From Ferguson to Baltimore

JAIL KILLER COPS!

By Monica Moorehead

The murder of 18-year-old Michael Brown last Aug. 9 by white police officer Darren Wilson ignited an almost two-week uprising in Ferguson, Mo. Led by Black youth, this rebellion began the process of shining a spotlight on the deep-seated, horrifying atrocities that have been taking place inside and outside police departments around the U.S. for many decades. The current ground zero of this upsurge is Baltimore.

Even though the U.S. Department of Justice in early March failed to indict Wilson for civil rights violations in Brown’s murder due to “probable cause,” it issued a damning report March 4 that confirmed rampant racism in the Ferguson Police Department. This report would not have seen the light of day so quickly were it not for the heroic rebellion that exposed the militarization of the police there.

Abayomi Azikiwe wrote about the DOJ report for this newspaper: “Data collected by the Ferguson Police Department from 2012 to 2014 shows African Americans account for 85 percent of vehicle stops, 90 percent of citations, and 93 percent of arrests made by FPD officers, despite comprising only 67 percent of Ferguson’s population. African Americans are more than twice as likely as white drivers to be searched during vehicle stops even after controlling for non-race-based variables such as the reason the vehicle stop was initiated, but are found in possession of contraband 26 percent less often than white drivers, suggesting officers are impermissibly considering race as a factor when determining whether to search.”

(workers.org, March 10)

This report came less than four months after a secretive Missouri grand jury failed to indict Wilson for Brown’s murder. Also, the white Ferguson police chief, Thomas Jackson — reportedly a

continued on page 6


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In the first national oil strike since 1980, the United Steelworkers took on the most profitable industry in the capitalist world on Feb. 1. The struggle effectively shut down refineries of Shell, Marathon, BP and other transnational conglomerates. Most of the thousands of strikers are now back at work, having won national and local plant agreements that address some of the union’s concerns— overtime, job security, health care and the core issue that drove workers to walk the picket lines: unsafe conditions that endanger workers and residents of the surrounding communities.

However, management is still playing hardball with the strikers. Workers are still on strike in Whiting, Ind.; Texas City, Texas; and Oregon, Ohio.

In Whiting, Local 7-1 has negotiated a tentative local contract with BP but is fighting over the terms of the return-to-work agreement. Management wants to cancel the long-term disability insurance policies for strikers who did not personally pay the premiums while they were on strike. Also, the local objects to the company’s policy of withdrawing members who allegedly committed infractions while on the picket line.

The number of unresolved local issues between Marathon and Local 19-1 in Texas City has dropped from 28 to 15, but the parties remain far apart. They disagree on safety measures and forced overtime—life-and-death issues in a refinery—and job security. This refinery was the scene of a tragic explosion 10 years ago that killed 15 workers and injured more than 170. The union won stronger safety language from BP, which owned the refinery at the time, but current owner Marathon wants to gut those protections.

A massive explosion took place in 1997 in the port of Texas City, inhabited by 30,000 residents. When ammonium nitrate on board the docked ship Grandcamapa ignited, the blast’s impact shattered windows 40 miles away in Houston. The shocks registered on a seismograph in Denver. Flying red-hot shrapnel landed inside the refineries, causing more fires and explosions. Some 581 people lost their lives and 3,500 were injured.

This unforgettable disaster symbolizes corporate disregard for people’s safety. With that infamous catastrophe from their grip. We’ve been in the streets to oppose the refineries, and calling for more fire and explosion protections.

The local even agreed to company demands to eliminate certain positions. “But the company still said ‘no’,” a striker stated. “All I can figure is they’re trying to break the union.”

With more work being done by fewer workers who are forced to work longer hours, fatalities and injuries occur.

With a shrinking workforce having to constantly monitor the production process, mental stress increases. That stress has the same intensity experienced by air traffic controllers that led to their strike in 1981.

Only 15 out of 320 USW members have crossed the picket line. Striker Mike told this writer, “Those are the ones I really give a hard time to.” Workers on the picket line are solidly behind the union.

In the capitalist world on Feb. 1. The union selectively struck 15 refineries on strike in Ohio, May 8. BP refinery workers on strike in Ohio, May 8.

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Stop killing Mumia Abu-Jamal

By WW New York Bureau

An important press conference was held in Harlem, N.Y., on May 7 to continue the national and international campaign pressing for emergency medical intervention for U.S. political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal. An array of speakers demanded Abu-Jamal be diagnosed and receive immediate treatment by physicians outside the prison system.

The Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition (New York City) organized the event and stated in a release:

“The need for independent medical diagnosis and treatment for renowned political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal is urgent. An open letter was delivered on April 29 to Pennsylvania Governor Thomas Wolf and Department of Corrections Secretary John Wetzel in Harrisburg documenting the medical neglect and malpractice that has characterized Abu-Jamal’s treatment.

“Time and now of four months, Abu-Jamal’s initial skin problem, diagnosed by the prison doctors as eczema, deteriorated drastically, and his health condition became life threatening from undiagnosed diabetes as he went into diabetic shock in the prison.

“This open letter was signed by, among many others, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Minister Louis Farrakhan, former president of the U.N. General Assembly Father Miguel d’Escoto, former Attorney General of Ecuador, Danny Glover and Alice Walker.

“Participants demanded Gov. Wolf and Secretary Wetzel immediately allow outside doctors of Abu-Jamal’s choosing to conduct the proper diagnosis and treatment to save his life. Speakers included Pam Africa, of International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal and MOVE; Noelle Hanrahan, executive director of Prison Radio; Joseph Harris, M.D., of MD’s for Mumia; Larry Holmes of the People’s Power Assembly; Jamal Joseph, professor of Film, Columbia University; Juliette Sekyll, assistant for International Affairs for the mayor of Saint-Denis, mayor of Paris, Comite Mumia Saint-Denis; Estela Vasquez, executive vice president, Local 1199 Service Employees union; and Cornel West, professor, Union Theological Seminary, and professor emeritus at Princeton University.

“Dr. Suzanne Ross of the Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition (NYC) further stated in a media advisory: "Supporters of Abu-Jamal note [in the open letter] that the horrific medical care he has received at SCI Mahanoy with serious consequenc- es is by no means unique to him. They call for an independent investigation of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections medical system. They note that this investigation must focus in particularly on profit-making organizations hired by the Department of Corrections that place priority on cost cutting rather than the quality of care provided to prisoners. Fewer referrals to hospitals are made, and deaths increase.

“Finally, given the extensive evidence of Abu-Jamal’s innocence, long prevented from being addressed fairly in the courts, and the evidence that his very life is in danger while in the prison system, the letter calls for Abu-Jamal’s immediate release from prison.”

