As capitalist Trump hits new low

People resist racism

By Teresa Gutierrez

Political pundits, the media, politicians and people in general continue to be shocked that billionaire Donald Trump is still in the running for president.

Even members of the Republican Party say they are stunned that Trump is winning in poll after poll and primary after primary. Republican Lindsey Graham said, “My party has gone batshit crazy,” (AP, Feb. 26)

It is not known how long the Trump train will continue to charge ahead. But two things are clear: The deep economic crisis has ushered in an unprecedented election year. And the Trump campaign has uncovered a cesspool of white supremacy, which only a multination race and mass movement can clean up.

Gonna be a long eight months

It is too soon to determine whether Donald Trump will secure the Republican nomination, run as an independent or whether he can beat Hillary Clinton in a general election, should they each get the nomination. All bets are off this year, as every new development has shown that this election cycle is a game changer.

An avowed “democratic socialist,” Bernie Sanders has projected a consistent anti-Wall Street message. Surprisingly, though Clinton was the hands-down favorite, Sanders has made her work for the nomination. The last weekend in February tens of thousands of people marched in over 40 cities around the country under the slogan “Feel the Bern.”

That so many would actively support a “democratic socialist” is a progressive development, especially when contrasted to the Trump campaign.

Sanders has said that his message of campaign finance reform has brought in many youth to his campaign, including those who were active in the important Occupy Wall Street movement.

Hillary Clinton has been forced to make a leftward turn in her rhetoric, opportunistic as it may be, and to address the issues of mass incarcerations and police brutality. Much of this change is a result of the Black Lives Matter activist who marched through a hostile, overwhelmingly white crowd chanting “Black Lives Matter” at a Trump rally in Radford, Va., on Feb. 29.

These brave Black, Brown and white activists completely shut down the Trump rally for an uncomfortably long time. We send them our love and support.

Like all activists who have disrupted election campaign events of the major capitalist political parties, these BLM soldiers demonstrated that the people cannot let it up to the capitalist political establishment or the capitalist media to expose and smash racism, sexism and the oppression of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people.

Most of the time, the capitalist establishment and its political parties and mass media generate and legitimize bigotry because their system needs it to oppress, terrorize, kill, incarcerate, and divide and conquer.

It is hypocritical that the media are acting so surprised and alarmed over white supremacists supporting Donald Trump.

If the anti-racist movement has learned anything from past experience, it is that we cannot rely on the system to expose or stop the Ku Klux Klan or other white supremacist, terrorist groups. The truth is that the system uses these groups when it serves their purposes. Black and Chicano/a youth in Anaheim, Calif., just this past weekend militantly resisted the KKK and were victorious.

We call on all those who truly want to make the world a “No Bigotry Zone” to expand the disruptions. Racism can’t be voted away — it must be shut down. It is especially important that our white sisters and brothers join in, so that the task of shutting down racism does not fall exclusively on the backs of people of color.

Racism can’t be voted away!

The following is a statement from Workers World Party 2016 candidates for president and vice president, Monica Moorehead and Lamont Lilly.

We salute the dozens of Black Lives Matter activists who marched through a hostile, overwhelmingly white crowd chanting “Black Lives Matter” at a Trump rally in Radford, Va., on Feb. 29.

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• What makes a fighting union

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
Oliveia Hooker; Helen Keller

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workers.org
Warnings of ‘urban rebellion’

Detroit officials nervous as public anger grows

By Abayomi Azikiwe

Editor/Pan-African News Wire

Detroit

Former-Detroit Mayor Dave Bing is warning local corporate leaders that the city could be on the verge of an urban rebellion. Speaking at the Detroit Chamber of Commerce policy forum held Feb. 24 at the Motor City Casino downtown, Bing said that despite rhetoric about an economic resurgence, the majority of African-American population was being left out by key decision-making roles.

Bing said conditions indicated the city was just “one incident” away from an explosion similar to events in Ferguson, Mo., or what happened in Detroit in July 1967. The Detroit Rebellion nearly five decades ago was the largest uprising in the country in the 1960s, when the African-American liberation struggle was at a high level. This was a period when many professional athletes identified with and demonstrated against racism and national oppression.

Obviously Bing is echoing certain sections of the ruling class in Detroit who realize that conditions are worsening for the African-American people. Growing militancy among the masses has been seen in protests against the engineers of emergency management and bankruptcy at three public events in recent months.

Residents blocked parking lots and confronted guests at two gala affairs at the Detroit Institute of Arts that honored federal Judge-Steven Rhodes, who presided over the city bankruptcy thief of retiree pensions, health care programs, public assets and massive water shut-offs; the Jones Day law firm, which represented the Snyder administration’s restructuring plan in court; and former-Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr.

Bing attacked by Duggan administration

A public forum at Wayne State University in late 2015 was cancelled due to disruptions by people in the audience who denounced Snyder and Orr. Corporate-oriented Mayor Mike Duggan refused to walk onto the stage in response to the demonstration. Duggan is the first white mayor in the city since 1973.

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In Manhattan’s packed Solidarity Center, Workers World Party held its 10th annual Black History Month forum on Feb. 27, paying tribute to the revolutionary legacy of the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense. This October will mark 50 years since the founding of the Oakland Chapter of the BPP, a landmark in the Black Liberation movement that Lily, Teresa Gutierrez, Monica Moorehead and Larry Holmes continues to inspire revolutionaries to this day.

The meeting opened with Kalisa Moore, a leader of the New York People’s Power Assembly, speaking about solidarity, demonstrating the power of the people of Flint, who are fighting racist austerity and the genocidal poisoning of their public water supply.

Calvin LeLani Dowell, a Workers World managing editor, read from BPP co-founder Huey P. Newton’s 1970 call to forge unity among women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people, and the Black freedom struggle.

Monica Moorehead, the 2016 Workers World Party presidential candidate, spoke about her experiences reading and selling the Black Panther Party newspaper in the late 1960s in Virginia. Moorehead highlighted the role of women leaders in the BPP, as well as the last importance of the Panther’s 10-point program, a must-read for all serious activists today.

Speaking about the pivotal role of Black women in the BPP, Moorehead said, “BPP women understood that their Black women in the BPP, Moorehead highlighted the role of women leaders in the BPP, as well as the last importance of the Panther’s 10-point program, a must-read for all serious activists today. Women workers understood that their real liberation as Black people and as women would be realized in a socialist revolution to help systematically eradicat... backward ideas.”

Moorehead connected the importance of Black women leaders in the Panthers, such as Elaine Brown and Erica Huggins, to today’s new leaders in the BPP, as well as to the fighting campaign of the Panther movement. “The people cannot allow the Black Lives Matter movement to be isolated. Just as the Panthers had the potential to grow with broader class solidarity, the Black Lives Matter movement has the same potential. We have to use these bogus elections to build deeper solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement so that it can continue to grow.”

Lamont Lilly, WWP’s vice presidential candidate, elaborated on the ideological contributions of the Black Panther Party. Lilly spoke on why the Black Panther Party spoke to the importance of the Black Panther Party’s role in the Civil Rights and Black Liberation movement. Lilly reminded us that the capitalist and imperialist system Anti-Klan protesters in Anaheim, Calif., AIDS/HIV, and the genocidal poisoning of their public water supply. The picture with the caption was of A Khu Khan mob attacked anti-Klan protesters in Anaheim, Calif., mainly Chicanos/as and Latinos/as, and even stabbings as the Latinos/as attempted to push these racist scum back. In typical police fashion, the cops defended the Klan against the anti-racists. These hateful incidents occurred as police continue to beat and murder youth of color, especially Black men, as tragically witnessed in Utah this weekend.

