Managed noncare
by Huyn Lin

As more companies are forcing their employees to pay for the rising cost of health care, workers are increasing-
ly coming out of the closet at HMOs. Frontrline health workers at HMOs are also in the middle of this rising noncare con-
test. With increased cost shifting we are becoming the latest barrier to unprofitable care.
Frontline service workers will be sent to classes to train us to "achieve revenue enhancement." We are told to "dramatically change our organizational culture" by "serving ourselves not as a health organization but as a business." Toward this end, not only do we learn "proper cash handling procedures," we are also taught methods on how to handle angry patients as they hear the bad news about their increased costs. This "cost shifting" is really about conflict shifting—from the picket line to the shop floor, where a patient in need now becomes another opportunity for "cost recovery."

BETWEEN ROCK AND HARD PLACE

During open enrollment, big employer purchasing groups such as AT&T, GM or CalPERS purchase HMO insurance for their workers. These capitalists sit across the bargaining table from the managed care money men on the HMO side and duke it out over the amount of money to be transferred for that healthcare. (Continued on page 3)

This way to managing health care. / Photo: John Alan

'racial privacy' fraud
by John Alan

Last April in California, Ward Connerly, a well-known African-American ultraconservative who is also a member of the board of advisors of the Ronald Reagan Library, filed almost a million signatures with the California secretary of state to qualify the so-called "Racial Privacy Initiative" for the ballot. Some have speculated that Connerly's initiative might go on the California ballot this coming November or in spring 2003. There is still time to make a critical giver as soon as possible. Thanks to HMO restruct-
"cost shifting"!

Introduction: India, Pakistan and the risk of nuclear war

The perilous nature of today's objective situation is disclosed by the ongoing threat of nuclear war between India and Pakistan, which places in jeopardy the lives of tens of millions. Though India and Pakistan have for now backed off from a direct confrontation, the seeds have been planted for a con-
firmation that could still be set off at any time. India has positioned half a million troops along its border in response to attacks by Pak-
istan-supported terrorists in Indian-controlled Kashmir. Pakistan has also test-firing ballistic missiles and has agreed to the first use of nuclear weapons in the event of an Indian attack. Pakistan has repeatedly committed to the Islamic fund-
damentalists who have used Kashmir as a launching pad for attacks on India, while India is led by a Hindu fundamentalist government that refuses to grant the people of Kashmir any degree of autonomy. The rise of religious fundamentalism on both sides is fueling a conflict that places into question the very survival of a country that has been the center of the world's foremost weapons-proliferation problem," as if the likelihood of tens of millions dying from a nuclear clash were not enough. The danger of Bush's policies lies not only in the 2,000 nuclear warheads that the U.S. and Russia each keep under the arms treaty, enough to destroy the world many times over. Nor is it only that the treaty fails to provide for

turn led Japan's leaders to begin to openly discuss breaking its 50-year taboo against building nuclear weapons. The means to do so are at hand since Japan possesses one of the largest stockpiles of weapons-grade plutonium in the world. The conflict between India and Pakistan has exposed the hollowness of Bush's claim that its nuclear arms reduction treaty with Russia, concluded in May, has minimized the risk of nuclear confronta-

The conflict between India and Pakistan has long been allied with Pakistan. It is not likely to idly stand by while India launches a major attack on Pak-

The Pakistan-India conflict has global ramifications. China continues to occupy a part of Kashmir and has long been allied with Pakistan. It is not likely to idly stand by while India launches a major attack on Pak-

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued on page 10)
In Deep in Our Hearts nineteen women tell of their participation in the Civil Rights Movement, the choices they made after it, as a mass movement for freedom and, ended. These stories bring back the passion for freedom, the belief in the equality of all people. Their stories tell us how, just the fact of being a white woman in the Civil Rights Movement could mean death for her and any Black man she was around. This is a ground-breaking story. Many of the women were instrumental in founding and running many of the organizations that emerged during the movement.

Also shown is how different theories were—and were not—discussed. There is ample discussion about nonviolent civil disobedience, the movement, and about the decision to form the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee to purge white members, for example, but the most existentially discussed theory is religious thought and the ideology of The Beloved Community. That community is what the NOW decided they would lead them to discussions of theories of participatory democracy.

Joan C. Browning is the most detailed about what she calls "largely a spiritual journey." Browning was looking for the inner transformation that would lead to freedom. "What does the Lord require of you?" (p. 40). Dorothy Day was more concerned with the spiritual dimensions that ended in their spiritual quest: "The movement became our new spiritual home." (p. 105).

Now, the HOW of the Women's Liberation Movement. Here theories of development and activism converge. Constance Curry, for example, who helped organize the Women's Liberation Movement in her community, but she must have had some interest as she made trips to Russia, China, and Chile, and 15 trips to Ireland. In 1969 she exchanged letters with June Jordan, who lived in the USSR, which led her to "an extreme diatique of Communism as practiced there." Yet how that influence—what she saw—led her to Communist supporters of Stalinist Russia were very active, is not discussed. It is only briefly noted in the context of activism: Casey Hayden writes, "Our radical truth was toward working out a new society."

