Police agencies in the United States are not moderating their brutal and murderous actions against African Americans and other oppressed peoples. Rebellions in Ferguson, Mo., and Baltimore have shed light on the killing and injuring of hundreds of people every month. In response to the killings in Ferguson and Baltimore, along with the killing of 12-year-old Tamir Rice in Cleveland, Tony Robinson in Madison, Wis., Walter Scott in North Charleston, S.C., and many others, a wave of demonstrations has swept the U.S. These protest actions, including civil disobedience, have been covered widely through print, audio and television networks as well as social media.

Live streaming and posting of videos of mass unrest illustrate broad interest in the developing struggles. Elected officials are forced to pay lip service to issues involving mass incarceration and the militarization of the police.

Nothing has fundamentally changed, however, as it relates to the repressive character of the state. Policy reforms aimed at creating employment, educational opportunities and housing guarantees are nonexistent.

Systematic racism, repression revealed

A recent study conducted by a leading British newspaper indicates the magnitude of the problem. The disparate treatment of African Americans when confronted by the police cannot be dismissed as coincidental. “Black Americans are more than twice as likely to be unarmed when killed during encounters with police as white people, according to a Guardian investigation which found 102 of 464 people killed so far this year in incidents with law enforcement officers were not carrying weapons. An analysis of public records, local news reports and Guardian reporting found that 32% of Black people killed by police in 2015 were unarmed, as were 25% of [Latino/a] people, compared with 15% of white people killed.” (June 1)

Many unarmed African Americans are killed as police identify any possible weapon as a threat. The police shooting of Tamir Rice was “justified” because the cops said they thought the youth had a real hand gun. The two African Americans killed in Cleveland in 2012 after their car was pursued by police were also killed unjustifiably because cops erroneously believed they were armed. People have been gunned down be-
Come out for Pride! Come out for Workers World!

June is Pride month, with rallies and marches all over the world commemorating the 46th anniversary of the historic Stonewall Rebellion. Workers World has a proud history of reporting on the living struggle for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer justice and equality. But Workers World also made a theoretical contribution to that struggle with the publication of WW contributor and staff member Bob McCubbin’s book, “The Roots of Lesbian and Gay Oppression: A Marxist View” (World View Forum, third ed., 1993).

Drawing on the theoretical work of Frederick Engels and Dorothyball to provide a dialectical materialist explanation of LGBTQ oppression, McCubbin showed how early communal societies accepted all forms of human interrelations, but after material surpluses developed and male supremacy arose, rigid rules governing gender and sexuality were adopted. That’s what we’re fighting to end today.

That analysis drives Workers World’s view that the LGBTQ struggle is a vital component in the overall struggle to end capitalist oppression. We invite you to join the WW Supporter Program, set up 38 years ago to help us publish anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-LGBTQ, working-class truth and build the many campaigns needed to crush capitalism and usher in socialism. Write checks to Workers World and mail them, with your name and address, to 147 W. 24th St., and Floor, New York, NY 10011. Or donate online at workers.org/donate.

We are grateful for your help in growing the revolutionary press in the U.S.

Contact a Workers World Party branch near you: workers.org/wwp

Who are we & what we’re fighting for

Hate capitalism? Workers World Party fights for a socialist society — where the wealth is socially owned and production is planned to satisfy human need. This outmoded capitalist system is dragging down workers’ living standards while throwing millions out of jobs and threatening your future. And capitalism is threatening the entire planet with its unplanned, profit-driven stranglehold on the means of production.

Workers built it all — it belongs to society, not to a handful of billionaires! But we need a revolution to make that change. That’s why for 56 years WWP has been building a revolutionary party of the working class inside the belly of the beast.

We fight every kind of oppression. Racism, sexism, decolonizing and male supremacy arose, rigid rules governing gender and sexuality were adopted. That’s what we’re fighting to end today.

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Who are we & what we’re fighting for
The government is planning to crush the Black Lives Matter uprising that swept the country in the aftermath of the rebellion against racist police violence in Ferguson, Mo. last year.

The repression that is being prepared against this uprising will be far greater than the occupation of the Occupy Wall Street movement because the Black Lives Matter uprising poses a vastly greater threat to the system.

Police officials had hoped that the national uprising would run out of steam. However, the revolt in Baltimore over the murder of Freddie Gray in April — a Black man whose death in police custody was later ruled a homicide — spread across the country — is undeniable evidence that the uprising that has shaken the capitalist establishment is not going away.

Local police departments coordinat- ed by the Department of Homeland Security, with the participation of the FBI and the Pentagon, are planning to crack down hard on massive protests against the police. In fact, the new level of coordin- ation that distills itself from other questions in the minds of communists? Is it morally superior to other issues? No, it is not. The National Question is wholly unique in significance because understanding it, and acting on that understanding, is essential to classwide solidarity.