From the press conference can be found online at youTube.Wat71Z.180. For information on how to help in the campaign for immediate lifesaving medical care for Abu-Jamal, call the hotline at 212-330-8029 or visit freemumia.com. Join officialmumiaabujamal on Facebook.

Another murder by cops
Rally demands justice for Frank McQueen

By Joe Piette
Chester, Pa.

Family, friends and Philly REAL Justice Coalition activists rallied on May 9 at the site of the June 2, 2014, police killing of Frank McQueen in Chester, Pa.

Delphine Matthews, McQueen’s mother, brought a yellow school bus and several carsloads of supporters to the sidewalk across the street from 12100 Culhanne Street, where speakers asked for witnesses to come forward with any information about what really happened there after 3 a.m. last June 2.

McQueen was a 34-year-old black man studying for a master’s degree, and the author of the novel “Red Devil” and two other books. A 2011 interview with the writer can be heard at tinyurl.com/ugyn7j.

Missing details, many questions

Almost a year after he was shot over 20 times and killed by the Chester Police Department, very little other information has been released. The police were quick to link McQueen to the Chester Police Department, even of his right arm and buttocks.

After an internal police investigation, the Chester Police Department claimed the shooting was justified, saying a police officer suffered a minor wound from the alleged gun police clain McQueen fired at them as he was leaving his estranged girlfriend’s home.

But many questions remain. Who fired the first shot? Why were so many shots fired? What were the names of all the police involved? Do any of the involved cops have a history of police violence? Did the bullet that hit Officer Matt Stewart come from friendly fire or another gun? Did forensic evidence prove that McQueen’s hands were covered with telltale firearm discharge residue? What about fingerprint? Were there any witnesses other than cops? Were there any videos of the incident? Why was the full police report never made public?

The coroner’s report has not been made public, and McQueen’s personal belongings have still not been released to his mother.

Appeal for eyewitness information

Rally participants handed out fliers to drivers in passing cars, asking them to honk their horns if they opposed police brutality. Protesters talked about the case with area residents drawn by the chants and sound-system-amplified voices.

The whole group marched with banners and signs while chanting, “No justice, no peace” and “Justice for Frank McQueen” and handing out fliers to bystanders in the suburban neighborhood.

Chester, a city of 34,000, has one of the highest rates of people living in poverty in the U.S., with more than 33 percent of the population below the federal poverty line. Seventy-three percent of Chester’s residents are Black. (neighborhoodscout.com/pa/chester/)

Chester police were also questioned about the killing of a 30-year-old man in 2012. An aspiring rapper who performed in Philadelphia, Noacell Bagley was fatally shot by cops after a traffic stop. Facing an outstanding arrest warrant against him, Bagley fled and was shot in the back of his right arm and buttocks.

“A Taser could have taken him down,” Chester lawyer Wade Wilson, one of Bagley’s attorneys, said. “But instead, they had to shoot him.”

Protesters demand answers, May 9.

Delaware County prosecutors refused to reveal the cops’ names in the shootings of both McQueen and Bagley. In nearby Philadelphia, prosecutors also refused to reveal the names of cops who killed Brandon Tate Brown, a Black man also killed after a traffic stop. (Wilson Times, March 2, 2013)

Just as in the cases of Mike Brown, Eric Garner and untold other Black men and women, the police are systematically allowed to shoot and kill whenever they claim fear of harm. Refusing to release all details about police-involved shootings further criticizes the so-called justice system.

McQueen’s family is demanding that all information and evidence be released and an independent investigation be conducted.

A community event in honor of McQueen’s life will take place on June 6 at Chalmers Park at 30th Street and Lehigh Avenue in Philadelphia. All proceeds will go to a college fund for McQueen’s children.

Anyone with information about Frank McQueen’s death should contact Delphine Matthews at 267-939-3823.
Jim Miller was a fighter. 

By Stephen Millies

James E. Miller fought for socialism and working people all over the world. He was just 65 when he died on April 14. His life is a model for our generation of revolutionaries.

James E. Miller was born in Madison, Wis., and went to Madison's William McKinley High School. He later became an American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union organizer in Fond du Lac, Wis., before returning to work in a bakery. Miller went to work in the bakery proudly wearing a “Free Angela Davis” button on his leather jacket. He defended workers and became president of the bakery workers local union.

Jim later became an American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union organizer in Fond du Lac, Wis., before returning to work in a bakery. Miller went to work in the bakery proudly wearing a “Free Angela Davis” button on his leather jacket. He defended workers and became president of the bakery workers local union.

Jim Miller was greatly influenced by the older, worker revolutionaries in the Milwaukee branch of Workers World Party.

Tens of thousands of young people across the United States wanted to make a revolution within what Che Guevara called “the belly of the beast.” Jim Miller was one of them.

He was attracted to Marxist theory and read the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Mao, Plekhanov and Trotsky. Above all, Jim Miller was a fighter.

He joined the Milwaukee branch of Workers World Party in 1967 and became chair of Milwaukee’s chapter of Youth Against War and Fascism. YAWF contended that the American system was an ant, and that Black Panther Bank Halloween was one of the U.S. top racist groups.

Fighting racism meant defending the Black Panther members, according to the Milwaukee daily newspaper The Milwaukee Journal. The paper wrote: “The Black Panthers are fighting for their lives.”

Bay Area, Calif.

Members of Black Seed (formerly Black Brunch) and Asians4BlackLives took over the Oakland City Council meeting on May 5 in the place. The more than 100 activists held a People’s City Council meeting. The activists were taken to oppose the proposed East 12th Street apartment tower, slated for development on public land near Lake Merritt.

Community residents created a human chain in front of councilmembers’ seats and locked themselves to each other. They also sang: “Which Side Are You On?” a famous union song. The Council adjourned their meeting without discussing the items on the agenda, including the tower.

During the People’s City Council meeting, residents discussed gentrification issues, such as development and displacement, as well as police problems in Oakland. Many speakers made important connections between police violence and gentrification.

Xan West, from Black Seed and a former member of the Eastlake neighborhood, said during the People’s City Council: “The housing incommenecence we’re causing is temporary. The real inconvenience will take place for Black and Asian Eastlake residents if the city sells the land to the luxury condo developer. These residents won’t be able to call the Eastlake neighborhood home anymore.” (Save the E. 12th Street Parcel for the People Facebook page, May 5)

In the midst of a housing affordability crisis in Oakland, the city is proposing to sell publicly owned land to private developers. UDR and Urban Core to create a 24-story, 300-unit, luxury high-rise apartment tower near Lake Merritt. The median rent would be $3,000 per month, and the development would not have any affordable units.