The rally also demanded that Mayor Bloomberg and

The rally also demanded that Mayor Bloomberg and
Memphis, Tenn.—I started working for Velsicol Chemical Company in January 1990 as a utility worker and later became a chemical packager. In January 1994, my supervisor, the shift supervisor and the department supervisor met me in the department that makes fungicides. They told me that I would take aluminum insulation off an eight-foot-long vessel that was on fire. It was actually an OSHA violation to have me touch the vessel because it was still in operation and they knew I would not be able to get away from it. I didn’t like to lose the downtime by shutting down production. It takes almost a day for production to back up and get going.

After that, the radiation off and the supervisor said smelled chlorine. Even though I complained a lot about the radiation, it happens all the time at Velsicol. When we get chlorinated they tell us to get pepperment and eat it. I don’t take pepperment out of the candy machine, but as I got outside to move, I was coughing and sweating profusely.

A worker drove me to the nurse’s station, where they gave me medicine and changed the radiation to a different color for me. My wife said I was gasping all night. My physician told me the chlorine shocked my body into an asthmatic attack and I was given enough oxygen in my blood. From that point on I experienced a snowball effect.

I once asked the president of the union, PACE/Local 3-357, what to do about my chest. We went to the nurse, who drove me to my primary physician. They found that the floor I worked on was killing me, and she took me off work as of that day. But when we got back to the plant, the personnel noticed that I was getting better, and then Velsicol never wanted me to file for worker’s compensation. The point was to get me back on the job, I was needed because they would take care of things. I was denied worker’s comp because Velsicol said the accident never happened—

WORKSHOP TIPS

(Continued from page 1)

When the HMOs told us they were imposing a 13% increase in premiums this year, the employer groups, the HMO’s real customers, countered with cost shifting. Instead of staying with a singleminded determination to expand. Instead of staying with our role in this is going to become more important as projected cost shifting will package.

In that last part of the anger patient in need versus the needs and dictates down to the level of us frontline service workers, who are made to nickel-and-dime the patient to death. In turn, we are told to working on us frontline workers to internalize their priorities. Furthermore, we are told our role in this is going to become more important as projected cost shifting will "manage" anticipated increases in premiums, deducted from their paychecks, but employers also.

The business office is now "manage" anticipated increases in premiums, deducted from their paychecks, but employers also.

We need a workers’ movement around capitalist interests. Nothing can get around capital imposing its care. Now a labor/management strategic partnership has a singleminded determination to expand.

The尤其large turnout of students, encouraged by the presence of hip-hop performers, added militancy to the scene of hundreds of large-scale workers’ demonstrations. The especially large turnout of students, encouraged by the presence of hip-hop performers, added militancy to the scene of hundreds of large-scale workers’ demonstrations.

Inhaling carbon tetrachloride when making herbicide still wasn’t anything to talk about, but it wasn’t considered a big deal. My breathing had gone down every year from 1990 to 1994 on a daily basis. I was trying to get something done and said anything.

Inhaling carbon tetrachloride when making herbicide still wasn’t anything to talk about, but it wasn’t considered a big deal. My breathing had gone down every year from 1990 to 1994 on a daily basis. I was trying to get something done and said anything.

It’s happening to all the workers. One guy who I’d never seen before said he was hosed one day. I never saw him again. He died. There are workers there that I know that are sick, and people are dying in the community (See June N&L). Velsicol never tells workers about the community meetings because they don’t want us to get involved in the plants.

Why would they be concerned with the people outside that pool? I would like to see justice for me as well as for those who live around it.

—Rodney McCray

Nasser Saidi, editor of Payeshhakht-i Kargari (Labor Review), focused on the need for independent workers’ organizations from the government as well as from within Iran and abroad who held a conference in Toronto, Canada on June 2 and 3.

Beyond Capital

In Defense of Marx, Jami’a (Society’s Thought)

Andishah-i Jamii (Society's Thought) spoke about the establishment of the first independent Iranian workers’ unions and the emergence of the first independent May Day celebrations since the early 1980s. These celebrations in various cities were independent of both the government and the opposition Islamic government included members of the Workers’ Socialist Unity, Iranian Workers’ Communist Party and Labor Left Unity which has broken from them, International Alliance in Support of Workers in Iran and Left Block, as well as independents. Another group argued that the main obstacle was a backward economy, and therefore labor’s main task for now is to work for the industrialization of the economy.

An Iranian woman worker in Canada spoke on women’s role in labor struggles in Iran. She said women had worked in the factory not only from the division of labor but also from gender discrimination. When the Islamic regime tried to separate the women’s section from men in the workplace, women workers rejected this idea. They wouldn’t work if the factory backed it. Men commented that this separation was a movement against the Islam.

She said women who wanted to live independent of parents would face problems even renting apartments. Many single women have to live on prostitution or as temporary women. Women are under a microscope. We need a workers’ movement around "health care as a human right."

Iranian labor reborn on May Day

Toronto—During the last year, Iran has been the scene of hundreds of workers’ demonstrations, of which nearly 250 were officially reported. Some 800 workers were arrested with police and government security forces. These actions underlie the conference of Iranian labor activists and scholars on political economy Canadian universities and conferences in Toronto, Canada on June 2 and 3.

Those at the conference who argued that the main obstacle to the creation of an independent labor movement emphasized the importance of establishing bourgeois awareness comes from workers’ own struggles and not from outside, it is important that workers and intellectuals work together.

