Gov’t squeezes workers, bloats Pentagon

By Carl Lewis

A recent hiring freeze for federal employees is one of a barrage of anti-worker laws and executive orders recently put forth by the Trump administration. These serve as a cover-up for gutting the people’s social safety net, on the way to implementing brutal capitalist austerity.

Existing legal “safety net” protections have been weakened and won through decades of struggle by oppressed communities and workers’ organizing. These are the victories under attack when Trump’s white-supremacist “special adviser” Steve Bannon boasts in coded language that his plan is the “deconstruction of the administrative state.”

Right now, federal workers and the unions representing them are being hit on three fronts: wages and hiring are being frozen, worker due-process rights are being destroyed, and labor union strength is being weakened. One in five federal workers are Black (opm.gov), in a sector that has historically provided them with job security and growth.

Particularly hard hit are both Maryland and Virginia, home to approximately 300,000 federal workers in the Social Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense. President Trump’s proposed $54 billion to the DOD will not trickle down nor benefit civilian employees who work there. The money will only increase the profits and power of the military-industrial complex and the promotion of imperialist wars and invasions in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

The Department of Veterans Affairs already needs 45,000 new workers due to the injuries of soldiers who have served as cannon fodder for capitalism in recent wars. The hiring freeze hurts workers and the injured vets.

Federal worker unions are under direct attack by the administration’s proposal to do away with “official

Continued on page 4

Diversions about Russia, lies about Korea

By Fred Goldstein

March 20 — Two issues today have been brought to the forefront by the capitalist establishment. Each one aims to push the people in the U.S. along dangerous political paths.

The first is whether the Trump campaign colluded with Russia during the U.S. election.

The second is the big lie that the U.S. is under threat from north Korea. As this is being written, all eyes of the big business media are focused on congressional testimony by the heads of the two top spy agencies, FBI Director James Comey and Director of National Intelligence Mike Rogers. The two have now testified that Trump lied about being wiretapped by Obama and also affirmed that there is an ongoing investigation into whether there were connections between the Trump campaign and Russian interference in the U.S. presidential election. They are looking to see if criminal charges are warranted.

The common line of the Democratic Party leadership and much of the capitalist establishment is that the Russian government interfered with “our democracy” by influencing the election in favor of Trump. The united front between the FBI and the DNI during the congressional hearing might very well be the beginning of an attempt to severely undermine Trump. This would sharply accelerate the political crisis in U.S. capitalist

Continued on page 4

DEFEND MIGRANT WORKERS

LABOR RIGHTS = CIVIL RIGHTS

March on Mississippi

INTERNATIONAL WORKING WOMEN’S DAY

CUBA’S EBOLA FIGHTERS

MIDWEST SOCIALIST CONFERENCE
By Sehu Kessa Saa Tabansi

Revolutionary greetings to all the workers worldwide! When does being a laborer and doing right become the wrong thing to do? The answer is, apparently, when you are a prisoner working inside a prison law library in Pennsylvania.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, prisoner work, if you can even call it that, pays as low as $0.37 per hour (six hours a day, five days a week), and as high as $0.42 per hour. A prisoner can do that math and see that the money is not the reason why incarcerated men, women and children do things. Some people in life simply enjoy being of assistance to other people, regardless of compensation. And some people are excellent at their profession and take genuine pride in helping others, regardless of compensation.

It seems that case of Mr. Jules Jetté, a middle-aged French-Canadian man who has dedicated his legal knowledge to explaining the law’s complex intricacies to a large variety of prisoners, including the illiterate, mentally challenged, emotionally disturbed, juveniles, elderly, handicapped and many more. Now, he himself is in need of help!

Mr. Jetté, who has been incarcerated at State Correctional Institution Houtzdale for over 15 years and who has worked faithfully as a legal aid worker for his fellow prisoners during nine years, is now facing job removal. That’s right, I said job removal — for being of selfless service to others. What other reason would the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections have for removing him from his position of service to prisoners? Mr. Jetté has not had any misconduct reports as a prisoner his entire time here, no exaggeration. He does not even have any negative block card (housing unit) reports at all, which is something very hard to do under imprisonment for any length of time.

Sadly, the Department of Corrections does not care about the work Mr. Jetté does. Quite a few prisoners that have been interviewed by Mr. Jetté have said that he has brought a level of respect that he has not found anywhere else. He and his fellow prisoners have found a partner in Mr. Jetté, a partner who has not degraded people because of their nationality, sexual or gender identity or disabilities — all are tools the ruling class uses to keep us apart. They ruthlessly super-explode resources so some in order to better exploit us all. WWP builds unity among all workers while supporting the right to self-determination. Fighting oppression is a working-class issue, which is confirmed by the many labor struggles led today by people of color, immigrants and women.

WWP has a long history of militant opposition to imperialist wars. The billionaires are bent on turning back the clock to the bad old days before socialist revolutionaries and national liberation struggles liberated territory from their grip. We’ve been in the streets to oppose every one of imperialism’s wars and aggressions.

Contact a Workers World Party branch near you:

Workers World
147 W. 24th St., 2nd Fl. New York, NY 10011
Phone: 212.627.2944
E-mail: wwp@workers.org
Web: www.workers.org

Who we are & what we’re fighting for

Hate capitalism! Workers World Party fights for a socialist society — where the wealth is socially owned and production is planned to satisfy human need. This outcome is not going to fit in some in order to better exploit us all. WWP builds unity among all workers while supporting the right to self-determination. Fighting oppression is a working-class issue, which is confirmed by the many labor struggles led today by people of color, immigrants and women.

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In solidarity with Mr. Jetté, contact:
Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf:
Phone: 717-787-2500
Fax: 717-772-8284

Mail: Office of the Governor, 150 Marcus Garvey Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120

Online: https://www.governor.pa.gov/contact/

PA Department of Corrections Secretary John Wetzel:
Email: ra-crcdcosec@pa.gov

DOC Phone: 717-772-2573

SCI Houtzdale Phone: 814-378-1000

(address calls to Barry Smith)

Sample email or letter message: Please do not allow SCI Houtzdale to fire inmate legal aid worker Jules Jetté! The service he provides, for which he is severely underpaid, is of great assistance to inmates who wish to exercise their constitutional right to redress of grievances in the courts. Save Mr. Jetté.

In the U.S.

Gov’t squeezes workers, boosts Pentagon

Diversions about Russia, lies about Korea

From a PA prison: Stop firing of legal aid prisoner

Syracuse protest defends migrant worker

Bay Area rally challenges Trump’s 2nd Muslim ban

Philadelphia: ICE abducts worker at hearing

On the picket line

Rasmea Odeh’s defense gears up for trial

Women’s hockey team unequal pay

Addie Waits Hunter: Pan-African

Hands off Syrian war, Islamophobes

Women need global opposition

Detroit WWP helps in community’s speakout

Midwest conference to build socialism

Around the world

International Women’s Day sees global actions

Protests erupt after Israel’s killing of Basal Al-Araj

London: Solidarity against racism

Caravans meet Cuba hero doctors

No ultra-right triumph in Netherlands; French vote looming

Editor

Call him by his real name

Noticias en Español

Primero de Mayo: ¡Luchar por una huelga de masas!

