Workers, youth battle anti-labor law
Mass protests in France

By John Catalinotto

Paris police swept the tents and banners of young protesters from the Place de la Republique on the morning of April 11. The youth had occupied the square since March 31. That’s when demonstrations throughout France of more than 1 million unionists and students protested the new anti-labor law pushed by the government of Francois Hollande.

The new law would make it even harder to find secure employment. It would allow bosses to fire workers without the kinds of notice and protections the French working class had won in earlier struggles. It also eliminates the guaranteed 35-hour work week.

By all indications, this new incarnation of 2011’s “indignant ones” in Spain and Occupy Wall Street in the United States will be back, even if police pushed protesters out of the squares of the 60 cities and towns outside the capital.

In all those squares, tent cities arose. People stayed up all night to debate the big questions facing their future. By all appearances, the young people hold the support of the unions and social organizations to the left of the misnamed Socialist Party that Hollande heads.

Two days earlier, on April 9, some 390,000 people in cities and towns all over France had taken to the streets to trash the new anti-labor law. This was the first weekend demonstration in the continuing series of protests. It included the participation of families with young children.

Two major union federations, the CGT and FO, backed the protests, but university and high school students and young workers continued to lead the way. The demands have gone beyond the new law. Even as early as February people wanted to take the protests to another level. They decided after a protest they would just stay in the streets. (theguardian.com, April 8)

“On March 31, at the time of the labor law protests, that’s what happened,” a former delivery driver told the Guardian. “There was torrential rain, but still everyone came back here to the square. Then at

Activists expose Clintons’ racism

By WW Philadelphia Bureau

Two protesters disrupted former President Bill Clinton while he spoke at a Hillary Clinton campaign event in North Philadelphia on April 7. With signs and vocal comments, the activists took Clinton to task over his disastrous 1994 crime bill and Hillary Clinton’s roles in bloody coups, from Honduras to Libya.

In an uncharacteristic response, the normally calm and collected Bill Clinton engaged in a heated back and forth with the protesters for as long as 15 minutes. During the exchange, Clinton accused Black Lives Matter activists of “defending” crack dealers, murderers and gang leaders. Just one day later, Bill Clinton said of his racist tirade, “I almost want to apologize for it.”

The protesters, Erica Mines and Rufus Farmer, are two native Philadelphia activists with the Philadelphia Coalition for R.E.A.L. (Racial, Economic and Legal) Justice and Workers World Party. WW spoke to them after the protest.

Workers World: One of the signs you held read, “Clinton crime bill destroyed our communities!” What did you mean by that?

Rufus Farmer: The crime bill that Bill Clinton signed into law in 1994 — the “Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act” — greatly contributed to the mass incarceration of African people, as well as other minorities. The bill, once established as law, made it so that an individual would receive an unnecessarily

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Cuba and reality • Yemen and war • Moldova and U.S.
The state of Oklahoma had five earthquakes on April 3. There had been 21 earthquakes in the previous week, 222 in the past month and 3,424 in the past year. The largest quake in Oklahoma this year registered 5.1 on the Richter scale in Fairview, Okla. (earthquakes.usgs.gov, April 3)

On March 28, the U.S. Geological Survey, a federal agency that has historically been very friendly to the oil and gas industry, said it had traced the vast increase of earthquakes in and around Oklahoma to the industry’s injection of wastewater from fracking and oil extraction into deep underground wells near ancient fault lines.

“The central U.S. has undergone the most dramatic increase in seismicity over the past six years. From 2007 to 2008, there was an average of 24 earthquakes of magnitude 3.0 or larger in the central U.S. region. To date, the largest earthquake located near several active injection wells was a magnitude 5.0 in 2011 near Prague, Okla.,” the USGS report stated.

According to the USGS, Oklahomans are now as likely to experience a damaging earthquake as people living in quake-prone areas of California. And, as the agency further notes, in the central U.S. “there may be thousands of faults that could rupture in a large earthquake.”

A tide of ‘earthquake swarms’

For the last six years, the state government of Oklahoma has done very little to stem this tide of what the USGS calls “earthquake swarms.” In Oklahoma City, “the oil industry holds so much sway that for decades drill rigs have extracted crude from directly beneath the Capitol building,” (swtimes.com, March 6)

Oil billionaires like T. Boone Pickens ridicule the notion that the oil industry is at fault. “Wastewater wells and fracking have nothing to do with — they’re not even earthquakes,” he told 300 of his buddies and minions at the Southern Republican Leadership Conference. Pickens claims the rise in quakes is the result of increased government monitoring. (readfrontier.com, May 23)

But this huge hike in corporate-caused earthquakes has sparked a rising tide of anger among the people of Oklahoma. More than 500 people recently attended a public meeting on the earthquakes at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, where the famed environmental activist Erin Brockovich spoke, as well as an official from the Sierra Club.

This and like actions forced the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, known to be pro-Big Oil, to ask the oil and gas industry to voluntarily reduce by 40 percent the amount of wastewater disposed of in deep underground injection wells. Experts call this too little, too late. They are demanding a complete moratorium on all wastewater injection throughout the state.

They demand that the oil and gas companies either treat the wastewater so it becomes usable water, which would eat into their profits, or stop all fracking. Only the growing struggle by Oklahoma residents can force these profit-hungry corporations to do what is necessary to protect the health and safety of the communities from these earthquake swarms.

By Chris Fry

Oklahoma earthquakes spike fracking opposition

Last year there were 3,424 quakes in Oklahoma, the strongest registering 5.1 on the Richter scale. Pickens ridicule the notion that the oil industry is at fault. “Wastewater wells and fracking have nothing to do with — they’re not even earthquakes,” he told 300 of his buddies and minions at the Southern Republican Leadership Conference. Pickens claims the rise in quakes is the result of increased government monitoring. (swtimes.com, March 6)

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Brooklyn is definitely ground zero for gentrification in New York City. Specifically to Brooklyn is that rents have gone up by outrageous degrees in neighborhoods where the average median income is under $25,000 a year. Over 25 percent of the people of this city make under $25,000 a year.

People in migrant communities of color neighborhoods, where households have banded together in order to have multiple breadwinners just to pay rent, are being priced and pushed out. The New York Times reported a 400 percent increase in foreclosures in Brooklyn in 2015.

The conditions are such that they devastate the racial, cultural, linguistic and economic diversity of the city.

Landlords, police harass tenants

We see increased tenant harassment in Brooklyn — everything from landlords turning off and denying access to gas for three days, to Evictions to forcing people's rent checks and money orders and then taking people to court for nonpayment, to using people's immigration, racial or gender fears against them under the threat of eviction.

