Fla. prisoners strike against slave labor

By J. White
Lake Butler Work Camp, Fla.

Jan. 16 — There is one place in the U.S. where slavery is still constitutionally legal— in prisons. The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, passed in 1864, abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime.

But prisoners held in this enslavement are organizing resistance. Brave prisoners within the Florida state prison system have organized themselves into a month-long work strike called Operation Push. It began on Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Day. In a phone interview, an anonymous prisoner-activist specifically linked the strike to King’s legacy of protest against racism and economic injustice. (tinyurl.com/yaf6y35p)

The following call is an excerpt from the full call to action, initially posted online via SPARC (Supporting Prisoners and Real Change):

“We are currently forming a network agency within [Florida] Department of Corrections. We are asking all prisoners within the DOC to take a stand by ‘laying down’ starting Jan. 15, 2018, until the injustice we see facing prisoners within the Florida system is resolved. We are calling on all organized groups, as well as religious systems, to come together on the same page. We will be taking a stand for:

1. Payment for our labor, rather than our current slave arrangement
2. Ending outrageous canteen prices
3. Reintroducing parole incentives to lifers and those with ‘Buck Rogers’ dates.

“Along with these primary demands, we are also expressing our support for the following goals:

▪ Stop the overcrowding and acts of brutality committed by officers through the FDOC.
▪ Expose the environmental conditions we face including extreme temperatures, mold, contaminated water, and being placed next to toxic sites.
▪ Honor the moratorium on state executions.
▪ Restore voting rights as a basic human right to all.”

Continued on page 6

Supporters of prisoners breach the lonely roads to Lake Butler Work Camp near Gainesville, Fla.
Campaign launched to close U.S. bases

By David Card
Baltimore

A conference held at the University of Baltimore on Jan. 12-14 initiated an international campaign to oppose all U.S. foreign military bases.

Activists from around the country and indeed the globe gathered, following word of a network of over 500 U.S. military bases in 80 countries that exert imperial domination over the world. They gathered at full capacity with 200 registered, over 10,000 views via live streaming on Facebook and YouTube, and an additional 1,500 views on UNACpeace.org. Other social media reports are still being gathered.

Most powerful conference ever

Regarding Latin America, the conference took up the issue of the 115th occupation of Guantanamo Bay by the U.S. Navy and demanded its return to Cuba. The Cuban organization MOVPAZ (Cuban Movement for Peace and the Sovereignty of the Peoples) sent a special message to the U.S. Navy and demanded its return to Cuba. The conference called for a national day of anti-war action this spring. This day would raise such issues as ending U.S. wars abroad, closing all foreign U.S. military bases, redirecting the massive military budget to human needs and environmental protection, and disarming the entire U.S. arsenal of nuclear weapons.

Finally, a resolution was passed to follow this conference with a larger, international conference against U.S. bases in late 2018.

Contact a Workers World Party branch near you:

Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black and Brown youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

WFP fights for socialism because the working class, the WWP, and this country, and the world we want should reign in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth creators should be socially owned and distributed fairly, and this is the way forward!

Contact a Workers World Party branch near you:

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Many struggles were also raised in the Asia-Pacific region. BAYAN USA spoke on the revolutionary struggle in the Philippines and drew the connection between the rebellion going on there and the U.S. military support for the Manila government. From Okinawa, Japanese activists are fighting to not only stop the construction of a new U.S. Marine Corps base on the island, but to remove the existing Futenma Air Station.

Activists from southern Korea who have been protesting the deployment of the U.S. military’s THAAD missile “defense” system shared their struggle. With all the lies and aggressive rhetoric in the U.S. media against People’s Korea, a voice from activists in southern Korea opposing the oppressive U.S. military presence there is very important for people here to learn about. The failing U.S. strategy in the West Asia region was also highlighted. Despite 17 years of war, the U.S. has failed in its mission in Afghanistan. And despite seven years of precision direct bombing campaigns in Syria, the Syrian government stands undefeated and grows more united with its neighbors. The danger of the continuing encirclement of Iran and increasing hostility by the Trump regime was also raised as a continuing issue with particular importance at this moment.

The expansion of AFRICOM and the U.S. secret and semi-secret military deployments in Africa were discussed. It’s been admitted that these bases were established in order to better secure the extraction of resources under the control of the Imperialists.

Resolutions passed for future actions

The conference passed several resolutions for action moving forward. One called for making Feb. 23 a global day of action against the Guantanamo Naval Base. This date falls on the 115th anniversary of the seizure of the territory from Cuba by the United States.

Another resolution called for a national day of anti-war action this spring. This day would raise such issues as. ending U.S. wars abroad, closing all foreign U.S. military bases, redirecting the massive military budget to human needs and environmental protection, and disarming the entire U.S. arsenal of nuclear weapons.

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Feds step up terror against immigrant workers

By Martha Grevatt

The federal government is continuing its campaign of terror against migrants. On Jan. 8, the Department of Homeland Security announced plans to end temporary protected status for 200,000 immigrants from El Salvador. Salvadorans were granted the right to stay in the U.S. in the wake of two devastating earthquakes in 2001. TPS is granted to immigrants from countries suffering from natural disasters or civil wars.

The Salvadorans join 59,000 Haitians who lost TPS in December. Both Haiti and El Salvador are among the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere; four out of five citizens were living in poverty, according to the World Bank. This has led to a dangerously high crime rate, with San Salvador, the country’s capital city, having the highest murder rate of any city, according to the World Bank.

The Ebola crisis in West Africa, the most intense in decades, and the devastating economic effects of the country’s civil war have driven hoards of refugees from the region to flee to the United States. The U.S. government has no right to deport entire populations of people, many of whom have no choice but to come to the U.S. in order to find safety and a better life.

The anti-immigrant campaign continued on Jan. 10 when U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement conducted 98 surprise raids of 7-Eleven stores in 17 states. ICE Director Thomas D. Homan claimed the raids were directed against “U.S. businesses that hire and employ an illegal workforce” (New York Times, Jan. 10), but none of the bosses who exploit the undocumented were arrested. All 21 of the arrests were of workers who now face deportation. These raids, more of which could be forthcoming, represent a coordinat ed move to terrorize all the workers in these and similar stores. When was the last time that government agents went into workplaces en masse and arrested workers? Clearly, this is meant not only against the individuals being deported, but against the whole low-wage workers’ movement, which has largely been led by immigrants.