ICE aterrazza migranti

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**Syracuse protest defends migrant worker**

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

**Syracuse, N.Y.**

In minus-degree wind chill and blowing snow, dedicated pro-immigrant community members came out on March 15 in Syracuse and in Batavia, N.Y., to support Dolores Bustamente, who was recently detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and threatened with deportation. Bustamente faced a court hearing that day.

When Bustamente came to the U.S. with her daughter, fleeing 13 years of domestic violence, she became a farmworker to support herself. She became a board member of the Workers’ Center of Central New York (WCCNY), Las Mujeres Divi-nas, the women’s movement, the Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, the latter organizations especially supporting women farmers’ empowerment.

When New York state police turned Bustamente over to immigration authorities for a minor traffic violation in 2014, she was a leader in a successful campaign to stop New York state troopers from racially profiling and questioning a person about their citizenship.

At the Syracuse rally, Niketa Slate of WCCNY said, “Driving to work, driving your children to school, or driving your- self or a loved one to a hospital, should never end with the possibility of being separated from your family or community. The WCCNY has been doing front-line work to legalize drivers’ licenses for all, regardless of immigration status, through the campaign Green Light NY: Driving Together.”

WCCNY continues to fight for other detained migrant workers including José Coyote, who was recently detained and jailed in the Buffalo Federal Detention Center in Batavia although his case had been administratively closed in September. Like Bustamente, Coyote is a leader in his community and at the forefront of the struggle for immigrants’ and workers’ rights.

Rebecca Fuentes of the WCCNY said: “We want to send a strong message that when this administration comes for one of our friends or family, we are unit- ed to protect and defend them.”

By the end of the day, Bustamente had some months’ reprieve through a new hearing set for May. She issued a publi- c letter to her daugh- ter: “Do not let what is happening now stop you. On the contrary, may it make you stronger so that you can continue fighting for your dreams.”

**Syracuse community rallies for Dolores Bustamente and migrant neighbors**

PHOTO: WORKER CENTER OF CNY

Dolores Bustamente speaks to supporters in Batavia, N.Y.

**Bay Area rallies against Trump’s 2nd Muslim ban**

By Dave Welsh

San Francisco

On March 16, the day Trump’s sec- ond Muslim travel ban was due to take effect, more than 500 people rallied at the Federal Building in San Francisco to denounce it. The action was called by the Arab Resource & Organizing Cen- ter, along with its partners in a coalition called Third World Resistance. Organizers passed out an AROC state- ment demanding and asserting our Freedom to Stay, Freedom to Move, and Freedom to Return for Arabs and Mus- lims targeted by this ban, but also for all oppressed communities threatened by the Trump administration.” This ex- tremely clarifying statement linked, in a new way, the demands of immigrants with the struggles of workers and all the oppressed here and abroad. Here is the statement:

**Freedom to Stay**

**Migrant Rights.** When we demand the Freedom to Stay for Arabs and Mus- lims, we stand in solidarity with all im- migrants regardless of documentation or place of origin.

**Indigenous Struggle.** The Trump admin- istration’s commitment to build pipelines and repress Native American movements such as Standing Rock is a continuation of the settler colonialism this country was founded on. We stand with Indigenous communities every- where struggling for their Freedom to Stay and for their land.

**Fight Gentrification.** In our very own Bay Area, we fight for our Freedom to Stay in our homes and communities, against the gentrification and displac- ement facing poor, working class and peo- ple of color everywhere.

**Freedom to Move**

**No Ban, No Wall.** We join with the millions demanding No Ban, No Wall be- cause we believe that people should have the Freedom to Move without borders or racist xenophobic immigration policies.

**Sanctuary Everywhere.** From those fleeing wars in the Arab World, to those seeking escape from U.S. backed economic policies that have devastated Latin America, Asia and the African Con- tinent, we fight for the Freedom to Move. End Israel’s Apartheid. Just as Trump’s executive order restricts Arabs and Muslims from coming across the U.S. border for ‘security’ reasons, Israel’s apartheid wall and network of military checkpoints restrict the daily movement of Palestinians. We fight for the Freedom to Move, both here, and for those facing occupation, apartheid and settler colo- nialism in Palestine.

**Freedom to Return**

End Imperialism. The six Muslim majority countries listed in this ban have all been targeted by the U.S. through bombing, military intervention and sanctions, resulting in forced migration and people becoming refugees. We stand against imperialism and for our people’s Freedom to Return to their lives and homes with dignity.

**Free Our People.** Our struggle against the 2nd Muslim ban is part of the struggle against the repressive imprisonment system that targets work- ing class and communities of color. We fight for imprisoned people to have the Freedom to Return to their families and communities.

**Refugees Right of Return.** From Syria to Haiti to Palestine, we fight for Indigenous people and migrants every- where to be able to travel, visit and return to their homelands. We fight for their right and Freedom to Return.

**Philadelphia**

**ICE abducts worker at hearing**

By Cornelius Moody

Philadelphia

Marcos, a migrant worker living in Philadelphia, was stolen from his family and community on March 16. Marcos reported for his mandatory parole hearing with full knowledge that two of his friends had been abducted by Immigration, Customs and Enforcement the previous week after their probation hearings. He contacted the New Sanctuary Movement, which put out a call for an action in support of the trial he faced. About two dozen people were able to be with him, offering words and prayers of encouragement, as he entered the build- ing.

Security in the building treated NSM members harshly, preventing them from recording the lobby and cross- and eventually ejecting them from the building. They did not even allow a member to stay with him to act as an interpreter.

While some demonstrators remained in front of the building to raise awareness of what was happening, part of the group gathered around the back exit in prepara- tion for the possibility that Marcos would be “discreetly” removed and sent to an ICE detention center.

About an hour after he entered the building, I saw Marcos briefly once again. We made eye contact as he sat hand- cuffed in the back of an unmarked, mid- night blue SUV. The drivers smiled and waved before driving away with Marcos in custody.

**Sanctuary** city cooperates with ICE

The practice of seizing migrants in Philadelphia is a very visible trend. The Philly Coalition for REAL Justice has been pursuing an ongoing campaign to end the Philadelphia Police Department’s stop-and-frisk policy. Mayor Kenney has admitted the practice is unconstitutional, denounced it public- ly and gathered support for his campaign by promising to end it.

However, after all these promises and over a year in office, Kenney has yet to introduce any additional form of ac- countability or legislation to end stop- and-frisk. Police officers have continued harassing Black and Brown communities unhindered by Kenney’s empty words. Kenney’s two-faced treatment of the city’s “sanctuary” status is more of the same.

The overlap of conditions facing Black, Brown and migrant communities is no coincidence. The struggles of different communities in the working class have similar patterns because our enemy is shared. The only way we will truly end harassment and detention from cops and ICE is through solidarity and prin- cipled unity. The only way we can attain true victories for our communities is with the support of our comrades — not crumbs and empty promises from politi- cians.
Russians for a new round of nuclear arms negotiations. The new round may not be a full-fledged return to the negotiating table, but it is the first step towards a more stable and predictable security environment. The United States and Russia have both expressed an interest in reducing their nuclear arsenals and improving their military-to-military cooperation. This could lead to a reduction in the number of nuclear weapons and a decrease in the risk of an accidental or unauthorized launch.