Lesson #1 about the role of cops in capitalist society is; they uphold racism while protecting the private property of the capitalist class.

How can this racism not be expected when the Klan endorses the Trump candidacy, and Trump quotes fascist Italian dictator and mass murderer Benito Mussolini, all in the same weekend?

CNN headlines on Feb. 29, “Trump tweets fascist dictator’s quote.” The picture with the caption was Trump and Mussolini facing each other with Nazi-like arm salutes. Trump used the quote, “It is better to live one day as a lion than 100 years as a sheep.” When asked by CNN reporters, “Doesn’t it bother you to quote a fascist?” he basically said no.

The media also reported that infamous Klaasman David Duke announced his endorsement of Donald Trump just before Trump quoted Mussolini.

Problem for bourgeoisie

The developments, rhetoric and poster of the 2016 presidential election cycle are all a result of the current economic crisis. The ruling class needs racism and anti-immigrant bashing when jobs are scarce. The bourgeois needs workers fighting and blaming each other for the problems of the world. This is why Trump is dangerous. But it is still not clear if Trump can serve the interests of the ruling class.

It is useful to watch the weekend when the Pentagon for Trump to incite white people, many of whom are completely insecure about their own economic status. His pandering serves the ruling class’s age-old divide-and-conquer ploy. Dividing Black against white, Muslims and Latinos/as so on means the working class is fighting each other instead of the capitalist class.

As capitalist Trump hits new low

Peop...
Six-month lockout ends at ATI

By Martha Grevatt

The specialty steel company Allegheny Technologies Inc. has ended its lockout of a unit that wanted to demand the Steelworkers union hold a vote on an extreme-concessions contract, ATI locked out 2,200 workers at 12 plants in six states on Aug. 15, 2015. The company didn’t even give the time union to schedule a vote. When bargaining started last spring, ATI made demands that included a pay cut of $5 an hour and no back wages. Agreeing with the company’s demands would have cost each worker thousands of dollars annually and eroded decades of collective bargaining gains. In all 12 plants, including seven in Pennsylvania, solidarity on the picket line remained strong as the lockout dragged on. The company mistakenly thought it could starve the workers into submission. The union members knew they were fighting an illegal lockout, a fact affirmed in December when the National Labor Relations Board charged ATI with just that, requiring that ATI pay the workers for lost wages and return to the bargaining table.

Details of the new agreement have not been released. The union and the company agreed in January that ATI was backing off from major health care cuts and an inferior pension plan for future workers. ATI workers have yet to vote on the tentative agreement and also on terms to return to work. If they approve the new contract, it will be long before they are collecting a paycheck again. Throughout the fight, “picket line heroes” emerged and were honored on the picket line and in the workplace. Members were profiled for their dedication of time and energy well above their expected duties on the picket line. The end of the lockout came about because the workers “showed us all the strength that we can have when we stand together in unifying solidarity,” according to Steelworkers International President Leo Gerard.

A gravity-defying victory: Larry Holmes

First Secretary, Workers World Party

The big question before us is how on earth was the Boston School Bus Drivers Union able to compel this incredible, gravity-defying victory in the present global environment — where capitalism is so strong and so concentrated that the odds of workers winning in any given struggle are, at best, challenging, especially a relatively small local of about 900 members, United Steelworkers Local 8751? Workers World Party’s role was important. And the reality of the union’s long history in the struggle against racism — its ties to leaders and organizations in the Black community in Boston — was indeed an important factor. And there was solidarity from those outside the union, whether from other unions or other progressive people.

Solidarity is a complex issue. Certainly there was a lot of solidarity on paper and financial contributions, necessary when you have four people who are not getting salaried. Therefore, to this extent, there is a difference between a union passing a resolution supporting another union sending 10 or 20 workers to join a picket line.

There are different levels of solidarity. In this capitalist crisis, more material forms of solidarity, as opposed to symbolic forms of solidarity, will become more and more necessary.

But any trade unionist, any militant worker, looking at what happened in Boston, might ask themselves: How did this union, this local, against its own individual, often international, often at odds with the union hierarchy, how did it make it take on a monstrous, multibillion-dollar transnational corporation that prides itself on its expertise in decapitating and busting unions — take it on and prevail?

How is it that this company could not push back against the decades-long anti-labor offensive? How can we reverse the tide of concessions, setbacks and the decline in union density that Ronald Reagan’s breaking of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization instigated? And what is it about this small union — smaller than PATCO — that used the weapon of solidarity to push back the evil capitalist monster that was ATI?

Below are excerpts from the first part of a conference call between Team Solidarity and Workers World Party, held Feb. 14, 2016, on “harvesting the lessons of the Boston victory.” More of the discussion will be published in future issues of workers.org. Much of the discussion will be online at workers.org.

‘If you stick together and you don’t waver’

André François, USW Local 8751, and one of the Four

There’s no other solidarity than this I’ve been here, since I’ve been working, I’ve been there in person, you’ve been there with your union. And I couldn’t thank you enough for your solidarity. I can say is that I guarantee it’s going to stay with me until the day I die. I’ll tell my grandchildren about it. I went from being a fired worker, a fired record- ing secretary and unemployed, to being an employed union president because you gave solidarity and help.

It’s a victory that we will take back to the school — that we were able to pull it off, to a strike. That says a lot in this day and age. You don’t have a strike, and you have a struggle like that. Right now, Boston Public School administration has actually let the company know, “Once you the 600 strikers, you just have to work with them.” That’s a real testament on how strong and tough you can be if you stick together, and you don’t waver for this long.

‘Building a movement’

Chuck Turner

Former Boston City Councilor and community activist

Firstly, if Team Solidarity—and the four who were fired—had not stayed together, had not continued to do the work that was necessary to keep the membership together, if they had not been willing to make the tremendous sacrifices that they made, it would have been impossible for the victory to have happened. So the willingness of people to sacrifice and endure and persist is to me a driving force in the victory.

Secondly, USW 8751 is a different type of union. The leadership are workers, and USW 8751 is a rank-and-file union. The four who were fired are seen as Team Solidarity; the reality is that the union is Team Solidarity. That solidarity, combined with the sacrificial, courage and persistence of the Four, created the momentum that enabled the victory to take place.

The third factor is that not only had this union throughout its history focused on the needs and concerns of its members, it has recognized its members are part of a larger community under siege. The union has been in solidarity, not only with its own members, but in solidarity with the community. There are innumerable struggles that we could talk about — from coming together with the community to save a key post office, to the coming together with workers in other unions, to the struggle around education. Because the bus drivers got very involved around education, not just the question of jobs, but the question of the quality of education, the actions of the school administration that were not in the best interests of our children. The bus drivers did the work over the decades of creating the bond of support with the community. That meant when there was this crisis, there was a level of support in the community, despite all the attempts by the city and Veolia to break down that relationship.

There’s a word that gets misused and not understood but there was a love — and there continues to be an outpouring of love — that is a recognition of our need to be together, to appreciate each other, to stick together with each other, that the union leadership has shown throughout its history. It’s that spirit of love that the solidarity has been built around and that has enabled a tremendous victory, not only for the rights of workers — and particularly Black workers — but for the example that through solidarity and loving relationships we can overcome even the greatest of odds.

