election the nation was subjected to the bicker of Archbishop John J. O’Connor who, while he was at least not a racist, a misogynist, was, by his own admission, anti-abortion. He fought against the Reproductive Health Act, and lobbied in support of the idea that women should do with her body when he has the backing of the Catholic Church as well as the misogynist Protestant ministers who led the movement, had not been persistent in the face of great opposition.”

The Abolitionists of the 1850s, "those who cared about the quality of telecommunication" and the others behind the anti abort-
Immigrant workers face capitalist horrors

by John Marcontio

I recently met a Latin American who told me about her search for work when she arrived in New York six months ago. She was a self-employed dressmaker, working at home for many years, but she has no work for the first two weeks, so she sends her children out to get her home country that people don't even have money to get a dress or pants. But she figured with her skills and the knowledge of working in the garment district, she could make money so her children's and so they started walking

The boss answered, "You don't have at least two weeks of work, you can't stay more than two weeks." They wouldn't even let her try out for five minutes. This happened after job after job. After a while, she told a friend that she couldn't work anymore. She said, "I can't stay more than two weeks." Her friends told her that it was a "disgrace" and "totally out of order." She then told her friends that she was going to strike when they cut our pay

"I'm glad that Madison voted to authorize the Union of Factory Workers to strike. We are tired of this. We have some plans to get a union support. The existing powers in the union don't need a strike. I went for two years without any union support. The existing powers in the union don't need a strike.

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by Raya Dunayevskaya

News & Letters

NOVEMBER, 1984

Grenada: revolution and counter-revolution

by Raya Dunayevskaya

Grenada, where the Third World and a whole new generation of revolutionaries and counter-revolutionaries have clashed since the first week of October, is not only a laboratory of the new but a corridor between the Third World and the US, between the 1950s and 1990s. It is there that the Third World can be compared with the 1960s and 1970s, and the potential of Marxism deve

There can be no successful revolution without an historical perspective, which means not only that one must compare the Grenada revolution with the 1950s but also that one must compare the Grenada revolution with the 1960s and 1970s...
While the supposedly "decisive" Oct. 21 Presidential debate didn't do much to dispel any illusion that there was something fundamentally different between the two contenders for the most powerful seat in the country. The real "debate" was again a lullaby to consign to Reagan while it conveniently buries any news of the other America and turns the thousands of anti-Reagan, anti-war youth into "un-personas." American-style. That is the real measure of "freedom of the press" today, far more than the heated discussion now taking place over merely how many — and which chosen ones — will be allowed to accompany U.S. troops during the current mad race to the Soviet border.

The deep anti-war feelings of the overwhelming majority of the people of the world cannot be edited out of history-in-the-making that easily. At a moment when 83 percent of the population reveals that the nuclear bomb is their greatest fear; when a group of 23 Catholic bishops sign a statement opposing their own church hierarchy for "making abortion rather than nuclear war the foremost issue for Catholic voters"; when students at the University of Illinois mail 25,000 unanswerable letters to the young people pills stocked for use in event of nuclear war, in hopes of shocking their elders to recognize that the true suicide is not stopping the bomb; it is clear that the election of Nov. 6 decides nothing.

The real struggles are just beginning.

Chile: eyewitness report

Demonstrators in Santiago in 1983

Editor's Note: Mass protests broke out again in Chile in September marking the 11th anniversary of the U.S.-backed military coup that brought the Pinochet dictatorship to power. Opposition movements have called a 36-hour general strike this week. As far as we can see, the Pinochet government has arrested more than 400 and sent another 140 people to jail. This is a report of the 30 actions. The following report was given by a Chilean who recently returned to the U.S.

I returned to Chile last year after eight years in exile. A few hundred people have been allowed in since the huge demonstrations have demanded that the exiles be permitted to come back, but thousands of people are still "listed," and one million Chileans live outside the country.

I went back to work and to be a part of my family again, but I felt like a stranger there. The military has destroyed the whole structure of the country as it developed during 150 years of independence, I left again because I could not find a job, after looking for eight months.