The deployment of the National Guard in Baltimore and the setting of a curfew could not be used to test how these measures could be used to make mass arrests and break up protests with overwhelming police force. Over the past few weeks, police have attacked protests against police violence in New York City, Philadelphia, Cleveland and other cities, beating and arresting hundreds if not thousands of people. If the cur- faliff, a ban on protests after dark has been imposed, and other cities are planning to impose similar bans. So-called “anti-ter- rorist” strike forces are being organized by the police for the explicit purpose of crushing protests.

Some cities, including New York City, are planning to elevate the charge of re- sisting arrest from a misdemeanor to a felony. The National Guard and the federal mil- itary are preparing for greater repression as they get ready for the anniversary of the murder of Michael Brown in August. Politicians, along with pro-system civil- ists and imperialists, are planning to impose similar bans. So-called “anti-ter- rorist” strike forces are being organized by the police for the explicit purpose of crushing protests.

The National Question & Black Liberation

It is no small thing that compared to other post-colonial struggles, the Black Liberation struggle, unlike those in Puerto Rico or Vietnam, is not looking to the Left for either support or direction. Whether that assessment is fair or not, all should take note. The ques- tion is before all of those who consider themselves part of the Left, but are not looking in any meaningful way to this uprising, are you prepared to plead guilty to irrelance?

For more information:

LARRY HOLMES
First Secretary Workers World Party

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Reign of racist terror
Cops on killing rampage

Continued from page 1

cause police say they allegedly reached for a weapon or possessed a knife or hammer.

Even so-called nonlethal law enforcement tools have been deadly in numerous encounters between the cops and the people.

The same Guardian article notes deaths from “police use of a Taser, deaths caused by police vehicles and deaths following altercations in police custody, as well as those killed when officers open fire. They reveal that 29% of those killed by police, or 133 people, were Black. Sixty-seven, or 14%, were [Latino/a] and 234, or 50%, were white.”

These killings of people from oppressed nations “illustrate how disproportionately Black Americans, who make up just 13% of the country’s total population, according to census data, are killed by police. Of the country's total population, according to census data, are killed by police.

Of the 454 people counted by the Guardian, an overwhelming majority—99%—were male, with just 5% female.

Mural pays tribute to Malcolm X

Activist, visionary muralist and teacher Mario Torero unveiled the renovated Malcolm X Mural at Southwest Park in San Diego, Calif., on May 29. The inscription on the mural quotes Malcolm X El-Hajj Mumia Abu-Jamal as a tree without roots is dead, so is a people without history or culture.

In 1993, “activist” Torero partnered with the African-American community, who were the core of the Southwest Park area at the time, to paint a mural commemorating their heroes, Malcolm X. They painted the mural on the façade of the Southwest Recreation Center, finishing on May 15 of that year, near Malcolm’s birthday and in recognition of the Los Angeles Rebellion just a year earlier. The community also renamed the Southwest facility the Malcolm X Park and Recreation Center.

Over the last 21 years, the mural had come to look very worn-out and dilapidated. Already succumbing to graffiti, it was going to be erased and destroyed until the community came out in support of preserving it. They found Torero and asked him to repaint it. It took a year to find the necessary funds to get it renovated. Finally, monetary support came from the office of San Diego city Councilmember Myrtle Cole of District 4.

Torero began the renovation work in May and invited the community to the unveiling to celebrate the 90th birthday of Malcolm X and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of his assassination. A special guest, Nathaniel Peterson, representing “the spirit of Malcolm X,” recited one of Malcolm X’s speeches. Also present were representatives from the Southsavethem Community Council and the Malcolm X Library, a journalist from Activist San Diego and an organizer from the Committe Against Police Brutality-San Diego, as well as community members. The beautifult, brilliant, bright mural was unveiled, and it will remain in the park for many years to come.

— Story and photo by Gloria Verdejo

Disabilities caucus condemns attempted execution of Mumia by medical neglect

The People with Disabilities Caucus of the People’s Power Assembly joins the international progressive community in condemning the attempted execution by medical neglect of Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Writing from behind the walls of the prison-industrial complex, internationally renowned political prisoner and journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal is known for exposing the racist foundation of capitalism, from mass incarceration of people of color in for-profit prisons to U.S. war and intervention abroad.

Unjustly convicted of killing a police officer, Mumia has spent 30 years in prison, until recently in solitary confinement on Pennsylvania’s Death Row. His demand for a new trial and freedom is supported by heads of state and prominent politicians in France, Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America and by Nobel laureates Nelson Mandela, Toni Morrisey, Desmond Tutu and others.