The Kremlin has also taken steps to improve relations with other countries. For example, Russia has worked to build a closer relationship with China, which is an important partner for the Russian economy. The two countries have signed a number of agreements, including a deal to build a new gas pipeline and a joint venture to develop a new satellite system.

Despite these efforts, however, Russia continues to face significant challenges. The country is still struggling with high levels of poverty and unemployment, and it is facing a number of political and social problems. The government is also facing pressure to reduce its defense budget, which is a significant challenge given the country's long tradition of military might.

In conclusion, the Russian Federation is a complex and dynamic country. It is facing a number of challenges, but it is also adapting and changing to meet the needs of the 21st century. The Kremlin has a number of important goals, including improving the country's economy, reducing its dependence on oil and gas, and increasing its influence in the world. It is clear that the Russian Federation will continue to play a significant role in world affairs for many years to come.
Nissan workers want the right to vote union

“Labor Rights Equal Civil Rights” was the theme of a historic “March on Mississippi” held March 4 outside the Nissan plant in Canton. Over 5,000 people from labor and the community turned out to demand “Stop voter suppression!” Workers want the right to vote in a union representation election free of intimidation. Over 80 percent of the plant’s workforce is African-American, and 45 percent of the facility, this is one of only three without union representation; the other two are in Smyrna and Decherd, Tenn.

Martha Grevatt interviewed two leaders of the United Auto Workers’ Volunteer Organizing Committee, Morris Mock and Ernest Whitfield, about the need for a union and the way forward after the hugely successful march. Both have 15 years in the plant.

WW: What is the role of a volunteer organizer?
MM: The function is to educate, get cards signed and educate our co-workers. The main thing now is making sure workers know what a union is about and what we can and can’t do so they will make an informed decision when the anti-union campaign starts up. The main thing we are trying to do is get the most fair election possible from Nissan. [Nissan CEO Carlos] Ghosn says he respects the question. The question is why not, why not Canton, Miss.?
WW: When did you realize you needed a union?
MM: The realization of this is what I first got on board. I came on board because of what I seen happening with my co-workers. There’s no checks and balances with management; they make decisions as they see fit. With safety they do what they figure is industry standards but they were not up to par as far as [Occupational Safety and Health Administration] standard. We knew we were going to go on leave; when they come back they get put back on the same job where they got injured. Insurance cost was going up and since 2000 they have a points system. You have to get 100 points to get 100 percent coverage; with 75 points you have to pay 25 percent. There are different ways to get your points; walk so many steps per day, complete a questionnaire, different activities, diet, exercise, etc. It can be hard to keep 100 points if you are a union worker. WW: When did you start to try to unionize?
MM: One of the workers called the UAW [the United Auto Workers] in 2003 and we had organizers on the ground trying to mobilize and find out the problems. We began the card check [getting union authorization cards signed] in 2002.

WW: Why do workers need a union?
MM: A union protects us by having a way to collectively talk to the company and to speak to issues that management brushes under the rug like health and safety. To protect ourselves against false drug test results, you’re terminated. Unions protect you from false drug test results, you’re terminated.

WW: What has the company done to get in your way of getting a union?
MM: We have Kelly workers, which are temp workers. Any new worker is subject to an anti-union threat to a worker, Willard Wells. The NLRB agreed the [National Labor Relations Board] has said Nissan has been using intimidation, and the mom still questions, “What happened?” The children are saying, “Where’s my dad?” It was a civil rights violation, and then an anti-union issue. Like Nissan are drawn to poor people and cheap labor, it is still a civil rights fight for equity on the job. We had a worker’s fingers cut off. OSHA investigated, they see it. We had four OSHA claims in past few weeks. Safety and all of these things and respect of the working class, whether slave labor or child labor or poor labor.

WW: What has the company done to get in your way of the plant being closed the day of the march?
MM: They closed the factory and even got maintenance technicians out. Normally, maintenance never takes a day off. Nissan lied, saying sales goals were met, but statistics and their computers show they increased the line speed to make up for Saturday. The normal workweek is five days so why are we still working 6 to 7 days after the march? They didn’t want a visual, for workers to see what was going on. The march was during lunch break, so they would have seen us protesting. It was a strategic move, but with national and local media coverage, it didn’t help their situation. It made them look scared.

WW: Was it a historic march?
MM: Yes. We’ve never marched on labor here in Mississippi in this magnitude. This will go down as one of the historic labor protests, that is, in terms of working-class expectations. Companies should know we want to be treated just as any other factor in the world. We need to be treated equally.

EW: The truth, it was historic in its nature. The fact is that the issue with Nissan is a microcosm of what’s going on in Mississippi, with many companies experiencing the same type of disparities. It’s historic in its terms of it’s going to weigh heavy in us getting this election because we will be the first transnational automaker to be unionized in the United States.

WW: What are the next steps going forward?
MM: Right now, the main thing is to get all the cards signed so we can have a group signed up. We’re trying to get over 90 percent to file [for an NRLB election] because we understand periodically you may lose support because of intimidation. We get [those who signed cards in the past] to sign authorization cards again. In the process we are getting new signers; those numbers are looking extremely well. People were losing hope, but since the march, people have hope and realize we mean business.

Marxism, reparations & the Black Freedom Struggle

An anthology of writings from Workers World newspaper edited by Monica Moorehead.

Race and the Economy

Black Labor from Chattel Slavery to Wage Slavery

Sam Marcy

Black Youth: Resistance & Repression

Lati Lavell Doyal

The Struggle for Socialism is Key

R. Westley Moore

Domestic Workers United

Demand an End to Disparate Impact and Gender-Biased Pay

A detailed study by the Economic Policy Institute, titled “Diversity in the New York City Union and Nionox Construction Sector,” showed that Black and Latinx workers advanced in the NYC construction industry between 2006 and 2015 thanks to unions. Not only did the number of Black and Latinx workers accepted for apprenticeships grow compared to 20 years ago, but they were paid more and had access to union security that helps members secure health care and retirement benefits they need to support their families.

Boston public school teachers protest as talks lag

After 15 months of failed contract negotiations, Boston public school teachers are turning up the heat on the Boston Public School District. On March 10, teachers, who are 76 percent women and are represented by the Boston Teachers Union, protested outside schools across the city to demand a fair contract.

The teachers have been working without a contract since August. “We’re fighting for working conditions that support our most vulnerable students, reducing class sizes in schools with the highest needs and providing paid family leave for all our teachers,” noted btu.org.

The BPUSD has dug in and refused to provide support for students with special needs or to guarantee equal pay for workers on omous schools. The district even went so far as to demand that workers get a second medical opinion before going on family leave! (dgbt.com, March 12)

The union is encouraging members and supporters to protest outside a BPUSD budget meeting on March 22. “We’ll be there to let the committee and others know that we are determined to obtain a fair contract settlement,” said BTU President Richard Stutman.

Support the Coal Miners Protection Act!