We're currently fighting a landlord who refuses to make repairs for long-term tenants in order to force them out — and then charges new tenants. What we have observed is if you just moved to Brooklyn in the last five years and you're in a rent-stabilized apartment, chances are you're being overcharged by $300 to $400.

Tenant harassment is coupled with police harassment. We've been able to prove that since 2012, rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods have had high rates of "stop and frisk" profiling. "Broken window policing has meant summonses for -"
One Harvoni pill a day for 12 weeks can cure hepatitis C with a 95 percent success rate. But a Big Pharma company, Gilead Sciences, which "owns" Harvoni, charges $1,000 per pill or $84,000 for a full treatment. It manages to sell the same drug in Egypt for $10 a pill. (New York Times, Dec. 15)

Anger at this outrageous price gouging prompted loud global demonstrations on April 1. At Gilead’s headquarters in California’s Silicon Valley, hep C patients and caregivers from Oakland’s Oasis Clinic, their faces painted yellow to symbolize the effects of this debilitating disease, staged a "die-in," while a crowd chanted: "Gilead’s profits are rising! Hep C patients are dying!"

Speakers, who included Dr. Diana Sylvestre and Orlando Chavez from the Oasis Clinic, pointed out that over 5 million people in the U.S. are infected with the virus, including some 200,000 military veterans and 700,000 people in U.S. prisons— including political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Mumia was infected with hep C via medical neglect.” The Pennsylvania prison system is now trying to kill Mumia by medical neglect.”

By Workers World Staff

Coal baron gets slap on wrist for death of 29 miners

By Benji Pyles
Charleston, W.Va.

April 8 — Many in West Virginia and eastern Kentucky were dismayed when news came that notorious Massey coal baron, Don Blankenship, would face only a maximum of one year in prison for his role in the Upper Big Branch Mine disaster. Blankenship was not even charged with the murder of the 29 miners, but rather "conspiracy to willfully violate health and safety standards." (more "Coal Mine Boss found guilty of conspiracy"

Critical observers have expressed doubt that he would see any jail time, due to the long history of a lack of punishment for capitalist coal barons who put prof-

it ahead of human well-being. However, Blankenship's crimes and cavalier attitude toward the lives of workers were so egregious that he was, in fact, sentenced to a full year in prison and forced to pay a $250,000 fine. The federal prosecutor recommended this sentence, which is the maximum possible for this misdemeanor.

The day after the verdict, Blankenship's million-dollar advocates filed a notice of appeal on his behalf. They say they are confident that the decision will be over-

turned. Currently, it is not known when he will be required to report to prison.

After the verdict, Blankenship told the Charleston Gazette-Mail: "There was no direct evidence I committed a crime. I am not guilty of a crime." Instead of owning up to his crime and being eternally grateful that he's getting off easy, Blankenship continues to mock workers and their families.

Capitalism: a law for rich, another for poor. It's a scathing indictment of the capitalist state, and the system that protects it, that a millionaire who killed 29 people was given a mere slap on the wrist while Black and Brown youth are being locked away for decades over minor drug offenses — and when released, cannot get a job due to their record. Blankenship has no such difficulties ahead of him. He has amassed a fortune robbing the working class of the products of their labor. His net worth is rumored to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. In West Virginia, even in the rare instances where the fed-

eral government might consider a crim-

inal prosecution, the maximum term for a person who spilled a tiny amount of a curative pill to a prisoner is given free to Mumia and other HCV-infected prisoners, until they are at death's door (if then)," the committee said. Mumia has filed suit against the DOC. He is asking that all 10,000 prison-

ers in Pennsylvania who suffer from HCV be given the curative pills. Demonstrations, initially called by ACT-UP (the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power), also took place the same day in London, Paris, New York and Johannes-

burg, demanding the barons make pills available free to prisoners and affordable to all HCV sufferers.

Their cause is supported by South Af-

cia’s largest union, the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa wrote to Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf earlier this year demanding that Harvoni pills be given free to Mumia and other HCV-in-
fected prisoners. “The refusal of health care,” said the NUMSA letter, “reminds us of the conditions of state put in un-
der apartheid prisons (in South Africa), where sick detainees were allowed to die in very deplorable lonely conditions in solitary for the punishment of their role in the struggle.”

Gilead Sciences, which turned a net profit of $18 billion in just one year in revenues of $24 billion, has been well connected with movers and shakers in Washington, D.C. Donald Rumsfeld joined its board of directors in 1988. The year the company was founded, and served as chair of Gil-

"Coal Mine Boss found guilty of conspiracy"

"Coal Mine Boss found guilty of conspiracy"
Richard 'Dick' Levins, communist scientist, historian

Richard 'Dick' Levins, communist scientist, historian, was born on Jan. 19 at the age of 85. He was a population geneticist, mathematical ecologist and political philosopher. He was best known for his work on applying dialectical materialism to biology, which he used to challenge imperialist, racist and oppressive ideas. His body of work includes "Evolution in Changing Environments" and "The Dialectical Biologist." He was a close collaborator with Richard Levenson. At his death, Levins was professor of population studies and head of the Human Ecology program in the Department of Environmental and Population, Harvard School of Public Health. The following is an editorial account of his life and work.

My father was a Jewish radical from the small towns and cities of southern Ukraine. He was a product of the Brooklyn extended family. Leah, born in the Ukraine, was my father's main source of political education and history. A plant was a sweatshop labor organizer and a feminist. She worked with garment workers, teaching immigrant women in the factories about birth control, and pioneered a legacy of women's health care. She told us, "ideally you'd have every plant you own foraging under such terrible difficulties, while leaving the factories intact, just as was the case in Russia," by A.A. Heller.

At the same time, Boston is threatened by a new array of examples from the anti-colonial struggles of the time. In 1967, we moved to Chicago, and the focus of his political work changed. The Mariscal, a member of the Communist Party and a former leader of the Young Socialists, was a member of the Chicago chapter. He was working on the case of the U.S. Navy in Vieques, testified at the U.N. on decolonizing Puerto Rico and taught a class on Puerto Rican history and culture.

While at EnBW, he was a revolutionary in the service of human liberation. "From Rebel to Revolutionary," a work still deeply relevant.

In 1964, my parents were invited to Cuba, where my father was then the University of Havana's sociology department. This was the beginning of a lifelong commitment to the Cuban Revolution and to the development of Cuban science. His work on evolution and complexity in environments changed the field of ecology, with profound and widespread impact, but it was in Cuba he was best able to integrate his science and politics and help to develop a revolutionary science that could be put into practice at the service of human liberation.