MASS OPPOSITION GROWING

The economy has been destroyed, with 40 percent of industry shut down, and work on a grinding halt. In some sectors, the unemployment rate is 70 percent. This is the result of Chile's being a laboratory for the implementation of free market economic policies.

Chile today is a mixture of military strength, brutality and isolation, the people's struggle against the government and against the rich, the poor, the 40 percent who went up 80% and milk 60. There are 50,000 secret police, and the brutal "law" is being shot people openly in the streets. In the September demonstrations hundreds faced police opposition— including men who took part in the 1973 coup—even when they had no political influence. The government has no popular support; the Catholic Church reports that 90 percent of the people oppose it.

The center of the opposition is the shantytown areas, where the unemployed workers live in belts of poverty surrounding the cities. Hundreds of thousands have been forced off the land. There have also been protests by the Indian population, whose land and rights are being taken away. The Church is divided. The students are organizing worker movements. Anti-military sentiment is growing, and women are working on all aspects of liberation activities, from the barricades to child care centers.

In spite of the increased repression, the mass movement is opening more and more fronts, consolidating and developing during 150 years of independence. I left again, but I felt like a stranger there. The military has destroyed the whole structure of the country as it developed during 150 years of independence, I left again because I could not find a job, after looking for eight months.

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I am writing this on the eve of the election which I presume will end with a victory for Reagan. But I still want to write about "What would more years of Reagan, world outlaw, mean? (Oct. N&L)", because the way that has analyzed the last four years of Reagan will help us learn how to fight him in the next four years.

First the lead groups that every minute are organizing and preparing for war in every corner of the globe. Second, it shows that already at least three million people are involved in the anti-Reagan movement.

One young man later told me he which bor­

But perhaps most important, because this is the essence of Reaganism and not alone Reagan, you talk of what some people call "national security" or "the cold war." The history of the last decade—our own and others—in which we see a revival of the old class of war against working people, Blacks and women.

This is important, because 

The lead article in the Oct. N&L described Black education and white anti-education in the U.S. There have been some meetings here in the community dealing with the problem of high school dropouts. I was told that his brother dropped out in the tenth grade, not even knowing how to read and write, so he could get a job.

A message from Nicaragua.

The lead article in the Oct. N&L was a marvellous article of black critique of Reaganism. Domination's revolutionary journal makes serious use of satire to expose Reaganism in an acid bath of critique, from which it emerges unscathed. It shows both in its Machiavellianism and in absolute negation of the goals and means of black liberation and humanity in our common struggle for freedom. The glaring absence of any discourse by the U.S. black intellectuals was of course to call up to racism Reaganism drives home the stark reality that we have a lot to do beyond trying to elect a "rebel" and think N&L sometimes is too optimistic that that is crazy; it makes no sense. I think N&L sometimes is too optimistic for themselves. They couldn't care less the students I teach today are just out to do what the blacks are doing.
The MEANING OF MARXISM

Britain, attempted to present this topic with no reference whatever to the rise of the Third World. He found no subtext for the development of Women's Liberation and its struggles. He began with the young Marx and a few early articles, but relating to mention his Economic-Philosophic Manuscript—his 1844 Humanian Essays. Rather, his "dialectical" consisted of a concept of pre-capitalist alienation being overcome with capitalism, which Marx expressed "enthusiasm," and the coming to consciousness of the revolutionaries, "agencies," the working class, leading to socialism.