If Congress fails to pass the Coal Miners Protection Act by April 30, about 32,000 retired union miners and widows of retirees will lose their pension and health care benefits. The miners, who spent their lives working in terrible conditions and sacrificed their health in the process, took lower wages to secure a healthy retirement. Now that the companies they worked for have gone bankrupt. And in the process, took lower wages to secure a healthy retirement. After 15 months of failed contract negotiations, Boston public school teachers are turning up the heat on the Boston Public School District. On March 10, teachers, who are 76 percent women and are represented by the Boston Teachers Union, protested outside schools across the city to demand a fair contract.

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Unions help Blacks, Latinx advance in NYC construction industry

A detailed study by the Economic Policy Institute, titled “Diversity in the New York City Union and Nionox Construction Sector,” showed that Black and Latinx workers advanced in the NYC construction industry between 2006 and 2015 thanks to unions. Not only did the number of Black and Latinx workers accepted for apprenticeships grow compared to 20 years ago, but they were paid more and had access to union security that helps members secure health care and retirement benefits they need to support their families.

The study concluded that “a significant transformation now seems to be happening.” (epi.org, March 20)
By Kathy Durkin

Following the successful demonstrations on Jan. 21 — when 5 million women and their supporters in the U.S. and 40 global cities expressed solidarity and resistance to racist, anti-woman President Donald Trump — globally coordinated protests were held for March 8, International Women’s Day.

The call went out for an International Women’s Strike, many called it “A Day Without A Woman.” Some call signers said events would not promote so-called “pro-corporate feminism,” but rather would kick-off a new anti-racist, anti-imperialist, multigendered, and anti-heterosexist feminist movement.

This mobilization posed the question of whether capitalism can support real gender equality. It cannot. The system is based on racism, national oppression, women’s oppression, homogeneous, global theft of resources and exploitation of workers.

Corporate globalization impoverishes and forces women and girls, who are 70 percent of the world’s poorest people. Women migrants face abuse. U.S./NATO wars devastate women and their families, and end the lives of imperialist-caused wars and poverty.

These horrific conditions necessitate increased solidarity with working and oppressed women abroad. This is true to IWD’s legacy as intended by its socialist founders, led by Clara Zetkin of Germany, in 1909.

The global strike took place in more than 50 counties, with various themes and demands. Many actions focused on the gender pay gap and misogynist violence, including in France, Spain and Italy, 20,000 marched in Rome. The government of Iceland mandated pay equity for all workers. Some 1,000 childcare workers walked off the job in Australia.

In England, women protested government plans to increase women’s retirement age and cut services for domestic violence survivors. Demands for reproductive rights and health care prevailed in Ireland, where women stopped traffic in Dublin calling for the repeal of the abortion ban.

Women marched in Japan, Thailand, India, and Indonesia. A major issue was sexual abuse and misogynist violence. In Dhaka, Bangladesh, women garment workers also called for equal treatment and improved working conditions. Women in Seoul, South Korea called for an end to 將 women and reproductive rights and stopping gender discrimination. Their signs read, “3 O’Clock. Stop,” referring to the gender pay gap; women say they work for free after pay.

Gabriela Women’s Party and the Gabriela National Alliance led protests throughout the Philippines, criticizing President Rodrigo Duterte’s failure to improve women’s lives. They marched to the U.S. Embassy in Manila with a banner that read, “Women of the world unite! Resist against U.S. Imperialism.” Outside the presidential palace, a large rally demanded jobs, land, justice and peace.

Latin America and the Caribbean

In Quito, Ecuador, a march of 10,000 women acknowledged the thousands of women who suffered in the 1999 banking crisis and called for social justice. They denounced presidential, government and banker Guillermo Lasso as an accomplice in the banking crisis.

Erika Toisa, a youth from the Afro-descendant province of Esmeraldas, told Telesur, “We are women who struggle, revolutionaries, so we demand respect and our place.” (March 8)

In Indonesia, women who have “proven to be strong and resilient in the face of challenges and triumphs.” The system is based on racism, national oppression, women’s oppression, homogeneous, global theft of resources and exploitation of workers.

In Turkey, thousands of women marched to demand jobs, land, justice and peace.

The African National Congress celebrated the achievements of women, thanks to the policies of the ANC, “working with the people of South Africa to dismember the patriarchal structures, and accelerate gender parity and economic inclusion.”

The Congress of South African Trade Unions called for global economies to focus on “economic redistributive measures ... to ensure the poor, mostly women, are empowered to access decent jobs and to live decent lives with decent benefits and comprehensive social security nets.” COSATU called on governments to end violence, poverty, workplaces abusive to women, gender violence, trafficking and other inequities.

The African Union said it is time to “appropriate the significant contributions that African women have made to the continent’s development and especially the fight against colonialism, the elimination of apartheid and eradication of gender inequalities, discrimination and injustices against women.”

From Yemen to the Philippines

In other IWD events, women are not just outside U.N. headquarters in Sana’a, Yemen’s capital, against the U.S.-backed Saudi coalition’s brutal war in Yemen, which has killed civilians and destroyed homes, hospitals and infrastructure.

Yemeni human rights activist Mouna Al-Iryani stressed, “We came out today to send a message to the United Nations and the whole world to stop their blockade of Yemen and let the Yemeni people live. Yemeni women have suffered enough.” (Al-masdarnews, March 8)

Hundreds of Palestinian women marched to the U.N. office in Gaza, calling for the agency to pressure U.S.-led Israeli occupation troops to stop violations against Palestinian women. They honored the 44 Palestinian women and 12 female children, now brutally held in Israeli jail. Israel has imprisoned tens of thousands of Palestinian women since its occupation began in 1967. (Addameer, March 7)

In Istanbul, Turkey, tens of thousands of women marched for their rights; many opposed President Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s expansion of powers. Organized by women’s rights groups, participants included LGBTQ individuals and youth. Kurdish Peoples’ Democratic Party members attended; some of their leaders are imprisoned.

Women marched in Japan, Thailand, India, and Indonesia. A major issue was sexual abuse and misogynist violence. In Dhaka, Bangladesh, women garment workers also called for equal treatment and improved working conditions. Women in Seoul, South Korea called for an end to gender discrimination. Their signs read, “3 O’Clock. Stop,” referring to the gender pay gap; women say they work for free after pay.

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Thousands of women, including Indigenous activists, marched through Caracas, Venezuela, to celebrate the inclusion of legendary Indigenous warrior Jefa Paucana and close Mida de la guerra. Women shut down a main avenue in San Juan during “Women’s Week.” They also tried to shut down the Uده in the Dominican Republic, a site of many banks, to oppose their squeeze.
Rasmea Odeh's defense gears up for trial

By Ava Lipatti

The legal defense team representing Palestinian activist Rasmea Odeh, including Michael Deutsch and Jim Fennerty, have filed important motions in anticipation of her trial on May 30. Odeh, who was exiled from her village in Palestine by Israeli forces in 1948 and again in 1967, was "convicted" by an Israeli military court in 1969 for bombings in 1969. This conviction was based on a false confession Odeh made after she was physically, psychologically and sexually tortured by Israeli military officers for weeks. She served 10 years in Israeli prison, where she was subjected to harsh living conditions and brutal treatment. In 2003, Odeh was arrested in her Chicago home by agents of the Department of Homeland Security because she failed to disclose her 1969 conviction on her immigration application. When her case went to trial, the Israeli military court conviction was allowed to be entered into evidence, however, despite being documented by the United Nations, Odeh's testimony about her torture was barred from the trial. Also barred was the testimony of clinical psychologist Dr. Mary Fabri, who had diagnosed Odeh with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Odeh was convicted in the unjust trial; in March 2015, she was sentenced to 18 months in prison and subsequent deportation. However, she remained free on bond due to the efforts of her supporters. Since then, an appeals court has affirmed that Odeh suffers from PTSD, and thus her right to a full defense was violated. The appeals court overturned the original decision, forcing a retrial.