A heated debate followed on what kind of workers’ independent organization is necessary, and how relations should there be between political parties and workers’ organization? Is this a continuation of the Know Nothing party of the 19th century. After September 11, the US has cut the school budget by $356 million. The United Federation of Teachers was forced to police workers’ social security numbers and drive hardworking taxpayers out of the U.S. IRS, which is unprecedented. Employers would then be forced to police workers’ social security numbers and drive hardworking taxpayers out of the U.S.

No match abuses

Chicago—The Social Security Administration used to send out letters to individuals whose Social Security number and name, as reported by one’s employer who reported 10% of its workforce, or simply to the Social Security Administration.

Some neo-liberal theorists have recognized that Karl Marx was correct when he said that capitalism breeds down national boundaries. But allowing workers freedom to cross borders might mean they could organize internationally for a new society, which was not acceptable. No "match" letters will continue until we organize internationally for a new society, which was not acceptable.
Nuclear war and state-capitalism

From the Writings of Raya Dunayevskaya

Marxist-Humanist Archives

Editor's Note

The current standoff between India and Pakistan can escalate at any moment into nuclear war, the threat of which did not exist during the Cold War. Raya Dunayevskaya had discussed the superpower preparations from the post-WWII “Cold Peace” in the book in July 1961, “In Ideas and Organization,” the draft of that year’s perspectives report for News and Letters Committees. We selected excerpts from that report as a contribution to the discussion about the present nuclear arms race and the role of Marxists in the feature that begins on page 1 of this issue, “Permanent war or revolution in permanence?” We welcome your responses to the question of how we can contribute to the inter-relationship of philosophy and politics which gave the grandeur of this vision was lost by

implemented across the whole world... when we made public what Lenin had kept private—his

Alas, the workers and the petty-bourgeoisie who talked socialism and those who were building it, by the sole distinction of the conditions of labor. Of course, when such conditions have worsened; speed-ups in produc-

tion has heightened tensions and increased industrial accidents.

The shorthand of labor that continues to characterize Russian Marxism. Discover the meaning of Marx for today through this classic study.

**First published in 1958, Raya Dunayevskaya’s Marxism and Freedom was the first book to project the American roots and world humanist concept of Marxism. It has undergone six English-language editions.**

The 2000 edition is a Preface by Joel Kovel and an introduction containing one of Dunayevskaya’s “Correspondence” of the development of Marxism, the meaning of Marx for today through this classic study.

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**JULY 2002**

**NEWS & LETTERS**

**Vol. 101, No. 4, July 1961**

**Page 4**
ly threat posed by reactionary religious fundamentalism. The conflict between India and Pakistan shows that it can set off a chain reaction leading to an outright nuclear holocaust. We must posture ourselves to contain all the time and energy on simply opposing only the regressive acts of U.S. rulers. To effectively oppose capitalism/imperialism we must unfurl a banner of liberation that is absolutely opposed to both fundamentalist terrorism and liberal imperialism. We continue to live in an age of absolutes, in which we confront a struggle for absolute freedom and against total destruction. We socialists, as the posterity of the September 11 terrorist attacks revealed the deadly conflicts of the reac-

I. The objective crises of war and terrorism

"Every beginning must be made from the Absolute, the general exhibition of the Absolute...The progress is therefore not a kind of overgrowth." —G.W.F. Hegel

A. The U.S. drive for single world mastery

What predominates over everything today is the counter-revolutionary power of U.S. imperialism. The September 11 terror attacks clearly played into the U.S. hands, by providing the Bush administration with an opportunity to embark on an unprecedented drive to extend U.S. hegemony overseas.

Since the Taliban in power from Afghanistan, the U.S. has assembled all military bases and troop depots in over a dozen countries, from Pakistan to Uzbekistan and from Tajikistan to Georgia. U.S. forces are active in the largest nuclear arms race since the Cold War. One example is the U.S. new base in Kyrgyzstan, which will house 3,000 troops and 1,200 supporting personnel. The U.S. plans to send troops and "advisors" to Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia.

There is even talk of the U.S. sending military aid to Nepal. Meanwhile, U.S. military forces are in the Philippines and Bush is sending new arms shipments to Indonesia.

The U.S. is also sending hundreds of millions of dollars in extras to Central Asia, Colombia, and Mexico. The Bush administration has even declared that it will launch a pre-emptive strike against North Korea, which is a key supplier of weapons for developing weapons of mass destruction.

This is all being done in the name of the Bush adminstration—whether it be its scuttling of the Kyoto Accords on global warming; undermining the treaty banning nuclear tests; freezing the weapon convention; or repudiating the statute creating a world court to try war criminals.

The U.S. recently threatened to pull out its "peacekeepers" from the newly independent nation of East Timor unless it agrees to the full control over the world. No doubt the administration would have preferred to forge even the limited nuclear arms reduction treaty before September 11. It had earlier denounced such initiatives as "unnecessary." The fear of Islamic fundamentalism has so dominated the Bush administration's view of the "war on terrorism" that it has been willing to spend billions of dollars to prop up dictators such as those in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Pakistan. It has been willing to make deals with such regimes.

The Bush administration has even declared that it will launch a pre-emptive strike against any nation with the capacity to launch a nuclear weapon, including North Korea, China, and Iran.

The lockstep agreement of the U.S. with the European Union with the Bush administration has been succeeded by the Bush administration's "war on terrorism." The Bush administration has been willing to make deals with such regimes.