Across the bay in San Francisco, hundreds of activists stormed into San Francisco City Hall on May 8, protesting gentrification. Organized by the Plaza 36 Coalition, they marched inside with a huge banner reading “No Monster in the Mission.” They demanded lawmak-ers place a moratorium on luxury-priced housing developments in the Mission District.

By Gene Clancy

Rochester, N.Y.

More than 300 members and support-ers of Local 282 of the Amalgamated Transit Workers militantly marched and picketed on May 7 at the Rochester Gen¬eral Transportation Authority’s headquarters at 150 East Avenue. In 1971, Milwaukee police attacked a demonstration protesting the Attica prison massacre.

They arrested three YAWF members: Benita Orozco, Jim Miller and Bill Colangelo.

A few months later, “Red Squad” cops burned people alive. Black student athletes at UW led struggles against racism.

Collins Jr., Jesse Lee White and Earl W. Leverette. They were framed on ridiculous char¬ges of firing a shotgun at a Milwau¬kee cop through the back side win¬dow of a Volkswagen Beetle!

Every Sunday, YAWF members joined scores of other militants in picketing the House of Detention, where the “Milwau¬kee 3” were held. Sheriff’s deputies point¬ed their weapons at them.

Milwaukee police have a bloody his¬tory of murder and brutality. During the single month of December in 1974, cops killed four Black people, including the unarmed 36-year-old Jerry Brodber. Milwaukee Police Chief Harold Bri¬er repeatedly denounced YAWF in 1968 for daring to leaflet high school students. Also in 1968, YAWF organized a bus to Chicago to protest Mayor Daley’s cops clubbing demonstrators at the Democrat Convention.

“Red Squad” police officers would reg¬ularly park their vehicle in front of the local Workers World Party and YAWF headquarters at 150 East Avenue. In 1971, Milwaukee police attacked a demonstra¬tion protesting the Attica prison massacre. They arrested three YAWF members: Ben¬ita Orozco, Jim Miller and Bill Colangelo. A few months later, “Red Squad” cops attempted to storm the local party head¬quarters. They were beaten back but sev¬eral comrades were arrested. These cops were furious that YAWF had helped organize an 800-person strong demonstration that night against George Wallace and Defense Secretary Melvin Laird, who had spoken at two ad¬joining meetings.

The most serious charges were against Comrade Benita Orozco, who was facing years in jail for allegedly beating police at the Attica protest.

Jim Miller became the heart and soul of her defense, doing much of the tedious and painstaking work required by a legal defense. Judge H. C. H. Moten had had convictions when a jury acquitted Benita Orozco.

Jim also helped to defend the anti-war ge¬neral “Jimmy” McElroy. His indictment was announced by Attorney General John Mitchell, who himself was later to be sent to prison as one of the crimi¬nals in the Watergate case of illegal inter¬ference in the 1972 presidential election. What made Jim’s diligent effort even more meaningful was that he was working the nightshift at a bakery.

Union leader and father

Jim Miller was greatly influenced by the older, worker revolutionaries in the Mil¬waukee branch of Workers World Party.

Transit workers fight back

By Terri Kay

Oakland, Calif.

April 28 abruptly decided to discontinue transporting Rochester public school stu¬dents on city buses. He took this action without even holding a Board of Com¬missioners vote! In addition to callously stranding 9,000 mostly Black and Lati¬no/a school students, this arbitrary move came on top of the city’s huge financial loss of $9 million. According to the Daily Republic, “The decision was made to defend the transit services against a reduction in revenues.”

In announcing his anti-union, an¬ti-student move, Carpenter ranted in racist rhetoric. He claimed that his deci¬sion was due to “student violence” at the brand new, taxpayer-financed downtown terminal (RGTVA website, April 28) He did not mention that the drivers and the sheepish Board members thought the model was a “crazy idea.”

Rochester was not the only city to see cuts to its public transit. The City of Milwaukee was one of the most segre¬gated cities on the planet. But thousands of Black workers were employed in the city’s factories. As late as 1980, half of the African Americans employed in Mil¬waukee held manufacturing jobs.

Jim went to work in the bakery proud¬ly wearing a “Free Angela Davis” button on his leather jacket. He defended workers and became president of the bakery workers local union.

Long live the memory of Jim Miller, bakery worker and revolutionary!
Conference: ‘End wars at home and abroad’

By Betsey Piette
Secaucus, N.J.

The United National Antiwar Coalition held its fourth national gathering in Secaucus, N.J., May 9-10 under the theme “Stop the Wars at Home and Abroad.” Over 400 delegates from the U.S. and Canada took on the task of challenging endless U.S. imperialist wars abroad and the increasing militarization of domestic police from Ferguson, Mo., to Baltimore. This conference was unique in the history of the U.S. anti-war movement, which has never before so clearly taken up the need to oppose the war waged against oppressed peoples in the U.S. Support for the resistance of Black and Brown youth who are standing up to an epidemic of police murder is central to the theme of many panels and workshops. Solidarity messages came from Ukraine, Canada, Cuba, Germany and Britain.

From the opening plenary in 2013, UNAC has become the largest anti-war coalition in the U.S. today, with nearly 120 member organizations opposing U.S. wars in the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. UNAC co-directors are lifelong anti-war and labor activist Joe Lombardo and anti-war activist Marilyn Levin.

Speaking at the May 8 opening session, Lawrence Hamm, chairperson and founder of the People’s Organization for Progress and Social Justice, said, “We are fighting for the rights and freedom of Black and Brown people, but also for the rights and freedom of all working people, and all people who are living in oppression.”

The May 9 opening panel embraced international struggles against imperialism, led by co-chairs Honduran activist Lucy Pagona and Janine Solanki, from Mobilization Against War and Occupation in Vancouver. Panelists included Palestinian activist and author Susan Abu-Hawwa; Johnny Achy, with Arab Americans for Syria; Abayomi Azikiwe, from Pan-African News Wire; Joel Andreas, author of Addict to War; Bernadette Ellorin, with BAYAN USA; Glen Ford, of Black Agenda Review; Irina Koval from Fevers and Fugues; and Phil Wilayto from the Virginia Defenders for Freedom, Justice & Equality. Former CIA analyst Ray McGovern concluded the panel by noting that the U.S. thrives on confrontation because “conflict is good for business.”

Afternoon panels took up support for political prisoners and the cost of endless war and austerity. Alejandro Molina from the Pan-African News Wire said, “When we think of low-wage work and our buildings capped out by the Islamic State to study the history of the U.S. military, which includes the Occupation of Iraq and precedent of summarily executing Iraqi soldiers in 1991 and the deaths of over 500,000 Iraqi civilians, mainly children, from U.S.-imposed sanctions.”