In 1966, he wrote, "From Rebel to Revolution," a work still deeply relevant.

In 2014, Immelt got $37.2 million in total compensation, more than $100,000 per day. Nearly half of this package is because of a big increase in his pension. (Reuters, March 19, 2015)

The socialist founder of GE labs

GE also tried to destroy UE, the Electrical Workers union, with red-baiting attacks and helped propel Ronald Reagan's political career.

With this record, is it any surprise that GE has "never been a big hit with socialists," as Immelt wrote in the Washington Post?

The founder of the GE Research Labs was the socialist Charles Steinmetz. The first industrial research facility in the U.S. started in Steinmetz's Schenectady, N.Y., garage in 1900.

Charles Steinmetz was born in the German empire in 1865. As a university student he was forced to flee the country because of Bismarck's anti-socialist laws. When attempting to enter the U.S. in 1889, he was initially turned away by immigration officials. Steinmetz had hypospadias, a curvature of the spine, and only $10 in his pocket. Donald Trump would have deported him.

A gifted mathematician, Steinmetz worked on "Steinmetz's diagrams," which helped to keep the actual loss, "hypersine," in electric motors. This paved the way for developing alternating current power. Steinmetz was a key proponent of the first commercial three-phase power system. By 1900, Steinmetz was the most famous electrical engineer in the world and was known as "the Wizard of Schenectady." Helping to protect Steinmetz's patents at GE was the African-American engineer and inventor Lewis Latimer. Steinmetz helped elect George R. Lunn as Schenectady's socialist mayor in both 1911 and 1915. Another GE town, Bridgeport Conn., also had a socialist mayor — Jasper McLevy — from 1933 to 1937.

Charles Steinmetz became president of the city's school board, where he provided free meals for hungry students. Judging from his other positions, Steinmetz was an expert witness in a case against the U.S. Navy in Vieques, testified at the U.N. on decolonizing Puerto Rico and taught a class on Puerto Rican history and culture.

A supporter of unions, Steinmetz changed cigar brands when cigar makers went on strike. In 1922, Steinmetz got 294,000 votes when he ran for state governor. One day when I was 8, I asked him some question about our "enemies," and he said, "There are no bad people." Steinmetz taught as any theoretical treatise, expresses the way my father approached the world.

For my father, being a revolutionary included infinite curiosity and kindness. He loved exploring how other people think, understanding the roots of their ideology and thinking about why and how we make mistakes. One day when I was 8, I asked him some question about our "enemies," and he said, "There are no bad people." Steinmetz taught as any theoretical treatise, expresses the way my father approached the world.

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His commitment to his work in Cuba grew and he traveled there more often, eventually going every year. He also went to Havana on a scientific mission in 1970 and came back to found Science for Vietnam.

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By Stephen Millies

Is General Electric one of the corporations “destroying the moral fabric” of the United States? That’s the question The New York Times, March 24, 2011) asked him some question about our “enemies,” and he said, “There are no bad people.” Steinmetz taught as any theoretical treatise, expresses the way my father approached the world.

The wonderful work of social and industrial change needs allies, as any theoretical treatise, expresses the way my father approached the world.

Richards: ‘moral fabric’ and its forgotten socialist wizard

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The wonderful work of social and industrial change needs allies, as any theoretical treatise, expresses the way my father approached the world.
The racist criminalization of African Americans

By Abayomi Azikiwe

Editor, Pan-African News Wire

When former President Bill Clinton spoke on April 7 in Philadelphia, protest¬ers interrupted him, exposing Democrats’ role in the mass incarceration and state re¬pression of oppressed peoples in the U.S. during the 21st century. He responded by trying to justify decades of criminalization of tens of millions of African Americans.

Some argue the condition of African Americans since 1980 are somehow responsible for the high rates of incarceration derived from racist assumptions. They delib¬erately ignore the fact that both Cherry and Jim Crow manifested by pervasive racist discrimination in the labor market, educational system, housing sector and criminal justice system – and reflected in the corporate media.

Even though Bill Clinton later ex¬pressed his alleged regret for the con¬frontation, this does not absolve the U.S. ruling class for persistently targeting people of color communities and impos¬ing on the defeat of our struggle.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton has been confronted re¬peatedly over the legacy of Bill Clinton’s administration of the criminal justice system — and reflected racist discrimination in the labor market, educational system, housing sector and criminal justice system – and reflected in the corporate media.

Many minorities received harsh sen¬tences for nonviolent offenses and, once incarcerated, were no longer able to use the Pell Grant to receive additional edu¬cation. For these reasons, and others, the prison popu¬lation since 1980 has increased at an average annual rate of 10 percent per year. The prison popu¬lation has now reached 2.2 million people. The prison popu¬lation since 1980 has increased at an average annual rate of 10 percent per year. The prison popu¬lation has now reached 2.2 million people, with half of the number released from prison each year being rear¬rested.

The racist criminalization of African Americans and other imprisoned population groups was revealed. Moreover, the underdevelopment of the African-American community is im¬pacted by the absence of a large segment of its population and the fact that former prisoners face tremendous obstacles to their reintegration into community and family life.

Guo’s article notes that “mass incarcer¬ation’s ill effects are concentrated in plac¬es already in distress. In some inner-city nebulae, unemployment, drug use, and violent crime are rampant; the young black men are behind bars. … If [they] are caught, their communities start to frizz. So when they are released, there are no jobs and no support networks.”

The inherent racial inequality in U.S. society is seen in the unemployment rate of African Americans, which is twice that of white workers. Guo states, “The truth [about unemployment], after accounting for incarceration, is even worse.”

We intend to do, but it’s there and it serves a purpose, especially when you talk about capitulation or imperial war. We presented our signs — I’m sure you’ve seen them by now — and the crowd attempted to block our signs with their Hillary signs. One per¬son who was an African descent was called me a demon as I was having a peaceful conversation with a Clinton suppor¬ter after Bill Clinton left the stage.

For instance — it’s rather easy to see that Hillary Clinton endorses U.S. imperial¬ism, oppression of minorities and crimes against humanity in general. Clinton may be a different kind of white supremac¬cy, but it is still white supremacy just the same.

The instability of global capitalism is expressed in further militarization and privatization in both industrialized and developing states. Only a complete break with these policies will contain and economically exploit large segments of Africa and the rest of the world.

Protesters expose Clinton’s racism

Continued from page 1

WASHINGTON — The Philadelphia Coalition for REAL Justice, the Philadelphia Coalition for REAL Justice and the Philadelphia Coalition for REAL Justice Center; the Palestinian Youth Move¬ment and Samidoun: Palestinian Prisoners Solidarity Network; as well as activists from al-Aqsa Martyrs’ Brigades, the Palestinian National and Birzeit universities, are part of the Solidarity Center on April 10 to welcome three Palestinian students from the occu¬pied West Bank.