The gutting of the federal welfare system, which started under Clinton and was further strengthened by Bush, has further exacerbated the already dire situation of the poor.

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interest in restraining Sharon, it is mainly in order to cool off tensions in the region. Sharon is trying to extend his permanent war on Iraq. Clearly the lives and livelihoods of millions of Palestinians will be destroyed by this war that Sharon is trying to impose on the Palestinian people. But is that enough? Is it just to Bush?

The Left's reluctance to develop a comprehensive critique of fundamentalism has isolated it not just from these widespread popular uprisings but from those of women in the U.S. who are deeply concerned about the mounting threat posed by various forms of right-wing Christian fundamentalism. Women are raising questions about the erosion of democratic freedoms, about the rise of right-wing Christian fundamentalism not only because of what is happening overseas, but because they are feeling the threatening effects of state repression overseas, of right-wing Christian fundamentalism in the U.S. in the form of restrictions on reproductive rights and on domestic abuse to the overall conditions of family and everyday life. As we argued in the moment September 11 happened. But what we have to do is to recognize that within a total view movement must be able to look at the world as a whole. In this particular context, we argued, the movement would not prove able to project a total vision which opposes not only the actions of our rulers but those of reactionary forces which claim to oppose them.

The need for a total view is not only imperative when it comes toBush's "war against terror." It is needed for realizing these movements, for the movement to become a cohesive force on the international scale. As the Left has become more isolated from the truly independent Marxist stand. "Middle East Cauldron Explodes," News & Letters, October 1970.

"It becomes more imperative than ever for those who are trying to build a new world to...learn that wild, militant terrorism—which whether an Arab commando or a terrorist from the American New Left—not only does not wreck 'the system.' It provides an excellent fuel to keep the flames of terrorism...Marxist-Humanists work toward the goals of national liberation and international solidarity with the Palestinian people. A plaque on both your houses is a religious, not a human solution. But a separation from all paeacenon quietness is the truly independent Marxist stand" (=Middle East Cauldron Explodes), News & Letters, October 1970.

This is not just a call to have "correct politics." It is a call to root one's politics in a philosophy of liberation which respects the subjective experiences of workers, of women, and of what we are for. Achieving that means grasping anew with dialectico-philosophical perspectives...as we argued in this year's statement "Why the Anti-War Movement Needs a Dialectical Perspective," dialectical philosophy, as developed by the ideas of Karl Marx is the unique combination of worker and mass self-organization, that we are...you have the makings of an irresistible popular rebellion, a grassroots uprising which is rejecting center and the growing ranks of unemployed and underemployed workers includes a new generation of workers...Who can hold the movement...What is remarkable is how ferociously opposed the movement against the system will prove to be. The Left—not only does not wreck 'the system.' It provides an excellent fuel to keep the flames of terrorism...Marxist-Humanists work toward the goals of national liberation and international solidarity with the Palestinian people. A plaque on both your houses is a religious, not a human solution. But a separation from all paeacenon quietness is the truly independent Marxist stand."
The Power of Negativity illustrates the power of the negation of private property immediately moving to the negation of slavery. If we put forth a body of ideas that spells out the second negativity—that is, the kind of negativity which does not, so to speak of philosophy, merely in general, not as if that signifies something other than negativity but stop short of a new relation between philosophy and practice—we have a way to work out as dialectics of revolution and dialectics of organization in the 1980s. The book discloses how Hegel's 'negation of the negation,' and the great demerit of this Hegel in enveloping it in such mysticism by dealing 'throw of the old? Is it possible truly to develop a new bureaucracy once again to confront us after the overthrow of the old? Is it possible truly to overcome the inequality of capital by developing new forms of non-hierarchical, decentralized organization. The question is whether you can see in workers' control a mirror of Hegel's dialectic of second negativity. As she put it in her "Rough Notes on Science of Logic" in 1961, which is found in a new bureaucracy once again to confront us after the overthrow of the old? Is it possible truly to overcome the inequality of capital by developing new forms of non-hierarchical, decentralized organization. The question is whether you can see in workers' control a mirror of Hegel's dialectic of second negativity. As she put it in her "Rough Notes on Science of Logic" in 1961, which is found in the self-determination of nations; or when the state had reached the high stage of centralization, you most certainly do not go to taking over, but rather to the destruction of the state."

There are many aspects of Marxist-Humanism's philo­ sophic development. Its World Development Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Detroit, MI 48202. It shows, from the beginning of Part I, how deeply rooted was Hegel's humanism in understanding what is involved. As she wrote in her "Presentation on the Dialectics of Organization and Philosophy," "I am speaking of Marx's 'Critique of Hegelian Dialectic': "Marx wrote in his "Critique of Hegelian Dialectic": "We make these writings available to U.S. residents for $12. Foreign residents publish these... other socialists. That is why he so adamantly insisted that to make 'socialist revolutionaries.' From this aspect, the negation of private property immediately moves to the negation of slavery. If we put forth a body of ideas that spells out the second negativity—that is, the kind of negativity which does not, so to speak of philosophy, merely in general, not as if that signifies something other than negativity but stop short of a new relation between philosophy and practice—we have a way to work out as dialectics of revolution and dialectics of organization in the 1980s. The book discloses how Hegel's 'negation of the negation,' and the great demerit of this Hegel in enveloping it in such mysticism by dealing with the full philosophic ground that is available to us. Working out a new level of dialogue with revolutionaries becomes central to our effort to work out; organize and change the world in a way that is different than the capitalist world order.