The U.S. government has no right to deport immigrant workers to conditions of dire poverty, violence and political repression. It is the political and economic domination of these countries by foreign imperialist powers that has left Salvadorans, Haitians and Hondurans with no choice but to make the dangerous journey north. Every worker must stand with immigrant workers and declare: “No human being is illegal! No borders in the workers’ struggle!”

Release immigrant rights leaders!

Angered by the Trump administration’s offensive against immigrants, hundreds of people gathered in Washington Square Park in New York City on Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, to protest the arrest of Ravi Ragbir, an immigrant-rights leader from Trinidad, and Jean Montrevil from Haiti. Both were arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents earlier in January.

The New Sanctuary Coalition of New York City organized the demonstration. It was led by Rev. Amy Gottlieb, of the nearby Judson Memorial Church, where the group held a press conference. Speakers demanded that Immigration and Customs Enforcement release Ragbir and Montrevil.

Ragbir’s lawyer, Amy Gottlieb, told the news conference that Ragbir had been moved to Miami: “Ravi called me this morning and he said, ‘Get me out of here.’ And that’s what we are going to do, folks. We are going to get Ravi out of detention, and Jean out of detention, and thousands of people who are locked up by ICE every day out of detention.”

“We are going to break down the walls. We are going to live in a world where people can live with dignity and justice prevail.” (AM NY, Jan. 15)

Workers World New York bureau

Marxism, reparations & the Black Freedom Struggle

An anthology of writings from Workers World newspaper. Edited by Monica Moorehead. Available at all major online booksellers.

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Walmart lays off 11,000 under smoke screen

By Kris Balderas Hamel

The Walmart corporation closed 63 Sam’s Club stores without notice on Jan. 11, laying off some 11,000 workers, many of whom arrived at work to find their stores closed.

In a cynical maneuver to deflect worker and community outrage, Walmart made a media show of an announcement that the erosion of the new corporate tax breaks, it was giving $65,000 bonuses to workers and raising their starting wage, while burying news of the devastating closures and mass layoffs.

Store closures aren’t just bad for workers losing their jobs, but they also impact the surrounding communities in a myriad of ways. As always, it is the poorest, most oppressed and isolated workers who are affected disproportionately.

The headline in the Jan. 12 Anchor Age News summed it up: “In Fairbanks and rural Alaska, Sam’s Club closing is a ‘major blow.’” Many low-income families and rural Alaska, Sam’s Club closing is a ‘major blow.’” Many low-income families reported on Oct. 25: “2017 just passed the all-time record for store closings.” Over 6,700 stores were closed last year, beating the record of 6,615 during 2008, a year of the banker-caused economic meltdown.

Last year’s tsunami of retail closures is expected to continue in 2018, with more than 3,600 stores already slated to close. These include Walgreens, Asena Retail Group (Ann Taylor, Loft, Dress Barn), Sears, Kmart, Toys “R” Us, JC Penney, Vitamin World, Macy’s, Target and other retail chains. (businessinsider.com, Dec. 31) Tens of thousands more workers will lose employment.

The massive store closings and worker layoffs have been described as the beginning of the “retail apocalypse.” Many point to Amazon and say consumers would rather shop online than go to a store. But that’s only part of the picture — and one that tries to take the eyes off the capitalists and blame working and oppressed people.

At the root of this crisis, as with the housing mortgage disaster and municipal austerity that have ravaged cities and communities across the U.S., is finance capital, which is also responsible for the mountainous student and consumer debt facing so many low-wage workers.

“The reason isn’t as simple as Amazon. com Inc. taking market share or twenty-ty-something spending more on experiences than things,” said Bloomberg News. “The root cause is that many of these long-standing chains are over-loaded with debt — often from lever-aged buyouts led by private equity firms. There are billions in borrowings on the balance sheets of troubled retailers, and sustaining that load is only going to become harder — even for healthy chains.”

(Nov. 8)

The crisis is magnified by consumers’ outstanding credit card debt, which hit a new high last November, increasing by $11.2 billion to $1.02 trillion. (cnbc.com, Jan. 9)”

Why Colin Kaepernick is right

Articles from Workers World/ Mundo Obrero Newspaper

The Klan & Government: Foes or Allies? - Examine the special relationship between the state that has allowed the Ku Klux Klan to exist for over a century despite its criminal history of lynchings, murders, and intimidation.

A Voice From Harpers Ferry - Osborne P. Anderson’s account of the raid on Harpers Ferry appeared in pamphlet form in 1861 right after the start of the Civil War.

Learn more. Available online without charge. Find them at: www.workers.org/books
Protests erupt as Israel persecutes Palestinian family

By Scott Scheffer

Los Angeles

Demanding the release from prison of a 16-year-old Palestinian woman, Ahed Tamimi, hundreds of people demonstrated outside the Israeli Consulate here on Jan. 6. Israel holds some 10,000 Palestinian political prisoners. Tamimi’s arrest has quickly become a potent symbol of the struggle to free them all.

The teenager is facing 12 charges and possibly years in jail after defending her family. The U.S. corporate media report that she was arrested after slapping a Zionist soldier, but they frequently leave out that it was after the soldier had slapped her. This occurred only hours after she witnessed soldiers shooting her cousin in the face with a rubber bullet and severely injuring him.

Her arrest came days later, during a nighttime raid on her home. When her mother, Nariman al Tamimi, visited her in jail, she was also arrested and remains in jail as well. Another member of the Tamimi family was killed by Israeli soldiers only days after Ahed’s arrest — the second Palestinian teenager to be killed by the Israeli state this month.

Ahed’s father, Bassem Tamimi, spoke to the Los Angeles demonstrators by phone, thanking them for their solidarity action. He drew a parallel between Zionist repression and South African apartheid.

The demonstration was called by Al-Awda, the Palestine Right to Return Coalition; La Palestine; Jews for Palestine; Palestine Right of Return; the International Coalition; LA4Palestine; Jews for Palestine; Palestinian Right of Return; the International Action Center; and many other organizations, including students active in boycott, divestment and sanctions work on campuses.

Representing the International Action Center, Palestinian artist and actor Ahlam Khamis read the following statement for Ahed, which she described as “a short prayer piece, from my atheist and loving heart to yours.”