The defense team adds new allegations to the indictment on Dec. 13, the "crimes" she confessed to after being subjected to torture constitute "terrorist acts". And second, she failed to disclose a supposed association with a "designated terrorist organization." This brings the severity of the case far beyond imaginary fraud.

Odeh's defense team filed a motion on Jan. 31 to dismiss this new, politically motivated indictment on the grounds that it significantly broadens the scope of the case and that it was filed beyond the statute of limitations on the alleged 2004 immigration offense.

During the week of March 13, attorneys representing Odeh filed new motions in an effort to force the court to consider the role of torture in Odeh's case. Mary Fabri, who had diagnosed Odeh with post-traumatic stress disorder,

Women’s hockey team threatens boycott over unequal pay

By Monica Moorehead

March 20 — As everyone knows, the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback, Colin Kaepernick, both sat and knelted in protest during the playing of the national anthem during the 2016 National Football League season to bring attention to racism oppression, especially police brutality.

This individual act of heroism helped to elevate the Black Lives Matter movement to an unprecedented level of visibility and solidarity among broader sectors of the U.S. population, reminiscent of the late, great Muhammad Ali, who also stood against the Vietnam War.

To this day, Kaepernick's protest continues to have a social impact on other important issues exposing inequality in the U.S. This includes the struggling wage gap against pay inequity when it comes to female and male athletes.

In a major development, members of the U.S. women's hockey team announced on March 15 that they will be boycotting the upcoming world championship games scheduled March 31 through April 7 in Plymouth, Mich.

This women's team is currently ranked number one in the world. Since women's hockey came on the world scene in 1999, the U.S. team has won seven gold medals, along with different medals in every Olympic game. According to ESPN.com, USA Hockey, sponsor of the women's and men's teams, reported a gross revenue of $42 million in 2014-15, and paid its expenses of staff compensation of $4,020,559 in salaries and bonuses for director Dave Ogrean to $250,000 to $300,000 and five assistant men's coaches. Those players viewed as average or below average receive no more than $7,000 a month from the USOC.

How do these exorbitant salaries and bonuses compare to those of women players, whom fans turn out to see excel? Male NHL players also are USOC employees who pay only for six months out of every four years. They pay us $1,000 per month in those six months. So, for the other 42 months we don't get paid at all by USA Hockey, Jocelyne Lamoureux-Davidson, a two-time Olympic silver medalist, told March 13 was a "full-time job and not to get paid is a financial burden and stress on the players, obviously." This amounts to a measly $6,600 per year! Plus, when their team trains in preparation for the Olympic games. During the rest of the three-and-a-half years of training, the United States Olympic Committee can supplement their salaries. But that is capped at $24,000 depending on the degree of "accomplishing certain performance benchmarks. In other words, the USOC has various tiers of wages, like many other corporations. Those players gambling on average or below average receive no more than $7,000 a month from the USOC.

It should be noted that many USA Hockey male players also are members of professional hockey teams, making at least six-figure salaries, if not more.

Besides the terrible pay, women players have complained to USA Hockey officials about going to use their own apparatus for training; horrid, cramped, unsanitary living quarters resulting in spider bites; and strenuous travel that none of their male counterparts are asked to endure to get to competitions.

Instead of coming to terms with the women's demands, USA Hockey officials are threatening to replace the women's team. This amounts to management saying it will call in scab labor.

The women hockey players have also complained about goalies having to use one American player's attire, which costs $1,500 per player. A million per year has been publicly earmarked to support boys participating in the national hockey team development program. There is no equivalent program for girls.

Is this just another example exposing the hypocrisy of an organization that is owned and run by U.S. athletes cannot make them immune to all the levels of institutionalized inequality, be that racism, sexism, homophobia or discrimination against those with disabilities.

Addie Waite's Run: Pan African and English whites. The Congress therefore, which met in 1919, was confined to those representatives of African groups who had happened to be stationed in Europe. Of the 57 delegates from 15 countries, nine were from African countries with 12 delegates represented by the U.S. and four from the West Indies. (Andrew G. Paschal, editor, "A.W.E.R.B. Do Bois Reader," Macmillan, 1971) Subsequently, Huntton remained active with the NACW and became an official of the NAACP. As a member of the executive board of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, she traveled to Haiti after the 1926 earthquake. Afterward, she wrote a condemnation of U.S. occupation of the island and advocated for Haiti's independence.

Addie Waites Hunton died on June 22, 1943, after a life of activism.
Protests erupt after Israel’s killing of Basil al-Araj

By Joe Catron

Protests erupted worldwide after Israel’s killing of Basil al-Araj, a prominent Palestinian activist, during a predawn raid on a West Bank home the morning of March 6. Basil, 31 years old, returned the invaders’ fire and fended them off for two hours, reportedly succumbing to their gunfire and rockets only after exhausting his supply of ammunition.

Within hours of his death, thousands of Palestinians took to the streets of Gaza, Ramallah, el-Bireh and Dheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem in Palestine; Haifa in Israel; and Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in Lebanon.

Over the following days, demonstrations spread to Arab and international cities, including Amman, Beirut, Berlin, Brussels, Cairo, London, Rhad, Tunis and Vienna.

The Palestinian Youth Movement organized protests March 15 outside the offices of the Palestinian Liberation Organization’s delegation to the U.S. in Washington, D.C., and the Palestinian Mission to the U.S. New York’s Upper East Side.

Meanwhile, Israel played a grisly game with Basil’s body, promising to return it to his grieving family on March 30, then refusing to do so for another week. Israel sought to impose restrictions on the time and location of his funeral as conditions for releasing his remains.

Only late in the afternoon of March 17, did Israel finally deliver its hostage, by then dead more than 11 days, for a delayed but momentous burial.

Thousands of Palestinian mourners descended on Basil’s hometown of al-Walaja near Bethlehem. Meanwhile, Samidoun, Palestinian Prisoners Solidarity Network held a rally outside the British Embassy in Manhattan’s Union Square to remember Basil and protest the store’s sale of products made by Hewlett Packard, a major supplier of the Israeli occupation forces who killed him.

A martyr’s deed

The violent deaths of Palestinians at Israeli hands, while each is tragic, are not unusual. In 2016 alone, individual Israelis or — much more commonly — agents of the Israeli state killed at least 109 Palestinians, most of them men younger than Basil. (maannews.com)

But among the untold thousands of martyrs remembered over nearly a century of Palestinian struggle, several factors set Basil apart as an inspiration for mobilization.