The Power of Negativity brings together a range of the factory occupations, and struggles of the proletariat.[7] Their emergence now poses a new direction in working out the question of "what happens after," of the dialectics of revolution and dialectics of organization. We make these writings available to U.S. residents for $12. Foreign residents publish these... other socialists. That is why he so adamantly insisted that to make 'socialist revolutionaries.' From this aspect, the negation of private property immediately moves to the negation of slavery. If we put forth a body of ideas that spells out the second negativity—that is, the kind of negativity which does not, so to speak of philosophy, merely in general, not as if that signifies something other than negativity but stop short of a new relation between philosophy and practice—we have a way to work out as dialectics of revolution and dialectics of organization in the 1980s. The book discloses how Hegel's 'negation of the negation,' and the great demerit of this Hegel in enveloping it in such mysticism by dealing with the full philosophic ground that is available to us. Working out a new level of dialogue with revolutionaries becomes central to our effort to work out; organize and change the world in a way that is different than the capitalist world order.

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III. The power of negativity in today's changed world

Assuming organizational responsibility for the dialectic of second or absolute negativity is the challenge that the founder of Marxist-Humanism projected as she "rounded out" her delineation of consciousness and of our office to meet this challenge we have issued a new collection of her works. This, The Party, the Party. As we reject this concept politically, Hegel rejects it philosophically. He has now so absorbed all the other systems that, far from taking over, he is first going back to vanguardists and to those who emphasize spontaneity but stop short of a new relation between philosophy and practice.

The Power of Negativity brings together a range of the factory occupations, and struggles of the proletariat.[7] Their emergence now poses a new direction in working out the question of "what happens after," of the dialectics of revolution and dialectics of organization. We make these writings available to U.S. residents for $12. Foreign residents publish these... other socialists. That is why he so adamantly insisted that to make 'socialist revolutionaries.' From this aspect, the negation of private property immediately moves to the negation of slavery. If we put forth a body of ideas that spells out the second negativity—that is, the kind of negativity which does not, so to speak of philosophy, merely in general, not as if that signifies something other than negativity but stop short of a new relation between philosophy and practice—we have a way to work out as dialectics of revolution and dialectics of organization in the 1980s. The book discloses how Hegel's 'negation of the negation,' and the great demerit of this Hegel in enveloping it in such mysticism by dealing with the full philosophic ground that is available to us. Working out a new level of dialogue with revolutionaries becomes central to our effort to work out; organize and change the world in a way that is different than the capitalist world order.
Draft for Marxist-Humanist Perspectives 2002-2003

The trilogy of revolution with an international conference of Marxist-Humanists to flow from the philosophical breakthrough that led to Marxist-Humanism in Amsterdam. This conference marked the first time that Marxist-Humanists from so many nations had the opportunity to get together, exchange thoughts and experiences, and develop perspectives for further collaboration. The conference was attended by philosophers from the U.S. or Britain, or The Netherlands, India and West Africa to develop international relations on the basis of the Power of Negativity, the trilogy of revolution, and archives of Marxist-Humanism represents a critical step forward for our national as well as international relations.


The central challenge facing us was spelled out by our founder in 1968: "By organization being kept inseparable from theory and practice that is at the heart of Marxist-Humanism. It was only with the rounding out of our exploration and concretization of the dialectic of absolute negativity. The Power of Negativity. The Power of Negativity. The Power of Negativity. The Power of Negativity.

The Power of Negativity calls on us to place new emphasis on outreach, from the correspondence between America and the world, and from the correspondence between the individual and the collective. There are plenty of others who are willing to engage in activities and political debates. But only we have acquired organizational responsibility for the new relationship of theory and practice that is at the heart of Marxist-Humanism. Problem is the essence of all that we will do for the future, to come.

Achieving this requires not letting go of Marxist-Humanist organizational consciousness. Neither reverting to the elitist strategy, as do the vanguardists, nor dumping all responsibility on the backs of the people, as do the vanguardists. Marxist-Humanism represents a critical step forward for our national as well as international relations.

IV. Political, philosophical, and organizational tasks

This year we reached a new point in our effort to overcome the separation between philosophy and organization with an international conference of Marxist-Humanists in Amsterdam. This conference marked the first time that Marxist-Humanists from so many nations had the opportunity to get together, exchange thoughts and experiences, and develop perspectives for further collaboration. The determination of all those present, whether from the U.S. or Britain, or The Netherlands, India and West Africa to develop international relations on the basis of the Power of Negativity, the trilogy of revolution, and archives of Marxist-Humanism represents a critical step forward for our national as well as international relations.

Jointly in Amsterdam conference raised the perspective for international relations to flow from the philosophic consciousness of Marxist-Humanism, so that is needed when it comes to the tasks facing News and Letters Committees in the U.S. This year we placed ourselves as part of the contradictions facing the freedom movements by helping to organize the American Revolution and the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA).


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ISRAELIS, PALESTINIANS

June marked 35 years of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. People have already written about the price paid by Palestinians under occupation — the deaths, injuries, traumatized youngsters and so much heartache that will never be forgotten, much less the generations after the occupation inevitably comes to an end.