Local members of Bayan USA organized a reception for the students at the Solidarity Center on April 10 to welcome three Palestinian students from the occu¬pied West Bank.

The Filipino organization Bayan USA organized a reception for the students at the Solidarity Center on April 10 to welcome three Palestinian students from the occu¬pied West Bank.

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By Joe Catron

New York

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Protesters demand justice for India Cummings

An angry crowd of protesters occupied the steps of the Erie County Holding Center in Buffalo, N.Y. on April 4, once again demanding justice for India Cummings, a young Black woman who died at the hands of guards at the center. The crowd demanded the ouster of Sheriff Tim Howard after this most recent death under suspicious circumstances at the jail.

Protesters occupied a number of locations in downtown Buffalo, marching and blocking traffic on multiple streets and unfurling a banner that demanded “Not One More!” between the flagpoles of the Erie County building. The protest ended with the chant derived from an Amata Shaker poem: “We have a duty to fight for our freedom!”

The march was one of an ever-growing series of protests. The next one will be at the Holding Center on May 2.

— Tom Answeeney

Lamont Walls dies in Iowa jail

By Mike Kuhlenbeck
Des Moines, Iowa

Thirty-eight-year-old Lamont Walls died at Broadlawn’s Hospital in Des Moines after being found unconscious in his cell at Polk County Jail on March 25.

Walls was a student at the American College of Hairstyling when he was arrested by two plain-clothes police officers on March 23 during what police called a “narcotics investigation.” One witness, Temmera Donnelly, said the officers failed to identify themselves. (kcci.com, March 29)

Walls tried to run away and consumed what looked like a bag of narcotics. He was taken to a nearby hospital and was released to Polk County Jail after a medical evaluation. He was arrested for a “prostitution violation” and “interference with official acts.” (kcci.com)

Two days later, at around 5:30 p.m., Walls was found to be unresponsive by the jail’s staff. He was then transported to Broadlawns’ Hospital, where he died in police custody.

Family members and community groups like Iowa Citizens for Justice are suspicious about the circumstances surrounding Walls’ arrest and untimely death.

Before being taken to jail, Walls was conveyed by medics to the Methodist Medical Center for evaluation. Later, it was reported that an autopsy found nine small bags of heroin in Walls’ stomach.

Community activists are demanding that hospital officials explain why Walls got released from their care if he had swallowed drugs. “Laws should be changed or policies should be changed if someone was seen by an officer swallowing drugs, it should be mandatory because that probably could have prevented him from dying,” Walls’ family friend Calvetta Williams said. (whotv.com, April 3)

The family is calling on authorities to release medical records, arrest reports, jail surveillance video and other evidence to corroborate the official story. They also support the formation of an “independent commission for citizens to report cases of police brutality.”

On March 27, a candlelight vigil was held outside the Polk County Jail to honor Walls’ memory.

“We demand answers for our brother,” Carter said. — Report and photo by Joe Piette

Philadelphia

High school walkout calls for basic needs

High school students left their classrooms and marched from the Philadelphia School District offices to City Hall in a “Philly School Walkout and Protest” on April 6. They demanded justice-based educational necessities like school counselors, school nurses, nutritious food and enough teachers. Student Marlon Thomas told the crowd the public school system “punishes its students because they’re not being taught right; they aren’t being funded right, they aren’t being fed right, led right, talked to right. ... There is something wrong with the people in charge of the Philadelphia education system. ... Broke schools don’t work!”

— Report and photo by Joe Piette

Students on U.S. speaking tour

and Kristian Davis Bailey, National SJP activists and U.S.-based coordinators of the tour, wrote on March 29. “Both of these activists and U.S.-based coordinators of the tour, wrote on March 29. “Both of these

resistance to both Spanish and U.S. colonialism. They also brought up similarities between the Palestinian and Filipino struggles. A video was shown of Leila Khaled, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine leader and Palestinian resistance icon, addressing the ILPS’ Fifth International Assembly in Manila last November.

Following the event, the students participated in a similar meeting hosted by ICE-Free NYC in the nearby office of Families for Freedom.

Catron is a member of Al-Awda New York: The Palestine Right to Return Coalition and an organizer with Samidoun: Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network.

“Our lives are political”

At the Solidarity Center, tour participants discussed the impact of Zionist settler colonialism on Palestinian education. Zionist obstacles include checkpoints, the “Apartheid Wall,” and restrictions on travel and residency by both Palestinians and foreign university staff, as well as targeting of students for political imprisonment, with “administrative detention” without charge or trial.

“Political activity isn’t a choice in Palestine,” one said. “Our lives are political.”

The students also spoke of various forms of Palestinian resistance and of the need for U.S.-based supporters to build the growing Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement and fight Washington’s massive aid to Israel, currently valued at over $3.1 billion a year.

Bayan leaders discussed U.S. aid to the Philippines and the country’s legacy of
The following is the first part of an article published in CubaDebate on April 7 by Agustín Lage Dávila, who has been director of the Center of Molecular Immunology in Cuba since 2005 and a member of the Cuban National Assembly of the Popular Power (Parliament) since 1995. It is available at full in Spanish and in English.

I had the chance to participate in various meetings with the delegation that accompanied President Barack Obama to Cuba last year. I heard him speak on three occasions; and now I feel a need to share my interpretation of what he said, and also what he didn’t say — since in politics what is left out is often as important as what is said.

There are two complementary angles from which to interpret both this visit and the entire process of attempting to normalize relations: what they mean for Americans and Cubans, and what they mean as we move towards the future.

Looking to the past, it is clear that the recently initiated process of normalizing relations between the United States and the Cuban Revolution transcended what was widely claimed in the Revolution, and that the United States must be interpreted as a victory, greater than the revolutionary and socialist people of Cuba, of their convic tions, their capacity for resistance and sacrifice, their culture, their ethical, their political commitment to social justice; and as a victory for all Latin American solidarity with Cuba.

There are some things so obvious to us Cubans that sometimes we forget to underscore them.

