Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!

By Teresa Gutierrez

Progressive and liberal-thinking intellectuals have noted that the issue of global warming is so critical that it is “the biggest issue of our or any time” and that if environmental catastrophe “isn’t going to be averted, then in a generation or two, everything else we’re talking about won’t matter.” (Counterpunch, Feb. 9)

Despite the climate deniers in Washington, it is absolutely true that the capitalist system’s long war on Mother Earth is creating devastation of epic proportions. A genuine, worldwide humanitarian crisis exists as a result of climate change, and it will only intensify as the planet continues to warm.

Billions of people are and will be affected, primarily people of color, as the oppressed continue to live with the ravishing effects of colonial and imperialist domination.

What are the immediate tasks activists can fight for to address this crisis?

Call for disarming the Pentagon; end all U.S. wars of intervention. Hands off Syria, north Korea, Afghanistan and Venezuela.

Money for social services, not war. Fight for more than the Paris Accords; fight for real sustainability.

Return Standing Rock and all Indigenous land to their original owners.

Support #NoDAPL; demand money for union jobs producing renewable energy instead of fossil fuels.

Take the lead from Cuba and China, which incorporate fighting the consequences of climate change and phasing out dependence on fossil fuels into their economic plans.

Pull reparations for victims of climate change, including survivors of hurricanes Katrina and Sandy; take the money from Big Oil; instead of unnecessary and looting insurance policies, provide affordable, quality housing for all victims of storms, floods and fires, uninsured or not.

March on May Day 2017 and support the call for a strike by immigrants and other workers. No to the wall!

Make the oil corporations and billionaires pay to reverse the terrible damage they have caused.

To save Mother Earth

Change the system

Fight to change the system; fight for revolutionary socialism!

Make Doomsday for the capitalists

In mid-January, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists moved the Doomsday Clock ahead to two and half minutes before midnight, symbolizing the extreme danger represented by the Donald Trump administration.

The clock was established in 1947, with “midnight” a symbolic warning that the world is close to a nuclear or existential catastrophe. The clock had been at three minutes to midnight since the early 1990s.

IMMIGRANTS FIGHT BACK!

Detention center strike

END COP BRUTALITY

Community outrage at killings

White House, Wall Street and Pentagon

New advisers change Trump’s reality show

Abolish the death penalty

100th anniversary

LENIN’S APRIL THESSES

Should activists drop other issues, like the war at home on migrants, police terror or attacks on the working class like Medicaid cuts, to fight for the climate? Should we stop organizing against the Trump administration’s war abroad in Syria, Afghanistan or North Korea?

Continued on page 3
**ALL OUT FOR MAY DAY**  
**Build Workers World!**

May Day (May 1) is when we:

- Honor workers and the oppressed all over the globe
- Invite all workers to come out of the shadows
- Take our rightful place as the creators of all things
- Stand in solidarity against all forms of repression and exploitation
- Say that capitalist greed, austerity, misery & war be banished forever
- Affirm the need for a revolutionary socialist future

We want what our name stands for — a workers’ world where all people are entitled to share in the abundance that this Earth is capable of in peace and plenty.

If this is your vision, your hope, your dream, then join Workers World newspaper in creating that future. Join us in continuing to build a strong, independent, thriving voice that speaks loud and clear for the workers and oppressed around the world. We need your financial support to grow the paper from a modest 12-page weekly printed edition, into a more robust workers’ world from a modest 12-page weekly printed edition, into a more robust

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- **WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.**
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To save Mother Earth: Change the system

Continued from page 1

Of course not. These issues are all connected.

“Next Step: May Day”

There were two keynote presentations: Monica Moorehead, WWP’s 2016 presidential candidate and secretariat member, talked about the revolutionary history of Lucy Parsons, a Black, Indigenous, Mexican labor leader and a founder of May Day in 1886.

Kevin Ryan, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. noted years ago, U.S. imperialism is the “greatest purveyor of violence in the world” — a truth long before Donald Trump’s ascent.

In fact, the Pentagon — the very organizations that are the world’s biggest institutional consumer of petroleum products. The Pentagon is the world’s worst polluter of greenhouse gas emissions, spending more than $600 billion a year on weapons that will never go into battle, according to the Campaign to Stop and End the Arms Trade.

It is the working class and the oppressed who will be most affected by climate change. The rich and powerful capitalist class has its preparations for climate change. In fact, CNN recently ran a report titled “Billionaire bunker: How the 1% are preparing for the apocalypse.” (March 20) It reported on companies that are building military-level secure housing, called DoomsDay Dwellings, with 9-foot-thick walls and a 161-foot-high protective dome. Some bunkers come with a five-year supply of food for each resident and can be lowered into the ground on a hydraulic pump. Costs run from $25,000 to $8 million each.

Some can house up to 1,000 people.

The conference was held three weeks before the “Global May Day Strike.” Baltimore organizers reported that even holding the conference was remarkable given that WWP members were in the streets protesting the U.S. missile strikes on Syria, defending Cuba and Venezuela.

“People appreciate the struggle to save the environment,” an activist said, “the struggle against the military, which the Trump administration has been happy to provide.”

In other words, build walls, not solidarity or renewable energy.

