

## **BUILD MILITANT MASS ACTIONS -**

# **CONDEMN THE MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON BRIAN WILLSON !**

On September 1st, the US government showed that it will stop at nothing to suppress opposition to its war against the people of Central America. A Navy train at Port Chicago barreled through a blockade of activists attempting to stop US arms destined for Central America. The train ran over one of them, Brian Willson, destroying his legs. This brutal act was not an accident, but a conscious attempt to terrorize the anti-intervention movement. It was part of the U.S. imperialist policy of escalating the war on Central America.

The blood of Brian Willson is on the hands of not only Reagan, but also the Democratic Party whose cheap talk of opposition is a sham, as shown by their votes for contra aid and their cover-up in Conragate.

Clearly, this vicious attack shows that there should be no illusions in peacefully stopping the onslaught of U.S. imperialism against the Central American people. Only through the building up of militant mass struggle can the movement defend itself from such attacks and effectively wage a fight against US aggression.

### **THIS WAS NO ACCIDENT**

Immediately after the attack on the demonstration, the Navy began making up one lie after another to try to pin the blame for Brian's injuries on the activists. The Navy said the train was going 5 mph, that there were no activists in sight when it rounded the bend and that the engineer had no knowledge of anyone being on the tracks. Why, it seemed that Brian Willson had just jumped in front of the train! But in fact, the train was traveling 18mph and appeared in a video to be accelerating, 2 government observers were standing on the front of the engine in clear view of the activists and their banner and, in spite of this, the brakes were never applied. These facts amount to one conclusion: the onslaught was intentionally aimed at terrorizing the anti-intervention movement.

### **THE BLOOD OF BRIAN WILLSON IS ON THE HANDS OF REAGAN AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY!**

The Reagan administration is synonymous with support for contra terror. Even the Conragate cover-up hearings couldn't help but show the extent he will go towards this end. So while he wasn't driving the train his spirit was behind the wheel. The blood of Brian Willson, like that of thousands of Nicaraguans is on his hands.

But the open Reaganites are not the only ones out to bring the Nicaraguan revolution to its knees. The Democratic Party is fully committed to this goal as well. Their "opposition" to Reagan is only a matter of quibbling over tactics of how to achieve their common aim. They voted for contra aid and turned the Conragate hearings into a propaganda show for the contras. And now they are promoting the Arias Peace plan calculated to strangle the Nicaraguan revolution. (See articles in the September issue of *The Workers Advocate*).

It is utter hypocrisy for any Democratic Party politician to pretend revulsion at the maiming of Brian Willson. For it is their Party's policies as well as those of the Reaganites that was driving the death train.

### **BUILD UP MILITANT MASS STRUGGLE NOT ILLUSIONS IN PEACEFUL CHANGE**

The US imperialists have repeatedly shown that no crime is too heinous when it comes to suppressing revolutionary struggle. They have taken the lives of hundreds of thousands of Central Americans in their attempts to "protect US interests". They have murdered Ben Linder, supported death squad attacks against activists in LA and broken into the offices of activist groups. Now they have launched this murderous assault on a demonstration brutally maiming Brian Willson. Surely we can not have any illusions in peacefully stopping the escalation of U.S. aggression in Central America. We must build up our forces for a powerful fight through developing the militancy and mass character of the movement.

The September 3rd response of the Berkeley activists was a step in the right direction. They organized a militant action that marched through the UC campus drawing others into motion. When they passed the ROTC building they expressed their just anger by storming it and trashing part of this prominent symbol of US imperialism on campus.

Today's demonstration as well is important, for it is clearly an expression of the wide spread indignation not only at the murderous assault on Brian Willson but also at the government's war in Central America. We must not allow our anger to be dissipated by Democratic politicians talk of investigation (remember Conragate) or empty promises to do something. Their real Reaganite stand must be exposed and militant mass actions must be built up. Only in this way can we wage an effective fight against US aggression and make the government of the rich pay for its attacks on the movement.

9/5/87



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