Taking the floor in discussion was a pleasant surprise. A Japanese student put up an interesting question of his own, came up after and bought a first edition of Marxism and History. I asked him, What did he have against Marxism? I thought he was asking for a critique of me, then he said, "I'm against Marxism." I asked him, What did he have against Marxism? I thought he was asking for a critique of me, then he said, "I'm against Marxism." I asked him, What did he have against Marxism? I thought he was asking for a critique of me, then he said, "I'm against Marxism." I asked him, What did he have against Marxism? I thought he was asking for a critique of me, then he said, "I'm against Marxism." I asked him, What did he have against Marxism? I thought he was asking for a critique of me, then he said, "I'm against Marxism." I asked him, What did he have against Marxism? I thought he was asking for a critique of me, then he said, "I'm against Marxism." 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When Archives are not Past, Not Forgotten
The Direct Relation of Marxist-Humanist Archives to Marx's Humanism
by Michael Connolly
National Co-organizer, News & Letters Committees
Archives is "embryo and process," of what it means to "hear Marx thinking," when you, in a very different age, have to work out new problems he could only see in outline as they first appeared. The movement should not be using Marx's archives... The Raya Dunayevskaya Collection... Our Archives are not forgotten because we have a requirement that it be made available to all who wish to study it, with no restrictions or "proof of scholarly intentions" required. It is now available on microfilm in over 30 libraries across the country, and several overseas.

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Two News & Letters publications

When Archives are not Past, Not Forgotten
The Direct Relation of Marxist-Humanist Archives to Marx's Humanism
by Michael Connolly
National Co-organizer, News & Letters Committees

Archives is "embryo and process," of what it means to "hear Marx thinking," when you, in a very different age, have to work out new problems he could only see in outline as they first appeared. The movement should not be using Marx's archives... The Raya Dunayevskaya Collection... Our Archives are not forgotten because we have a requirement that it be made available to all who wish to study it, with no restrictions or "proof of scholarly intentions" required. It is now available on microfilm in over 30 libraries across the country, and several overseas.

75¢

A Guide to the Raya Dunayevskaya Collection
Marxist-Humanist 1941 To Today
Its Origin and Development in the U.S.
Both available from News & Letters, 59 E. Van Buren, Room 707, Chicago, Ill. 60605
We Are Bosses Ourselves

The unique originality of We Are Bosses Ourselves is not only in the combining of academic studies with oral presentations by Aboriginal women, but in the way it is beautifully illustrated with photographs of the women's meetings. What needs to be said out as very original, because it presents us with a totally new sense of objectivity, is the relationship of Marxist-Humanists, stands for the abolition of capitalism, whether in its private property form as in the U.S., or its state property form as in Russia or China. We stand for the development of a new humanism, which is not just a form of theory, but to return the possibilities of Marx's Humanism as a practice which was itself a form of theory. Vol. 1, on all under the title, Marx's Way of Life, and who believes in these princi-...
British miners’ struggle: in...
The world has been impressed by the persistence, continuity, and duration of the recent student revolts in South Africa. From the boycotts of 1966 and 1976 onwards, students have directed their attack against continual arrests, corporal punishment, verbal harassment and spontaneous spread of boycotts to many regions of the country.

In Soweto, the site of the 1976 revolts, the boycotts this year have been most continuous and have involved masses of primary school children. They have forced the apartheid government to recognize their Student Representatives Councils. The government has ordered the closure of schools until May 1985.

At the University of Western Cape, students who have been boycotting classes since May and occupied the university administration building, have announced the formation of an "anticapitalist education movement." At least 3000 white draft resisters have fled the country and the "colored" vote for the new constitution. At least 3000 white draft resisters have fled the country and the "colored" vote for the new constitution. At least 3000 white draft resisters have fled the country and the "colored" vote for the new constitution.

HUMANISM OF BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS

From the very founding of the Black Consciousness Movement (SASO) in 1969, Steve Biko, (see "Steve Biko Speaks for Himself," News & Letters, November, 1977) its founder, saw the Black to rise and attain the envisaged self. That is why he emphasized that "in being so critical of the economic system at its roots."

The crisis in the Chicago schools is not caused by the teachers' contract, nor is the crisis limited to the Chicago city police station. As a worker said, "Yale: student-worker unity." The crisis is not fought on "oversimplified premises," not one of "deracialization," it is the most blatant expression of racism. The crisis is not fought on "oversimplified premises," not one of "deracialization," it is the most blatant expression of racism.

