Racist Attacks Fail

SAN ANTONIO, TX:

Since the beginning of October, San Antonio has been embroiled in a controversy over public housing on the Northside. The San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) plans to operate a 66-unit low-rent family project in the area between MacGregorches and Perrin-Beitel roads, north of Interstate 410.

This project has gone thru the usual review procedures in which the City, the County, and North East Independent School District were involved. But when Northside residents began to organize opposition to the project, many politicians and school officials acted as if they had not been informed.

Under pressure from the Northside opposition, City Council passed a resolution asking SAHA to delay the project. Votes in favor of this resolution were cast by some so-called representatives of the Mexican and Black communities. Only Bernardo Estrate and Frank Perrin-Beitel voted against the resolution.

SAHA is legally bound by its contract to continue with the project so it had to reject the City Council request.

Without public housing, many workers and poor people could not afford decent housing for their families.

Unemployment Rises

CETA Workers Suffer Mass Lay-Offs

Many San Antonio workers, as well as throughout the country, have been affected by the huge reductions in the federal program called CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act).

On September 30, nearly 300 workers from the public sector, the school districts and social service and community agencies were laid-off. Many of these people had been working here for over 25 years. By the end of 1979 close to 600 additional workers will be laid off.

At the national level, 100,000 CETA workers lost their jobs in September and over 50,000 more will be laid off by December 31.

According to local and federal agencies, the reason behind the San Antonio lay-offs is that the City only has an "official" 6.5% unemployment level. Anybody who lives in the poor neighbor-

Workers from throughout San Antonio converged on City Hall to show their opposition to the so-called resolution. Some workers do earn enough to buy their own homes which they see as an investment against the uncertainties of inflation. Deep down they are quite frightened by their inability to provide real security for themselves and their families.

These fears are frequently directed at other ethnic groups, rather than at the real source of their insecurity. These fears will explode when people are confronted with what they incorrectly perceive to be a threat to their investment in their homes, such as a public housing project.

The Perrin-Beitel housing project does not present the threat that many of its opponents see. It will be smaller than the private apartment developments nearby. It will be better built and better designed and the residents will be working families.

Why San Antonio needs its politicians and community organizations with the courage to speak the truth.

Coalition is Formed

Workers Demand End to Oil Rip-Offs

A coalition has been formed in San Antonio as part of a national effort to fight back against oil company rip-offs.

Paced with ever-increasing fuel prices, consumers are joining together to expose the oil companies and their puppets in government.

The oil companies themselves have admitted making super-profits during the third quarter of 1979. They have invested these profits in other businesses like hotel and department store chains and not to "search for oil" as their puppet politicians claim.

The oil in the ground is a public underground ocean belonging to the people much like other oceans or public waters. Oil companies have exploited this public resource for their benefit.

The Coalition called for the roll back of oil and gas prices during the third quarter of 1979. They have invested these profits in other businesses like hotel (Continued on page 4)
How The Court System "Works"

By: Armindina Saldivar

The following article is published because of the important issue it discusses.

(Continued on page 3)

Last part of 3 part series on Welfare

PERSPECTIVA FEMENIL

As we have pointed out in this series on welfare, it is not the phenomenon that most of us are lead to believe.

The reality of welfare is that recipients are often on the small amount of money they receive; the reality is that the cost of bare barely manages to live from their wages while the costs of war take out much more.

However, the media and politicians would rather tell us that welfare recipients are rich drug addicts, too lazy to work. They will not tell us that because of the death of the middle class we have come to see welfare.

Subsidies are government grants that are given to large corporations. Under the pretense that the corporation's product is in the national interest, government money is given to further their profits.

There are now 170 subsidy programs in existence. They range from $30 million for ship construction to $267 million for airline and airport construction.

There is welfare for rich farmers through the "crop limitation" law. Approximately 12,300 large farm owners each collect $20,000 or more a year to keep food production low and food prices high.

A welfare check of $38,446 was given to Senator Eastland in 1971 for million in Michigan; another farmer received his welfare check of $55,000 for not planting wheat.

The Lockheed Aircraft Corporation received much public attention when it obtained $250 million of government money to bail them out of a financial crisis.