Larry Holmes, WWP first secretary, spoke on “Resistance in the Epoch of Trump — Next Step: May Day.” Holmes emphasized the need to fight U.S. imperialism, a timely topic since the conference came just one day after the Pentagon missile strikes on Syria.

Rebecca Jackson and Rasika Ruwan-patiharan led a special section on “The Artist’s Role in Revolution” and reviewed “Up. Rise. The Film.” Both revolutionaries are filmmaking activists and analysts. The conference played a special audio message from prisoner incarcerated at Vaughn Prisons, site of a recent rebellion in Delaware. Steven Cecchi, Baltimore WWP organizer, explained the history of how prisoners’ struggles, beginning with the 1971 Attica prison rebellion.

In addition, there were three panels and floor discussions. The topics were: “Facing racism, police terror and the war against immigrants — fighting for Black, Indigenous, women’s and trans liberation;” “Capitalism is at a dead end, socialism is the future;” and “Stopping the war at home and abroad.” Topics included U.S. imperialism and the war on Syria, fighting racist and neo-fascist forces in the U.S., the struggle at home and the impact of governmental budget cuts.

Representatives of Annapolis-USA, the National U.S. Chapter of Filipinos Youth & Students for National Democracy in the Philippines, attended. Oba- si, member of Ujamaa Peoples Power, spoke from the podium following a special presentation by Cuba solidarity activist Cheryl Yabash, who spoke on “Defending Cuba and the Assata Shakur with the Assata Shakur Carlarris at the 2640 Space to accommodate 120 people who registered. Many expressed interest in joining WWP and attending membership classes.

Participants came mainly from Baltimore and throughout Maryland, Washington, D.C., northern Virginia and the Delmarva Peninsula. (includes sections of Maryland, Delaware and Virginia.) Delegations from New York City and Philadelphia brought more than 150 to the conference.

The conference was an opportunity to discuss revolutionary socialism with the emerging, young, anti-Trump forces who have been marching in the streets. It was also a place to strategize on the next steps given that the gathering was held three weeks before the “Global May Day Strike.”

Baltimore WWP Socialist Conference

The atmosphere was vibrant and exciting at the hall packed with young activists attending the April 8-9 day regional conference organized by the Baltimore Chapter of Workers World Party. The themes of the gathering focused on socialism, revolution and fighting national oppression.

Less than an hour into the program, organizers had to set up more tables and chairs at the FidoSpace to accommodate the 120 people who registered. Many expressed interest in joining WWP and attending membership classes.

In anticipation of the Sept. 21, 2014, Baltimore WWP Socialist Conference

The conference was remarkable given that WWP members were in the streets protesting the U.S. missile strikes on Syria the day before the event. They organized two protests, one in downtown Baltimore, D.C., at the Pentagon Metro Station during the day and another that evening in downtown Baltimore.

‘Everyone agreed: The conference was a huge success’

By Workers World Baltimore Bureau

Larry Holmes, WWP first secretary, spoke on “Resistance in the Epoch of Trump — Next Step: May Day.” Holmes emphasized the need to fight U.S. imperialism, a timely topic given that the conference took place just one day after the Pentagon missile strike on Syria.

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May Day 2017:

‘We are the ones we have been waiting for’

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

The world is reverberating with militant calls for a mass, general strike on May Day — International Workers’ Day on May 1. People are rising up because, as the Black poet June Jordan said, we know “we are the ones we have been waiting for.”

Only the people can stop the forces of far-right extremism and of late-stage capital-ism wreaking worldwide havoc.

In the U.S., voices are being raised for a May Day strike by all sectors and communities of workers and oppressed people. The cry is coming not just from unionized workers, but from all of us being targeted.

Mass militant May Day actions are being called by groups of people of color, migrants and immigrants, temp and low-wage workers, unemployed and under-employed, LGBTQ+ people, prisoners, women working inside and outside the home, young people and students, people with disabilities who are working or want to and are denied the chance, people who are losing health care and environmental protection, and so much more.

On May Day we can unite to defend ourselves and all those under direct, immediate attack. We can assemble as a revolutionary united front against neo-fascism, capitalism and imperialist war!

Become part of this powerful fight-back! Come out wherever you are for May 1 strike actions happening coast to coast.

Just a few of the marches and rallies include:

**New York City**
- May Day Strike to Defend Migrants, Refugees & All Workers!
- Union Square: Gather 12 p.m., March at 5 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/le8tkxj

**Philadelphia**
- May 1: Un Dia Sin Inmigrante, Black & Brown Bodies City Hall: 12 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/meg2zjy

**Baltimore, Md.**
- May Day Global Strike — Make May Day Resist Trump Day McKeldin Fountain: 3 to 9 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/mdy2zt4

**Washington, D.C.**
- March on May Day with the International Working Class!
- Malcolm X Park: 12 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/liajecoz

**Chicago**
- 1 de Mayo: Chic- cago Fights Back – Chicago No Se Deja! May 1 Union Park: 1 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/mpdxlr

**South Carolina**
- May Day: Strike! Roanoke, Va., No Borders in the Workers Struggle! May 1 Melrose Park: 3 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/kus4zex

**Atlanta, Ga.**
- First Day of International de l@s Trabajadores Mitin 68 Mitchell St., SW: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/n3r2w

**Detroit**
- May 1: Overturn the Trump Agenda, Grand Circus Park: 5 p.m.
- tinyurl.com /ma4lrha

**Denver, Colo.**
- May Day: Strike & Resist!
- Roosevelt Park: 11 a.m.
- tinyurl.com/krtz23c

**Milwaukee, Wis.**
- May 1: Day without Latinas, Immigrants & Refugees 1027 S. 5th St: 12 to 3 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/m3hjs8e

**San Francisco**
- Un Dia Sin Inmigrantes! May 1, Justin Herman Plaza: 5 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/hrsr8w6

**San Diego**
- Workers & Community Resist! May 1st
- International Workers Day Federal Building: Rally 3 p.m., March to Chicano Park 4 p.m.