To be continued.
Dr. Olivia Hooker was a 101-year-old survivor of the horrific race attack on the African-American community in Tulsa, Okla., known as the Tulsa race riots. To this day, she remembers the devastating, traumatic experience of rioters coming onto her family’s property on May 31, 1921.

Throughout U.S. history, there have been deliberate efforts to keep African American communities in a state of fear. Black people have consistently been the targets of racial hatred and violence. The law of the land continues to be white supremacy and privilege. This country is rife with racism, which is exported worldwide through imperialist propaganda and war. Due to centuries of social, economic and political disenfranchisement, the Black population has much catching up to do.

Just two generations after the abolition of slavery, the descendants of formerly enslaved people in the Greenwood section of Tulsa created a thriving, self-sufficient community that was a center for business and wealth. Greenwood was known as “Black Wall Street.” Residents built and cultivated homes, schools, churches, restaurants, banks, theaters, hospitals, hotels and banks. Its residents were among the best educated African Americans in the country.

Racists razed Greenwood

However, Africano Americans’ attempts to rise up and move beyond oppression were met with extreme violence and terrorism — ruthless, but its growth was short-lived. Those who dreamed to pick up the pieces of their shattered lives and given to whites. Lynching was prevalent then throughout the South.

Hooker family attacked

Dr. Hooker was born in Muskogee, Okla., in 1915. When she was three years old, the family moved to Tulsa. When the riot occurred, Dr. Hooker was six. Racists burned the doll clothes her grandmother made that were hanging on the clothesline. Inside the house, the assailants broke or stole the family’s possessions. They then destroyed the food on the stove. Then they took away her father and eight-year-old brother.

After the riot attack, Dr. Hooker’s mother and five children moved to Topeka, Kan., where she stayed behind to rebuild her department store. A year later, the family moved back to Tulsa, attempting to pick up the pieces of their broken lives. After two years, the family moved to Columbus, Ohio, as Dr. Hooker’s father had been offered a job there. Both parents had been teachers.

While living in Columbus during the Great Depression, Dr. Hooker earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education at Ohio State University in 1937. In 1945, she was the first African-American woman to join the U.S. Coast Guard. She also applied to the U.S. Navy WAVES, but was rejected because of her ethnicity. She disputed the rejection and was later accepted, but chose instead to join the Coast Guard to break the color barrier there. After basic training in Brooklyn, N.Y., she headed to Boston, where she was assigned administrative duties in the Women’s Reserve (SPARS) and earned the rank of petty officer second class.

Dr. Hooker received a master’s degree from Columbia University’s Teachers College in New York City in 1947. She received her doctorate in psychology from the University of Rochester in 1961 and then worked as an in-house psychologist at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women. In 1963, she began working as a senior clinical lecturer in psychology at Fordham University and became an assistant professor there until 1978.

Dr. Hooker co-founded the American Psychological Association’s Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. At 87, she retired in 2002. At 95, she volunteered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Yonkers, N.Y.

The NY City Council and NYS Senate honored Dr. Hooker with proclamations in 2011. She received the APA Presidential Citation and the NYS Veteran’s Hall of Fame award. In 2003 Congress honored her, and the Coast Guard named a Staten Island dining facility and a training facility in Washington, D.C., after her. President Barack Obama also recognized her Coast Guard service and legacy at the academy’s annual commencement that year.

I am a Socialist because only under socialism can everyone obtain the right to work and be happy and free from black suited actors’ strike, 1919.

Letters, and Addresses on Physical and Social Vision articulated this analysis. Other political writings included “Social Causes of Blindness” (1911) and “The Unemployed” (1911). Contemporary critics lambasted Keller for her socialism. In a 1924 letter to social reformer U.S. Sen. Robert La Follette, she replied: “So long as I confine my activities to social service and the blind, they complement me extravagantly, calling me ‘arch priestess of the sightless,’ wonder woman,” and ‘a modern miracle. But when it comes to a discussion of poverty, and I maintain that it is the result of wrong economic remedies — that the industrial system under which we live is at the root of much of the physical dearness and blindness in the world — that is a different matter!”

The U.S. government took her seriously. By the time Keller died in 1968 at 87, the FBI had kept her under surveillance for most of her adult life.

In Women’s History Month, let us honor Helen Keller for her anti-racist, disability rights activism — and her socialism. At the end of a life dedicated to fighting for the poor, Keller affirmed in an interview that she was still a socialist. She hastened to add that she was moved by a copy of Marx’s Engels “Communist Manifesto” — in Braille. (New York Times, June 25, 1930)

By Delores Cox

Helen Keller was an anti-racist, an outspoken supporter of the recently founded NAACP and writer for its magazine, “The Crisis.” She demonstrated through the 1930s, into her elder years, in anti-segregation protests and rallies.

Keller was a dedicated socialist, over time shifting her focus to the mass-based Industrial Workers of the World after becoming disillusioned with the SP’s electoral tactics. She celebrated the triumph of the Bolshevik revolution in the Russian Revolution, named Vladimir Lenin one of the three greatest men of her era and regularly wrote articles for Communist Party newspapers and journals. (Helen Keller: “Socialist,” 2005) Keller identified her Marxism analysis and her socialism as deeply interconnected with her disability activism. As an example, she studied economic depression, the visited factories and felt the very vibrations of the brutal industrial conditions that resulted in worker injuries. She concluded that the main causes of disability in the U.S. were industrial and workplace accidents and sickness from owners placing profits above worker safety.

In her writing Keller indicated capitalistic causation for most disabilities and for amplying them. She wrote: “Passed through increased poverty and isolation. Her 1931 “Out of the Dark: Essays, to be a dedicated socialist, over time shift- ing her focus to the mass-based Industri- al Workers of the World after becoming dissatisfied with the SP’s electoral tactics. She celebrated the triumph of the Bolshe- viks in the Russian Revolution, named Vladimir Lenin one of the three greatest men of her era and regularly wrote arti- cles for Communist Party newspapers and journals. (Helen Keller: “Socialist,” 2005) Keller identified her Marxism analysis and her socialism as deeply intercon- nected with her disability activism. As an example, she studied economic depression, the visited factories and felt the very vibrations of the brutal industrial conditions that resulted in worker injuries. She concluded that the main causes of disability in the U.S. were industrial and workplace accidents and sickness from owners placing profits above worker safety.

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Performers, artists hold #JusticeforFlint event

By Cheryl LaBash
Flint, Mich.

In the tradition of black actors and artists like Harry Belafonte who used their celebrity to help advance the Civil Rights Movement, Blackout for Human Rights organized a free public event, #JusticeforFlint, at Flint’s Whiting Auditorium on Feb. 28, as well as an online fund drive. A surprise appearance by Michigan-born Motown music legend Stevie Wonder capped the performances by artists from Michigan and around the country.

On-stage testimony by Flint residents and young organizers highlighted a spirtue of resilience and struggle, but also the personal cost imposed on them by the state government. A high school student who lived only a few weeks ago that water at her private school was unsafe said students had originally been direct to buy water from vending machines. Elementary school students talked about skin eruptions and other illnesses from washing with lead-laden water and of bathing with baby wipes.

Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, the Flint pedi atrician who sounded the lead poisoning alarm, pointed out that Flint families have been fighting for justice for almost two years, but no one heard their voices. “They needed evidence that our kids were being poisoned. And our water is still not safe. The 18 months of corrosive untreated water damaged our infrastructure, and we still cannot drink from our taps. That is not justice.”