Most recently Chrysler Corporation received a huge welfare check for their financial difficulties. In this case, workers had to pay an automobile

On Welfare

If we compare the amount of tax money spent on welfare ($4.6 billion) to that spent on farm subsidies alone ($4.5 billion), it is clear that once again the rich and powerful receive the fruits of this country's labor.

Workers receive welfare because they need it. The rich receive "welfare" because they control the country.

The working class must seriously question why so many myths and lies are spread about the welfare system.

We must demand jobs, training, and day care instead of welfare. We must demand a better guaranteed income for those people who cannot work.

Furthermore, we must demand that the rich and corrupt business and government people stop the real welfare fraud. The use of worker's money to further the interests of the ruling class - through wars, through benefits for the industries such as oil, car and farm, for the continued exploitation of workers.

News Briefs

On Welfare

Mexico City: A Second International Conference of Solidarity with the Independence of Puerto Rico is scheduled for November. More than 30 international delegations from many countries will be attending.

Puerto Rico, whose economy is dominated and exploited by U.S. corporations, suffers over 400 unemployment and workers who lack receive miserable wages.

Nine all Puerto Rican women of child-bearing age have been sterilized as a result of S.A. policy to "control" the population.

Mexico's Congress comes at a time when the Puerto Rican people are struggling against the U.S.-installed imbalance of forces. On October 25th, increased repression by the puppet government has failed to stop the movement for independence.

San Jose, Calif.: Mexican and community groups have formed an organization to fight Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) brutality.

The Committee to Support Community Directory Against Immigration Brutality was formed as a result of a raid last week by 380 undercover agents.

Many Mexicans born in the U.S. were arrested and beaten. George Gonzalez, 42, said: "Boy was jumped by 130 men. They held his head against the cement floor many times." His brother-in-law was also arrested.

"This case shows that the illegal and forced attacks against undocumented Mexican lawyers, "said Alejandro Contreras. "It is an example we can use to stop all such attacks on the community."
At one point, the judge announced the hand of one of the witnesses by the name of Garland Jackson, City Clerk, who was not there as a witness to either party. By the way he made his statements, there was no doubt he was for Thompson. The judge did not bother to look the hand of any of those that were in favor of Ortiz.

However, the reason, nobody knows but it sure looked dirty at that point. The judge also denied a State Supreme Court decision on the same problem. Right there Ortiz should have asked for another judge, but he continued with the same one.

From what I observed, the judge was not the only one that was in favor of Thompson winning. Just walking into the court room one could see who was on who's side. For example:

The man who is aware of the political power structure of this city would have known by just walking into the room that Thompson was already leading in the win. On his side of the room was the realtor, and who he was was important to the developers. With him was his wife who is the daughter of Alice Trevillo, who was the campaign manager for Thompson and very much involved in the dirty campaign.

In fact, Alice Trevillo spent all her time outside the court room getting support from the City Clerk to Frank Alvarado: director of Barrio Betterment, who was accused in court by his poverty workers of forcing them to work on Thompson's campaign. Thompson denied he knew anything about the illegal dirty tricks and the poverty workers' involvement on his campaign. However, after the trial was over he put his arm around them and called them "NY campaign workers."

On Thompson's side of the room were some members of the media. Rita Carey from the San Antonio Express News was there ready to write her "non-objective" story in favor of Thompson. In fact, the day before the trial, she wrote a story praising him.

Just like Paul Thompson, from the San Antonio newspaper, wrote stories against Ortiz before the election. No doubt both of them were given orders by the publisher of that paper to do it, since the developers are big advertisers in that newspaper and Thompson is their boy.

Ed Gonzales, from Channel 5, was also there on Thompson's side of the room. Needless to say, Thompson got the best coverage. Channel 5 evening news advertisers are Ray Ellison Industries. Ray Ellison is the same developer who is chairman of the bank that lent Thompson a $15,000 loan (without sufficient collateral) to run against Ortiz. On that same side of the room were some EDD Board members, including the mayor's appointee. In fact, the room was protected by the police office by some of the same people that helped Thompson, such as the City Council of San Antonio, which is mostly made up of OGL and some developers, and who admitted to the judge, "It was all politics," helping Thompson.