**Syracuse, N.Y.**
- May 1 Strike — Huelga Primero Mayo Perseverance Park: 12 to 3 p.m.
- Corner of South Salina St. & Washington St.
- tinyurl.com/kh3jhnmb

**Durham, N.C.**
- May Day: Strike! No Work, No School 602 E. Main: 5 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/1lvxry9

**Raleigh, N.C.**
- 1 de MAYO: ¡Huelga y Resistencia! Strike & Resist! Moore Square: 10 a.m.
- tinyurl.com/n6wp96

**Buffalo, N.Y.**
- Unite & Resist! May 1: Columbus Park West: 5 p.m.
- tinyurl.com/knzjzm

**Syracuse Alliance**

May Day is a demand against California a sanctuary state.

Caravan Against Fear

By Terri Kay

More than 100 people traveled to the remotely located Richmond, Calif., Immigration and Customs Enforcement Detention Center on April 11 to support the Caravan Against Fear’s California tour. Calling on everyone to “stand up and be counted,” they demanded that ICE “stop separating our families,” “Free Yasmine” and “ICE out of California!” They also called on state legislators to vote yes on AB 434, which would make California a sanctuary state.

Yasmine Liliana Elias Obregon, a single mother of three U.S. citizen children and a local focus of the demand against “separating our families,” has been detainted at West County Detention Center in Richmond for more than a year. (For more information on her case, visit theyc.org/free-yazz.)

The caravan states: “We’re mobilizing because fear is spreading throughout the U.S. and being used as a tool to promote white supremacy, terrorize communities and break apart families. We believe that defiant protest, coupled with acts of mutual aid, trust and understanding across communities, are vital to combating fear, repelling Trump’s attacks on our freedoms and families, and building a lasting civic offensive to defend immigrants and defeat the hate-filled plans of the Trump administration.”

The caravan is sponsored by labor, community, human rights, religious, civic, environmental and other organizations in both the U.S. and Mexico, including the Southern Border Communities Coalition, Rompevidencia Televisión and dozens of other local organizations joined in a diverse and growing coalition of resistance.

The rally was sponsored by the Asian Law Caucus, Bay Resistance, the Contra Costa Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment, Causa Justa : A Moral Economy, Global Exchange, the National Day Labor Organizing Network, the Richmond Progressive Alliance, Service Employees Local 1021, SEIU-Unit ed Healthcare Workers West and SEIU United Service Workers West.
The following statement was issued by the Labor Fraction of Workers World Party.

On April 6, President Donald Trump ordered a brutal act of war against the Syrian people. He did it without a shred of evidence that the Syrian government was involved in an alleged poison gas attack that killed civilians. Working people in Syria gain strategically — by targeting noncombatants, when the Bashar al-Assad government has been winning the war against U.S.-backed terrorist groups — the Islamic State (IS), ISIS, and the Free Syrian Army and others? In fact, there is evidence that the gas attack was actually carried out by so-called rebels.

The attack on Syria was followed by the bombing of Afghanistan, employing the most powerful non-nuclear bomb ever dropped in all of world history. A military assault on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea could be imminent.

Working people, organized and unorganized, have no reason to support yet another war. In fact, the chattering in the workplace is that people are outraged that Trump has dragged us into what could be a major war — or wars. There will be mass suffering as a result of billions of dollars of cuts in human services funded out of shift money to the Pentagon war machine. The suffering of the Syrian people, including the nearly five million made refugees by this U.S.-sponsored war, will only worsen.

Organized labor should be outraged! Yet its leaders, AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka and Change to Win President Jon Jones Jr., have said nothing. Silence is the voice of complicity. Their collusion with Trump — and with both Democrats and Republicans — when faced with Pentagon aggression is just their latest betrayal of the class interests as workers since the November election. These are the same leaders who sold out the heroic water defenders at Standing Rock and the migrant communities who are being rounded up, detained and deported en masse.

Labor lieutenants of capitalism — a shameful division.

On Feb. 25, 1967, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said “the bombs in Vietnam explode at home.” (tinyurl.com/sertrze)

While this newsletter foregrounds the Civil Rights movement it was waging its life by positioning himself against the Vietnam War, rare were the voices from the labor movement striking a similar chord. In its silence, organized labor was complicit in a criminal war of aggression against the people of Vietnam, funded by the poor, the workers and the oppressed people of the U.S.

Is this a fifty-year lesson? Yet we see the leaders of the AFL-CIO and Change to Win continuing to act as cheerleaders for imperialist war. They know full well that the union movement has enough muscle to bring the war machine to a halt. Even the ten percent of the working class in unions have a lot of power. Power to stop the transport of goods by truck, rail and air. Power to shut down telecommunications and government. Power to shut down the military-industrial complex at the point of production.