Dr. Hanna-Attisha continued: “Lead, even before this, was an environmental injustice. Our Flint kids had higher lead levels than those kids in the suburbs, even before this. And after this, those disparities significantly widened. That is the last thing our kids need. They already have too many obstacles for success.”

She cited Flint’s 40 percent poverty rate and lack of nutrition sources. “Our work is just beginning. It will continue for decades to come.” She thanked the performers for providing the best medicine — laughter and enjoyment.

Latino/a community representatives sat on stage with actor and author Hill Harper and explained that without Spanish language information many Latin American families attempted to make the water safe by boiling it, which concentrated the lead levels. Undocumented residents are fearful of bringing their children in for testing because of the climate of repression. Harper spoke strongly for Black-Brown unity against common oppression.

Fighting to stop human rights violations

Filmmaker Ryan Coogler, the founder of Blackout for Human Rights, is from Oakland, Calif., the home of militant International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10. A delegation from Local 10 came to Flint, including its past Secretary-Treasurer Clarence Thomas and Stacey Rodgers, who authored a resolution “For Labor Action to Stop Flint’s Poisoned Crisis and Hold Michigan’s Governor Snyder Accountable.” It was passed unanimously by not only Local 10 but the San Francisco Labor Council.

By Terri Kay
Oakland, Calif.

The Oscar Grant family hosted an “Oscar Grant Legacy Weekend Birthday Celebration” on Feb. 27. It started with National Victims of Police Terror panels on “Where do we go from here?” Held at the First African Methodist Episcopal Church in Oakland, the event was organized into separate mothers’ and fathers’ panels. Grant had been shot and killed by Bay Area Rapid Transit Police Officer Johannes Mehserle in the early hours of Jan. 1, 2009.

Cephus “Uncle Bobby” Johnson, Grant’s uncle, opened the meeting and then quickly turned it over to Jazz Hudson, a spoken-word artist. Wanda Johnson, Grant’s mother, introduced longtime Black Panther Party members Erica Huggins and Tarika Lewis, who each spoke. Huggins, a leader of the Los Angeles branch of the BPP, was later imprisoned for two years on conspiracy charges. During her talk, Huggins suggested that there should be a national march, going across this country! This fight will continue for generations.

Other family members included Gwen dolyn Carr, mother of Mario Woods; Jeralynn Blueford, mother of Alan Bluedford; Dokere Piper, grandmother of Derickay Gaines; Michael Brown Sr., parents of Michael Brown Jr.; Miriam Tolan, mother of Rob bi Tolan; Teresa Smith, mother of Cesar Cruz; the mother of Phillip Watkins; the mother of Kevin Cooper, on death row in San Quentin, Calif.; the aunt of Corey Washington; the mother of Philando Castile, father of Philando Jr.; Moses Hill, the mother of Dontre Hamilton; and members of Blackout for Human Rights.

Gwendolyn Carr, Erica Garner’s mother, said, “They are killing us on the regular. They keep killing us, and as mothers they expect us to do nothing.” She pointed out that despite “the videos we had, we still didn’t get an indictment!”

Then Valerie Bell, mother of Sean Bell, stated, “We need everyone to fight and stand with us.” Marion Hupsin-Gray, mother of Gary Hopkins who was killed in 1999, said of the police, “We need prosecutions. Stand with these mothers for justice!”

Geneva Reed-Veal, mother of Sandra Bland, declared, “They tell us we don’t see the rage and anger. I know that the government is not here for us.”

Wisconsin Black Lives Matter
By Workers World Milwaukee Bureau

Black Lives Matter activists and allies in Milwaukee and Madison, Wis., are holding a series of events in March and April to demand justice for those killed and brutalized by police. Wisconsin has some of the worst genocidal conditions for people of African descent in the United States. In Milwaukee, where unemployment for Black youth between the ages of 18 and 35 has ranged from 50 percent to 70 percent for years, an Empowering Youth Summit, Off, sponsored by the Coalition For Justice, will take place March 4.

The coalition is led by the Wisconsin Black Lives Matter

A coalition of groups is signing petitions on an appeal to Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf “to see to it that everyone with the hepatitis C virus should get the cure — those in prison, too.” The organizations are all active in the movement to free renowned political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, who is suffering from the effects of the hepatitis C virus, as are thousands of other prisoners. An estimated 22.1 percent of women and 12.8 percent of men in New York-State prisons are infected with HCV, according to the Women in Prison Project. Signed petitions are to be delivered to Wolf’s office at the end of a protest march in Phil adelphia on Friday, April 22.

To Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf:

We call on you to make the cure for hepatitis C possible for thousands of Pennsylvanians infected with this virus, including up to 10,000 in Pennsylvania prisons and 45,000 in Philadelphia. There is a cure that is 95 percent effective, but Gilead Sciences charges up to $94,500 for the 12-week-long treatment. A day in prison costs $94,500. According to a press release, “Pennsylvania’s prisons are infected with HCV, according to the Women in Prison Project. Signed petitions will be delivered to Wolf’s office at the end of a protest march in Philadelphia on Friday, April 22.

To Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf:

We call on you to make the cure for family, whose loved one, Donte Hamil ton, was shot 14 times and killed April 30, 2014, by officer Christopher Manney in broad daylight at Red Arrow Park. Both Milwaukee and Philadelphia officials have de nied to charge Manney with anything, and he now receives “disability” pay.

The Coalition For Justice is also or ganizing Donte Day at Red Arrow Park on April 30, the two-year anniversary of Hamilton’s killing. This community event will bring together those demanding jus tice for Hamilton and all victims of police terror and also raise such issues as the need for union jobs, housing, education and other human needs.

March 6 is the one-year anniversary of 2009, captured for all to see on #JusticeforFlint Feb. 28.
BLM activist calls out Hillary Clinton

By L.T. Pham

Video footage of Black Lives Matter activist Ashley Williams went viral on Feb. 26 after Williams disrupted a private Hillary Clinton campaign event in South Carolina.

In the video, Williams is seen holding a banner quoting Clinton: “We have to bring them to heel.” It referred to a 1996 speech Hillary Clinton made in New Hampshire during Bill Clinton’s presidential campaign in which she defended the 1994 crime bill, in which she defended the 1994 crime bill. The bill advocated for the private prison industry and corporations play a key role in electing politicians who will allow them to privatize public schools for Black communities and exploit Black labor.

The hashtag #HillaryTrendy focused on social media for 24 hours following the disruption. The confrontation made a significant impact in pushing the masses to discuss Clinton’s questionable track record when it comes to Black lives.

On Feb. 27, the day of the South Carolina primary, Hillary Clinton still emerged with 73 percent of the votes, many cast by Black voters who also favored Barack Obama in the 2008 election. This contradiction is important and showcases the power of capitalist media propaganda to misinform and repress important historical facts that shed light on the role Hillary and Bill Clinton have played in the oppression of Black communities.

Clinton’s win in South Carolina also indicates that this stage of capitalism has demoralized the masses and limited what is perceived as possible for changing the material conditions of the working class. As more Black lives are stolen, Clinton’s campaign has positioned itself as the reasonable voice representing different working-class communities.

Even some who may be more truly aligned with the Sanders agenda are led to believe by the corporate media that Clinton has the best interests of Black and working-class communities in mind. Meanwhile, the Sanders campaign in no way represents a true socialist program, as he remains reactionary on the demand for reparations for Black communities, as well as on the U.S. military presence in Africa, where imperialism continues to extract superprofits.