Mumia is now seriously ill. He is suffering from life-threatening diabetes, full body skin disease, weight loss of 80 pounds in the last two to three months, extreme dehydration, multiple neurological symptoms, [including] uncontrollable shaking, shurred speech and loss of memory with fugue states. He now uses a wheelchair. Mumia’s family and friends hold the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections directly responsible for his neglect, malpractice and inadequately addressing the alarming deterioration of his health. Only if he is released will be able to get the proper medical care to give him a chance at recovery.

Prisoners are a disability issue. Mass incarceration has resulted in the jailing of people with mental, developmental, emotional and physical disabilities in disproportionately high numbers. Many are unjustly incarcerated. Once in jail, they often receive inadequate treatment for their disability or no treatment at all. This violates Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which guarantees prisoners with disabilities the right to adequate health care.

As activists in the disability rights movement, we demand that Mumia, and all prisoners with disabilities, be immediately granted full medical rights, as protected by the ADA.

We demand that Mumia be able to see a doctor of his choice. We demand that Mumia Abu-Jamal, who has been imprisoned for a new trial and freedom is demanded for decades for a crime he never committed, be re leased immediately.

We urge you to join us in phoning and emailing:

• Secretary of the Department of Corrections, John Wetzel, to demand that Mumia be treated by a doctor of his choice. 717-728-2573; facpadosecretary@pa.gov
• Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf to demand that the state halt attempts to execute Mumia by medical neglect. 717-787-2500; fax 717-772-8284; governor@pa.gov

We also urge you to circulate this statement as widely as possible.

People with Disabilities Caucus of the People’s Power Assembly Peoplepowerassemblies.org: 212-613-0649

Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Detroit. Since March, three African Americans have died or been killed in the custody of police.

Quinn is a former Detroit police officer with a troubled record. In 2008 he was charged with felonious assault after he was accused of holding a loaded police revolver to his spouse’s head, threatening to shoot her.

While serving 12 years with the Detroit Police, Quinn was also sued after he witnessed and participated in an act of brutality by his then partner Eugene Brown, who was involved in numerous police killings of civilians and assaults during the 1990s. Despite this controversial past, Quinn was still hired by ICE, where he has served for seven years.

No charges have been filed against Quinn or the other officers at the scene of Kellom’s killing. Demonstrations occurred in the immediate aftermath of the police action.

On May 23, Casco Jackson, 25, was killed in a flurry of police bullets after he jumped off a porch at his former home in northwest Detroit. News reports said Jackson allegedly held his estranged spouse and children hostage for several hours.

These police actions reinforce the systematic attacks on residents of Detroit through forecasts, evictions and utility and water shut-offs. The overall auster
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The right to self-determination and bourgeois democracy is becoming more of an illusion in the U.S., particularly in urban areas where joblessness and pov
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Ironworkers on strike in San Fran.

San Francisco ironworkers, who do very dangerous but essential work on huge construction projects, walked off the job at one or at least two sites on Sept. 10 and Sept. 11 to demand that the companies they work for sign a contract that would give them a minimum wage of $15 an hour. The ironworkers are concerned that the current wage of $13.25 an hour is not enough to live on, especially in a city with rising costs of living.

The workers are also demanding a cost-of-living wage because they continue to make about what they earned in 2000. "No on new contract, strike for fair wages" read the picket signs. "Cost of living, ironworkers wages are ignored" and "We can't afford to live where we work." One worker, a member of Ironworkers Local 577, told WW, "We ironworkers are the highest cost of living in the world, but ironworkers in New York City make twice what workers in San Franci- co make. For more details about the wildcat, view videos on vimeo.com/laborvideo, Sept. 11 and Sept. 12.

FredEx workers are FedEx employees'

Just in time for Labor Day, federal appeals courts in California and Oregon ruled that FedEx workers in those states are employees, not contractors. The judge in San Francisco noted that the contract the workers must sign gives FedEx a broad right to control the manner in which the drivers perform their work. "This includes specifying the uniforms they wear, their person- nal grooming and the vehicles they drive, including the dimensions of shelving and paint color. Though the companies deny it, they organize the drivers' workloads so they work between 9:30 and 11 hours a day and tells them what packages to deliver on what days and at what times.