We believe in the old union maxim that “an injury to one is an injury to all.” This principle has no borders. When our human family in other countries is subjected to imperialism, violence carried out in our name, labor in the U.S. has no choice but to join the chorus of voices saying, “Hands off Syria, Afghanistan, Korea and the world!” This message must be heard around the world on May Day, International Workers Day, and beyond.

Immigrant prisoners strike

By Jim McMahan
Tacoma, Wash.

Some 750 immigrant prisoners held a united hunger strike against inhumane conditions at the Tacoma Northwest Detention Center from April 10 to April 15. The detainees withstood threats that they would be taken out of solitary confinement or transferred out of the prison. Indeed, some were shipped out to a prison in Oregon.

Immigration conditions, already terrible under President Barack Obama, have worsened under President Donald Trump. Across the country, prisoners are being denied the basic necessities of life, with no due process of law.

The prisoners’ demands, which remain unfulfilled, are to change the food menu; lower commodity prices; improve hygiene; increase recreation time; have schoolwork and other activities available to keep detainees occupied; improve medical attention; increase wages for working detainees; and speed up the legal process for detainees.

These are some of the same demands that the prisoners went on strike for in 2014 — a 56-day hunger strike work stoppage. The exploited prisoners usually receive only one thing to eat: beans. They have little access to health care, and wages are only a dollar a day.

NWDC Resistance, already the de facto organization of solidarity activists including former prisoners, is supporting those inside. The group set up tents and a stage and organized February 14, Valentine’s Day, a show of solidarity for prisoners incarcerated throughout the country.

NWDC Resistance “Call to Action” says: “Trump has staffed his immigration force with openly anti-immigrant officials with links to white supremacist organizations, leaving people detained with little choice but to put their bodies on the line to fight for basic human rights.”

Jeff Sessions’ newly released memorandum calling for increased prosecutions of immigrants and their supporters, combined with a rollout where he referred to immigration as “slush,” highlights the need for local resistance to the federal detention and deportation dragnet.

On April 16 Easter Sunday rally at the conclusion of the strike, international human rights activist Nestora Salgado spoke for the immigrant strikers. She stated that the next time those on the inside go on strike, she and others on the outside should also go on a hunger strike — that we should not see ourselves as apart from them. Salgado has herself been imprisoned in Mexico for her community self-defense stand.

Michael Dorsey, a Black representative of Food Workers.org, stated that his committee remains on the picket line.

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Washington workers.org
PART 4

On April 24 –

Pack the court to win freedom for Mumia Abu-Jamal

By Betsey Piette

Philadelphia

A court hearing on Mumia Abu-Jamal’s new first and only chance at parole will be held in the Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia on April 24, his birthday. Abu-Jamal supporters will be out in full force outside the courthouse and in the courtroom during the hearing, renewing the call for his release from prison.
Victim of police brutality

Justice for Ramarley Graham

Two demonstrations were held March 27 in New York City to protest the white New York Police Department cop who killed an unarmed Black teenager, Ramarley Graham, in front of his grand- mother and brother on Feb. 2, 2012, in the bathroom of their Bronx home. The cop, Richard Haste, decided to resign on March 26 rather than face being fired on March 27. What many in the movement are asking is: Why didn’t a grand jury indict Haste and his partner, Morris McCouinagh, for Graham’s murder? Haste chased Graham into his home without a warrant, claiming to be looking for “drugs” before fatally executing the 18-year-old.

Uniece Fennel’s death—an act of state violence

By Terri Kay

A number of family members and supporters from the Anti Police-Terror Project packed the chambers of the Hayward, Calif., City Council on April 11. They were there to demand truth and real account- ability in the killing of Ebbie Mondragon. Unidentified Fremont, Calif., police de- tectives, who were driving an unmarked car in Hayward, shot and killed 16-year- old Mondragon on March 14 as she rode as a passenger in a car with four other people in the middle of an apartment complex. The police have concocted a very suspicious story to justify killing an innocent girl.

I find out that there were no other survi- vors other than me and my young broth- ers, who work long hours for less than 50 cents an hour and sometimes for free, are

One by one, family members and sup- porters spoke to the council. They de- manded every video footage leading up to, during and after the shooting; a full autopsy report plus any and all medi- cal records; any and all information about what happened to the car the police were following. They asked: Did Fremont police have permission to be conducting surveillance and following a car in Hay- ward? Was the Hayward Police Depart- ment at all aware of this operation? Many of the family members were so over- whelmed by grief that it brought many of the audience to tears.

Uniece Fennel was being wrongfully charged for her own death when we know that Sheriff Mike Andrees and the Durham County jail are the only killers in our city that threaten the safety of our community and children.

We don’t believe the sheriff: suicide or not, the system is guilty

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After family and supporters had spoken, the council president invited Hay- ward Police Chief Mark Koller to respond. Koller claimed that there was no video of the shooting and that the detective, who had a body camera, “was unable to turn it on.” This frequent excuse is offered by many police officers after they shoot someone.

Koller stated that the investigation as to any criminal wrongdoing on the part of the police was being led by Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Mal- ley. O’Malley has yet to prosecute a single killer cop in Alameda County.