Last summer a historically Black church in South Carolina was the scene of a white supremacist’s gun violence that killed nine people. Just a few months ago, a South Carolina police officer was filmed assaulting a Black student. In South Carolina and across the U.S., the bourgeois agendas of capitalist candidates do not address the destructive development of capitalism that continues to harm and kill Black communities. Instead, their agendas try to turn the masses against each other in a competition to prove that one candidate is better than the other — when none is truly aligned with the plight of workers and oppressed people.

Williams’ bold action calls into question not only Clinton’s intentions but the validity of the entire capitalist system. Black communities are entitled to an end to racist violence from cops and vigilantes; to be criminalized and scapegoated as capitalism crumbles; and to control the wealth that is created by the labor now stolen from Black workers.

To learn about Workers World Party’s 2016 Election Campaign, visit workersworld.org. Our candidates, Moni ca Moorehead for president and Lamont Lilly for vice president, are fighters for a true socialist revolution for workers and oppressed people everywhere.

Baltimore rally demands: Justice for Aaron Winston!

By Steven Ceci

Activists from the Baltimore People’s Power Assembly and the Baltimore Southern Christian Leadership Conference marked the anniversary of Trayvon Martin’s death with a protest and rally at the corner of Pennsylvania and North avenues. The site had been ground zero for an uprising in Baltimore after young Freddie Gray sustained fatal injuries while being transported in a police van.

The rally turned into a call for justice for Aaron Winston. Winston is a 24-year-old longshore worker who was brutally beaten by police and later arrested at the Power Plant Live, a night club and tourist destination in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor. 

While attending the rally, the Baltimore police Commissioner Kevin Davis, who has stated that people should intervene when they see police acting brutally, Crowley explained that any encounter with Baltimore police could become deadly.

The Rev. C.D. Witherspoon, a PPA organizer and president of the Baltimore SCLC, drew the connections between the death of Trayvon Martin and the treatment of Aaron Winston.

Youth from Freddie Gray’s neighborhood took the microphone to speak out, at times calling out to the large crowd of police who came to monitor the event, pointing out individual cops who had brutalized the neighborhood.

Aaron Winston in hospital after beating by police. 

Aaron Winston’s brother speaks at Trayvon Martin rally, Feb. 26.

Aaron Winston in hospital after beating by police.

Inmates with hep C

The killing of Terrell Robinson Jr., a 19-year-old African-American youth, by officer Matt Kenney in Madison. The killing sparked mass protests organized by Robinson’s family, the Young Gifted & Black Coalition and others. The Madison district attorney announced just weeks after the killing that Robinson that the killer cop would not be charged with anything.

A celebration of life and community dinner memorial for Robinson Jr. will take place in Madison on March 5. A candlelight vigil and #JusticeForTonyAwareness are also scheduled for March 6.

Organizers state: “It is one year later and there is still No Justice and No Peace. If we allow MPD [Madison Police Department] to take Tony Terrell’s life without accountability, change and a stop to state violence, it will continue to occur. Please bring your families, friends and co-workers and raise your voice so that Tony’s death at the hands of the City and State will not be forgotten. He — and we — are now part of the national conversation about lives taken by police every 24 hours, about how Black Lives Matter and that Terrell’s life matters on March 6th and every day. What’s His Name? #TO-NYROBINSON #4WeAreTR

For updates and more information, go to facebook.com/justicedeforestation and facebook.com/fergusontomadison.

mal almost died from hepatitis C complications. The DOC spent over $160,000 to treat Abu-Jamal’s hep C symptoms but refuses to provide him with the available cure. The cost of the DOC’s refusal to cure the disease when first detected is not a minor concern. In suffering and loss of lives of state prisoners but leads to higher financial expenses as the disease is allowed to develop into cirrho sis or death of the liver. We are hereby giving the DOC’s hep C protocol a guide for treatment and eradication of HCV, not a manual for how to profit from the disease.

For prisoners like Mumia Abu-Jamal, untreated hep C is a death sentence. The Pennsylvania DOC’s refusal to fully treat Abu-Jamal and other prisoners is a clear violation of the U.S. Constitution’s Eighth Amendment to the end of cruel and unusual punishment. In light of the PA DOC’s refusal to provide the cure to HCV, we therefore call on you to release Mumia Abu-Jamal and all other prisoners needlessly suffering from untreated hepatitis C.

Pennsylvania residents than HIV, Ebola or Zika. Countries such as Egypt and India are providing the hep C cure to their patients for a tiny fraction of the cost in this country. Why not Pennsylvania? Governor Wolf, it is your job to see to it that every one with the hep C virus should get the cure — those in prison, too.

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A campaign to demand for treatment and eradication of HCV is a greater threat to Pennsylvania residents than HIV, Ebola or Zika. Countries such as Egypt and India are providing the hep C cure to their patients for a tiny fraction of the cost in this country. Why not Pennsylvania? Governor Wolf, it is your job to see to it that every one with the hep C virus should get the cure — those in prison, too.

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A historical evaluation
Iran's left and nationalist forces

From a talk by Kazem Azin, co-founder of Solidarity with Iran, at a meeting in New York on Feb. 22.

The Islamic revolution triumphed in Iran on Nov. 4, 1979, when the regime of the Shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, was overthrown. This event can be seen as a significant historical milestone that marked the beginning of a new era in Iran's political and social landscape.

The Islamic revolution of 1979 was the result of a long and complex process of socio-economic transformation that had been taking place in Iran for several decades. The ruling class was unable to maintain its power and control, and the people of Iran, driven by a combination of socio-economic and political factors, rose up against the regime.

The revolution was initially led by a group of intellectuals, journalists, and students who were disillusioned with the Shah's regime and its policies. They were joined by workers, farmers, and other marginalized groups who were suffering from poverty and exploitation.

The revolution was a testament to the power of the people and their ability to overcome the odds and achieve their goals. It was a victory for the working class and the oppressed masses of Iran, who had long been struggling against the oppressive and oppressive policies of the Shah's regime.

The Islamic Republic of Iran was established following the Islamic revolution of 1979. It was a revolutionary government that was founded on the principles of Islamic law and the values of equality, justice, and social justice. The new government was committed to the advancement of the people and the promotion of the country's socio-economic development.

The Islamic Republic of Iran was a transitional period that saw the establishment of a new political system. During this period, there were various attempts to undermine the regime and to bring back the old order. However, the Iranian people were determined to maintain their hard-won gains and to build a better society for themselves and future generations.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is a sovereign, democratic, and Islamic republic that is committed to the advancement of its people and the promotion of its socio-economic development. It is a country that is proud of its rich history and culture, and that is determined to build a better future for its citizens.

Imperialists provoke crisis for refugees

By G. Dunkel

Even though the Aegean Sea in winter is cold and rough, conditions for migrants in Turkey are so harsh that over 102,000 of them have crossed the narrow waters from Turkey to the Greek islands since Jan. 1, according to an estimate of the UNHCR [U.N. Refugee Agency] estimates — who are fleeing from Syria. Many attempt the crossing. This is just a small part of the nearly two million refugees who have spread out to the squares, traffic circles and sidewalks of Athens. The Greek authorities estimate that as of Feb. 27 there were 20,000 refugees and migrants in temporary shelters in the capital city.