“I give gratitude for Ahed Tamimi’s safety and well-being as she continues to give of herself for a better future — not only for Palestinians but for all of us who care about our world. I give gratitude for her self-love and divine radical spirit that keeps her whole and human in the face of a scary and violent criminal system. This spirit that can endure things children should not have to endure. This spirit, the spirit of a lioness, endures just to keep her family hopeful. Just to keep her village healthy and optimistic about what is to come. Just to keep the world charged. She will return home, unbroken. And she will hug her parents and she will hug her 15-year-old cousin, Muhammed Tamimi, who survived a close-range, rubber-coated, metal bullet, shot in the head the same day she was taken away by Israeli soldiers. They entered her family home and she cringed the sort of cringe when you are living in area C West Bank and are a child of the occupation. Muhammed Tamimi, who is missing parts of his skull now, a sweet tenth-grader, left side of his face and head shattered, will endure as well. He did last year — when he was just 14 he was taken in the middle of the night in his bedclothes, being a child suspected of throwing stones at military cars. He was interrogated without a lawyer and without his rights read to him. He ended up in an Israeli jail for three months and his parents were not allowed to see him, not once, not even to ask their child if he was feeling alright. Now he will endure this head and face trauma. He will heal. He will become more strong, more bold, as an offering to himself and to us.

“This is the endurance that reaches beyond the instincts of survival. This resiliency is evolution. This is radical compassion. This is Love, this is real love, for any of us who stopped believing. We are here to honor this generous offering of love, everyone please take some because it is for you and there is more and more and more.

“The people of the world, working people, fighting people, indigenous people, occupied people, unionized people, brown people, raped people, martyred people, working women, writing women, imprisoned people, colonized people, bullied peasants, native people, enslaved people, lynched people, refugees, exciled people, deported people, we the people, we the comrades, struggle to make it despite all odds. This struggle brings the greatest blessing to our Mother Earth. This struggle, the honorable struggle, brings the greatest gift to our world and everyone living here, even to the monsters, the perpetrators, the colonizers themselves. It brings the magical frequency of POSSIBILITY. We have hope for tomorrow and for a million years from now because of powerful women like Ahed, proving that we can survive the most brutal of storms. Proving that, YES, we can. Si, se puede! Si, se puede!“

Free Ahed Tamimi!

By Christian Cobb

New York

An emergency response rally of over 150 people demanded freedom for the 16-year-old Palestinian woman, Ahed Tamimi, and all Palestinian political prisoners. Tamimi and all prisoners must be released immediately.

Tamimi was arrested outside the Israeli Consulate by soldiers simply because she slapped a Zionist soldier. She was not charged with throwing stones, but rather for the simple act of opposing apartheid.

Ahed’s spirit of defiance in the face of her occupation is a model for all who have been colonized, under attack, and oppressed. Her spirit endures as she awaits release.

Ahed’s family, represented by their lawyer, Bassam Tamimi, have requested her release. This is the least that can be demanded for a young human being.

“Ahed’s strength is not a sign of weakness. She is a Palestinian fighter from a family with a history of defying the Israeli occupation. At the rally, signs read “Free Ahed Tamimi and All Political Prisoners” and “Stop Kidnapping Palestinian Children.” A banner read “Free Ahed. Free Palestine.” The rally continued for hours as speakers addressed the issues regarding oppression of Palestinians.

Tamimi’s case is sadly a continuation of Israel’s treatment of Palestinian children. The apartheid state of Israel has arrested over 12,000 Palestinian children since the year 2000.

The rally marked an impressive unity of the various Palestinian liberation forces in New York: Free Ahed Tamimi! Free Palestine!

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Low-Wage Capitalism describes in sweeping detail the drastic effect on the working class in the United States of new technology and the restructuring of global capitalism in the post-Soviet era. It uses Karl Marx’s law of wages and other findings to show that these developments are not only continuing to drive down wages but are creating the material basis for future social upheaval.

For more information on these books and other writings by the author, Fred Goldstein, go to LowWageCapitalism.com

Available at all major online booksellers.
Felony charges dropped against freedom fighters!

The following is an eyewitness account of the Jan. 11 court hearing for eight activists who tore down a Confederate statue in Durham, N.C., on Aug. 14, responding in part to the murder of anti-racist Heather Heyer in Charlottesville, Va., two days earlier. The eight had been charged with multiple felony and misdemeanor charges and forced to attend court hearings each month since September.

After an overwhelming display of support for these activists — including numerous calls to local officials in the days before the hearings, actions in several cities across the country, and the recording and online posting of videos by fellow anti-racists expressing their solidarity — the felony charges were dropped on Jan. 11, and the trial was set for Feb. 19.

The Defend Durham alliance held a tremendously successful People’s Tribunal on Jan. 13. On trial were those who enforce racist injustice and those who allow the voices of its survivors to be heard. (For more information, see tempurl.com/9yguawof.)

Mikisa Thompson is a Workers World Party candidate and the mother of Takiyah Thompson, a WWP member, North Carolina Central University student and one of the defendants.

By Mikisa Thompson
Durham, N.C.

Jan. 11 — There was a good show of support at the Durham County Courthouse today. About 40 to 50 people were here inside the courtroom to #DefendDurham, including the eight defendants. I thank you all for your continued support and for helping to defend against white supremacy.

The mood in the court is set up to be depressive and pensive because of the oppressive way that the courtroom is designed to make you feel: as if you are lower than the lowest of lows in life. You are designed to make you feel: as if you are as the court roll call of the names of the defendants, are done in such a way that it seems like a cattle call or a modern-day slave auction.

The lovely thing about today was that when each of our comrades was called during the roll call, many people in the courtroom yelled out, “Witness!” The court didn’t seem to revel in my joy over this.

As each of our defendants was called up, an assistant district attorney requested a new court date, which was set for Feb. 19. The attorney for the defendants, Scott Holmes, told Judge Fred S. Battaglia that there was “no objection” from the freedom fighters for a trial on that date.

When we got up to leave in unison, it was a great show of support and definitely made an impression on the court. My heart is so full.

The felony charges were dropped. The misdemeanor charges are now as follows: Defacing a public building or monument, Class 3; conspiracy to deface a public building or monument, Class 2; injury to real property, Class 1. Each of these charges carries no potential jail time, depending on prior convictions.

The state has its witnesses, and so do we. We are the people, and the people said loudly, bravely and ferociously that we stand up to white supremacy at any cost, because the payoff is a world with one less symbolic statue to racism. The government, in fact, owes the eight defendants about $536,000 for their swift removal of the statue.