While resistance fighters often keep low profiles out of necessity, Basil’s background in popular campaigns — includ- ing the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement and the “Palestinian Freedom Ride” protest of settler buses in 2011, as well as his prolific writing and commentary — made him well-known among Palestinian and international activists alike.

His final moments, after fighting back for hours against overwhelming odds, inspired many, due in no small part to his own words of seeming or actual anticipation.

“The biggest insult against a martyr would be to say that he was obedient, submissive and polite in the face of his killer,” Basil once said (electronicintifada.net, March 14). He asked in his will, “Is there anything which is more eloquent and clearer than a martyr’s deed?” (maannews.com, March 6)

Basil’s earlier imprisonment and torture by the Palestinian Authority, which led inevitably to his pursuit and killing by Israel, made his death a potent catalyst for outrage.

Starting late between March and early April 2016, Basil and five other young Palestinian men were arrested by the PA security forces and imprisoned in its Beitunia jail.

Palestinian Authority President Mahmout Abbas boasted of the arrests, telling Der Spiegel, “Just a couple of days ago, three young men were tracked down and arrested. They were planning an attack. In this context, our security cooperation with Israel is functioning well.” (April 18)

Amid Palestinian protests and reports of their torture, the six launched a hunger strike on Aug. 28, forcing the PA to release them 10 days later.

OslO regime does not represent us

Israeli occupation forces quickly arrested four of them — Seif al-Idrissi, Mohammad al-Salameen, Mohammed Harb and Haithem Siy- aj — ordering them into “administrative detention” without charge or trial under terms similar to their PA incarceration. The PA continued to press its own charges of unlicensed possession of weapons for resistance operations against all six, including Ali Dar al-Sheikh, the only one of the group not currently imprisoned in Basil despite his death.

As demonstrators continued to gather outside the PA court in Ramallah on March 12, BDS National Committee member Omar Aaasaf said, “We are protesting against the Pales- tian Authority’s imprisonment of Basil in the past and today wants to judge him.” (aljazeera.com, March 12)

Palestinian Authority police soon att- acked the growing protest as well as Pal- estinian journalists covering it, arresting several and injuring at least 11. Included were former “administrative detainee” and celebrated hunger-striker Khader Adnan and Mahmoud al-Araj, Basil’s be- reaved father.

The PA court finally dropped Basil’s charge later that day after a formal pre- sentation of his death certificate. But it re- fused to do the same for the four in Israeli prisons, reasoning they might be released before the court reconvenes on April 30.

The PA attacks infuriated Palestinians across the political spectrum, sparking widespread calls for Abbas’ resignation and an end to the PA’s “security coordina- tion” with Israel.

Khudra Jarraz, a leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, announced that the party would boycott West Bank municipal elections in protest. (pflp.ps, March 24) Hamas spokesman Hazem Qassem called the attacks “a na- tional crime that entails accountability.” (Maamas.ps, March 15)

A global network of Palestinian activ- ists called for demonstrations against “security coordination” on April 17, the annual Palestinian Prisoners’ Day and 40 days after Basil’s death.

“The Oslo regime does not represent us,” their statement read. “No is the time for us to come together and rebuild our collective struggle for the liberation of all of Palestine.” (tinyurl.com/3v0d28c)


Solidarity against racism

More than 30,000 people protested against racism in London on March 18. The demonstration took place within the framework of the “Day Against Racism” set by the United Nations for March 21. People in Athens, Berlin and Vienna also took to the streets on the same issue. Or- ganizers said they were in solidarity with rally held in London on March 18 and “required” to sta- bilize the region as U.S. officials anticip- ated that “America’s allies” — i.e., anti- Assad rebels — will need assistance from the U.S. military to establish “Syrian-led peacekeeping efforts” in the area. (Army Times, March 9)

This is a frank admission that U.S. troops will not be going anywhere even after the Islamic State group is removed, despite the fact that the presence of the US is the only justification the U.S. military has offered for its technically illegal pres- ence within Syria.

Recent propaganda barrages from groups like the “White Helmets,” a sup- posed nongovernmental organization in Syria which is actually a tool of Western propaganda directed by a non-Arab “mis- sionary” operating out of Britain; and a now debunked report by Amnesty Interna- tional accusing Syria of “war crimes,” (The Daily Beast, March 11) are an increasingly familiar plot against the one which happened here in Rochester.

The protest received many honks of protest from passersby in cars and an overall friendly reception, although cov- erage by the local mainstream press was notably absent. “People of color and peace-loving people everywhere must be alert and prepared to counter the U.S. war drive, which has brought regime change in Syria and complete domination of the Middle East as its ultimate goal.”

Hands off Syria! Protest war, Islamophobia

By Gene Clancy

Amidst swirling snow and freezing tem- peratures, demonstrators gathered at the Liberty Pole in downtown Rochester on March 18 to protest the escalating U.S. war and invasion of Syria.

The protest was called by the Roch- ester International Action Center and endorsed by the U.S. Peace Council, the United Nations Anticor Coalition, and the Hands Off Syria Coalition. Several local progressive and community groups also participated.

The demonstration was part of a na- tionwide series of protests and other ac- tivities called for the week of March 11-18 to focus attention on the blatant interven- tion and outright invasion of U.S. forces in Syria and the Middle East.

Within the past two weeks, aggression by U.S. and its allies has increased sharply. Four hundred Marines and their equipment have been deployed in Syria, and the Pentagon is considering sending 4,000 more troops. (Washington Post, Mar. 15) The total is expected to reach 3,000. On March 9, Gen. Joseph Votel said that U.S. forces were “required” to sta- bilize the region as U.S. officials anticip- ated that “America’s allies” — i.e., anti-
Caravansistas meet Cuba hero doctors

By Cheryl LaBash

On July 22, 2016, the 27th Pastors for Peace Friendship Caravan participants met in Cuba with doctors who were veterans of the international campaign against Ebola in the West African countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, plus Cuba — in solidarity with Cuba, challenging the U.S. travel ban. To volunteer or apply to be a caravansista, contact friendshipcaravan@focoeurs.org or 212-420-5757, ext. 6.

The following excerpts were transcribed from a video produced by Joe Friendly for IPCC/Pastors for Peace.

Dr. Jorge Delgado, deputy director of the Central Unit for Medical Cooperation, who led the brigade in Sierra Leone: [Cuba has been in 177 countries of the world in these 55 years, with more than 150,000 persons involved who work in the health care sectors. Today we have 49,500 health workers in 62 countries. We have a special program in support of Venezuela that has been going on for a number of years.

Cuban medical collaboration has always been solidarity, mainly in support of the people. In 2005, when Hurricane Katrina destroyed New Orleans, we proposed to the U.S. administration that we would send a medical brigade.

More than 10,000 health sector workers answered Fidel’s call to form a special medical brigade to go to the U.S., named “Henry Reeve” after a young person from New York City who fought for Cuba’s indepe

Dr. Enrique Betancourt

We know [Ebola] is a critical disease, many die, but they should die with dignity, with someone to care for them until the end. That was the Cuban medical brigade.