Small states like Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia, Slovakia, Croatia, and Albania — countries in the western Balkans on the refugees’ route north — are virtual colonies of the western European nation-states. They are, especially the big imperialist powers like Germany. If pressured by the big powers to prevent the refugees from continuing their journey, they have few options but to close their borders.

Many refugees — at least 2.6 million, according to UNHCR [U.N. Refugee Agency] estimates — have crossed the narrow waters from Turkey to all but a handful of the European Union’s 27 member states. Many have spread out to the squares, traffic circles and sidewalks of Athens. The Greek authorities estimate that as of Feb. 27 there were 20,000 refugees and migrants in temporary shelters in the capital city.

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The Clintons' role in Haiti

By G. Dunkel

Seething mass protests throughout Haiti in late January and early February drove President Michel Martelly from of- fice on Feb. 7. Martelly had been selected to run for president through the personal- intervention of then of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2010. Clinton had visited Port-au-Prince to personally overturn the decision of the Haitian electoral commission to select a different candidate — Jude Célestin — for a spot in the runoff.

In the context of the 100 years of direct U.S. involvement in Haiti, which most Haitians see as an occupation, for Wash- ington to select a candidate is business as usual. But it throws light on the negative influence Bill Clinton and Hillary Clinton have had on Haiti.

Back in 1945, U.S. Marines moved the gold in President/disable what was then the first Na- tional City Bank of New York, now Citii- bank, and soon after dissolved the Hai- tian Parliament. In 1919, they imposed a U.S.-written constitution on Haiti. They ran up the U.S. flag as the Marines fought a vicious war against an insurgency led by Charlesmagne Perzèle. The Marines didn’t leave Haiti until 1934, when Washing- ton was short of money and the Marines had trained a military force — La Garde d’Haiti.

More recently, U.S. imperialism has supported a United Nations “peacekeep- ing” military force called Minustah to occupy Haiti. Because it dumped human waste from one of its bases into Haiti’s largest river, Minustah is responsible for bringing a devastating cholera epidemic to Haiti, which caused over 8,000 deaths and 800,000 illnesses. The presence of Minustah keeps the U.S. of Haiti intact.

For Secretary of State Clinton, choos- ing Martelly was an essential step in “Opening Haiti for Business,” one of her slogans. Martelly, a nightclub owner and performer with solid ties to the repres- sive, ruling-class grouping known as the Macoutes, would be much more open to deals than Célestin. Célestin’s forces were oriented toward trying to push the U.N. and the multitudinous nongovern- mental organizations in Haiti into build- ing up the country’s infrastructure rath- er than simply providing cheap labor to sweatshops.

Beginning in 2008, the State Depart- ment closely monitored Haitian efforts to raise the country’s legal minimum wage from $1.75 a day to $5,000 a day. When Hillary Clinton arrived in Haiti just prior to state of 2009, she maintained pressure on Haiti’s government to keep wages low for workers in the assembly plants and those sewing garments for U.S.-based clothing companies like Levis’, Hanes and Fruit of the Loom. These low wag- es also enjoyed Sae-A Trading, a major South Korean sweatshop operator, to set up a new plant in Caracol in northeast Haiti, near the Dominican border.

Bill Clinton also played a prominent role in Haiti since Hillary Clinton was secretary of state. Ap- pointed as the U.N.’s special envoy to Hai- ti in May of 2009 — before the January 2010 earthquake — he urged investors to make money in Haiti when he and Secre- tary-General Ban Ki-moon visited that year and also in a conference he called in New York.

After the earth- quake, whose de- struction of Haiti touched the hearts of people around the world and pro- duced a nearly unprecedented flood of U.S.-based investors, Bill Clinton used his position to become co-chair of the Interim Hai- ti Recovery Commission. This role gave him a strong influence in how the $6 bil- lion that flowed through this commission was disbursed. This made him responsi- ble for the lack of real aid getting to the Haitian people.

At a protest on Jan. 12 in front of Bill Clinton’s office in Harlem on the sixth anniversary of the earthquake, the Com- mittee to Mobilize against Dictatorship in Haiti said: “Bill Clinton, as head of the IHRG, Interim Haiti Recovery Commis- sion, was responsible for the $6 billion that came into his hands. He had unlim- ited control of this money. Six years after the earthquake, not much has changed, and as a matter of fact, Haiti is in worse condition than it was in 2010. Only Bill Clinton can tell the world what happened with this money.”

U.S. investment in Cuba

How a little red tractor jumpeted to front of the line

By Bill Hackwell

Resumen Latinoamericano, North American Bureau

How could it be that, while hundreds of U.S. corporations are lined up at the starting gates, chomping at the bit to in- vest, export and unleash a flood of prod- ucts into Cuba, a small company pro- ducing two tractors at the new world-class port shop in Cuba since 1959, assembling products into Cuba, a small company pro- duced a nearly un- preceded flood of U.S. rules.

The key was simple: Present a product that Cuba needs and develop a trusting relationship.

The Céber LLC company will now be- come the first U.S. manufacturer to open a shop in Cuba since 1959, assembling small tractors at the new world-class port of Mariel outside Havana. The tractor is a modern, inexpensive version of a 1948 Allis-Chalmers model designed for 100- acre farms.

The model was stopped manufac- tured in 1955, as agribusiness was wip- ing out most small farms in the U.S. In Cuba, over 70 percent of the agricultural land is now leased by small private farm- ers and cooperatives on plots around the country. The tractor is designed to be used by small farmers and homesteaders and is a small tractor at a reasonable price.

The view of the bankers and corpo- rate investors can be seen and heard in just talking to Cuban government offi- cials but also meeting with contacts at the economics department of the Univer- sity of Havana to get a sense of the Cuban view of the new period and what they need. Berenthal also studied the Cuban Foreign Investment Law of 2014. This law, which was discussed at all levels of Cuban society before it was implement- ed by the National Assembly, was con- sidered a necessary adjustment to allow more foreign investment and how that investment was going to be processed, monitored and authorized. While open- ing some areas, the law also explicitly states that no foreign investment can be invested control of this money. Six years after the earthquake, not much has changed, and as a matter of fact, Haiti is in worse condition than it was in 2010. Only Bill Clinton can tell the world what happened with this money.

examined first by the Ministry of For- eign Trade, which relies on the Business Evaluation Commission, and then the ultimate decisions will be made by the Council of State.

The decision to accept or reject an in- vestment proposal will be based on an evaluation not of how profitable it is, but on how much that proposal will contrib- ute to the improvement of the standard of living of the Cuban people and the bet- terment of the social indexes of Cuban society which, despite the blockade, are some of the highest in the Western Hemisphere. In other words, ethical in- vestments for the collective good versus investment dictated by profit.

Since the rapprochement between the two countries began on Dec. 17, 2014, the main thrust of the U.S. remains re- gime change, but through different, less confrontational methods. Their fantasy is that once the flow of capital begins to penetrate Cuba, there will be no stop- ing it.

There is no doubt that Cuba is now fac- ing its biggest challenge, perhaps since the triumph of the revolution itself, but no one should underestimate Cuba and its commitment to its socialist model.

In the ongoing negotiations with the U.S., Cuba has insisted that it be treated with mutual respect and that its sover- eignty is not on the table. Those who want to do business with Cuba should remem- ber that, and the simple words of Saul Berenthal, the maker of the little red tractors from Alabama: “In the Cuban busi- ness culture, you always have to present the project, not only in economic terms, but what are the social benefits.”