We look forward to the trial. If you would like to see what actions of solidarity you can perform in the meantime, please visit doitlikedurham.org.

‘Defend Durham!’ on a giant screen

During the height of rush-hour traffic at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 12, huge images were projected on the San Francisco Federal Building. These images showed the toppling of the Confederate statue in Durham, N.C., as well as spelled out the demands of San Francisco’s Anti Police-Terror Project.

This imaginative action was part of a week of local activities to #DefendDurham and in conjunction with the APTP’s #96Hours of #NonCompliance to #ReclaimMLK’s Radical Legacy.

Workers World Party-Bay Area organized the slide projection and video, using the federal building as a giant screen.

This was on Day One of APTP’s 96 hours, themed for events in noncompliance with “State Sponsored Violence.”

With the support of Resistance SF, which did the projection, WWF-Bay Area held a noise demo, blasting political music over a sound system during the projection. A small but enthusiastic crowd of supporters held signs, chanted a bit and talked to curious passersby.

The action got plenty of views from cars, pedestrians and bikers, with the stop-and-go traffic allowing time for even the drivers to enjoy the show. It was a fun, happening event.

— Report and photo by Terri Kay
Struggle wins removal of racist statue

By Dolores Cox
New York

New York City media reported Jan. 11 on the results of Mayor Bill de Blasio’s months-long Commission on City Art, Monuments and Markers. The 18-member commission was created to review “all symbols of hate” throughout the city. The commission’s task was to recommend which of the city’s controversial statues, monuments and markers of historical figures should remain or be removed.

The commission came into being last August after a white supremacist rally in Charlotte—Tallahassee, Fla., where a counterprotester was murdered. Nationwide debates ensued about racist Confederate monuments and symbols. Pressure mounted on local governments to remove them, with some monuments marked with anti-racist graffiti.

More than 800 “symbols of hate” in New York City were considered by the commission. It held three formal in-person meetings and one public hearing in each of five boroughs, including multiple phone conferences. There were 3,000 responses to online surveys.

The completed report was written by commission members and city staff. Their recommendation was that “all the statues will remain where they are,” except that of the Dr. Marion J. Sims, known as the 19th-century “father of gynecology” for his brutal experimentation and racist practice of performing unethical surgical techniques on enslaved black women, without anesthesia, antiseptic or their consent.” (tinyurl.com/6befu86)

Sims’ monument, located prominently at 203rd Street and Fifth Avenue in front of Central Park in East Harlem, will be removed and relocated to the New York City Parks, located in Brooklyn where he is buried. The commission’s report stated: “In its current location, the Sims monument has come to represent a legacy of oppression and abusive practices on bodies that were seen as subjugated, subordinate and exploitable in service to his fame.”

Sims performed hundreds of surgeries on enslaved women without anesthesia, antiseptics or their consent. Three are honored here.

A protest in front of the Sims statue on August dramatized his crimes against women.

Fla. prisoners strike against slave labor

Continued from page 1

On Jan. 15 demonstrations in support of the Florida prisoners’ strike took place across the state and country. The strike actions have been endorsed by over 100 organizations.

Members of prisoners’ families and of support groups spoke in solidarity with the strike. A white supremacist rally in Charlotte—Tallahassee, Fla., where a counterprotester was murdered. Nationwide debates ensued about racist Confederate monuments and symbols. Pressure mounted on local governments to remove them, with some monuments marked with anti-racist graffiti.

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NYC law to help fast food workers

More than 1,200 fast food workers in New York City have agreed to kick in an hour’s pay — $13.50 — every month to Fast Food Justice to push for better conditions in the industry. Last May, the NYC Council passed the corresponding law, which took effect at the end of November.

The law requires fast food employers to let workers deduct a portion of their paycheck and send it to a designated nonprofit as a membership fee. This unorthodox arrangement was promoted by Fight for $15 and the Service Employees union as a way to organize a NYC industry with 65,000 low-wage workers that has proved a hard nut to crack.

“We’re going to continue to build power to win improvements for workers on the job,” said Tse Tsehaye Gebreselassie, Fast Food Justice board chair and attorney at the National Employment Law Project, at a Jan. 15 press conference. The organization, created five months ago and registered by the city, will also provide free immigration services and legal help.

Under the law, at least 500 workers had to sign up before a group could receive contributions. “The fact that [FFE] signed up 1,200 is impressive. It’s proof of the concept,” said Janice Fine, labor studies professor at Rutgers University, adding that people in other cities “are really interested.” (New York Times, Nov. 9)

The Restaurant Law Center, the legal arm of the National Restaurant Association, sued in federal court to overturn the law. One NLC argument, the Times reports, “is that requiring restaurateurs to forward money to workers’ groups is constitutionally forced speech under the First Amendment.” But, FFE asserts, “the money being forwarded belongs to the workers and not the restaurant.”

Shanell Walker, a Papa John’s employee, said workers have already benefited from the fight for livable wages, since she started at $7.50 an hour. “We are now making $13.50, so our way to $15 next year. The fast food workers sparked a global movement.” (New York Daily News, Dec. 17)

As of Jan. 1, workers in 18 states — Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont and Washington — started the year with a minimum wage increase. As Fight For $15 says, “It’s still not enough.”

SIUE faculty union quits chancellor to get the goods

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville recognized the SIUE Faculty Association, which represents 400 tenured and tenure-track faculty, as a bargaining unit in December 2016. (SIUEFA is affiliated with the National Education Association.) But during 2017 contract negotiations, the administration wanted to institute a cynical divide-and-conquer measure: exclude department chairs, who are 10 percent of the faculty, from the membership in exchange for a 2 percent raise over the two-year contract, which had already been given to other SIUE union members.

Surrounding Chancellor Randy Pendebrook at his mid-December holiday reception, about 50 union members handed him a framed copy of his July email — in which he wrote “how important people are to SIUE and how their sacrifices over four years of budget woes should be rewarded” — while chanting “Two plus two for about 30 minutes. Within days the university signed a preliminary contract with the 2 percent raises. (Labor Tribune, Jan. 8) Bravo to courageous faculty for shaming the chancellor into making good on his words!”
Rally supports Spectrum workers

Jan. 15 — The first event in a weeklong “Days of Rage” campaign in New York City was a rally today for work- ing-class resistance called by the People’s Power Assemblies, Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council and NYC Workers Defense Committee.