• This normalization process was started during the lifetimes of the historic leadership of the Revolution, and has been conducted by leaders of that same generation.
• It implied recognition for the institutional legitimacy of Cuba’s revolution, recognition denied to our Liberating Army in 1898 and also to the Cuban Revolution in 1959 (although, yes, accorded to the dictatorships of Gerardo Machado and Fulgencio Batista).
• It included explicit recognition of the Revolution’s accomplishments, at least in education and health (the two that were stressed). It is a revolution whose health system has caused the Cuban people.
• It included explicit recognition of Cuban assistance offered in solidarity to other peoples of the world, and its contribution (although not declared as such) to the health and the elimination of apartheid in Africa.
• It included explicit acceptance of the fact that decisions about changes and socioeconomic models in Cuba belong exclusively to Cubans, that we have (and have earned) the right to organize our society differently from the way others do.
• It implied a declaration to abandon the military and subversive option, as well as the intent to abandon coercion, as instruments of U.S. policy towards Cuba.
• It expressly acknowledged the failure of policies hostile to Cuba implemented by preceding administrations, which implied recognition of the conscious resistance offered by the Cuban people, since hostile policies only fall in the face of tenacious defense.
• It recognized the suffering the blockade has caused the Cuban people.

• This process did not emerge from concessions by Cuba of a single one of our principles; or from backing off on demands to end the blockade and to return to illegally occupied territory in Guantanamo.
• It included public acknowledgment that the U.S. was isolated in Latin America and the world because of its policy towards Cuba.

A ‘victory for Cuba’

I don’t believe that any reasonable, informed person in today’s world could interpret this normalization process as a victory, but a victory in Cuba’s historic differences with the U.S.

Looking to the past, this is the only possible interpretation.

Now then, looking to the future, things are more complicated, and there are at least two possible and extreme interpretations, as well as their intermediate variations:

• The hypothesis of perverse conspiracy
• The hypothesis of divergent conceptions and interpretations

Both are debating on Cuban street corners. Readers should be aware at this point that I don’t plan to argue for one or the other of these two hypotheses, or for any combination of the two. Future developments will put them to the test, and everyone will be able to draw their own conclusions from this “passage into the unknown.”

Those who defend the hypothesis of perverse conspiracy see President Obama’s words as false promises or subtle deception, at the service of a plan conceived for us to open our doors to U.S. capital and the influence of its mass media; allow a privileged economic sector to expand in Cuba, one that with the help of the Pentagon’s policy has caused the Cuban people.

Many people remember the famous phrase attributed to [U.S.] President Franklin D. Roosevelt, referring to Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza: “So moza may be a son of a bitch, but he’s our son of a bitch.”

Cuban state means ‘ownership by the whole people’

Of course, neither President Obama, nor any other U.S. president, can guarantee that the children of good will (and there are many) are to blame, as individuals, for the first stages of this historical journey. But also, un deniably, the history is there, and it conditions what they do and can do as people...see that they do. History’s processes occur in the context of a single human lifetime, and events occurring many decades ago influence our options now, because they influence collective attitudes that exist objectively and relatively independent of leaders’ ideas and intentions. Even distancing President Obama from the aggressive and immoral policies of previous administrations — those that organized invasions, protected terrorists, fomented assassinations of Cuban leaders and implemented strategies to starve the Cuban people into submission — even establishing this distinction, it can’t be forgotten that Obama alone is not the policy-making class in the U.S.

In all honesty, I should recognize that the impression given by President Obama and his government is a conveyer of a perverse conspiracy, but rather as an intelligent, educated, man, who believes in what he says. What happens then is that the things he believes (with everyone’s belief from what we believe in as well, with everyone’s belief)

This is the second hypothesis then, the one concerning different conceptions of human society, differences that were quite evident in all that was said and also what was left unsaid, throughout the visit by President Obama and his delegation.

They made it very clear that the main direction U.S. relations with Cuba will take will be economic, and within the economic arena, the main strategy will be engage with and support the non-state sector.

That was very clear, in the speeches and symbolic messages, taking distance from the socialist state-sector, as those who have "property" are not "state" property, are not ownership by the public, and many others, as "state" property were the property of some strange entity, not ownership by the whole people, as is in reality.

We agree that a nonstate sector should exist, giving a new face to a paralyzed space for self-employment and cooperatives is part and parcel of implementing the guidelines that emerged from the 6th Communist Party Congress. But we disagree on the role that this nonstate sector should have in our economy.

Part 2 will discuss the disagreements regarding the nonstate sector.
What is the U.S. up to in Moldova?

By Abayomi Azikiwe
Editor, Pan-African News Wire

In March last year a coalition of Gulf states led by Saudi Arabia and supported by Washington began a daily bombing campaign and later ground operation in Yemen. Over the last year, this war has accelerated, bringing in military forces from Egypt and Sudan in what is seen as a proxy war against the Islamic Republic of Iran and its growing influence throughout the region, as well as in neighboring territories.

The aim was to halt and drive back the Ansarullah Movement (Houthi) in its seizure of territory in central and southern regions of the country. The Ansarullah are a Shiite-based movement that has formed a tactical alliance with elements of the Yemeni military, which remains loyal to former leader Ali Abdullah Saleh. Despite several attempts to broker a ceasefire, the bombing of Yemen by the Saudi-led Gulf Cooperation Council continues, utilizing U.S.-manufactured warplanes, offensive weapons and intelligence sharing. The administration of President Barack Obama has provided diplomatic cover for the war against Yemen, a continuation of aerial bombardments and drone attacks that have taken place for several years.

On April 4, attacks by warplanes killed at least one person and injured many others in Yemeni communities. Analysts said that the attacks on warplanes killed at least one person and injured many others in Yemeni communities. Analysts said that the attacks on northern areas across the country. Yemeni news agencies also reported that the Saudi-GCC bombing raids claimed the lives of civilians and displaced people located in the northwestern Hajjah Province, leaving at least six children and one woman injured. These bombing operations hit the Lamrour district of al-Shabab, a city in Hajjah. According to Yemen's al-Masirah TV, the Saudi-GCC coalition also carried out bombing raids in Sa'da, in the north of the country, destroying homes and killing civilians. Independent reports said air strikes bombed a telecommunications installation in Sayanag as well as a post office in Haydan. The reports noted that a number of houses were struck in the operation. The two cities are located in the Sa'ada Province, an Ansarullah stronghold.

An April 4 Press TV article stated, "The Saudi attacks on Monday [April 4] came as Ansarullah fighters and allied forces launched new attacks on Saudi and pro-Saudi military positions inside and outside Yemen. Yemeni managed to kill scores of Saudi forces in one such attack on troops in Rabah region, southern Saudi Arabia. The allied forces also launched missile attacks on Saudi-led forces in al-Naser military base, located between Yemen's Jawf and Ma'rib provinces."