Back in 1959, when Washington was short of money and the Marines had trained a military force — La Garde d’Haiti. More recently, U.S. imperialism has supported a United Nations “peacekeeping” military force called Minustah to occupy Haiti. Because it dumped human waste from one of its bases into Haiti’s largest river, Minustah is responsible for bringing a devastating cholera epidemic to Haiti, which caused over 8,000 deaths and 800,000 illnesses. The presence of Minustah keeps the U.S. of Haiti intact.

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Women, struggle and socialism

Monica Moorehead, WW’s 2016 presidential candidate, says that IWD actions assert: “This year’s International Women’s Day takes place when women are under attack today on many fronts. Women need a full life in all facets of society. To obtain this, WW calls for the abolition of capitalism, racism and a united fight for socialism.”

This year on IWD, Workers World will march in solidarity in many cities with our sisters worldwide. The global economic crisis and imperialist wars, occupations and sanctions are devastating women’s lives, forcing millions to migrate in a massive refugee crisis the warmakers have created. We support women in the U.S. who face growing income inequality, joblessness, cuts in social programs, restructuring reproductive rights and other health care, foreclosures, racist police and vigilante violence, brutal immigration policies, and the horrors of the “New Jim Crow,” mass incarceration.

Capitalist elections won’t win progress for women. It will take a dedicated, independent movement to do that — to challenge racist state repression, wars abroad, and economic and social inequality. Ultimately, it will necessitate a united struggle against capitalism, the source of women’s oppression and other forms of discrimination, bigotry and injustice. It will take a global fight for socialism to liberate women and men through the workers and use it to lay the foundation for full women’s liberation and an end to all forms of oppression.

Socialist Cuba is a beacon of progress for women. The revolution’s achievements are profound. The Federation of Cuban Women, founded in 1960 by Vilma Espín, has been instrumental in this process. Education and health care are free, with infant mortality much lower than in the United States. The state reaches into the world in the number of women parliamentarians, with 49 percent, and second in the Americas only to Bolivia, with 53 percent. Just imagine what socialism could do.

March is Women’s History Month. Though WW reports the struggles of poor, working-class women of all nationalities year round, we highlight them during March. It was women in Workers World Party who revived the militant tradition of International Women’s Day in the streets of New York in 1970. Our newspaper always commemorates this socialist holiday with a round-up of women’s protests for freedom, justice and equality the world over.

As Marxists, we strive not just to honor history but to make it — to bring about change! Join the World Party in the most revolutionary change of our time — the abolition of capitalism and the struggle to build a classless society! Join the World Party and stand up to the establishment! The struggles of today are the seeds of tomorrow.

Women change history: BUILD WORKERS WORLD!

While all issues are women’s issues, it’s important to recognize that women are powering the low-wage workers’ fight for $15 an hour and a union. That’s because 70 percent of low-wage workers — salespeople and janitors in big-box stores, bank tellers and servers in restaurants — are women, most often of color and single mothers struggling to provide for their families.

If you appreciate WW’s year-round coverage of struggles that assert and advance the rights of women, it’s time to join the Workers World Supporter Program. We established it in 1979 so readers could help us publish anti-racist, working-class truth and build the many campaigns needed to make qualitative, revolutionary change that crushes capitalism and ushers in socialism.

Write to Workers World and mail them, with your name and address, to 147 W. 24th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011. Or donate online at workers.org/donate. We are grateful for your help in building the revolutionary press in the U.S.

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Apple and the FBI

A look behind the curtain

By Gary Wilson

The FBI has an iPhone used by Syed Rizwan Farook, an accused shooter in the San Bernardino, Calif., attack. A judge has ordered Apple to assist the FBI in breaking the passcode encryption that blocks access to the device. Apple CEO Tim Cook has defied that order, saying that to do so would risk the security of all iPhones.

That’s the official story, but it’s not the real story.

According to former DPW commissioner Bruce Schneier, says the facts are being obscured and there is every reason to be skeptical of the official story.

The fact is that Apple has already helped the FBI extensively in this case. It made Apple engineers fully available and has already provided the full data from the device’s last backup, a backup made six weeks before the shootings. That’s a lot of information.

If you don’t know, the iPhone keeps a record of everything you do where you go, what you eat and more. This in the last six weeks before Farook’s personal phone. His personal phone was de-

stroyed before the shootings took place.

The iPhone that the FBI has is Farook’s work phone, which is property of the San Bernadino County Health Department, which gave full permission for the search. So there is no Fourth Amendment priva-

cy involved in the case, nor does Apple say that the right to privacy is the issue.

There’s already a backdoor

Tim Cook says the issue is security and in his public letter says that Apple does not want to build a backdoor into its devices because of security concerns. But all Apple devices already have one or more backdoors. Apple regularly uses these back doors to go to www.

what the FBI is asking for in this case is an operating system modification that would allow repeated bad password en-

tries to the device. This would allow the FBI to easily crack iPhone passcodes in minutes. But they don’t need this for ac-

cess to Farook’s iPhone.

Some demonstrators challenged this point, citing that it is a common backdoor in the iCloud backup. It gives Apple access to all the contents on the device without having to use the encryption passcode. Apple uses this as a feature to recover users’ personal data, such as photos, when a device has been lost or stolen. That also means, however, that it’s a backdoor that Apple can regularly use to turn over users’ data to the FBI.

The FBI also claimed in court that

Apple can use the data from the backup to access to Farook’s iPhone to get the latest communication records, but the FBI al-

ready has all the records for this iPhone.

The communication records for all mobi-

ble devices are always stored by the ser-

vice provider, not on the phone itself.

Apple, in its appeal of the court ruling, has shown that the FBI has lied about many of the details of the case. Not only has Apple given full assistance to the FBI all along, but the case has been prosecuted by the FBI how to force a full backup of the de-

vice to the iCloud. The FBI mishandled that and failed to force a backup, which would have given them easy access to the data they say are seeking.

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what it was requesting would be for this single phone, but Apple showed in its appeal that the Justice Department has already made requests for this same pro-
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mer FBI director J. Edgar Hoover’s secret police force.

Apple’s marketing strategy

The Justice Department — the FBI is the Department and the Department of Justice is the Justice Depart-

ment — made an unusual charge in its court response to Apple’s stand: “Ap-

ple’s current refusal to comply with the Court’s Order, despite the technical fea-

tibility of doing so, instead appears to be based on its concern for its business mod-

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The Justice Department argues that if you have a business and public brand marketing strategy, then there is every rea-

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Tim Cook says the issue is security and in his public letter says that Apple does not want to build a backdoor into its devices because of security concerns. But all Apple devices already have one or more backdoors. Apple regularly uses these backdoors to access the existing backdoors to give access to the device. This would allow the FBI to easily crack iPhone passcodes in minutes. But they don’t need this for access to Farook’s iPhone.

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The Justice Department argues that if you have a business and public brand marketing strategy, then there is every reason to be skeptical of the official story.

Apple is the world’s richest transna-

tional corporation, ranked number one in the Financial Times Global 500 since 2012. That is, it was number one until last month, when it was passed by Alphabet, the Google parent company.

Apple is in a neck-and-neck battle with Google, and to a lesser extent with Face-

book, Microsoft and Amazon, to be the primary portal to the digital world. It is a classic battle for world domination — and it is a battle Apple is losing.

Apple’s business model is to sell high-end devices at a premium price. Google and Facebook give free access and collect extensive data on their users, which they then sell to others, such as advertisers.