Held to honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy in the labor movement, the picket line support- ed Spectrum workers — members of Local 4 of the In- ternational Electrical Workers, who have been on strike since March 28 of last year — as well as Florida prisoners whose Operation PUSH strike began today.

The demonstrators chanted against union busting outside Spectrum’s headquarters near Central Park. They then marched to join a Rally Against Racism called by the health care workers’ union, Service Employees Local 1199, in solidarity with workers from Haiti, El Salvador and the continent of Africa.

Spectrum, formerly Time Warner Cable, was renamed after being purchased by Charter Communications. The $31 billion cable monopoly has demanded the elim- ination of union pension and medical benefits. It has refused to negotiate in good faith, instead bringing in hundreds of strikebreakers.

Both rallies paid tribute to Dr. King, who was assas- sinated while supporting striking sanitation workers in Memphis 50 years ago in 1968.

Justice For Jovan!’ resounds in Rockford, Ill.

By Rockford, Ill., Workers World bureau

In a gross miscarriage of justice in a court- house in Rockford, Ill., Winnebago County Judge John Lowry abruptly dismissed murder charges against security guards Ryan Mattingly and Alijon Khalil in the death of Valentia Jovan Fresco. In his Dec. 8 decision, Lowry agreed with their attorney’s claim that the grand jury had been misled by the prosecution in this case.

This maneuver by the defense was short- lived. On Dec. 13, prosecutors issued repeat indictments for murder and other charges against Mattingly and Khalil. They are to ap- pear in court on Jan. 19. However, the case will be overseen by the same judge who dismissed the charges.

Jovan, a machine operator for Mid States Production, was gunned down by Metro En- forcement security guards Mattingly and Khalil on April 16, 2016, while celebrating his 34th birthday. His death immediately sparked protests against the security company and the Rockford court system. (See WW coverage May 19, 2016, and June 2, 2016.)

Bosss challenge union victory at Mo. Dollar General

In a historic 66 percent victory on Dec. 8, workers at the Dollar General in Ansvassie, Mo., voted to unionize with Food and Commercial Workers Local 655. Dollar General operates 14,321 stores in 44 states, but this is the first to organize. (Fulton Sun, Dec. 12) It’s a major win, since convenience store and other retail workers are horribly exploited, with low wages, erratic schedul- ing and harassment, which doubles for women.

On Dec. 12, Dollar General filed a complaint with the National Labor Relations Board contesting the election to try to overturn the vote. Local 655 President David Cook told the St. Louis Labor Tribune how disappoint- ing it was that “Dollar General, which makes billions of Dollars every year ... would rather slander one of their own employees with false accusations ... than recognize the workers’ right to organize.” (Jan. 13)

Meanwhile, the union filed a complaint on the em- ployee’s behalf. A Local 655 spokesperson told the La- bor Tribune that Dollar General “is showing its workers that if they vote for union bargaining, Dollar General will retaliate.” As of February 2016, the company had 113,400 employees.

Heat the schools – fire the cops!

By Addison Gaddis

Baltimore

Around 100 people took to the chilly streets of Balti- more on Jan. 13 for a spirited march under the slogan “Heat the schools. Fire the cops.”

Called by the People’s Power Assembly, the march also featured contingents from Service Employees Local 1199, Fight for 15, Workers World Party, Democratic Socialists of America, Baltimore Green Party and students from Johns Hopkins University. The last group included, but was not limited to, Students for a Democratic Soci- ety, Students for Justice in Palestine, the Black Student Union, and Diverse Sexualities and Genders Alliance.

Workers World comrade Lee Patterson emceed a stir- ring rally at McKeldin Square, derailing the Democrats and Republicans alike and urging the crowd to fight for revolutionizing socialism in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

Representatives from different contingents took the mic to decry the neoliberal austerity measures put in place by liberal city officials. These regulations have led to crises such as the lack of heat in the schools, wide- spread opiate addiction and police terror.

Spurred by brilliant agitation from Workers World comrade Rashheed Green, the spirited, lively, militant marchers took the streets as the police swarmed and flocked around them. Defiant chants exposed the Bal- timore Police Department, including “How do you spell corruption? BPD!” and “Whose streets? Our streets!”

Despite police aggression, intimidation and siren noise interference, the march held strong and stayed in the streets. The demonstrators continued, marching on the police headquarters and rallying outside, under the surveillance of dozens of Baltimore police officers.

Speakers drew the parallel between the police occupa- tion of Baltimore and police occupation of Palestine.
By G. Dunkel

New York

Throughout the world, Haitian communities on Jan. 12 pressed by the fact that the meeting was

Haitians to march on Trump

By G. Dunkel

New York

A number of Haitian groups and progressives came together here on Jan. 13 in the hope that today, the press will

A number of Haitians and African immigrants and all immi-

How Haiti helped build Philadelphia

By Stephen Millies

The wealth produced by enslaved Afri-

Instead of saving their worthless lives by

Haitians and 200,000 Salvadorans, who are

The day before the anniv-

The 1804 Movement for All Immigrants wants to have a rapid impact. It

Reduction of loot was sending out two ships that were supposed to rescue slavemasters in Haiti. These tyrants had been defeated by the only successful slave revolution in history.

1804 Movement for All Immigrants prayer for justice, as the meeting still felt that the

The racist filth spewed by Trump against Haitians, Salvadorans and Africans is also

Haiti and African countries, according to members of Congress who were present.

protests wants to have a rapid impact. It

The militants involved, many with deep

A coalition of antiracist leaders called for a quick action and the Trump building at 40

Another principle addresses the U.S.

By the 1790s, U.S. bankers were

France had 3,000 miles of canals and the beginnings of industry. Philadelphia.

French capitalists rich. Even in the 18th century, France had 3,000 miles of canals and the
canals and the earthquake in 2010.

Location on a 43-acre site in Philadel-

The day before the anniversary, Donald Trump used

The militants involved, many with deep experience in organizing, felt they needed an ongoing vehicle to push Trump back, one with some common political principles and a structure. While their base is in the Creole community in New York and New Jersey, they noted that Trump is creating the same problems for all immigrant groups, in particular Sal-

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New York

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New York
African countries condemn Trump for racist slurs

By Abayomi Azikiwe
Editor, Pan-African News Wire

Each week another controversy unfolds in the United States over the character of the administration of President Donald Trump. At a White House meeting with members of Congress on Jan. 11, Trump reportedly described the nations of Africa, El Salvador and Haiti as “shithole countries.” He also said that more people from Norway should be immigrating to the U.S. and not from places with dark-skinned people.