The Fremont Police Department’s use of force policy dictates that officers should not shoot into moving vehicles. (East Bay Express, April 12)

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Uniece Fennel was being wrongfully charged for her own death when we know that Sheriff Mike Andrees and the Durham County jail are the only killers in our city that threaten the safety of our community and children.

We don’t believe the sheriff: suicide or not, the system is guilty

One by one, family members and sup- porters spoke to the council. They de- manded any video footage leading up to, during and after the shooting; a full autopsy report plus any and all medi- cal records; any and all information about what happened to the car the police were following. They asked: Did Fremont police have permission to be conducting surveillance and following a car in Hay- ward? Was the Hayward Police Depart- ment at all aware of this operation? Many of the family members were so over- whelmed by grief that it brought many of the audience to tears.

After family and supporters had spoken, the council president invited Hay- ward Police Chief Mark Koller to respond. Koller claimed that there was no video of the shooting and that the detective, who had a body camera, “was unable to turn it on.” This frequent excuse is offered by many police officers after they shoot someone.

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The Fremont Police Department’s use of force policy dictates that officers should not shoot into moving vehicles. (East Bay Express, April 12)

Uniece Fennel’s death—an act of state violence

By Terri Kay

A number of family members and supporters from the Anti Police-Terror Proj- ect packed the chambers of the Hayward, Calif., City Council on April 11. They were there to demand truth and real account- ability in the killing of Ebbie Mondragon. Unidentified Fremont, Calif., police de- tectives, who were driving an unmarked car in Hayward, shot and killed 16-year- old Mondragon on March 14 as she rode as a passenger in a car with four other people in the middle of an apartment complex. The police have concocted a very suspicious story to justify killing an innocent girl.

I find out that there were no other survi- vors other than me and my young broth- ers, who work long hours for less than 50 cents an hour and sometimes for free, are

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Workers World Party attends DPRK reception

A Workers World Party delegation attended a reception on April 12 hosted by the U.N. Mission of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea in New York City. The occasion was the 105th anniversary of the birth of the first president of the DPRK, the late Kim Il Sung.

First as a political organizer, then as a revolutionary guerrilla commander, and ultimately as leader of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the Korean People’s Army, Kim Il Sung achieved incredible victories in the struggle to liberate Korea from imperialist domination, inspiring the masses of people to build and defend a strong, independent socialist nation.

Kim Il Sung’s example lives in the determination of today’s leaders of the DPRK not to yield to the war threats being hurled right now by the criminal agents of U.S. imperialism. The DPRK has every right to arm in self-defense against this brutal gang of exploiters, who have shown again and again that they respect no international laws and can be restrained only by a show of force.

U.S. out of Korea! Long live the revolutionary spirit of Comrade Kim Il Sung! Comradely, Deirdre Griswold For the Secretariat of the National Committee, Workers World Party

Solidarity with north Korea

The following statement from Workers World Party was issued April 14.

Comrade Kim Jong Un
Chairman of the Workers Party of Korea
Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK
Pyongyang, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
Dear Comrade Kim Jong Un,

Workers World Party conveys to the Workers Party of Korea its continued firm solidarity and support on the 105th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Kim Il Sung.

As a political organizer, then as a revolutionary guerrilla commander, and ultimately as leader of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the Korean People’s Army, Kim Il Sung achieved incredible victories in the struggle to liberate Korea from imperialist domination, inspiring the masses of people to build and defend a strong, independent socialist nation.

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U.S. out of Korea! Long live the revolutionary spirit of Comrade Kim Il Sung!

Comradely,
Deirdre Griswold
For the Secretariat of the National Committee,
Workers World Party

Meetings denounce THAAD deployment in south Korea

A larger than expected crowd of 75 people attended a Philadelphia meeting on April 11 about the south Korean movement against the deployment of Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, a new U.S. missile system.

The meeting was part of a tour April 4-7 that included meetings in Berkeley/Oakland and Los Angeles, Calif.; Huntsville, Ala.; Boston; Rutgers University in New Jersey; Washington, D.C.; and Fairfax, Va. The tension at later meetings was heightened by awareness that the Pentagon had sent a battle group to the sea off Korea, which included missile-armed destroyers and an aircraft carrier.

Endorsing organizations included the American Federation of Teachers Local 2026, Answer Philadelphia, Asian Americans United, Brandywine Peace Organization, International Action Center, Philadelphia Chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women and Workers World Party.

A meeting with the same agenda and main speakers took place April 13 at New York University in New York City, filling an auditorium there. Videos showed the determination of the people of south Korea and presented a talk by Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s military analyst Theodore Postol. Not only did he outline the military weaknesses of the THAAD system, but he confirmed that the missile system is aimed at China.

New Yorkers protest MOAB bombing in Afghanistan

More than 40 people came to the Times Square military recruiting station in Manhattan, N.Y., on April 14 to demand that U.S. imperialism get out of Afghanistan.

Called on with less than 24 hours’ notice by the International League of People’s Struggle, the rally denounced the war criminal President Donald Trump’s dropping of a 21,000-pound bomb on Afghanistan. Among the members or organizations represented were BAYAN-USA; the Committee to Stop FBI Repression; NYC Students for Justice in Palestine; and the International Action Center.