Apple has to convince people to buy its product over free or less expensive options. One of Apple’s key claims has been that it guarantees privacy and security. What the Justice Department revealed is that there is a back way into an iPhone. Apple’s marketing had implied that there didn’t exist or had been closed with its latest software update.

Finally, the FBI had the authority to compel Apple to open the phone. Apple’s marketing revealed that government authority was revealed, the New York Times, which is heavily invested in Apple and its products, report-

ed that Apple had launched an internal thrust to “close this now widely known hole.”

Detroit officials nervous as public anger grows

Continued from page 2

Chief James Craig the next day. Craig of-

ficiation flight fostered by the banks and city residents. The Duggan administra-

tion is known for its intolerance of critical comments about the so-

cial situation in Detroit.

Other Duggan appointees joined the
demonstrators gathered outside the entrance of the church carrying a banner that read “Duggan = Black death.” When opponents of the Duggan administration attempted to set up a picket line in front of the church doors, they were told by po-

lice that they had to move to the sidewalk behind the church. At a nearby church, the area was 50,000 homes were facing tax foreclosures after the March 31 deadline.

A Detroit News study during 2015 docu-

mented that the banks were responsible for the tens of thousands of abandoned homes and apartments in the city. Many of the report’s findings reflect what the intelli-

gence agencies have already cracked the iPhone encryption and agrees that the FBI could do it themselves. (tinyurl.com/7qyv3)

The San Bernardino shooter, Syed Faroo-

Spiegel reported in 2013 that the NSA has complete access to the iPhone, and that they can activate the microphone and camera without the device’s owner knowing. (tinyurl.com/kzadbdq)

A recent demonstrations against the city’s 2013-2014 budget cuts has generated attention of at least a fraction in the pow-

er structure. Bing’s warning cannot be viewed in a political vacuum. The city’s school elections are scheduled for 2017, and the Duggan administration and the City Council have almost noth-

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¿Tregua? Manténgase en guardia

Por John Catalinotto

La noticia de que el gobierno de Obama finalmente ha aceptado una tregua parcial sobre Siria con Rusia no trajo un alivio verdadero a quienes están preocupados/as por el pueblo sirio o sobre el peligro de una guerra más amplia. El enfrentamiento entre las potencias nucleares quizás sólo pospuso, y aún puede empeorar. El movimiento contra la guerra y el antimperialista en Estados Unidos debe permanecer en estado de alerta.

El régimen de Siria está bombardeando zonas kurdas a través de la frontera y amenaza con una invasión. Los neocolonialistas estadounidenses se quejan de que Bashar al-Assad sigue siendo presidente de Siria. Se ha informado que el régimen de Arabia Saudita busca armas adicionales. Y la paz no ha llegado todavía.

En la cobertura actual de la guerra contra Siria por los medios corporativos, hay un intento continuo por culpar al gobierno de Damasco por todo lo que le sucede al pueblo sirio. Stephen Kinzer, ex corresponsal del New York Times, que actualmente es un alto miembro del Instituto Watson de Estudios Internacionales de la Universidad de Columbia, calificó esta cobertura como “uno de los episodios más vergonzosos de la historia de la prensa estadounidense”. (Boston Globe, 18 de febrero)

Dado que cobertura de los medios corporativos de Siria distorsiona constantemente lo que está ocurriendo allí, una revisión de la historia reciente es necesaria. En 2011, después de un corto período de protestas sin armas, comenzó un conflicto entre el régimen por un lado y grupos armados rebeldes en el al-Quéda por el otro. Estos grupos estaban armados y financiados por Arabia Saudita, así como Turquía y otras potencias occidentales que estaban aletargados por los imperialistas, incluyendo Washington.

El resultado ha sido casi cinco años de una guerra reaccionaria internacional contra el gobierno legítimo y soberano de Siria. Combatientes sectarios y reacciones progresistas de los sirios, que están en lucha contra el gobiernos de centro o oriente, han resultado duros y sangrientos. Los neocolonialistas y todos los estrategas imperialistas se sienten frustrados por su incapacidad para controlar los acontecimientos, no importa cuánto destruyan, como muestra su experiencia en Irak, Libia, Yemen y a la Al-Quéda. Están ahora aún más frustrados ya que el apoyo de Rusia, Irán y Hizból a su aliado sirio ha mejorado las posibilidades de una victoria sobre los rebeldes.

En este artículo del Boston Globe, Kinzer argumenta que sólo apoyando a las fuerzas del gobierno sirio se puede derrotar al grupo Estado Islámico. A pesar de la argumentación racional de Kinzer no hay razón para esperar que los que están en el poder en EUA sigan su consejo. No sería la primera vez en la historia que los militaristas sobreestiman su propia capacidad para controlar los acontecimientos mediante el uso de la fuerza. No olvidemos que cada potencia imperialista que ha ocurrido Guerra Mundial creía que podía derrotar rápidamente a sus enemigos.

El 23 de enero, mientras el secretario de Estado John Kerry viajaba a Moscú para más versiones de paz sobre Siria, el vicepresidente Joe Biden estaba en Ankara prometiendo apoyo al régimen turco, que había pedido a EUA para una ofensiva contra Rusia en Siria. Ya sea este enfoque de dos caras una táctica de negociación o un signo de diferencias en la administración, deja plasmado el peligro de una guerra más amplia.

Los/as que están dentro de EUA que quieren luchar contra la guerra, sólo pueden tomar un respiro corto y tener el peligro de una guerra mayor en la mira. Deben estar preparados/as para lo que pueda venir en el futuro. Para hacer, una de las maneras más eficaces de participar en este combate, puede ser una campaña de propaganda contra el EI, rápidamente a sus enemigos.

La lucha de clases en Wisconsin desde 2011

Por el Colectivo WW-MO de Milwaukee

El 10 de febrero del 2011, estudiantes y trabajadores/en comenzaron la histórica ocupación del edificio del Capitolio estatal de Wisconsin en medio de un intento continuo por culpar al gobierno de Wisconsin por todo lo que le sucede al pueblo trabajador. Sin embargo, es bien sabido que el gobierno gubernamental del estado, como el del resto de la nación, gobierna por la burguesía, y los intereses de esta clase excluyen literalmente a un amplio rango de trabajadores y trabajadoras, incluyendo a los trabajadores y trabajadoras de las industrias de las vidas y de las industrias de las vidas, las industrias de las vidas, y la industria de las vidas.

Estos sectores de la clase trabajadora que quieren ver una lucha más efectiva contra el gobierno en Wisconsin, no son excluidos por aquellos que quieren la paz o la no violencia, sino que son excluidos por la ideología de la no violencia. La política del “no violencia” es una forma de política que busca la conciliación con las fuerzas del terrorismo y el fascismo, y que busca la conformidad con la ideología de la no violencia.

La lucha de clases en Wisconsin desde 2011 ha sido un camino de lucha de las masas que han luchado por sus tierras sagradas y su patrimonio. Las/los trabajadores y trabajadoras de la industria de las vidas, las industrias de las vidas, y la industria de las vidas, han luchado por su derecho a ser dueños de sus vidas, y a ser dueños de su destino. Las/los trabajadores y trabajadoras de la industria de las vidas, las industrias de las vidas, y la industria de las vidas, han luchado por su derecho a ser dueños de su destino. Las/los trabajadores y trabajadoras de la industria de las vidas, las industrias de las vidas, y la industria de las vidas, han luchado por su derecho a ser dueños de su destino.

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