The meeting was centered on working out a legislative response to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. Its potential termination means that millions of undocumented residents would lose their legal status to remain in the U.S. and not from places with dark-skinned people.

The meeting focused on several other important issues. The most common are cutbacks of social programs and raising taxes to cut budget deficits — in other words, harsh social policies.

The Tunisian government, in particular, has been especially harsh against the protesters. The Tunisian General Labor Union—has 3 million members, issued a statement in response to Trump’s racist remarks. The former apartheid system in South Africa was based on the same ideology of white supremacy which still permeates the U.S.

Racist underdevelopment, immigration policies

Trump’s characterization of states in Africa, the Caribbean and Central America in such negative terms misleadingly ignores the centuries-long exploitation and oppression of these territories. These social variables are fueling the racism, colonialism and imperialist domination.

African countries condemn Trump for racist slurs

By G. Dunkel

Every night and on some days since Jan. 3, thousands of Tunisians in all parts of the country have risen in resistance. They’ve attacked police stations, surrounded government and tax centers, municipalities, governorsates — blocked trains and clashed with police and the military, who attacked the youth with tear gas and arrested nearly 800 people.

A new finance law pushed the people into the streets with one clear demand: We want a new budget! After a few days, protesters called for a general strike. The International Monetary Fund only gives loans with draconian conditions. The IMF and World Bank and other international agencies and social programs and raising taxes to cut budget deficits — in other words, harsh austerity. The Tunisian government, however, has called in the IMF loan, introduced a 2018 budget on New Year’s Day that raised taxes, prices on food and other essentials in ways that hit workers and the middle class particularly hard. Workers and those just out of school were already suffering from high inflation and high unemployment — officially 30 percent for youth with a college degree.

They rallied not only in Tunis, the capital, but in the seaside resort town of Gafsa about 400 miles from the city of Gabes and in other towns along the coast. There are many laborers and farmers in the agricultural areas of the country. They’ve been protesting for months on the edge of the Sahara. While the main protests have been peaceful but militant, there have been confrontations with the police.

The major Islamic party in Tunisia, Ennahda, is part of the governing coalition. It has no presence in the protests. The major Tunisian labor federation — the Tunisian General Labor Union — has been very gingerly participating in the protests, avoiding any that challenge the police.

The Party of the Left, which consists of some members of Congress on Jan. 11, Trump reportedly described the nations of Africa, El Salvador and Haiti as “shithole countries.” The Tunisian General Labor Union — has 3 million members, issued a statement in response to Trump’s racist remarks. The former apartheid system in South Africa was based on the same ideology of white supremacy which still permeates the U.S.

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The shithed in chief

The U.S. president on Jan. 1 insulted Central Americans, Haitians and Africans with disgusting remarks he subsequently denied. Reacting to his words, the New York Times wrote in a Jan. 13 editorial: “The U.S. president is a racist... He is also a liar.”

That’s a unique Times’ appraisal of a sitting president.

With that part of the Times editorial, Workers World concurs.

But what this media voice and strategist for the ruling class of millionaires and billionaires fails to point out is their class’s responsibility for putting and keeping this lying, racist chief executive in office.

Trump is from and of the ruling class. He is a New York-based billionaire and reality-show host who parlayed his real-estate inheritance into a midsized fortune — and his notoriety into a national election victory. Trump serves ruling-class interests.

What mandates the bourgeoisie thinks of Trump’s diplomatic skills, most of the ruling class love what he’s doing for them.

Fred Goldstein pointed out why in the Jan. 11 issue of Workers World: “Trump is showering the bosses and bankers with riches — billions in tax cuts, gas and oil drilling rights, mining rights on public lands, destruction of environmental regulations, rollbacks of banking regulations and labor protections, etc. The ruling-class strategists who write Times editorials take a long-view of Trump’s blatant racism and diplomatic gaffes. Eying the hard he’s doing, they want to keep him on a short leash or maybe even dump him.

But the bulk of the wealthy class and its corporate managers consider Trump’s administration to be the gift that keeps on giving — to them.

The entire ruling class is guilty of Trump’s crimes. By word and deed, the president admits openly what the ruling class usually tries to cover up. The U.S. capitalists and their paid-for political representatives serve a system that uses racism in order to divide the working class and extract superprofits from the oppressed all over the world. They have done that since colonial slaveholders plundered Native lands while enslaving kidnapped Africans.

That Trump is so blatant is a double-edged sword. On one side, his rant opens up space for the racist scum of society to mobilize.

This is a danger all anti-fascists must take seriously.

On the other side, Trump jolts into motion large sectors of society, many who were apathetic before his election but are now angered or frightened by his threats. This opens a space on the left.

This is an opportunity all revolutionaries should take seriously.

Let’s fill that space — and keep the hand-wringing capitalist liberals out.

Those political actors are a continuation of Democratic Party politicians like Hill Clinton, who forced so many women and their children into abject poverty by cutting welfare — and so did by using racism to attack life-saving welfare benefits.

Let’s take the opportunity to swing into action, to “Do it like Durham” and emulate the people who toppled the Confederate statue in North Carolina.

Only the struggles of revolutionaries and progressives will bring down racism. Take advantage of the growing hostility to Trumpism and use it to open a struggle against the entire ruling class — and keep Trump as their shithed in chief.

For 2018, invest in WW!

Much more than what’s covered by our modest $30 subscription fee or a voluntary contribution of $1 an issue. We’re determined to keep the price low so the vast majority of working and oppressed people can afford it. Our all-volunteer staff invest their time, talent and socialistist viewpoint to help subsidize the paper.

That’s why for the past 41 years we have appealed to our readers and subscribers for financial help. We invite you to join the WW Supporter Program today by giving either a lump sum or a monthly donation. Members receive a year’s subscription to WW, a monthly letter about timely issues, five free subs to give to friends — all for a donation of $75 a year. For $300 you also get any book from World View Forum. For $30 a year (only $25 a month) you get your pick of five issues. Some members contribute much more.

Write checks to Workers World, 147 W. 24th St., 2nd floor, New York, NY 10011. Include your name and address. Or sign up online for a recurring contribution at workers.org/articles/donate.