Urban League President-elect Andre Francois described recent victories, including pushing back a company move to jail union founder and Vice President-elect Steven Kirschbaum and the stunning, landslide victory of union progressives who captured all positions in the local April 30 election. But, Francois noted, the battle continues to reinstate four union leaders, including himself and Kirschbaum, who were illegally fired in October 2014. Sara Flounders, of the International Action Center, and Imani Henry, with the Brooklyn, N.Y., anti-gentrification group Equality for Flatbush Project, chaired the final session on May 9 billed as ‘Triumphant Return to the Militarization of the Police & Structural Racism.’ Flounders noted that 1.5 million Black men are “missing” in the U.S. today — many victims of prisons, rotten medical care and police violence. Henry asserted that police brutality and gentrification go hand in hand. He described hundreds of police checkpoints in Brooklyn and Manhattan that target youth of color in order to push them out of their neighborhoods and make room for wealthy whites.

The panel included Orange, N.J., teacher Marylin Zuniga who is fighting efforts of the New Jersey Office of Police to have her fired after her third-grade students spontaneously wrote get-well letters to Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Larry Holmes, with the New York People’s Power Assembly, raised that as far as the government is concerned, Black Lives Matter is “missing.” He called on the historical anti-war movement to come out fully in support of this Black, youth-led movement, stating, “We are not going to be relevant if we don’t do this. The system needs to be abolished — first the police, then capitalism.”

Communions passed at the final conference session on May 10 included a call to support Black Lives Matter and other anti-racist, pro-women and pro-Lesbian, gay-bi-trans-queer groups calling for actions on May 31. There was also a call for coordinated anti-war actions in October. A resolution supporting Iran’s Red Crescent ship taking humanitarian supplies to challenge the U.S. and Saudi Arabia blockade of Yemen passed unanimously.

Audio and video coverage of this historic conference are at Go Pro Radio Network and Community Progressive Radio (cprmetro.org). A complete list of speakers, panels and workshops is available at unacpeace.org.
Killed by cops
Justice for Mario Romero

By Terri Kay
Vallejo, Calif.

The Justice for Mario Romero Coalition held a rally on May 8 at the steps of Vallejo City Hall calling for a federal investigation by the U.S. Attorney General into the Vallejo Police Department. More than 500 mailed signs to protest police bullying, discrimination and terror. Also participating were members of the Oscar Grant Committee, the National Committee to Prevent Police Brutality, the Anti-Po lice Terror Project and the Alcatraz Committee. Justice for Mario Romero came to support the Romero family, but also to call for accountability and investigation of police violence.

On Sept. 2, 2012, Mario Romero, 23, and Joseph Johnson, 21, were sitting in Romero’s parked car in front of his home in Vallejo when a police officer doused them with pepper spray and handcuffed her. Her younger brother, Rice’s 14-year-old sister, Tajai, come to support the Romero family, but also to call for accountability and investigation of police violence. The report also found that the police had used excessive force against people with disabilities and disabled individuals and protections against [police] terror.

Seniors at the rally also called for the return of a pool table taken from the Florence Douglas Senior Center. It had been removed by the administrators, in what is characterized as a racist maneuver, one intended to push African-American seniors out of the facility.

From Ferguson to Baltimore, JAIL KILLER COPS!

Confederate sympathizer — was forced to resign a week later. But the Ferguson police scandal was just the beginning.

Endless atrocities

On Dec. 4, after a two-year investigation, the DOJ issued a report on the Cleveland Police Department, stating, “unnecessary and unnecessary use of force” is systemic. The report went on to say that not only were firearms used indiscriminately by a 63-percent-white police department against a population that is 53 percent Black, but also Tasers, chemical spray and batons were employed. The report said the Cleveland PD had used excessive force against people with mental disabilities and employed tactics that escalated potentially nonviolent encounters into dangerous confrontations.

This report came less than two weeks after the heated, fatal police shooting of 12-year-old Tamir Rice in a Cleveland park on Nov. 22. Rice was carrying a toy gun when shot by a white police officer who had a known history of violence that had led him earlier to resign from another police department. Rice’s shooting was captured on videotape. The boy’s father then refused to let Rice’s 14-year-old sister, Taji, come to his immediate aid following the shooting; instead, they tackled her to the ground and handcuffed her. Her younger brother,_colon was forced to death, one cut into pieces, one having been killed, 31 shot, three tor-tured to death, one cut into pieces, one drowned and 11 put to death by various means.

Georgia heads the list with 22 victims. Mississippi follows with 12. Both have also three lynched soldiers to their credit.

Among the charges brought against the victims of 1901: one of having been a member of the League of Non-Partisans of America.

It is well-known that the Black race is the most oppressed and the most exploited of the human family. It is well-known that the spread of capitalism and the discovery of the New World had as an immediate result the rebirth of slavery. What everyone does not perhaps know is that after sixty-five years of so-called emancipation, American Negroes are still enduring atrocious moral and material sufferings, of which the Black mother and the child are especially conscious. The system of terror and horror is the custom of lynching. [Charles] Lynch was the name of a planter in Virginia, a landlord and jurist. Availing himself of the troubles of the War of the Independence, he took control of the whole district into his hands. He inflicted the most savage punishment, without trial or process of law, on Loyalists and Tories. Thanks to the slave traders, the, Ku Klux Klan and other secret societies, the illegal and barbarous practice of lynching is spreading and continuing widely in the states of the American Union. It has become more inhuman since the emancipation of the Blacks, and is especially directed at the latter.

From 1899 to 1919, 2,600 Blacks were lynched, including 51 women and girls, and ten former Great War soldiers.

Among 78 Blacks lynched in 1919, 11 were burned alive, three burned after having been killed, 31 shot, three tor-tured to death, one cut into pieces, one drowned and 11 put to death by various means.

Vietnam’s Ho Chi Minh

‘On lynching & the Ku Klux Klan’

This May 19 will mark the 125th birthday anniversary of the great anti-imperialist leader, Ho Chi Minh. “Uncle Ho” was a giant in the history of the Working Class and Lib eral Democrats’ efforts in fighting against the Black Lives Matter uprising, WW is printing the following excerpts from a report made by this Vietnamese communist at the Fifth Congress of the Communistic International peasant”s organization in July 1924 in Moscow during the “National and Colonial Question” session. He died in 1969, six years before Vietnam’s liberation from U.S. imperialism. Go to tinyurl.com/n5nlck6 to read the entire report.

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Among 78 Blacks lynched in 1919, 11 were burned alive, three burned after having been killed, 31 shot, three tor-
May 11 — Close to 500 people have been arrested here since the rebellion that began on April 25 after the killing of Freddie Grey, yet another young Black man who has died at the hands of the police. Some 33 of those arrested remain in jail.