Meanwhile, resistance efforts on the part of the Ansarallah and its allies are compounding the war for the U.S.-backed Saudi-GCC coalition. In recent days Yemeni resistance fighters have taken 42 Saudi troops into custody in Hayda and Jawf provinces. Several other Saudi troops were killed in Ma'rib.

The Yemeni armed forces, which are supported by Popular Committees loyal to the Houthi Ansarullah Movement, captured 91 Saudi troops in the Rada district in the northwestern province of Sa'da and detained 10 others in the al-Matna district in the northwestern province of Jawf.

Reports claimed that the debate regarding the development of the west-central Ma'rib province to enhance the Saudi-GCC forces there when Yemeni forces captured them. The Yemeni forces launched a separate operation against Saudi troops using Katyusha rockets in Ma'rib city, resulting in six deaths and 17 wounded. (sabanews.net, April 3)

Attacks were carried out by Saudi-GCC warplanes in Taiz, the third-largest city in Yemen. Saba News Agency reported April 4, "Saudi fighter jets waged on Monday [April 4] a series of air raids on many areas in Taiz province, a local official said. The war jets targeted al-Shumair market in the central district of al-Wa'ayeh, leaving damage to houses and private proper- ties, the official added."

This same report emphasizes, "The warplanes targeted the Shitteen Street, in the north of Taiz, with several raids that targeted various dawn to late night raids in Taiz city. The Saudi aggression also targeted many sorties on Warazan and Khaled areas in the south of Taiz, city, the official added."

Casualties escalate

It has been estimated by various news and humanitarian sources that up to 10,000 people have died in the intensified fighting in Yemen in the last year. Meanwhile, 80 percent of the population is in dire need of assistance.

A United Nations Children Education Fund report published on March 29, also noted that the number of civilians killed and the number of people being negatively impacted by the war. Children and women have been affected severely through the aerial strikes, ground operations and the attacks on civilian areas, including internally displaced persons, schools, hospitals and medical facilities. Statistics cited by UNICEF indicate that 63 health care facilities have been bombed and severely damaged, while most hospitals and clinics report extreme shortages in electricity, equipment, supplies and personnel. Repeated bombing operations resulted in sporadic access to electricity.

A news release announcing the report reads: "UNICEF verified more than 2,180 incidents of grave violations against children and the law."

Since the beginning of this year, U.S. imperialism has significantly stepped up its intervention in Moldova, a former Soviet republic of 3 million people. Moldova has been engulfed by waves of protests against the country's trade policies and in violation of legal procedure. With U.S. support, Moldovan Prime Minister Pavel Filip was installed in Chisinau last Sept. 6.

Mass opposition in Chisinau

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‘Solidarity with anti-racist occupation at Duke University’

April 6 – The Workers World Party 2016 Moorehead-Lilly presidential campaign sends our solidarity to the occupation of the administration building currently underway at Duke University in Durham, N.C. At the time of this writing, the occupation by nine students to protest racist attacks on Black and Brown university workers and their allies’ organizing on campus for justice — including higher wages of at least $15/hour — is entering its sixth day, with no signs of backing down.

On April 1, several hundred workers and students held a demonstration on campus that began the occupation. Since then, hundreds have rallied around the clock outside the administration building. An encampment of dozens of tents has been set up on the lawn to hold rallies, teach-ins, meetings and other activities to build and deepen the base of support from workers and students by informing people from any attempts by university administrators and police to break it up.

The protest stemmed from recent revelations that Tallman Trask – a white Duke University Executive Vice President – had Shevilia Underwood, an African-American who works as a university parking attendant, with his car. Before fleeing the scene, Trask hurled a racist epithet at Underwood, who suffered physical injuries requiring medical attention. Trask and other university administrators covered up the incident, along with numerous other reports by Black and Brown parking attendants and other campus workers about rampant racism. Two of the demands of the occupation are reparations for Underwood and a full and transparent investigation into the racism in campus departments.

Already, the occupation has scored two major victories based on the demands put forward: a public apology by Trask and uncondoned amendments to the nine ocupantes. The occupation at Duke University comes amidst a wave of militant protests against racism on campuses across the U.S., which is part of the broader Black Lives Matter movement. From massive walkouts in response to racist police murders; to the strikes and protests against racism on campus at the University of Missouri that led to the resignation of the chancellor there; and much more, protests at universities against racism, white supremacy and bigotry have been spreading from coast to coast. This must continue, along with showing our solidarity with the struggle against the campus-wide epidemic of white supremacy against women and anti-lgbtq-transgender-queer bigotry.

The demand to end the building occupations happening today carry on the long legacy of the Black Freedom struggle on campuses. During the height of the Black Liberation movement, many universities were rocked by protests and occupations led by Black students to win important anti-racist victories – including an occupation in 1969 of the very building that Duke students have taken over now.

Repression and national oppression are essential for the capitalist system in order to maintain vast wealth for the small class of rulers by exploiting the labor of the masses of society, the workers. We fight for revolutionary socialism – a system where the workers and the oppressed run society and put the resources we create to meet our own needs.

To the ocupantes and the many hundreds engaged in this struggle: Your courage, militancy and steadfast commitment to carry the struggle through to victory – and the principled unity and solidarity that has been built between workers and students – is setting an example for the broader movement.

We salute the courageous workers who spoke out against racism in defiance of those who want to silence them. Some of the blue-collar workers at Duke are unionized, and the non-tenure-track faculty recently won a union. We stand with the workers until they are all unionized across campus and until justice is won by those fired under racist conditions.

The many peoples’ struggles for justice and freedom are more and more in getting closer to fighting these events unfold. We are ready to mobilize in your support and defense, as needed. Carry the struggle forward to victory! ❝

Lowndes County, Ala.: Roots of revolution Part 2

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

Part 1 of “Lowndes County: The original Black Panther Party” appeared in the April 7 issue of Workers World.

A revolutionary movement was born in white supremacy, the family of White Hall, Lowndes County — population 83, local activists and members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee formed the Lowndes County Freedom Organization, an independent Black political party. The LCFO was known locally as the “Black Panther Party” for its ballot symbol. Later, some of the SNCC members founded the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, the Black nationalist and revolutionary organization anchored in California, with a name, symbol and inspiration drawn from Alabama roots and resistance.

Fightback in Lowndes County by oppressed peoples has a long history. From 1860 through the 1890s, the Creek Nation waged a fierce battle to stop the seizure of their land by white colonizers. As slavery and white supremacy became the law of the land, resistance continued. In 1861, in Lowndes and Montgomery counties, a hundred enslaved people of African descent, together with “poor whites of the country,” planned a rebellion to redistribute the “land, mules and money” of plantation owners. Twenty-five Black and four white insurrectionists were executed when their plot was discovered. (Herbert Aptheker, “American Negro Slave Revolts,” International Publishers, 1975).