We were able to reduce the mortality rate from its height of 85-90 percent. In Sierra Leone, we lowered that to 32-36 percent. So many lives were saved — the product of the medical attention of Cubans and the doctors and nurses of other countries, too.

Dr. Enrique Betancourt, who served in Liberia: Everybody knows the enormous tradition of solidarity our country has had. In my case, I also had this tradition at home. My parents were among the first doctors and nurses who in the 1970s helped with the spread of the deadly epidemic.

The New York launch of the next Pastors for Peace Caravan will be held on April 15 at 7 p.m. at Holyrood Episcopal Church Iglesia Santa Cruz, 715 West 179 St.
As dissatisfaction with this stagnating capitalist system has grown in most of the Western imperialist countries, pun- 
dits and the media have come up with a label for politicians who rail against the “establishment” and speak in the name of “the people.” That word is “populist.” But, like the politicians they pin the term on, the media are deliberately confusing the public.

 Reactionaries like Donald Trump, Geert Wilders in The Netherlands and Marine Le Pen in France aren’t populists, they’re racist demagogues.

 Populism originated in the 19th century in the United States. Here’s one short description of the Populist movement:

“The first movement of this kind was started in the 1870s, when women were suffering because of plummeting cotton prices in the South and a drought in the Great Plains. As farmers sank deeper into debt, their simmering resentments of Eastern elites were ignited, especially by bankers charging exorbitant lending rates and railroad barons charging high prices. The farmers, labor unions, and their sympathizers formed what they officially called the People’s Party but was commonly known as the Populists. The Populists felt “squeezed” by the unfettered capitalism of the Gilded Age,” says Rutgers University historian David Greenberg. The Populists wanted to nationalize railroads, break up big trusts, and get rid of the gold standard, which restricted the money supply. They also advocated an eight-hour workday, women’s suffrage, and a progressive income tax.” (theweek.com)

 Vince Copeland, a co-founder of Work- ers World Party along with Sam Marcy and Arlene Morehead and Stephanie Trombley

Women resist global oppression

Call him by his real name

Detroit WWP hosts women’s breakout

International Women’s Day was commemorated in Detroit on March 11 at a women’s breakout for justice and liberation, hosted by the women of Workers World Party. The event started with a delicious meal and desserts prepared by men comrades and friends. This was a program where only women, including trans, nonbinary, and gender-nonconforming women, could speak on whatever topic or struggle they chose. The men listened, learned and played a supportive role.

Kayla Pauli, a skilled-trades unionist and Gabriela USA member, presented a slideshow on women resisting militarism and imperialism from Florida to the Philippines. Leilani Dowell, WWP managing editor, chaired the forum.

Special to Workers World

The New York City branch of Work- ers World Party held a special forum on March 18 in honor of International Working Women’s Month. The theme of the forum was “Global Women’s Fight- back against Trumpism.” Workers World Party members Teresa Gutierrez, Monica Moorehead and Stephanie Trombley spoke on migrant women and May Day, solidarity with Black and trans women’s lives, and standing against militarism and imperialism.

women’s breakout

Women change history: BUILD WORKERS WORLD!

Workers World always commemorates the socialists holiday of International Women’s Day, March 8, with a roundup of women’s protests for freedom, justice and equality the world over. While all issues are women’s issues, WW focuses this year on women bearing the brunt of Trump’s racist, sexist, xenophobic agenda, such as working-class immigrant women being deported for the “crime” of daring to cross borders in search of work so they can provide for their families.

Women are already in motion around the globe this year. On Jan. 21, there were more than 600 women’s marches, over 5 million strong in total. That was fol- lowed in the U.S. by “A Day without Im- migrants” on Feb. 16, when thousands upon thousands of workers and students walked out across the country, demand- ing their rights. An unprecedented In- ternational Women’s Strike occurred on March 8, with actions in more than 50 countries. And then there is May 1 — May Day — with WW joining the call for a global workers’ strike.

As Marxists, we strive not just to hon- or history but to make it — to bring about major changes needed to put the workers and the oppressed first instead of last. Struggle is the only way to bring about change. Like the struggle of the Black Lives Matter movement, started by wom- en and transgender activists, which boldly counters racism and demands redress for centuries of oppression. Women are also powering the fight for $15 an hour and a union. That’s because two-thirds of low-wage workers are women, often women of color and mothers solely responsible for their families.

If you appreciate WW’s year-round coverage of struggles that assert and ad- vance the rights of women, it’s time to join the Workers World Supporter Pro- gram and help build the newspaper. We established the WWSP some 40 years ago so readers could invest in the paper and promote working-class truth needed to make revolutionary change.

You can always make a one-time contri- bution, or you can join the Workers World Supporter Program and build the paper all year long. We established the program 40 years ago in 1977 so readers could help us publish anti-racist, working-class truth and build campaigns needed to make the revolutionary change that crushes capi- talism and ushers in socialism.

Members receive a year’s subscription to WW, a monthly letter about timely issues and five free trial subscriptions to give to friends — all for a donation of $75 a year. For $100 you also get a new publication or book from World View Fo- rum. For $200 or more a year (only $25 a month), you get your pick of five books or videos from the Peoples Video Network. Write checks to Workers World and mail them, with your name and address, to 147 W. 24th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011. We also accept donations online at workers.org/donate. We’re building the revolutionary press in the U.S.
Revolutionaries from throughout the Midwest and beyond have mobilized to build and attend the fightback conference, “Resistance Against Racism, Capitalism for Socialism.” The Midwest branch of Workers World Party and the Wayne State University branch of Students for a Democratic Society are co-hosting the event March 25-26.

Registrants are from 12 U.S. states and over 20 cities. The Venezuelan consul general, Haiti’s ambassador to the U.S., and many others are speaking, including, along with many other people’s fighters, like a delegation from the Detroit School Bus Drivers Union, United Steelworkers and more.

The conference talks include: Resistance to capitalism in Detroit and beyond; solidarity with migrants under siege by ICE; a special tribute to Fidel Castro; Fight for $15 and other labor struggles; mobilizing against imperialist attacks on Africa, Yemen, Syria, China, Russia, Central and Latin America, and the anti-fascist forces in Ukraine; supporting public education; the 100th anniversary of the Red Shirt struggle and the struggles and fightback of people of color, youth, students, retirees, women, LGBTQ people and their communities.

To free all working-class and oppressed peoples

Workers World Party recently spoke to a revolutionary cadre on why they’re attending the conference. Mond Jones, a Workers World Party candidate from Detroit who is a member of the Michigan Peoples Defense Network, commented:

“As a young Black revolutionary, it is important for me not only to be at the forefront of the people’s liberation movement, but also to understand and study Marxist-Leninist theory, and connect with other organizers in the struggle. The Midwest Socialism Conference is going to link theory with praxis, with the goal of not only bringing us closer to our goal and aiding us in understanding and developing ways on how to resist and fight against police terror. Adjoa Achiaa, a Nigerian woman who fled Nigeria, spoke about community leaders and organizers in Nigeria who are on trial because they are fighting against brutal Jim Crow austerity.