Some were brutally beaten and pepper-sprayed by police even as television cameras caught the action. Those still being held are in central booking or at a nearby juvenile facility, without due process. They were denied their right to see a court commissioner within the 24-hour period previously required. Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan provided an excuse for this delay by proclaiming a "state of emergency," which also authorized deployment of the National Guard.

Ho Chi Minh

Continued from page 6

(residential farmers); one of having distributed revolutionary publications; one of organized police repression or teach-ins too preachy; one of having criticized the clashes between whites and Blacks in Chicago, one of having been known as a leader of the cause of the Blacks; and one for not getting out of the way and thus frightening a white child who was in a motorcar. In 1920, there were fifty bychings, and in 1922 there were twenty-eight.

These crimes were all motivated by economic jealousy. Either the Negroes in the area were more prosperous than the whites, or the Black workers would not let themselves be exploited thoroughly. In all cases, the principal culprits were never troubled, for the simple reason that they were always incited, encouraged, spurred on and then protected by police, political financiers and authorities, and above all, by the reactionary press.

The place of origin of the Ku Klux Klan is the southern United States. In May 1866, during the Civil War, young people gathered together in a small locality of the state of Tennessee to set up the Ku Klux Klan.

The victory of the federal government had just freed the Negroes and made them citizens. The agriculture of the South — deprived of its investment — was short of hands. Former landlords were exposed to ruin. The Klansmen proclaimed the principle of the supremacy of the white race. The agrarian and slaveholding bourgeoisie saw in the Klan a useful agent, almost a savior. They gave it all the help in their power. The Klan's methods ranged from intimidation to murder.

The Negroes, having learned during the Civil War that the凭借 of the 'whites' are no longer allowing their kinmen to be beaten or murdered with impunity. In July 1920, in Washington, they stood up to the Klan and the Washington Post — the newspaper with the widest circulation in the capital for four years. In August, they fought for five days against the Klan and the mob in Chicago. Seven people were murdered, and 400 people were lashed in the capital for four days.

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The anger of Black people against capitalism exploded in rebellion last night [April 25]. The pain of homelessness, joblessness, miserable poverty and total violence against human needs came back as pamphlets against the class.

A window pane busted in a department store can be replaced. But the lives of Fred- die Grey, Sybrina Fulton, Tony Anderson as well as Preston Barnes, Simmout Thomas and others could not be replaced. Racist denials of job opportunities, prison record, as well as homelessness exploded into a rebellion against the capitalist sys- tem in Baltimore, and are about to explode nationwide.

People are upset about the militariza- tion of the cops all over the U.S., a vio- lent provocation of war from the capital- ist class. The violence doesn’t come from “outside protesters” but from the capitalist class itself. People no longer are “comfort- able” with their oppression and are fight- ing back. It’s VICTORY for the people and the capitalist system!

The violence of cutbacks against the poor, water being turned off, record homelessness and protest poverty took its toll on the people and it resulted in destruction and an explosion in anger of the oppressed. We don’t want to be the “capitalist politicians. We want to destroy capitalism, the whole system and its polit- ician crooks.

It’s not “looting” that is happening. It is the liberation of goods for the human needs of the people. People are fighting back against the war on the poor. It is the end of the month, when people are at their poorest and are forced to go to food pan- tries and churches for help as food stamps and rent subsidies have been cut.

Baltimore

Activist’s narrative on Uprising

By Lee Patterson

Baltimore

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Eyewitness Vietnam: U.S. bombs still kill

By Joyce Chedia and Paul Wilcox
Quang Tri Province, Vietnam

Quang Tri is on the 17th parallel, which artificially cut this country in half for two decades until Vietnam won its liberation in 1975. Surrounding it is a six-mile-wide strip called the Demilitarized Zone, which was the heaviest fighting of the 10-year war.

Quang Tri Province, a little larger than Rhode Island, is the most bombed piece of earth in history. The Pentagon dropped more tonnage of explosives here, obliterating the provincial capital and about 3,500 villages, than was dropped on Germany in all of World War II.

Some 20 percent of the U.S. weapons did not detonate. (Huffington Post, Sept. 14, 2015). They are highly dangerous, and they can be found in 83.8 percent of this province.

Forty years after Vietnam decisively defeated the Pentagon and reunited the country, Washington’s war continues by other means. Vietnamese people are killed, maimed every day by unexploded U.S. bombs littering the landscape and hampering social and economic development.

Vietnam’s environment is still strained to recover from the massive amount of defoliants the Pentagon sprayed here for 30 years, destroying rainforests and uninhabited areas, especially children naturally curious about a piece of metal glittering in the ground. Rice paddies are also common sites of explosions as people try to reclaim land for farming. (Journal of ERW and Mine Action, 2011)

One-fifth of Vietnam contaminated with explosives.

We enter Kho village of the Paku people, one of Vietnam’s 53 ethnic minorities. In the early stages of the Pentagon invasion, the Paku people used their bows and arrows to fight U.S. fighter planes. Their determination to defend their land gave heart to many Vietnamese and showed the world the fighting spirit in Vietnam.

Ms. Thach, our guide, calls our attention to a large sign in front of the school picturing a large bomb in the grass and a skull and crossbones. It reminds the children to stay away from unexploded ordnance. Quang Tri is the only province where students have to study textbooks on mine identification and prevention. Cluster bombs are the most malignant of the unexploded bombs and most easily picked up by children.

But Quang Tri is not alone. Some 7 million tons of bombs were dropped on Vietnam, nearly 10 times the amount dropped on all countries during World War II. According to the Vietnamese government, 16 million acres, or roughly a fifth of the country, is contaminated with some 600,000 tons of U.S. bombs, and only 5 percent has been cleared.

Washington boasts that it allocated $62 million toward bomb cleaning in Vietnam. This is a drop in the bucket of U.S. criminal war pollution. A recent Vietnamese government plan to tear 1.2 million acres will cost $995 million over the next five years.

From rainforest to moonscape

Unexploded bombs aren’t the Pentagon’s only legacy here. From 1970 to 1975, the U.S. Air Force spread 20 million gallons of concentrated herbicides over 6 million acres of crops and trees, affecting an estimated 13 percent of South Vietnam. Much of Quang Tri, one of the most heavily defoliated provinces, looked like a moonscape by the end of the war.

We are glad to see the land before us is now green. Our guide explained that reforestation was accomplished and erosion stopped by planting native bamboo and trees. It actually cut for timber. We also see cultivated areas of corn, cassava (tapioca) and coffee.