In the 1930s, the Sharecroppers Union, organized primarily by the Communist Party USA, led 6,000 members of Lowndes County farmers. It was a chapter of the Communist party in two states, and worked for the rights of local workers, including an organized effort to end sharecropping and early in the 1940s the Communists ran and were elected to the local governing bodies.

In 1966. The historic White v. Crook suit was one of the first to bring forward the systematic exclusion of Blacks from jury service. It also became the first U.S. case in which “a federal court relied on [equal protection clause] in the 14th Amendment to rule a state law unconstitutional because of sex discrimination.” (Dr. Susan Mallon Ross, “Dialogic Rhetoric,” tinyurl.com/zjjkzvw)

The winning brief was co-authored by legendary Black civil rights lawyer Pauli Murray — who also co-founded the National Organization for Women. Murray and the other plaintiffs won in 1966. The historic White v. Crook suit was one of the first to bring forward the systematic exclusion of Blacks from jury service. It also became the first U.S. case in which “a federal court relied on [equal protection clause] in the 14th Amendment to rule a state law unconstitutional because of sex discrimination.”

In the mid-1960s, another important struggle was won in 1968 on behalf of Black teachers being denied tenure and job benefits in Alabama. Teacher Dorothy Hinson of White Hall, who initiated the suit, belonged to the activist Jackson family and was the sister of farmer Matthew Jackson, who provided housing, support and arms to SNCC workers. White Hinson of White Hall said that he had not been able to get any support.

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Lowndes County Freedom Organization, home of the “original Black Panther Party.”

Alabama, 1966.

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By Martha Grevatt
Detroit
Fiat Chrysler Automobiles announced April 6 it would indefinitely lay off 1,420 workers at two Detroit-area plants. The indefinite layoffs will begin July 5 when the Sterling Heights Assembly Plant eliminates one of two shifts. The other 1,900 workers in the plant will be employed sporadically. Workers who build FCA’s Chrysler 200 car have been notified with a return-to-work date. How - ever, the call-back dates are postponed or withdrawn when sales of the 200 are reduced. Chrysler replaced these high-seniority workers with new hires who received substantially lower pay and benefits under the two-tier pay structure.

The two-tier payment system was introduced in the United Auto Workers 2004 contract with Detroit Three automakers and was then expanded as a condition of the bailout during the bank- ruptcy. Subsequent contracts have raised lower-tier workers’ wages, with the latest contract allowing many of them to eventually make top pay. Yet with an eight-year wait to get the maximum wage, pay gaps persist.

Based on seniority, lower-tier workers are the first ones laid off and the last to be recalled. Michigan workers can only collect 20 weeks of state unemployment benefits. In the 1990s the UAW negotiated Supplemental Unemployment Benefits. When combined with state unemployment checks, SUB allows workers to take home more than 70 percent of their weekly pay and makes up the difference when unemployment benefits stop.

However, second-tier workers with one or more years of service can only collect 13 to 26 weeks of SUB, while “temporary” workers and those employed for under a year do not get any SUB. “Traditional” workers with less than 10 years of service are also limited to 26 weeks.

Time to raise hell

The UAW should be raising hell about these layoffs and their resulting hardships. Instead, Norwood Jewell, UAW vice president assigned to FCA, stated, “While today’s announcement of a shift reduction at Sterling Heights Assembly is unfortunate, it is not unexpected. FCA is not only company experiencing a slow market for small cars.” (uaw.org/issues, April 6)

This is pure hogwash. The 2015 Chrysler
200 is not a small car but a mid-size sedan. Sales in this segment industry-wide are down 2.2 percent from a year ago. Auto journalists call the vehicle lack- luster, but the 200 was hyped two years ago by Chrysler officials when it debuted at the Detroit auto show.

FCA CEO Sergio Marchionne has al- lowed its “flagship” 200 car’s sales to plummet as part of its plan to eliminate car production in UAW plants, only building in the U.S. large trucks and sport utility vehicles with the highest profit margin.

Marchionne claims that a “permanent change” has occurred in automotive buy- ing patterns, but facts do not support his stance, as many variables influence this market. The CEO is gambling with workers’ livelihoods.

Echoing the company line, Jewell stat- ed, “On a bright note, there is a strong de- mand for larger-size vehicles. The Chryl- ors have been planning to increase its capacity to build more trucks and SUVs. … [T]his move will be a positive one for our customers and the company.”

This corporate strategy will not help workers when they run out of SUB and the government hereafter keeps up the pay cuts who are the lower paid. Many of them are African-American youth from Detroit, whose jobless rate is astronomical. Their plans to retool the Sterling Heights plant’s workforce when it be- gins building the Ram pickup, that but is 18 months from now. Now the Ram is built at Detroit’s Warren Truck Assembly Plant. The retooling will cost the Detroit area 790 jobs, says FCA.

This over-reliance on the large-vehicle market is the very strategy that, com- pounded by a crisis of capitalist over- production, nearly ruined Chrysler in the 1970s. Due to recession inflated gasoline prices and a construction slump reduced sales in this segment.

Moreover, large vehicles have the highest carbon footprint. Marchionne’s strategy, which the UAW leadership shamelessly endorses, displays a reckless disregard for the planet.

Fiat — now merged with Chrysler — was the beneficiary of the 2010 state-or- chestrated bankruptcy, gaining a 35 percent stake in the company at no cost and then gaining full ownership on the cheap. Threatened with Chrysler’s liquida- tion, the UAW made major concessions. Contract language limiting layoffs to 48 weeks over the life of the four-year con- tract and SUB for the entire layoff period are eliminated. New hires and most exploited workers will pay the price.

Capitalists put profits before people

“Slow sales” are presented as the root cause of layoffs, if market cycles are as natural as weather cycles — and workers must face the consequences.

The corporate media claim that union wages and benefits are killing auto- workers’ jobs, but it is the giant, FCA, April 10 Detroit Free Press editorial on Ford’s announce- ment that it would invest $1.6 billion in a new plant in Mexico employing 2,800 workers, Ford is making production of its small car, the Focus, from Michigan to San Luis Potosí. The newspaper blamed the UAW’s “ballooning contract demands” and moaned, “Without the tiered wage struc- ture, Ford doesn’t have much of a choice when it comes to this type of production.”