Workers and tourists stopped to listen to speeches that cut through corporate spin. Michelle Martinazzi, from the Committee to Stop FBI Repression told onlookers about Palestinian political prisoner Rasmea Odeh, who was tortured by Israel and then freed on immigration charges by the U.S.:

Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Ann Wright, who resigned from the State Department to protest the invasion of Iraq in 2003, attacked the U.S. war against Afghanistan.

Representing the International Action Center, Steve Milles reminded people that 32 years before the U.S. dropped its largest non-nuclear bomb in Afghanistan, the Pentagon, FBI and local police dropped a bomb on the MOVE house in Philadelphia, killing six adults and five children. Milles pointed out that the first mission of the U.S. Army Air Corps, which was scrubbed at the last minute, was to bomb striking coal miners in West Virginia.

Continued from page 3

To save Mother Earth: Change the system

Climate march in New York and other cities globally

Activist Chris Hedges pointed out that The Climate Group, which endorsed the march, included among its members and sponsors BP, Dow Chemical, Duke Energy, HSBC, Goldman Sachs and JPMorgan Chase.

“Environmental Defense Fund,” wrote Hedges, “which says it ‘works with companies rather than against them’ and which is calling on its members to join the march, has funding from the oil and gas industry and supports fracking as a form of alternative energy.

“These faux environmental organizations are designed to neutralize resistance,” he concluded. “And their presence exposes the march’s failure to adopt a meaningful agenda or pose a genuine threat to power.”

A demonstration of 500,000 can become a nice walk in the sun with that kind of program, while a demonstration of 5,000—if it has revolutionary class politics—can be more of a threat to the capitalist class if its goal is to shut the system down.

Socialism the answer to climate change

The #1 sustainable country in the world is revolutionary socialist Cuba. It is so not because the Cubans love their beaches or coral reefs, which are 1,000 percent healthier than those in Florida.

The Cubans do love their beaches, but that’s not why it is a sustainable country. It is because it is a socialist country, with revolutionary leaders who are guided by Marxism. The banks do not dictate policy; the masses do. The Cubans don’t drop bombs abroad; they send doctors.

The website publication The Daily Green ran an article on April 7 titled “While America Launches Missiles, Cuba Quietly Leads on Climate Change.” Among other things, it stated: “China has gone from cheap coal to scrapping its coal plants. India has gone from cheap coal to scrapping its coal plants. But the Cubans do love their beaches, which is why they’ve decided to go without them.”

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Trump & the Wall Street-Pentagon coalition

By Fred Goldstein

There has been much buzz in the capitalist media recently about Donald Trump’s “flip-flopping.” He has changed his positions on nearly half of the global total variety of issues within a few weeks’ time. Among the issues on which he has switched, are:

• He has bombed Syria after having opposed intervention.
• He says China is not a currency manipulator after calling China “the world’s leading currency manipulator.”
• He has floated the idea of negotiations with North Korea after saying that he would never negotiate with that government.
• He says that NATO was “once obsolete; it is no longer obsolete.”
• He says he likes Janet Yellen, the head of the Federal Reserve Board, and her low interest rates, after claiming she and “other global special interests” had ruined life for middle America.
• He says it turns out that “lots of small employers are really helped” by the Export-Import Bank, after having opposed it.

There have been a few of his reversals. They have all brought him more in line with the fundamental needs of U.S. imperialism.

National security explanations for Trump’s reversals have been put forward by the big-business media. For example, it is said that Trump adopts the position of the last person he has talked to. Or, Trump has no ideology and he can shift positions easily. Or, he listens to his daughter Ivanka Trump and her spouse Jared Kushner. And so on.

All of these things may be true. But they mask the deeper reason for the so-called flip-flops.

Trump has been leaned on by the Pentagon and the Wall Street-Pentagon coalition, led in this instance by Lt. General H.R. McMaster, former head of the U.S. military command in Afghanistan. Trump — and Obama before him — has espoused a policy of containing China and Korea. China and Korea are two of the three countries that are always promoting. The only nuclear weapons that are being used in the world are in the possession of the United States and Russia. The United States has over 900 nuclear weapons — the largest number in the world. China and Russia have far fewer. Thus, Trump — and his strategists — has been forced to position the United States as a country that has nuclear weapons. He has been forced to talk about the DPRK in order to drive home the point that they have nuclear weapons.

Reversals have been put forward by the capitalist media recently about Donald Trump and the Wall Street-Pentagon coalition. The DPRK has been forced into consideration the lessons of Iraq and Libya. The U.S. imperialists used the pretext of looking for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq to launch an attack, which ended in the murder of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. The DPRK is also well aware of the lessons of Libya, whose leader Moammar al-Gadafi gave up his nuclear program; Libya was later invaded and he was brutally murdered by pro-U.S. forces.

The New York Times noted: “North Korea could hardly drop these [nuclear] programs without understandably fearing an attack. Disarmament is a legal requirement for the U.S. that would invite annihilation.” (New York Times, April 17)

This also speaks to the fraudulent slogan of a “denuclearized Korean peninsula,” which Washington and its allies are always promoting. The only nuclear weapon actually on the Korean peninsula are those in the hands of the U.S. military command in South Korea.

The truth is that he has been forced to resist U.S. aggression against the government has vigorously warned against missile installations. The Chinese government has been forced to resist U.S. aggression against the government. Seoul and Washington have ignored China and Korea. China and Korea have been forced to resist U.S. aggression against the government. Seoul and Washington have ignored China and Korea.