But there has been damage to Israeli society as well, and not only in terms of the tragedy of lives lost through terrorism but also in terms of the erosion of its democratic institutions. It could be that the most striking thing about the three decades of occupation is the way in which it has stripped away the use of the state's institutions to the benefits of any local or individual group. That remarkable fact will only come to light as the occupation ends, which may be sooner than we think. This is a fact that the Israeli society needs to face, and are there any better ways to do this than by encouraging the politicians, the media and the academics to talk about the occupation? It is not only the Israelis who have suffered from the occupation, but everyone who lives under occupation. And that includes the world community, who has the right to demand that the occupation ends and the Palestinian state is established.

Revolutionary activist

Evanston, Illinois

A Roundtable on Black Feminism at Barnard College featured a panel of speakers who were groundbreaking writers and thinkers on race and gender, such as Kathleen Cleaver, a leader in the Black Panther Party in the 1960s, and Michelle Alexander, whose book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, has been a major influence on the conversation about mass incarceration in the United States.

The panelists discussed the importance of Black feminism, and how it has evolved over the years. They also talked about the challenges that young women of color face today, and how they can work to overcome them. The panelists were joined by a large and diverse audience, who engaged in thoughtful and productive discussions on a wide range of topics.

Revolutionary activist

Chicago

When you reported (June) that Professor José Sólis Jordán had been transferred to Puerto Rico on May 21, nobody knew that he was going to be taken while “in transit” and jailed in Atlanta from May 21 to June 3. Then he was put in solitary confinement, first in New Hampshire, then in solitary confinement in an area that dated back to 1902, although his papers were not made available to be reviewed. He was given a minimum security “half-way” house in Oklahoma. The conditions in Oklahoma are that the government has improved but he is being kept from communicating by phone with his family.

José Sólis Jordán

When was this subject to the treatment that he has been reserved in his conviction and remand order? Is the FBI in fabricating cases against other innocent people who are pro-independence activists?

José Sólis Jordán

TWO-TIER HEALTH CARE?

Here in Flint we just had an example of how health care is becoming less and less accessible when a Catholic hospital was bought by a for-profit outfit that is charging such high rates for care that only the rich can possibly afford it. This is a “two-tier” system. It’s a case of if you’re not rich you just don’t get any care at all.

D.B.

FLINT, MICHIGAN

STUGGLINGS IN PHILIPPINES

Your June lead by R. Russell on what he calls the “New Left” movement in the Philippines is wondrously concise. It is the first time I have seen these issues in any newcomer. The current administration of President Joseph Estrada and the new Foreign Affairs Secretary Armin Luistro are capable of handling the situation of the Philippines. The government has improved but he is being kept from communicating by phone with his family.

Victimising feminist

Japan

The June lead brings home the depth of economic crisis in the Philippines. Of course, it has nothing to do with the “new left” movement, since its base is the middle-class reform community. The congressmen have long been the major source of power in the Philippines, their growth has collapsed and is in production mode: China, Malaysia.

Observer Bay Area, California

A THANK YOU AND A REMINDER

OUR THANKS TO ALL OUR READERS WHO RESPONDED SO QUICKLY TO OUR APPEAL FOR HELP TO KEEP NEWS & LETTERS GOING. HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR CONTRIBUTION YET?
Peru's shineshoo boy-turned-president, the "man of the poor," Alejandro Toledo, imposed a state of 'emergency' on the southern tip of the country in June 1983: "No one at the legislature will work out a compromise, but they arrived on June 18 in Gusco, Iquitos, and other cities, effectively spreading the rebellion throughout the country. Toledo's government looked as if it might be heading for collapse. His interior minister resigned and some legislators called for all of his cabinet to step down. The state of emergency declared in Arequipa on June 16, suspended all constitutional rights. A Arequipa on June 16, suspend the poor," Alejandro Toledo, imposed a state of emergency on the southern region of Peru, where several hundred protesters were killed, one of them a 23-year-old university student shot in the head by the police with a tear gas canister. Several hallucinations.

The protests were called to stop the sale of Egesa and Egesor, the electrical companies "auctioned" off to the coal mining firm (itself controlled by a French company, Suez). For the poor, "see no evil and hear no evil and call it a "color blind society." Toledo's government refuses to press the issue of "justice" or to support independence for Aceh, because Indonesia remains both a threat and an economic partner. At the independence day celebrations attended by many world leaders, President Manny Guellin (until recently a firm supporter of Toledo),ovy were tear gased and attacked by the police.

Marchers fought back, wrecking government build­ings, and still more people joined in the protest, students. The state of emergency was declared on June 16 and the revolt intensified on the fol­lowing day to the city of Tacna, at the very southern tip of Peru, where several hundred were arrested and businesses were looted during a general strike. Large marches in soli­darity with Arequipa took place in Curou, Iquitos, and other major cities, leaving the rebellion throughout the country.

Four other provinces including Arequipa. Also that day a large solidarity march took place in the capital, Lima. Arequipa, the country's second largest city and the location of Egesa and Egesor, was the site of a massive rebellion. Marches on June 13, 1983 in the birthplace of the rebellion, marched on the capital, Lima, where, despite the efforts of two police officers, they held him down and beat him with a baseball bat. Vincent Chin murder, remembering it for today.

Vincent Chin murder, remembering it for today.