The contracts ratified last year were not expected to significantly increase labor costs. This agreement provides a good foundation for Ford Motor Compa- ny, our employees and our communities,” said John Fleming, Ford’s vice president of global manufacturing and labor af- fairs. (New York Times, Nov. 20)

Punishing the workers winning a bigger share of the wealth they produce is a process. FCA has also an- nounced plans to shift production of Oreos cookies to Mexico from its union- ized Chicago factory. The real threat to workers’ jobs, by- yond corporations’ heartless decisions, is the capitalist mode of production that puts profits before people. This system can’t be fixed to prevent layoffs and plant closings. What can workers do?

Property right to a job

During the 1935-57 wave of sit-down strik- es which lasted from less than an hour to six months, workers gained widespread belief arose that workers have a property right to their jobs. Even President Franklin D. Roosevelt called upon Frances Perkins and Michigan Gov. Frank Murphy echoed what worker sentiment.

In 1987, as GM closed a record number of plants in the auto Right Campaign as- serted that a job is a property right and de- manded a moratorium on plant closings. This mass movement helped to strengthen job security language in UAW contracts.

Discussing the right to a job leads to this conclusion: If workers have a prop- erty right to their jobs, they have a right to prevent their property from being tak- en away. This was the key legal defense of the sit-downs, when GM management howled that the Seas plants violated the sacred right of their ownership. Au- toworkers, however, have sworn equity in the plants and have the right to occupy their property, the UAWs.

FCA’s layoffs and the auto industry’s fla- grant disregard of global warming prove that capitalists put profits before people’s future. Workers must seize the means of production — not only to defend their jobs, but to ensure the planet’s survival.

Call on FCA, Chrysler worker and UAW member.

Stop auto layoffs: A job is a right!

Mass protests in France
Continued from page 1

9 p.m., the rain stopped and we stayed. We came back that night. The next day, as we were making our way home, we were met by the police. Our heads were held high and our voices strong as we walked to our homes.

Outnumbered and the ‘indignant ones’
Anyone who participated in the Oc- cupy Wall Street actions starting in the fall of 2011 in the U.S. will recognize the scenes in France. The young people seize plazas in cities and towns and stay on their feet all night to protest and discuss. Demonstrators in France have even ad- opted the OWS term “1%” to refer to the bosses and bankers who rule the country.

These actions are also similar to the demonstrations of the “indignant ones” that filtered into France from Spain. An- other one of the “Nuit Debout” (“Up All Night”) protests have spread from France across the border to Belgium and back to Spain. These protests have given their space for free and democratic discussion of policies that determine their future. As in Spain and the U.S. in 2011, how- ever, it looks like the French government is ordering the repression force of the capitalist state to stop these discussions. President Hollande, the head of the nominally “socialist” Socialist Party, is still pushing for the new anti-labor law. In the week before the latest protests, the government made a few concessions.

So far the reaction is “too little, too late.” The formal organic mass of the students are still calling for more demon- strations on April 28.

The best movement in large sections of the population who used to back social democratic parties have broken with those that betrayed their working-class betrayal. Even some of the England Labour Party guards joined in the April 28 demonstrations. Britain too, Labor Party members broke with the neoliberal Tony Blair wing and elected a new leader from the party’s far left.

The outcome of the clash depends not only on the determination of the youth, but also on the support and intervention of France’s huge, multinational working class. 

The corporations that determine their future. Workers must seize the means of production — not only to defend their jobs, but to ensure the planet’s survival.

Call on FCA, Chrysler worker and UAW member.

El poder político afroamericano y las elecciones
Continua de página 12

ce laughs terrorismo y armados institucional siguen siendo barreras estructurales para el progreso socioeconómico y el empoderamiento político.

El aparente cambio de perspectiva hacia la campaña Sanders ilustra el debate crítico a luz de varias empirias que indican, en una campaña que tanto habló en su nombre y luchó por un programa de liberación total y construcción de socialismo. 

Continua de página 12

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El poder político afroamericano y las elecciones

Por Abayomi Azikiwe

El papel de las/os afroamericanos en las elecciones del 2016 ha mantenido el mismo periodo representaba un tipo de “privilegios raciales” para las/os afroamericanos. Este fallo federal fue hecho en un momento en que la gran recesión había devastado a las/os afroamericanos en las áreas de ejecuciones hipotecarias, pérdida de empleos y disminución de ingresos y bienes de la familia.

Un artículo del New York Times dijo de el fallo “efectivamente anuló el alcance de la Ley de Derecho al Voto de 1965 por una votación de 5 a 4, liberando a nuevas estadísticas, sobre todo en el Sur, para cambiar sus leyes electorales sin previa aprobación del gobierno federal. … En el núcleo del desacuerdo estuvo si las minorías raciales continuaban enfrentando obstáculos a la votación en los estados con una historia de discriminación”. (25 de junio de 2013)

Restricciones del derecho al voto reanudadas por el Tribunal Supremo

Casi cinco décadas después, el 25 de junio del 2013, el Tribunal Supremo de EE.UU anuló las disposiciones de aplicación de la Ley de Derecho al Voto por una sentencia de 5-4 en el caso del Consejo de Shelby [Alabama] versus Holder. Esta ley fue el producto de la creciente lucha de la población afroamericana a mediados de la década de 1960 para exigir la plena igualdad y el derecho a la autodeterminación.

Nuevas encuestas indican que la campaña de Sanders ha ganado apoyo significativo en la comunidad afroamericana en el Medio Oeste y la Costa Oeste. Una encuesta reciente indicó que en un plazo de dos meses, Sanders lideraba a Clinton entre las/os votantes afroamericanos en Wisconsin antes de la primaria del 5 de abril.

Un artículo del Huffington Post el 31 de marzo señalaba que el 27 de febrero, Hillary Clinton lideraba Bernie Sanders entre las/os votantes afroamericanos por 52 puntos. Para el 26 de marzo, lideraba a Sanders sólo por nueve puntos. Y el 6 de abril, Public Policy Polling, una respuesta de la舆情 que sobre artículos en Workers World/Mundo Obrero

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Trabajadores/es federales bajo ataque

Por Carl Lewis

El Congreso ha detenido una cantidad de leyes que intentan disminuir la seguridad de empleo, el pago, y a las/os trabajadores federales, el derecho mismo a pertenecer a un sindicato que los represente. Uno de los intentos más restrictivos de los sindicatos es cortar el derecho de las/os representantes sindicales a usar el “tiempo oficial” para representar y negociar los contratos laborales. El tiempo oficial significa que las/os representantes sindicales pueden usar tiempo para representar y negociar los contratos laborales. El tiempo oficial significa que los sindicatos pueden usar tiempo para representar y negociar con los gobiernos federales. El tiempo oficial permite que los sindicatos pueden usar tiempo para representar y negociar con los gobiernos federales.