In Beijing the military and the political high command must be truly worrying about the possibility of having a pro-imperialist puppet in power.长达 years of tension in the region. Seoul and Washington have ignored China and Korea.

The crisis in Korea, like the economic and geopolitical crises for U.S. imperialism around the globe, cannot be swept away nor can they be overcome by military means. U.S. imperialism is a coalescence of feet of clay. Trump is finding that out the hard way.

Goldstein is author of “Low-Wage Capitalism” and “Capitalism at a Dead End,” available at all online booksellers.

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“The China plans to spend more than $360 billion on renewable energy sources like solar and wind, a plan that is projected to create more than 13 million jobs by 2030. Roughly 3.3 million Chinese workers are already employed in the renewable energy industry, nearly half of the global total and represents nearly four times as many clean energy jobs as exist in the United States.”

In fact, the Chinese government has carried out groundbreaking projects to deal with this problem that should shame the U.S. government.

This is what can happen if the workers — not the Pentagon or Wall Street — dictate society.

It is capitalism that created the climate crisis; it is capitalism that must pay the bill. It is time for us to collect.

TURN THE GUNS AROUND

Matinies, Soldier Revolts and Revolutions

Weaving together GI letters, interviews and first-hand narratives about U.S. military life in the Vietnam War era, shows its relation to capitalist state power and highlights why breaking the military chain of command is an essential step to ending oppression around the globe.

“If schools in the United States really want to impress historical context, they should show the young high schoolers the events that they are currently experiencing. They need to learn about the war that just ended, which is the Vietnam War. They also need a history of social and political movements for the purposes of understanding the war and the anti-war movements of the history of soldier revolts from the Paris Commune to the Portuguese Coup.”

— Pvt. Larry Holmes GI resister and organizer for the American Servicemen’s Union 1972-74.
Abolish the death penalty

At least seven death-row prisoners were sentenced to die by lethal injection in the state of Arkansas, while the executions on April 14 in Little Rock, against the executive branch of government. A demand needs to be raised for the abolition of the death penalty.

Protests have been held in Little Rock, Ark., the state capital, against the execution of eight men, who were sentenced to die by lethal injection. The group of about 70,000 supporters in Toulouse, “It’s all for freedom fighters.”

The soviets were both an arena for political debate and a place where the people could express their will in democratic institutions. They attempted to carry out what they voted for. If midazolam or a different drug were used, the plaintiffs is significant: If midazolam does not adequately anesthetize the patient, the threat of irreparable harm to the plaintiff their children, their families and their communities. There were soviets of students, peasants, workers and others.

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Lenin's April Theses

Continued from page 10

oughly anti-war. After democracy was proclaimed in the February revolution, the people hoped and expected that Rus-

sia would pull out of the bloody conflict still raging in Europe. But the govern-

ment that took over, headed by Alexander Kerensky, was weak. It stayed in the war and became increasingly unpopular.

This was the situation when, in early April 1917, Lenin returned from exile in Switzerland. He was able to come back by negotiating with Germany, which al-

lowed him to cross Germany in a sealed train so there was no chance of him agi-

tating the population against the war.

As soon as he arrived in Russia, he im-

mediately gave a speech to the All-Russia Conference of Soviets of Workers’ and Soldiers’ Deputies on April 4. It was then published in the party newspaper, Pravda. Lenin spelled out in detail exactly what the party should do.

“The April Theses”

1) In our attitude towards the war, which under the new (provisional) gov-

ernment of Lvov and Co. unquestionably remains on Russia’s part a predatory im-

perialist war owing to the capitalist na-

ture of that government, not the slightest conces-

sion to ‘revolutionary defensism’ is permissible.

2) The specific feature of the present situation in Russia is that the country is passing from the first stage of the revo-

lution, which, owing to the insufficient class-consciousness and organisation of the proletariat, placed power in the hands of the bourgeoisie — to its second stage, which must place power in the hands of the proletariat and the poorest sections of the peasants.

3) This transition is characterized, on the one hand, by a maximum of legally recognized rights (Russia is now the fre-

est of all the imperialist countries in the world); on the other, by the absence of vi-

ence towards the masses, and, finally, by their unreasoning trust in the govern-

ment of capitalists, which wrong enemies of peace and socialism.

4) This peculiar situation demands of us an ability to adapt ourselves to the special conditions of Party work among unpre-

cedentedly large masses of proletarians who have just awakened to political life.

5) No support for the Provisional Government; the utter futility of all its promises should be made clear, particu-

larly of those relating to the recognization of annexations. Exposure in place of the impermissible, illusion-breeding de-

mand that this government, a govern-

ment of capitalists, should cease to be an imperialist government.

6) Recognition of the fact that in most of the Soviets of Workers’ Deputies our Party is in a minority, so far a small mi-

nority, as against a bloc of all the pet-

ty-bourgeois opportunist elements — who have yielded to the influence of the bourgeoise and spread that influence among the proletariat.

7) The masses must be made to see that the Soviets of Workers’ Deputies are the only possible form of revolutionary gov-

ernment, and that therefore our task is, as long as this government yields to the influence of the bourgeoisie, to present a patient, systematic, and persistent ex-

planation of the errors of their tactics, an explanation especially adapted to the practical needs of the masses...