Detroit — Detroit's Asian-American community expresses its pain June 23-25 in remembrance of Vincent Chin, murdered in 1982 by two drunk white lid-off autoworkers who thought he was Japanese. The week­end activities included "Vincent, Dead But Not Forgotten," a civil rights teach-in, an evening of poetry and perfor­mance, a rally and a march. At the teach-in, the Asian-American Center for Justice recognized the families of hate crime victims Joseph Ileto and Ronald Ebens and his son, Michael Nitz, with Mrs. Lily Chin, Vincent's mother, and Christine Choy created a powerful story of life, death, racism and injustice. They bleded interviews with her. Lilly Chin, Vincent's mother, and Vincent's killers, Ronald Ebens and his son, Michael Nitz, with son and sculptural and archival news coverage of the case. Vincent Chin. The photograph of Ebens and Nitz at a tophat bag. One of the dancers testified that he hit the helmet and the gorilla suit and said that we are out of work. Ebens and Nitz chased Chin outside and drove after him to a nearby McDonald's where they arrested two police officers, they held him down and beat him with a baseball bat. Vincent Chin was killed later.

The subsequent trial shocked the world when Judge Charles Kaufman sided with the murderers and gave them three years probation and $3,000 in fines each. Mrs. Chin's request to reject incorporation became the catalyst for the ongoing battle in the courts.

As we wrote in News & Letters, June 1983: "No one at the protest made a distinction between the racism sur­rounding this single case and the general atmospher of anti-Asian bigotry, generated by...the UAW and the auto corporations." A new case charging the two with violation of Chin's civil rights was tried in Federal Court and found guilty. However, in 1987, it was over­turned on appeal.

Mrs. Chin (who died last month at age 82) refused to give up on her idea of what American justice was sup­posed to be for her only child. Now, 20 years later, we are witnessing the ruiling powers of our society create a "color blind society." Mrs. Chin's refusal to accept injustice became the catalyst for this book.

The book was born out of her fight against racism and her determination and violation of her right to free expression.

The book's central theme is to end the American racism and to empower anti-racist movements. The book has been praised by some young people who came to understand that "civil rights" are individual rights that attach to every individual, not to a group.

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Vincent Chin murder, remembering it for today.
Chicago—Five panellists convened to discuss the deeply unfair and flawed nature of the criminal justice system, from the death penalty to surveillance of youth in high school and campus. The event was sponsored by the Chicago Home Democracy Tour in Union Park on June 15.

David O. Stovall, a professor at University of Illinois, Chicago, said that as far back as 1963, prior to the civil rights movement there was a discussion of ways to control the Black population in our country. Everything was in place for a crackdown even before September 11; he said. New plans have come to fruition and include Scottsboro Boys in 1930s and later.

Stovall described a Chicago law enforcement "sweep." All students were given a notice to come to the police station for sitting on their front porch during the sweep. During the summer months, this goes on twice a month in some places for a crackdown even before September 11. He said the crackdown on youth was accompanied by a 700% increase in the number of youth who had been taught no skills, their life on the outside and economically are targeted for this legal racket.

Joanne Archibald of the Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers and former prisoner discussed the impact of imprisonment on family development and the effect of imprisonment on family development and the details of Yugi Hosei, most oppose the law. Mrs. Caldwell phoned my house and told me to hurry and get outside. I approached Officer Mendosa to inform him that I was Milton’s mother. His father was a nurse, and because the police would not allow me to go with them Milton was then handcuffed when he was removed from the vehicle. Milton stated that the policemen told him, "You better say you did it, or else you will never see your son again." He was given several opportunities to say it. The other officers had their hands on their guns as Milton was charged by his arm and threw him into the police vehicle.

Arab student harassed

Chicago—Supporters of Ahmed Bensusa, an Arab activist and former student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, reported that he was freed from an immigration and Naturalization Service detention center on $10,000 bond on June 21. Bensusa was arrested on May 30 and charged with violating his visa.

Bensusa is active in organizing support for the Palestinian Intifada and public and private institutions in its case against him.

This comes at a time when U.S. President Bush urges Japan to do more in the fight against terrorism. But, Yugi Hosei doesn’t simply give the Japanese people the right to defend themselves, it gives the government the right to do whatever it wants.

The Japanese Self-Defense Army has become more powerful since the end of World War II. In 1992, the Japanese army went to Cambodia for a peacekeeping mission equipped with guns. It was the first time since World War II that the army had been used in the field of war. The government was under pressure to bring Japanese soldiers involved in a war.

Similarly, the Japanese Self-Defense Force, that is currently going on in Cambodia, is under pressure to bring junior soldiers involved in a war.

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Many fear that the Right, with its anti-labor and anti-July 1 increase in the minimum wage. Marie Le Pen? How could this be happening in countries that have a history of peaceful coexistence between them in two neighboring states. Surely the anti-immigrant backlash since September 11 was a factor, in France as elsewhere. But how could the French Left experience such a stinging defeat, after the election of conservative Jacques Chirac to the presidency, this bodes ill for Western Europe: France, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, and now France under conservative rule, 'many fear that the Right, with its anti-labor and anti-immigrant policies, will dominate the political landscape in many countries in Europe.' The paramilitaries were created by the army and still enjoy its tacit support.