By Deirdre Griswold

In August 1962, when Youth Against War & Fascism held the first protest in the U.S. against the Vietnam War, the reaction of passers-by on 42nd Street in New York City was puzzlement. They didn’t know where Vietnam was; some didn’t even know it was a country. U.S. forces sent to South Vietnam at that time were killed “advisers.” Yet the resistance of the Vietnamese to becoming a U.S. neocolony and the struggle here against that dirty war were to define a whole generation. That generation is a lot older now.

The U.S. escalation came in 1964, with the fraudulent Bay of Tonkin resolution passed by Congress that gave President Lyndon Johnson authority to send millions of young draftees to Vietnam. The war finally ended on April 30, 1975, with the defeat of the most powerful military machine on earth has now evolved many retrospective accounts in the U.S. media. The war was the first all-out war fought by the U.S. protest and hundreds of others as the war and the movement against it grew, picketing in front of the April/May May AARP magazine the other day and found a photo of a YAWF demonstration in 1965 at the White House carrying signs saying “Bring the GIs home now.” It brought back memories.

Many former soldiers still carry the physical scars of ferocious combat. Other tormented souls suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder after being programmed to believe it was patriotic to participate in atrocities. By contrast, those in the anti-war movement can look back on their youthful rebellion against the capitalist state and its propaganda machine with pride and satisfaction.

One of the biggest lies the world about the movement was that it was against the U.S. soldiers. Hell, most of them welcomed the “Bring the GIs home now!” That’s what they wanted — just to come home, in one piece.

Our quarrel was with the high-ranking officers, the ones who go through the revolving door to lucrative executive positions in the “defense” industry after they retire. And of course we demonstrated against the political architects of the war, in the Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon administrations, who saw it as a means to divide the soldiers and keep the form, not the GIs, who understood which class had created that beastly war and that the war finally ended on April 30, 1975, with the defeat of the most powerful military machine on earth. The war is now over. Vietnam — as well as to reject racism, sexism, anti-LGBTQ+ rights and other inequalities — such as refusing an illegal order like the order to fight in Vietnam — as well as to reject racism, sexism, saluting and “sir”-ing of officers, and all the other trappings of the military matrix meant to divide the soldiers and keep them under control.

40 years after Vietnam's victory

Looking back at the anti-war movement

By Deirdre Griswold

Black and Brown GIs in particular organized against the war. Many recognized in the vile language their commanders used to degrade the Vietnamese people the same racism and arrogance they suffered back at home. Young people inspired by the Civil Rights movement became increasingly anti-war, and soon Black leaders like Stokely Carmichael, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Muhammad Ali and Malcolm X campaigned against it.

The killing of four students at Kent State University by the National Guard on May 4, 1970, galvanized the movement into more militant actions. What has long been overlooked, however, is that just 11 days later, during a protest against that massacre, police in Jackson, Miss., shot and killed two Black students at Jackson State University and wounded many others.

YAWF — “Stop the war on Black America” The umbrella anti-war movement at that time was not as bold or politically advanced as the youth in the streets. YAWF adopted the slogan, “Stop the war on Black America,” that it brought to all the mass demonstrations against the Vietnam War at one annual peace rally in Central Park, more conservative organizers of the umbrella movement actually dissed anti-war forces in Harlem by inviting Mayor John Lindsay to speak right after he had signed the 1960 Federal Aid to Education Act.
Five Heroes strengthen Cuban Revolution

By Paul Teitelbaum
Havana

Last Dec. 17, U.S. President Barack Obama announced the release of the three remaining Cuban Five political prisoners — Gerardo Hernández, Ramón Labanino and Antonio Guerrero — after 16 years of unjust imprisonment in the U.S. for the “crime” of fighting terrorism against Cuba. The three returned home to join their two comrades, René González Sehwerert and Fernando González Llort, who had already been released after serving their full sentences.

This historic announcement was no gift from U.S. imperialism. It was a result of the Cuban people’s unwavering commitment and the support of solidarity movements around the world demanding the release of the Cuban Five. It signified a defeat for U.S. imperialism in its attempts to isolate and destroy the Cuban Revolution and represents an important victory for the anti-imperialist movement.

The Five, as they are known in Cuba, continue to defend the Cuban Revolution, meeting with people throughout the country and focused on the gains made during the past year as well as the challenges ahead. Unity in struggle and the strength of international solidarity had achieved two great victories: The return of the Five and the presence of Cuba at the Summit of the Americas. These two topics, unity and solidarity, were raised again and again throughout the discussions at the conference.

Communists defeated Nazis in WWII

By John Catalinotto

Seventy years ago, on May 8 and 9, 1945, millions all over the world gave shouts of joy and relief as the Nazi regime in Berlin crumbled, as Joseph Stalin’s Red Army rolled into the German capital and hung the red flag with its hammer and sickle on top of the Reichstag building, the wagon that had covered Germany in 1945 and the years following, even the enemies of the USSR had to acknowledge its primary role in the Nazi defeat.

This year is the 70th anniversary of that great victory. However, the U.S.-led NATO governments have turned the world into one long war zone. Russia’s invasion of Ukraine into an ideological offensive against the Soviet Union and against today’s Russian Federation.

The imperialist West has used every effort to diminish the Soviet role in smashing fascist Germany. It has used this distortion of history as a weapon against Russia, which, even though now a capitalist country, has become an obstacle to U.S. world dominance.

The British and U.S. forces waited until the winter of 1943. Germany was driven back, despite having more than three-fourths of its troops on the Soviet front. The reason the Red Army had carried the weight of the war and deserved the major credit for smashing Nazism. Communist parties allied to the USSR also led the resistance movements in countries occupied by German imperialism.

Not only Russians but all the people of the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe felt the greatest catastrophes that Nazi-led German imperialism had inflicted. Some 27 million Soviet citizens died.

Alberta elections shock Canada’s 1%

By G. Dunkel

The New Democratic Party, whose roots are in Canada’s labor and social democratic movements, swept Alberta’s elections on May 5, winning 53 of the 87 seats. This result had put an end to the PC’s “bought-and-paid-for” historians’ war to erase the heroic contribution of the Red Army and the first socialist state in the world. The effect has reached a fever pitch this year, as the imperialist West had already begun an attack on Russia.

Ten years ago, this imperialist offensive had extend- ed the NATO military alliance to countries bordering Russia. It allied with Ukrainian fascists to place an anti-Russian coup regime in Ukraine, provoking World War III. Even though Russia is now a capitalist country and no longer part of a socialist USSR — whose very existence had challenged the role of world imperi- alism — Washington and its allies still attempt to eliminate this competitor.