“The conference talks include: Resistance to capitalism in Detroit and beyond; solidarity with migrants under siege by ICE; a special tribute to Fidel Castro; Fight for $15 and other labor struggles; mobilizing against imperialist attacks on Africa, Yemen, Syria, China, Russia, Central and Latin America, and the anti-fascist forces in Ukraine; supporting public education; the 100th anniversary of the Red Shirt struggle and the struggles and fightback of people of color, youth, students, retirees, women, LGBTQ people and their communities.

I am dissatisfied with notions that impeaching Trump or having a so-called democratic president would improve conditions of oppressed people. Black, Brown, Muslim, queer, trans, Indigenous, LGBTQ people face living under neoliberal reforms, domestically or abroad. While Bernie made socialism a hot topic, I am interested only in discussing decolonization and true revolutionary socialism. Power to the people!” (facebook.com/ChicagoWWP)

Zach Gevelinger, a WWP candidate from southwestern Wisconsin and a member of the Rockford, Ill., branch of WWP, wants to intensify that resistance:

“I am excited to be going to the Midwest Conference because I want to engage in serious dialogue about capitalism, imperialism and a Trump presidency.

Midwest conference to build socialism

Contingencia de página 12

By Workers World Staff

Midwest conference to build socialism

By Workers World Staff

apprentice and WWP youth organizer, kicked off the speakout by giving a hiking talk of the working-class and socialist origins of the United Steelworkers Union. The National Association of Retired and Active Employees, talked about community leaders making a difference. Bhajerab Shokour, a resident of Detroit, kicked off the speakout by going on ward in Iraq, spoke about the movie “Hidden Figures” and about providing youth with needed skills.

Other women talked about the impact of domestic violence and racism; Indigenous leader Berta Cáceres, who was assassinated last year in Honduras; women’s oppression in class society; why all working-class women are needed to help overthrow capitalism; keeping up the fight against foreclosures and utility shutoffs; the struggles facing transgender women; the important roles women carry out in socialist Cuba and how to help stop the U.S. blockade; and much more. Shown here are some of the participants.

Report and photos by Kris Balderas-Hamel

Clima tan terrible que muchos musulmanes que quedaron en EUA no querían quedarse en Canadá. Se ha visto un video en el que migrantes caminan por áreas boscosas del norte de Nueva York para cruzar ilegalmente a Canadá. Según varias fuentes de noticias, las personas que cruzan ilegalmente a Canadá son rechazadas en Canadá si ingresan al país “legalmente”. Sin embargo, si un migrante entra “legalmente” o “a lo regular”, la ley canadiense permite reclamar la condición de refugiado. Más de 2.000 personas han hecho esto desde la elección de Trump, muchas/con ellos con estatus legal en EUA. Esto demuestra el miedo, incluso teniendo documentos.

Condiciones empeoran para migrantes

La entidad burguesa y pro-empresaria, de análisis de los medios global Verick Maplecroft, publicó recientemente un informe titulado “Perspectivas de los Derechos Humanos 2017”. (The Guardian, 'criminales de bajo y alto calibre' para la lucha contra el traffiko aéreo y marítimo más costosas y las “redes criminales a utilizar rutas de la droga para los traficantes de personas”, dijo Soni. “Sabemos de primera mano lo que confirma el informe de Verick Maplecroft: frente a la realidad, los migrantes los hace más vulnerables al trabajador forzado, a la trata humana y a la esclavitud moderna. La criminalización masiva de Trump lleva a las/os inmigrantes a los países en el mundo se convierte cada vez más en una gran crisis humanitaria. A pesar de las políticas de terror de Trump/Bannon/ICE, esto no detendrá la migración forzada. Hasta que las políticas económicas y del exterior del imperio estadounidense sean analizadas, las/os trabajadores se verán obligados a abandonar sus tierras para poder sobre- vivir. Los medios de comunicación de terror de Trump/Bannon/ICE, esto no detendrá la migración forzada. Hasta que las políticas económicas y del exterior del imperio estadounidense sean analizadas, las/os trabajadores se verán obligados a abandonar sus tierras para poder sobre- vivir.

- The Global Class War

Some attendees are coming from being on the Midwest. Mattie Boyd, of the Midwest branch of WWP, Philadelphia branch, said, “I’m coming from Philadelphia to Detroit two of the poorest big cities in the country. The forces of racism, imperial-
¡Proletarios y oprimidos de todos los países unidos!
la inauguración del presidente Donald
os, si no todas/os, viven en completa an-
- y el liderazgo autoritario".

Una huelga general, como tradicional-

la de la clase obrera contra el capital

es un terrorífico triángulo: Que la represión del estado

muro y la prohibición de musulmanes

La organización surja como un pro-

la desigualdad de inmigrantes se prepara deses-

la misma manera, no sólo en escuelas,

activista inmigrante Ravi Ragbir a la ofi-

La hija de Rómulo Avelica-González,

catos para las/os trabajadores que quie-

Lakes de los trabajadores migrantes,

La represión por Trump contra la inmi-

Agencia de Inmigración y Aduanas lle-

La represión de Trump/Bannon/ICE se ha acelerado

agencia de detenciones de ICE de Nueva York el 9 de marzo,

Avelica-González y a toda la familia, sino

más de 40.000 trabajadoras/es de la joyería, jóvenes y estudiantes, perso-

mujeres, prisioneros, revolucionarios so-

que su administración estaría eliminan-

Para el gran impulso para las fuerzas racistas de ocu-

Mientras que Trump abiertamente

escuelas, a sus trabajos o a hacer compras.

trabajadores previstas para el 1 de mayo, el

Lo que se libra contra nosotras/os a través

Y necesitamos una huelga de masas global

y las/os oprimidos. ¡Y como un tram-

año de levantar como pueblo contra el

una huelga de masas sobre la huelga de

más de una docena de llamados han sido emitidos por una huelga general en

más de 120.000 deportaciones en el primer trimestre del año, según el diario The

de todo el país. A las represalias contra cualquier trabajador/a – en sindicato o no – que par-

Necesitamos más de esta unidad como

Cientos de seguidores acompañaron al activista inmigrante Ravi Ragbir a la ofi-

... para protestar contra los recientes

masa/unidad como el poder de la clase

agencia de inmigración ICE, que ha aumentado: Desde la elección de

más de 12.000 trabajadores de Taxi de Nueva York cuando se negaron a recoger pasajeros del aeropuerto en solidaridad con las protestas contra la prohibición de entrada de musulmanes.

que la organización surja como un pro-

un "todas/os nosotros" que se extiende

Los medios de comunicación están enviando señales de alarma al cubrir el

Mientras que Trump abiertamente

y las/os oprimidos. ¡Y como un tram-

un trampolín para convertir el 1 de mayo

Y necesitamos una huelga de masas global

más allá de una local.

actividad de trabajadores migrantes, mujeres, prisioneros, revolucionarios so-

por el poder de la clase obrera contra el

a partir de 2016. Entre los indocumentados que han sido deportados, la mayoría

que Trump es un enemigo de los trabajadores y trabajadoras, y de los trabajadores

las/os oprimidos combatiría de mane-

más allá de una local.

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Ren “paralizarlo todo”. Por ejemplo, SEIU

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