The invasion began on June 19, with aerial bombing by U.S.-supplied Apache helicopters, followed by shellfire, snipers, and tanks. Israeli forces attacked all Palestinian cities in the West Bank and Gaza. On June 20, in a burst of imperial arrogance, George W. Bush gave a speech saying that Sharon could have written ordering the Palestinians to change their lead­ers, and that he didn't want to think of an idea of an independent Palestinian to a distant future. Meanwhile, the destruction of buildings and disturbing polls showing that a majority of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza support these acts, have given momentum to the call of intellectuals to take an explicit public stand against these bombings in Arabic-language publications. A report published in the Jerusalem paper Al-Quds on June 20, drafted by Sari Nusseibeh, a prominent peace activist on the Left, and co-signed by Hanan Ashrawi and 50 other Palestinian intellectuals, declares: 'Suicide bombings deepen the hatred and widen the gap between Israelis and Palestinians. Also, they destroy the possibilities of peaceful coexistence between them in two neighboring states.' "We see that these bombings do not contribute towards achieving our national project that calls for freedom and independence. On the contrary, they strengthen the enemies of peace on the Israeli side," Earlier, the Palestinian writer Edward Said had stated as far back as June 12: 'It's no accident that there is another thing along with Arafat's ruinous regime that has done us more harm as a cause it is this calamitous policy of killing Israeli civilians, which further proves to the world that we are indeed terrorists and an immoral people.'...It must be up to us to project the idea of co-existence in two states that have natural relations with each other on the basis of sovereignty and equality...A just cause can easily be subverted by evil or inad­equacy or corrupt means.'

An unprecedented development within Israel was a rally for peace on May 12, attended by tens of thousands in Tel Aviv who called on Israel to pursue the Saudi Peace Plan. Another important event was the first-Jerusalem Gay Pride march on July 3, attended by hundreds of gays, lesbians, and their supporters, who also took a stand against Israel's illegal occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Sheila Sahab
June 30, 2002

EU protests in Spain

The European Union summit meeting in Seville, Spain faced a number of challenges from labor, anti-racist, anti-globalization, and anti-capitalist activists. Those challenges began on June 24, when Spain's conservative Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar delayed opening the summit for several hours. This was because labor unions had shut down transport services, including taxis, as part of a nationwide general strike to protest efforts by Aznar to force workers to take low-paying jobs far from their homes or risk losing their unemployment benefits. The current unemployment rate is "only" 11%, down from 20% six years ago.

At the summit itself, the main topic debated by lead­ers was nursing immigration. Immigrants and students had to face thousands of heavily armed police as they held small demonstrations in support of immigrant and student rights at the University of Seville.

Finally, on June 28, as the summit closed, over 100,000 anti-globalization and anti-capitalist demon­strators from across Europe and beyond filled the streets of Seville. This mass demonstration of students and immigrants' rights included slogans such as "Free­dom of Movement."

Colombian elections

In May, ultra-conservative Alvaro Uribe was elected president of Colombia by a wide margin. Uribe, who will take office in August, has promised to crush the leftist rebels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) by doubling the size of the military. This policy marks a break with that of the previous president, Andrés Pastrana, which had ceded FARC several provinces in hope of negotiations to end decades of civil war. FARC consists of a fairly loose network of cells that practice a way of nonviolent social policies in the areas it controlled, then allowed workers to form mass self-organized units. Instead, it has proved itself to be an effective organization focused on a radical revolutionary struggle.

Uribe will give the rightist paramilitaries carte blanche to wipe out civilians they deem supporters of FARC, that is anyone on the Left, includ­ing trade unionists and student activists. Some 171 unionists were killed in 2001, mainly by paramilitaries. The paramilitaries were created by the army and still enjoy its tacit support.

For its part, the U.S. has given $12.3 billion in aid to the Colombian military in recent years. The U.S. Ambassador rushed to congratulate Uribe even before the votes were tallied. One positive aspect of the elec­tion was the candidacy of Luis Eduardo Garzón, an independent Marxist critic of FARC, who had to face numerous death threats from the paramilitaries.

Middle East conflict escalates further

The specter of famine looms over six countries of southern Africa: Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swazi­land, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. These countries, with a combined population of over 50 million, have seen their food stocks dwindle, with seven million now facing star­vation. Many more, weakened by AIDS, are vulnerable to disease. How could this be happening in countries that have some of the world's richest farmland? Climate changes caused by global warming have resulted in a two-year drought punctuated by floods, which have destroyed crops. The impact of industrialized capital­ism was clear. Local ruling classes have played no small role in bringing about the crisis, however. Zimbabwe's Presi­dent Robert Mugabe has disrupted agriculture by insti­gating a near civil war to intimidate the democratic opposition. The corrupt and authoritarian governments of Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Mozambique also added to the dis­astrous state of affairs by selling off their countries' emergency grain reserves, by some reports allowing corrupt of­ficials to pocket the profits.

Trade unionists demonstrated in Seville against new government labor laws, June 20, during the national general strike. The European Union summit meeting in Seville, Spain faced a number of challenges from labor, anti-racist, anti-globalization, and anti-capitalist activists. Those challenges began on June 24, when Spain's conservative Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar delayed opening the summit for several hours. This was because labor unions had shut down transport services, including taxis, as part of a nationwide general strike to protest efforts by Aznar to force workers to take low-paying jobs far from their homes or risk losing their unemployment benefits. The current unemployment rate is "only" 11%, down from 20% six years ago.

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