To ensure that the 1945 Soviet victory would also be a part of the Russian lega- cy, the current Russian government mo- bilized major celebrations in Moscow and across the Russian Federation. Reports UPI, “Russia celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Nazi defeat with a total of 1 million people participated, with 16,000 Russian troops marching in Moscow past 3 million people. From the viewpoint of internal mass mobilization, Russia showed it was far from defenseless against Western aggres- sion and that its population supported the government’s refusal to submit to NATO. President Vladimir Putin had invited all the countries involved in the anti-Hitler alliance to the Moscow celebration, in- cluding the current German government. Germany was forced to attend, however, pressed many to reject this invitation. Competitive celebrations were organized by NATO. In New York, the UN General Assembly of the Eastern European states that have been turned into imperialist client states. The key places of conflict, however, were Moscow and Washington.

Together with Putin in Moscow were Chinese President Xi Jinping, Cuban President Raúl Castro and Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro along with U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and other high-level representatives from South Africa, the African People’s Republic of Korea, India and the former...
**Muzzling Mumia law struck down**

By Betsey Piette

Philadelphia

Efforts to uphold state-sanctioned muzzling of political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal and other prisoners seeking to speak about the attacks on their fellow prisoners or transfers was overturned last Oct. 22. Legislators were acting under pressure from the Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police, who had failed in their efforts to prevent Abu-Jamal from delivering a commencement address to Goddard College Students on Oct. 5.

In one of his last actions before Pennsylvania's Gov. Tom Corbett was defeated in his bid for a second term, he signed the act in an elaborate ceremony at 13th and Market streets in Philadelphia, some of the 1968 shooting death of police officer Daniel Faulkner. While maintaining his innocence, Abu-Jamal was sentenced in 1982 to death row for Faulkner's murder and is part of several appeals to end race discrimination.

In acting to prevent any implementation of the reactionary law that would negatively impact the prisoners, their attorneys appealed the law shortly after its passage. Included prisoners the Pennsylva尼亚 Prisoner Society, Prison Legal News, and the People's Liberation Army captured in 1968. We visit the war museum that now stands there and honors the 320 Division of the Liberation Army, which besieged the base; the ethnic minorities who ceased to fight for the war and agree, and scythe; and the women and men who ceaselessly brought supplies over the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

Deliberate U.S. destruction

Although U.S. imperialism lost this war, it did not doubt about of its history. Washington neglects to report that some of the heaviest U.S. bombing took place when it was already clear that the Vietnamese would win their complete independence. In 1965 General Curtis LeMay, head of the Strategic Air Command, said that his "solution to the problem in Vietnam was to "bomb them back into the Stone Age." This is exactly what Washington tried to do — create as much damage as possible in Vietnam, particularly where it destroyed infrastructure and burden it as much as possible. LeMay added to his infamous record by running as the vice presidential candidate on Republican candidate, former Governor George Wallace's ticket in 1968.

The Pentagon still wages war on the people of Vietnam — an economic war; a war of isolation; the lasting effects of a genocidal war that killed about 3 million men, women and children; and a war of disinformation that extends from the strategic Air Command, said that his "solution to the problem in Vietnam was to "bomb them back into the Stone Age." This is exactly what Washington tried to do — create as much damage as possible in Vietnam, particularly where it destroyed infrastructure and burden it as much as possible. LeMay added to his infamous record by running as the vice presidential candidate on Republican candidate, former Governor George Wallace's ticket in 1968.

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U.S.-backed Saudi war on Yemen continues

By Caleb Maupin

Don’t block the Rescue Ship!

Let the hungry children of Yemen live!

The Al-Mayassir television station in Yemen, which supports the Ansarullah Movement (Houthi), broadcast a news report May 12 showing civilians standing by a downed F16 bomber used by Morocco, part of the alliance currently waging war on this Middle Eastern state.

The U.S.-made fighter plane is the US military since 2002 that has left countless innocent civilians dead. In response to years of impoverishment, repression and humiliation, the people of Yemen have risen up in revolutionary struggle for democracy and self-determination in Yemen, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has unleashed an intensive bombing campaign. Over 1,000 innocent civilians are already dead. Schools, hospitals, power plants and mosques are being targeted.

As someone from the United States, I am attending to the plight of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a nongovernmental organization that is aligned with Sunnis, secularists and various forces from across the region who make billions of dollars from international trade in arms in the Middle East.

The government of Djibouti has done more than the U.S. itself in evacuating distressed people fleeing the war in neighboring Yemen.

Mujeres combatiientes quieren lograr la paz

Continua de pagina 11

When I was an estudiante de derecho in Lima, the greatest challenge was to make our students feel that they were in a school and not just a boarding school.

I am an assistant professor of law at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and I have been teaching in the legal profession since 1990. My research has focused on the role of law in social change, particularly in the context of Latin America. I have published articles and book chapters on issues such as human rights, labor law, and immigration.

How do you feel about the current state of Latin American law?

I think that Latin American law is in a period of transition. There have been significant advances in the area of human rights, particularly in terms of access to justice and the protection of vulnerable groups. However, there is still a long way to go in terms of creating a more just and equitable legal system.

What do you think is the most important issue facing Latin American law today?

I believe that the most important issue facing Latin American law today is the increasing privatization of the legal system. Many countries in the region have outsourced the provision of legal services to private companies, which has led to a decrease in access to justice for many people.

How can Latin American law be more effective in addressing social issues?

I think that Latin American law can be more effective in addressing social issues by focusing on human rights and social justice. Law should be used as a tool for promoting equality and protecting vulnerable groups, rather than simply being used to maintain the status quo.

What advice do you have for law students in Latin America?

My advice for law students in Latin America is to always keep in mind the importance of human rights and social justice. Law should be used to create a more just and equitable society, and students should strive to use their legal training to make a positive difference in the world.

Can you tell us more about your experience with pro bono work in Latin America?

I have been involved in pro bono work in Latin America for many years. My work has focused on issues such as human rights, immigration, and labor law. I have worked with a variety of organizations, including the Mexican Bar Association, the Center for Human Rights in Mexico, and the Human Rights Commission of the Mexican Bar.

I believe that pro bono work is an essential part of the legal profession. It allows lawyers to use their skills to help those who are most in need, and it helps to build stronger and more just societies.

Do you have any advice for students who are interested in pursuing pro bono work in Latin America?

My advice for students who are interested in pursuing pro bono work in Latin America is to always keep in mind the importance of human rights and social justice. Law should be used as a tool for promoting equality and protecting vulnerable groups, rather than simply being used to maintain the status quo.

What do you think is the most important issue facing Latin America today?

I believe that the most important issue facing Latin America today is the current political climate. Many countries in the region are facing significant challenges, including poverty, inequality, and social unrest. It is essential that we work together to create a more just and equitable society.