8) Not a parliamentary republic — to return to a parliamentary republic from the Soviets of Workers’ Deputies is a retrograde step — but a republic of Soviets of Workers’, Agricultural Labor-

ers’ and Peasants’ Deputies throughout the country, from top to bottom.

9) Abolition of the police, the army and the bureaucracy.

10) The salaried, white-collar workers, all of whom are elective and replaceable at any time, not to exceed the average wage of a competent worker.

11) The weight of emphasis in the agrarian program to be shifted to the So-

viet of Agricultural Laborers’ Deputies.

12) Convene a new party congress and change the program to include the points above.

13) Change of party’s name: Instead of ‘Social-Democracy,’ whose official lead-

ers throughout the world have betrayed socialism and deserted to the bourgeoi-

se, we must call ourselves the Commu-

nist Party.”

Well. That is a program for a real revolution. Already these points today not be-

cause they are a timeless blueprint for a revolutionary program. Not at all.

There is no such blueprint. Marxism above all recognized this. We are not in a process of change, of coming into being, and passing away. We must analyze what is the current reality and base our pro-

gram on that.

Lenin himself constantly updated his analysis of what had to be done. When he delivered his speech on April 4, he stunned a lot of the leaders in his own party.

In fact, one of his points of difference with Leon Trotsky back in 1905 had been over what would be the various stages in the revolutionary process in Russia. At that time, Lenin had believed it necessary for Russia to go through a se-

ries of bourgeois, capitalist development before the working class and the poor peasants could think of taking power and

regaining society on a socialist basis.

The war changed everything.

But the war had changed everything.

When Lenin introduced the “April The-

ses,” it was two months after the over-

throw of the czar and the establishment of a democratic government — democrat-

ic-republican in form, but still a bour-

geoisie. In those two months, the bourgeois democrats had shown themselves incapable of getting Russia out of the war, incapable of breaking up the landed estates, incapable of reorganizing the economy and incapable of set-

ring up a state apparatus strong enough to fight off attempts at a counterrevo-

lution by the monarchists and aristocrats.

All this called for a new understanding of what had to be done.

Trotsky, since 1905, had argued that the workers must take the power in Rus-

sia in order to carry out even bourgeois democratic reforms. So now he and Le-

nin were in agreement.

But Trotsky also changed his views in early April. Each time he met with Lenin on the question of what kind of party was needed to carry out the revolu-

tion, he was won over to Lenin’s views on the necessity of putting forward a party based on democratic centralism.

It was on the basis of the “April Theses” that Trotsky and his group joined the Bolshevik Party. They had taken on the role preparing for the revolutionary sei-

zure of power in October.

The masses of the people, seen espe-

cially in the constant shifts to the left in the Soviets, pushed ever harder for a revolutionary change that would take the people from the Tsarist to the Bolsheviks.

At times the Bolshevik Party even had to hold back the workers in key cities like Petrograd, so that those elsewhere in the country who were slower to understand what was happening could catch up — and join the revolutionary movement, which they did.

In studying the past, we can gain a bet-

ter understanding of what a revolution is, how it happens and, most important, how it can succeed. 

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The United National Antics Coalition held a picket line on April 10 outside the Ukrainian Consulate on Bush Street in San Francisco in conjunction with the International Day of Solidarity with the People of Odessa. Demonstrators went inside to present a letter to consulate officials with the following demands: “Stop the repression against relatives and supporters of the 47 people mur-

dered on May 2, 2014.” — Free Alexander Kushnarev, Anatoly Slobodyanik and all political prisoners in Ukraine!” and “No to the massacre of the people and all over the world!” The Odessa Solidarity Campaign, Socialist Action, Workers World Party, the Freedom Socialist Party and United Public Workers for Action also sponsored the solidarity rally.

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Report by Terri Kay

Workers.org

April 20, 2017

PAGE 11

Detrás del ataque a Siria

planes de venganza de los militares con-

tra la RPDC, que derrotó a la fuerza inva-

sora estadounidense en la Guerra de Corea. El ejército estadounidense nunca se ha repuesto de esta pérdida.

El gobierno de Trump ha dejado que el Pentágono envíe más tropas a Siria, bombardeando a un gran número de civiles en Mosul y aumentando los ataques de aví-

ones no tripulados en Yemen y Somalia, todo sin que la Casa Blanca fije estas operaciones de poder y entender lo que estaba pasando en la matanza de civiles por los mili-

tares estadounidenses en Siria y en Mosul. Corea. El ejército estadounidense nunca se ha repuesto de esta pérdida.

Al unilateralizar el gobierno, Trump ha dado más prioridad a la batalla perdida del Pentágono y del imperialismo es-

tadounidense que al intentar detener la disminución de la posición de Washington en el mun-

do. La verdadera consigna de la políti-

ca exterior de Trump es: “Hacer que Estados Unidos vuelva a ser gran
des”. Pero este nuevo autoritarismo, rac-

ista, misógino y prejuiciado no tiene otro talento que fanfarrellar dándole órdenes. No es más que hacer guerra de propulsión sólo puede terminar en un desastre para el imperialismo estadounidense.
**Detrás del ataque a Siria**

Por Fred Goldman

Usted proporciona las imágenes, yo proporciono el texto.