Time’s up on sexism and racism

Last year’s Women’s March on Washington and simultaneous local demonstrations brought out millions of women in the U.S. and throughout the world on Jan. 21 — to denounce the presidency of racist, xenophobic, misogynist Donald Trump.

Since then, as women have organized across a spectrum of issues, the #MeToo movement in the U.S. has expanded to include activist, was taken up last year by Tarana Burke, an African-American.

The #MeToo movement in the U.S. has organized across a spectrum of issues, racist, xenophobic, misogynist Donald Trump.

Jan. 21 — to denounce the presidency of racist, xenophobic, misogynist Donald Trump.

Yet wider solidarity is imperative. At Jan. 18, 2018, workers.org

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by the heroic Civil Rights Movement, which won passage of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights acts. It wasn’t voting, but strong struggle that made them.

And instead to those struggles were African-American women who also suffered generations of rape and sexual abuse under white supremacy.

If we are to stop workplace abuse against women and gender-nonconforming people, we must also stop racism.

Racist ideology persists, continually reasserting its ugly head — as blatantly expressed by Trump and his cronies, as shown by white supremacists in Charlottesville, Va., and as acted out by bigoted police.

Calls from ruling-class politicians to cut Medicaid coverage and other essential government programs are aimed at African-American, Latinx and other oppressed and disabled and low-income workers, at least half of whom are women.

Racism is embedded within capitalism. It is inherent to the system, as are misogyny, homophobia, xenophobia and classicism.

The richest 1% deliberately try to divide the population, while super-exploiting millions of workers, especially people of color and immigrants.

The way this divides women is clear from a look at current wage rates.

While women as a whole earn 78 percent of what men make, our African-American and Latinx sisters still earn only 66 cents and 55 cents, respectively, of every dollar a white male wage-earner makes. Their male counterparts don’t earn much more. These exploitation wages put mega-profits into the coffers of the super-rich bosses and bankers.

Solidarity now!

As women march across the U.S., we call on all women to unite to denounce Trump’s white supremacy.

We urge concrete solidarity with our Haitian, Latinx and African sisters at this critical time. As the U.S.continues to ramp up bigotry and extend imperialist war, we affirm our support for our Arab, Muslim and Asian sisters.

Workers World says in order to stop rampant misogyny, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, income inequality and class exploitation, we must join together and organize to abolish capitalism.

We can have a world built on respect, fairness and equality, where everyone has a job, housing, medical care, education, nutritious food, art, music and more — if we fight for socialism.
Why study Marxism?

Why do we need to go over Marxism? Why can’t we just assign comrade tasks to read this and that and then go on to the business of the war in Nicaragua, or what’s going on in the imperialist attacks on the DPRK, or what’s happening with the Palestinians?

We have to have a basic evaluation of what is going on. An examination of our ideological weapons.

The bourgeoisie regard their system as eternal, not subject to fundamental change. This delusion, disguised as a rationalism, which teaches us that capitalism is a transitory social formation. Like feudalism and slavery, it will have to give way to a higher form of society.

The bourgeoisie cannot give an objective assessment of the real trends in capitalist society. Everything they do is calculated to serve self-interest of the most venal type, which goes along with imperialist brigandage all over the globe.

Our party, in reviewing Marxism is to prepare us for the storms and stresses of the next period.

We don’t need a scholastic, pedantic rhetoric. We need a critical review, not from the viewpoint of revisionism and renunciation but from the viewpoint of reaffirmation and strengthening the heritage that has been bequeathed to us by the great leaders of the past.

In this short section we will look at the latest phase of capitalism, which Lenin called imperialism.

Lenin’s five characteristics of imperialism

There are at least five characteristics of imperialism that Lenin thought important in characterizing this stage of capitalism, and they are still true some 77 years later.

First of all, all the mentioned concentration of production, of capital, the development of competition into monopoly. What is the interplay between monopoly and competition? One doesn’t replace the other. Both they exist. How is it different today than Lenin’s day?

The bourgeoisie is always discussing development of competition into monopoly. In the end they and his son capitulated. They made it a stockholding company where everybody could buy the stock. The Wall Street firms that sell and float stocks, that lend and borrow money, make it like any other corporation — General Motors, Chrysler, IBM and so on. It’s not possible to be an independent entity in the imperialist epoch. One must of all keep the banks out of your life, if you want to lose money. Ultimately, Ford capitulated to the financiers because he would have lost the competitive edge if he tried to stay independent. It’s not possible to be an independent entity in the imperialist epoch. Your business becomes a part of an empire. This means that Ford was looking towards the fusion of finance capital with his industrial empire. In the end he and his son capitulated. They made it a stockholding company where everybody could buy the stock. The Wall Street firms that sell and float stocks, that lend and borrow money, make it like any other corporation — General Motors, Chrysler, IBM and so on.

Redivision of the world

According to Lenin, the world was already shared out among the great capitalists when he wrote “Imperialism” in 1916. The wars since have invalidated a lot of his analysis, but the world is divided into states, becoming stronger and others weaken. Japan has become stronger. Britain, Holland, Belgium, France, Italy are weaker. What takes their place, of course, is U.S. imperialism. It attempts to take over everything that is not nailed down.

And there really is a fundamental feature of imperialism is also the fusion of the capitalist state with the banks and industry. The industrialists carry on a struggle to maintain some form of independence among themselves as against the finance capitalists, but this independence is overturned and giant financial and industrial corporations get fused. This doesn’t solve the contradiction, but brings it within a certain area of agreement.

Henry Ford and finance capital

Henry Ford and his empire existed for a considerable period as a family business. But in the end, no insurance companies owned the Ford company. It all belonged to one family.

He was so fearful that Wall Street, meaning the bankers, would take it over that he launched an anti-Semitic campaign. He subsidized two or three publications that have been called lobbyists. They are a power over and above the elected representatives.

If you need an interpretation [of a bill], the lobbyist has it. If you ask which congressperson voted for what, they’ll tell you that, too. And furthermore, they work day and night and are omnipresent in Washington, in some of the most fashionable and richest houses.

Lobbying has erected a governmental apparatus over and above the Congress that has grown stronger and stronger in the epoch of imperialism. It’s an extra-legal apparatus to circumvent the legislative process as outlined in the Constitution.

For that reason, Leninists have always regarded suffrage and popular elections as merely a method of mobilizing the masses, of trying to educate the masses, but not really of accomplishing anything.