He pointed out the employment of working age people has reached 60% in the rural sector while in the cities it is slightly lower, at 40%.

Several leaders of the working class of the union, the rank and file of the union, must demand and carry out an investigation of the problem.

Recommendations must be made and the majority of the Local's members approve the plan that will best benefit the collective interests. Quitting the Union cannot be the solution.

The solution is to promote from the rank and file of the Union those individuals that have struggled consistently for the advancement of the union and of workers in general, make them their new and real representatives.

We must remember that strength is in unity. Divided we will fall, one by one, and in that manner the rich and powerful will continue trampling upon the poor.
EDITORIAL

Racism: Tool For Economic Control

The controversy over the proposed low-income housing has shown how racism can be used to divide workers against each other. While the workers condemn and insult each other, the essence of our problems continues and the rich continue to profit.

The rich elite in San Antonio like McAllister, McCombs, Zachary, etc., have always used racism to divide and conquer. The workers have ruled over the city by convincing Anglo workers that Mexican and Black workers are their enemy. They have skillfully conditioned the thinking of many to accept the myth that inflation, high taxes, crime, unemployment and poverty are created by "minorities" poor people and by the workers themselves.

This propaganda is carried out daily through various means. For example, WALT radio, owned by McCombs who also owns the Spurs, Mr. M Stores and other businesses, constantly airs talk shows and commentaries aimed at dividing the working people.

Using hired bigots and ignorant rednecks as mouthpieces, the local rich businessmen have successfully kept the community divided and under their control.

The workers employed by S.A. must be alert to this tactic. We must not waste energy chasing the invisible ghost of racism. We must look at the root of the problem and the conditions within this division.

Racism is an extension of our economy which depends on exploitation, abuse and inequality between human beings in order to survive as a system. A system which punishes the poor and workers to benefit the rich.

Public funds are derived from taxes paid by workers and should be used to provide services, including housing, to those workers who need it.

The rich, who pay little or no taxes, would rather use public funds to finance dictators who protect their business investments in other countries such as Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala and, until recently, Nicaragua.

In order to solve the housing controversy, the working people in S.A. must regain control of their community.

Employers and rich opportunists whose interests must be isolated. They represent a poison that can benefit only the rich whose main aim is to keep us divided.

Questions on the Billy Barnett Case

1. If a Mexican student had died instead of Anglo Billy Barnett, would the media and the cops be so upset?

2. Why is the commercial media and the D.A. out for blood?

3. When rednecks used to beat up Mexican students at local schools, why was there no such public indignation?

4. Isn't it a fact that rednecks (teachers and students) at Holmes High School constantly insult the "stranger" students (Mexicans and Blacks)?

5. Is the Mexican and Black community going to permit blood-thirsty cops and the media to ruin the lives of Mexican students even after Barnett's death has been ruled a natural death not caused by the incident?

BANDERILLAZOS POLITICOS

By Armandita Saldivar

Racism is alive and well in San Antonio. Because the Government is committed to build on the Anglo Northside, the blacks in the Southside have been neglected. The City has been under a legal siege, working people of both sides are out on strike to change the system.

As for disc-jockey Rocky Ware who makes the statements about the project, there should be no question to his right to live on the Northside. A worker makes radios. If he is a cheap labor 15% of people, he will not make what he wants, but only what the cheap labor is worth.

Even though the type of work they do is very hard work these workers never may get those who labor. To work out in the fields, in the hot sun, make a living, is a disgrace, it is a shame and cheap wages.

On September 30, one of the newspaper has a story entitled "Chalenger San Antonio Urban Violence Discourages Convention Visitors." The article included Janie Mancón and her accomplishments, as City Attorney. Actually Janie Mancón is dishonest and the habitual experience shows what the thiefs of workers. I have seen her directly twist in illegal deals.

As for her appointment as City Attorney, even then, she cheated. She did not get appointed because he is intelligent, but because they helped the major politically. She is nothing but a puppet to the money men of the city. Jane Mancón lives on the Northside.

In the poor people's project there are no women as dishonest and corrupt as these two, who are an insult to all the working people. No one is successful in building the property of the women residents do not become like Lila Cockrell and Jane Mancón.