Youth in Revolt

In the biggest turmoil in several years, for a student election at Brown University, students voted 1,044 to 875 to elect "Students in Action," a new student group, "Students in Action" (SIA). Speakers, in-cluding a fourth grader, discussed the possibility of a teachers strike against the Chicago Board of Educa-

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The protest continued three weeks later, using the same tactic but with a different focus linking growing West German militarization to unemployment and cuts in social services. Anti-war activists came out to form another human chain, this time joining an unemployment office in the Ruhr steel town of Duisburg. These mass strikes are scheduled for deployment at U.S. bases.

While the press called this not as massive a turnout as leaders had expected, this lower turnout may reflect activists' switch over to tactics of non-violent direct action: the occupation of the war machine rather than a dwindling of support for the movement. After all, the demonstrations of millions in 1982 and 1983 did not prevent the three lines of defense from falling from their sites from arriving. In addition, all wings of the peace movement were giving their attention to another crucial question: their sense of Reagan's massive, unrelenting and vicious economic and military attacks against that country. A demonstration in support of Nicaragua was planned for Nov. 3, on the eve of U.S. and Nicaraguan elections.

On the domestic front, part of the movement has been continuing West German strikes. The government of Helmut Kohl, which has welcomed the U.S. missionaries, has been harassing foreign workers.

To obtain permanent residence, foreigners must now be "certified" fluent in German and should not be "wasted" for "unnecessary" service. The largest number of these 4.5 million workers are from Turkey, Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Morocco. A new plan is to stop foreign workers from bringing in children over the age of six.

Conservative deputy mayor of Berlin Heinrich Lummer supports such a regulation: "Our main problem is that the recent post-war wave of immigration, 250,000 to 125% of West Berlin's population, are foreigners." Other repressive tactics pose as "generous"—for example, offering foreigners dollars cash to foreign workers "voluntarily" returning.

In September and October nationwide demonstrations were held in support of West German workers, including students and workers in the area of foreign workers and residents. This "March Against Racism and Anti-Foreigner Politics" was sponsored by the U.S. protest movement, as well as the Greens, and Left and feminist groups. Over 20,000 participated across the country in marches culminating in Cologne on Oct. 23.

Info thanks to Arbeiterkampf

Peace talks in El Salvador

When thousands flocked to the guerrilla-held town of La Palma to witness the peace talks between the guerrilla leaders and the army, a huge crowd of workers, students and people of all walks of life flocked to hear the talks. As in previous talks, the arduous discussions were held by the government and the guerrillas over the politics of peace and aspirations for peace. To U.S.-backed President Duarte, "peace" means the big number of refugees. To the guerrillas, peace means only a change in the war waged by the army and the death squads.

That violence has killed thou­
sands in the peasant, student, labor and women's movements, including even Archbishop Oscar Romero. Thus, the "Archbishop Oscar Rome­ro Mothers' Committee" of mothers of those killed has been striving to obtain the Nobel Peace Prize to Bishop Desmond Tutu, a promi­nent Black leader, was a blow to the white separatist regimes. Tutu immediately hit back with a passionate defense of the Black Con­sciousness Movement's Student Repre­sentative Councils has been in total­ly new stage which has emerged with the powerful unity forged by students and workers in a 3-day gen­eral strike in the first week of Novem­ber.

Poland's underground

The brutal death squad-type disap­pearance and murder of Rev. Jerzy Popieluszko, a priest identified with Solid­arnosc underground in 1981, has outraged Poland and the world. Whether orchestrated from the top or "spontaneous," the murder is a sign of the frustration of the totalitarian apparatus and determi­nation of the opposition in the nearly three years since martial law drove Solid­arnosc underground in 1981.

Today this underground publishes more than 250 periodicals, and has a network of offices, cells and a kind of "network" of underground print shops. The state has survived a number of attempts at repression and is continuing to debate, in itself a continu­ance of opposing points of view, and the issue of opposing points of view, and the issue of opposing points of view, and the issue of opposing points of view.