The capitalist state as we know it has certain features that have grown stronger and stronger. The capitalist state has become merely a method of mobilizing the masses.

Congress as an institution has grown stronger and stronger in the epoch of imperialism. You can’t just throw away the electoral process. Congress has become the central institution of political power.

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Fusion of finance capital and the state

The capitalist state as we know it has three arms — the executive, the legislative and the judicial. The legislative is the most popular and has the power of the purse.

There has always been a fearful of a popularly elected body, especially after the passage of the Civil Rights Act.

But if you hand the members of Congress the budget of the United States, you’ll probably soon see that your congressman or congresswoman may not know much.

The ruling class has established a stratum of extra-governmental, extra-state personnel who make up an unofficial political arm of the capitalist state. They are call lobbyists. They are power over and above the elected representatives.

For more information and updates, go to swca.noforeignbases.org.

Continúa en la página 12

The following is abridged from a class on Marxism given by WWP founder Sam Marcé in 1993 after the fall of the Soviet Union. For the full text, see workers.org/sam_marcy/.
El nuevo libro del periodista Michael Wolff, titulado "Fire and Fury" (Fuego y furia), describe a Donald Trump como totalmente incapacitado para servir como el jefe ejecutivo del imperialismo de EUA. Deja a la Oficina Oval como una cueva de serpientes llena de subordinados y partidarios tirándose unos a otros, pero todos con una opinión baja de Trump y sus habilidades. Muchos, según Wolff, cuentan por su capacidad personal y mental.

La publicidad dada al libro es una clave señal de que los medios de comunicación capitalistas y muchos expertos están tratando de socavar la presidencia de Trump. Dan gran publicidad a la cita de Steve Bannon sobre la asistencia de Donald Trump Jr. a una reunión con un abogado ruso. Bannon llamó la presencia de "Trump Junior y ‘antipolítica’."

Esta pudo haber sido la forma en que Bannon evitó ser acusado por la investigación rusa de Mueller, en caso de haber sido implica en un falso círculo ultraderechista. Pero la amplia cobertura de esta cita tenía como objetivo romper el círculo de Trump-Bannon, que duró incluso después de que Bannon fuera despedido.

Bannon es un ideólogo ultraderechista cuyo objetivo ha sido destruir al centro político del Partido Republicano. Trump, por otro lado, es un intolerante de derechas, racista y misógino sin ninguna ideología en particular. Es un pragmático conocido por ser fácilmente manipulado, por lo que el establecimiento burgués está satisfecho con la división causada por el libro. Temen más la influencia de Bannon en Trump que lo que tiene a Trump.

**Trump, el estado y la clase dominante**

Estos eventos plantean la cuestión de las relaciones entre la clase gobernante, su efectivo en la forma de la presidencia y el estado capitalista en su conjunto. Es un principio del marxismo de que el gobierno capitalista es el comité ejecutivo de la clase dominante. Su trabajo en general es hacer cumplir la voluntad de los patronos y banqueros. Cuando la clase capitalista se divide, esta función puede volverse compleja, pero la afirmación general es ciertamente cierta. Sin embargo, el marxismo también es dialéctico y reconoce las contradicciones.

En este momento hay una contradicción entre los intereses internos a corto plazo de las salas de juntas corporativas y el imperialismo a largo plazo de la clase dominante para mantener a Estados Unidos como una potencia imperialista global.

Por un lado, Trump está derramando riquezas sobre los patronos y banqueos: miles de millones en recortes de impuestos, derechos de perforación de gas y petróleo, derechos mineros en tierras públicas, destrucción de regalías ambientales, retrocesos de regulaciones bancarias y protecciones laborales, etc.

Por otro lado, ha menoscabado muchas políticas públicas de larga data del imperialismo en el exterior y el imperialismo en los EUA que pueden dañar a largo plazo amplios intereses de la clase dominante.

**El establecimiento asesor capitalista y la clase dominante**

En esta discusión, es importante distinguir entre el establecimiento asesor de la clase dominante y la clase misma. La burguesía a lo largo de los años ha creado un vasto establo de intelectuales que sirven a diferentes facciones de la clase dominante.

Hay intelectuales de grupos de análisis políticos, expertos académicos dedicados a descubrir los intereses de los intelectuales tal y como los ven. Hay escritores periodísticos con diferentes líneas políticas, dependiendo de qué facción de la burguesía y el establecimiento político esté alineado. Existe una gran variedad de asesores académicos que van y vienen entre las universidades y el gobierno capitalista.

Todas/os compiten entre sí para servir los intereses del imperialismo y convertirse en los portavoces favoritos. Sin embargo, su perspectiva inmediata puede ser bastante diferente de la perspectiva inmediata de las juntas corporativas, aunque cuando buscan servir los intereses capitalistas.

Mientras varias/os periodistas, intelectuales burgueses de grupos de análisis políticos, expertos académicos y comentaristas de todo tipo están hurgando con Trump cuando éste lanza la hacha contra las instiuciones democráticas, se está alimentando del aumento de ganancias, los negocios y el dinero.

Trump no es el niño mimado de la ultraderecha y está profundamente preocupado. Reagan era el niño mimado de la ultraderecha y estaba fuera del principal establecimiento capitalista mientras escalabase la escalera política en Canadá. Donald Trump, como el Partido Republicano estaba en guerra con el ala Rockefeller.

Reagan comenzó su mandato en el cargo rompiendo violentamente la Organización de Controladores de Tráfico Aéreo Profesional. A las/os trabajadores que se declararon en huelga se les prohibió el empleo federal de por vida. Fue muy eficaz en detener el avance de los trabajadores. Eso puso a Trump a trasfutar a su relación con las/os trabajadores.

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**Presidencia de Trump sobrevive, poniendo a clase dominante contra clase gobernante**

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Trump también ha blandido un hacha contra las alianzas imperialistas tradicionales. Ha denunciado a la OTAN y exigió que los países de la OTAN pagaran más por sus ejércitos. Ha humillado a los presidentes de México, Canadá y Australia, entre otros. Reconoció a Jerusalén como la capital de Israel y desgarró la mascara de las Estados Unidos como un mediador "neutral" en la lucha con las/os palestinos.

Además, Trump retiró $1 mil millones en fondos de las Naciones Unidas. Se retiró del acuerdo climático de París y deshizo las conversaciones para un pacto sobre inmigración y asilo.

**La administración Reagan y la clase gobernante**


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