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Por Terri Kay

Oakland, California, 1 de mayo - Una vez más las/os miembros del Interna- cional Transport Workers Federation (Sindicato Internacional de Estibadores y Almacenistas) Local 10 realizaron una valiosa hazaña cuando votaron por cerrar todos los puertos en la Área de la Bahía y marchar a la Alcaldía de la ciudad de Oak- land en contra del terror policial. El enfo- que político en el momento de la decisión fue el asesinato por la policía de Walter Scott el 4 de abril en Carolina del Sur. Scott tenía fuertes vínculos familiares con la Asociación Internacional de Estiba- dores (ILA) allí, y el ILWU Local 10 votó para mostrar su solidaridad con el ILA.

“Yo sometí la resolución para cerrar el puerto en el congreso explicando que la historia de resistencia de mi sindicato, y sentí que era tiempo de que los traba- jadores se unieran fuertemente contra el terro de la policía”, dijo Stacey Rodgers, el miembro de ILWU que inició la decisión del puerto. “Estamos en un mo- mento histórico en nuestro país. Los traba- jadores siempre han sido parte de los momentos históricos de este país, y contin- juaremos ese legado el Primero de Mayo”.

Luego Freddie Grey fue asesinado por la policía de Baltimore.

Hoy, Día Internacional de las/os Traba- jadores, la membresía del ILWU y más de 1.000 miembros de la comunidad salieron para mostrar su rabia sobre los recientes homicidios policiales y los casos de terror policial. El Local 10 y varios grupos comunitarios y otros sindicatos organi- zaron una manifestación en el Puerto de Oakland, seguida de una marcha por los Proyectos Acorn en West Oakland y otra manifestación en la Plaza Oscar Grant frente a la Alcaldía de Oakland.

En el puerto, las/os trabajadores por- tuarios denunciaron el terror policial, in- cluyendo a la familia de Jeremiah Moore, un hombre autista que la policía mató a balazos en Valejo, Calif., el 20 de octubre de 2012, y el hijo de Richard ‘Pedie’ Pérez, un hombre desarmado a quien miembros del Departamento de la Policía de Rich- mond dispararon el 14 de septiembre.

La banda musical del ILWU encabezó la marcha. Las/os manifestantes llev- aban banderas, incluyendo una que decía “Justicia para Yuvette”. Yuvette Hender- son fue asesinada el 5 de febrero por la policía de Emeryville. En otras se leía: “Primero de Mayo, ¡a luchar por Fredd- die Grey!”.

“No a la ejecución por falta de atención médica, libertad para Mumia Abu-Jamal” y “Alto al terror policial, ILWU Local 10”.

Los estudiantes en los parques de recreo de una escuela primaria y una escue- la secundaria en la ruta de la marcha saludaban y gritaban jubilosamente al pasar las/os manifestantes. Fue a este punto que se pararon para enseñarles consignas como “Toda la noche, todo el día, lucha- remos por Freddie Grey”.

Cat Brooks, de ONYX y el Proyecto An- ti-Terror Policial, dijo en un comunicado de prensa, “La única forma que este país nos va a tomar en serio es si interrup- mos su comercio y hacemos un impacto en su economía. No funciona el simple- mente apelar a su humanidad. Si ese lide- rato biera sido el caso, la epidemia de genoci- dio negro a manos de la policía hubiera terminado hace décadas”.

Por Martha Grevatt
La Habana

Las conversaciones de paz entre las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Co- lombia-Ejército del Pueblo (FARC-EP) y el gobierno colombiano, que tienen lugar en La Habana, Cuba, están progresando muy en serio, según las/os panelistas que acudieron a la mesa de conversaciones que se realizó en la ciudad cubana.

Todo esto salió a la luz cuando ambas partes en la Mesa de Conversaciones es- cucharon testimonios de las víctimas del conflicto, un proceso que las FARC-EP insistieron en que se diera. De las/os 60 testigos, seis eran de organizaciones de mujeres y dos de grupos LGBT. Sus pro- puestas se integraron al proceso de con- versaciones. Alrededor del 80 por ciento de las mujeres colombianas ha sido víc- tima de la guerra en una forma u otra. “Pero, destacó Sandino, “no somos sólo víctimas, somos actores, somos agentes políticos. Hemos estado luchando y haci- endo demandas”.

Mientras el gobierno colombiano tam- bién está representado en la subcomis- ión, se hizo evidente que las mujeres de las FARC-EP eran su fuerza motiva. Las mujeres y el hombre que habló con nuestra delegación sobre la subcomisión pertenecían a las FARC-EP. “Las mujeres comba- ntes queremos lograr la paz”, exp- lican. Las panelistas también dispararon al- gunos de los mitos sobre las mujeres en el ejercicio guerrillero. Los medios de comu- nicación capitalistas han presentado a las mujeres de las FARC-EP como esclavas sexuales de las fuerzas de la lucha contra, haciendo declaraciones falsas sobre abor- tos forzados y otros innumerables abusos. Sin embargo, las mujeres siempre han desmentido estos perjuicios desde la fundación de las FARC en 1964 y com- prenden al menos el 30 por ciento de to- das/os los combatientes.

Mujeres combatientes queremos lograr la paz, explicaron. Las panelistas también dispararon al- gunos de los mitos sobre las mujeres en el ejercicio guerrillero. Los medios de comu- nicación capitalistas han presentado a las mujeres de las FARC-EP como esclavas sexuales de las fuerzas de la lucha contra, haciendo declaraciones falsas sobre abor- tos forzados y otros innumerables abusos. Sin embargo, las mujeres siempre han desmentido estos perjuicios desde la fundación de las FARC en 1964 y compre- prenden al menos el 30 por ciento de todas/os los combatientes. Muchas tienen papeles principales a nivel regional. Todas las mujeres reciben la misma formación que los hombres - su for- ma de vida tiene en cuenta los riesgos de la lucha contra el terror y la violencia. Mientras el gobierno colombiano tam- bién está representado en la subcomis- ión, se hizo evidente que las mujeres de las FARC-EP eran su fuerza motiva. Las mujeres y el hombre que habló con nuestra delegación sobre la subcomisión pertenecían a las FARC-EP. “Las mujeres combatientes queremos lograr la paz”, exp- lican. Las panelistas también dispararon al- gunos de los mitos sobre las mujeres en el ejercicio guerrillero. Los medios de comu- nicación capitalistas han presentado a las mujeres de las FARC-EP como esclavas sexuales de las fuerzas de la lucha contra, haciendo declaraciones falsas sobre abor- tos forzados y otros innumerables abusos. Sin embargo, las mujeres siempre han desmentido estos perjuicios desde la fundación de las FARC en 1964 y compre- prenden al menos el 30 por ciento de todas/os los combatientes. Muchas tienen papeles principales a nivel regional.

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