This ruling will have seismic impact on this industry and the lives of FedEx Ground drivers in California," said Bell Ross, the drivers' attorney there. (SFgate.com, Aug. 28) For instance, now drivers will be able to sue for overtime under a decision of the Federal Labor Relations Board, could — should — have wide ramifications for the workers for the purpose of paying their workers hourly. Does the federation believe that union members would be making too much with a livable wage and — that the companies which would have negotiated better health care and benefits, and that those com- pany makes the workers are the unions more readily? It throws solid- ity out the window, especially with those courageous low-wage workers who have fought against poverty wages and theft of tips. It also assumes that $15 is more of a "cushion" rather than a basic amount for survival. Union membership has declined because of the collaboration between big business and a union leadership too weak to put up a real fight against the offshoring of jobs, of color — and women too — need the protection of color and women too — need the protection of a union: job security, health care, re- tirement benefits and the right to a union. The fight for a living wage is linked to the fight for social equal- ity, and a successful strategy cannot reinforce inequality.

Walmart workers hold hunger strike to press demands

By Dante Strobino

A California law granting 6.5 million low-wage workers, or 39 percent of the state's workforce, paid sick days was signed into law on Sept. 10. It will go into effect July 1, 2015. Home-care workers, however, were excluded and that unions vowed to continue the fight until they are also covered. Similar policies were covered passing Connecticut workers in 2011 and workers in New York City earlier this year.

Walmart workers are worried that the companies would not accept company directives to make the company a "living wage," rather than a "minimum wage". The Los Angeles Workers Assembly statement reads, "We have been on the picket line for clients. (workdayminnesota.org, Aug. 26) According to the National Right to Work Committee. "With our collective power, we can... scaring companies which would... not be able to get away with offering workers less than what the market would pay."

An announcement reported in the Los Angeles Times that Hicks of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, which leads the Raise the Wage Campaign, is disturbing. Mr. Hicks says that companies with workers represent- ed by unions should have leeway to negotiate a wage below that mandated by the law. This statement is a betrayal of the labor movement, putting negotiations behind closed doors away from organizing the power of the people to win $15.

Labor unions have a history of being the backbone of social and economic justice and need to be strengthened, not weakened. Not only does the proposal discour- age workers from forming company unions, but it also encourages busi- nesses to create company unions for the purpose of paying their workers hourly. The ruling affects overtime pay, employer contributions to Social Security and retirement benefits and the right to a union. The fight for a living wage is linked to the fight for social equal- ity, and a successful strategy cannot reinforce inequality.

Corporate poverty in San Francisco:

The Los Angeles Workers Assembly says 'no exemptions'

The following excerpted press statement was issued May 31 by the Los Angeles Workers Assembly in response to Governor Jerry Brown's recent proposal to link local minimum-wage increases, including the L.A. County Federation of Labor who argued for 'union exemptions' for the newly passed $15-an-hour minimum-wage increase in Los Angeles. Go to workers.org to read the entire statement.

Imagine if the same money and resources were instead used to get the 62,000 signatures necessary for the official, binding Ballot Ini- tiative initiated by the L.A. Workers Assembly. Every worker in Los An- geles could have been receiving the $15 minimum wage by now. Instead we are left debating the efficacy of a sub-minimum wage.

For 35 years wages have gone down and profits have soared, leave- ing workers in the lowest strata of society history between rich and poor. But the gap also weighs disproportionately on communities of color and women. According to a City of Los Angeles study last year, 83 percent of worker- ers making less than $13.25 an hour are women of color, and the majority are women. The Black Lives Matter move- ment has highlighted the unequal treatment of people of color by law enforcement, and fury over police abuse has at the same time raised a spotlight on the fact that people of color have suffered most from the growing wage gap. Workers of color — and too — need the benefits that come from being in a union: job security, health care, re- tirement benefits and the right to a living wage. The fight for a living wage is linked to the fight for social equal- ity, and a successful strategy cannot reinforce inequality.
By Deirdre Griswold

Capitalist austerity programs are nothing new to people living in oppressed countries, most of which are former colonies or neocolonies dictated to by the powerful financial institutions of the U.S. and Europe.

Under their “structural adjustment programs,” the International Monetary Fund and World Bank have forced scores of countries, especially in Africa and Latin America, to cut to the bone public spending on health, education, infrastructure and other vital services. It was all done so the transnational banks could continue to receive huge interest payments on the “indebtedness” hanging over countries whose resources have been stolen for more than a century by the very same imperialist powers.

The consequences have been horrendous. Desperate emigration from these countries has ballooned as their economies have imploded. Even the Ebola epidemic that swept Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea in West Africa last year was directly linked to cuts in public health demanded by “structural adjustment” schemes, according to an analysis in a preeminent British medical journal. (The Lancet, Dec. 22)

But the demands of the bankers haven’t stopped there. In recent years, especially since the 2008-2009 global capitalist economic crisis that has never really been overcome, austerity has also become a byword in many developed capitalist countries.

By 2011, austerity measures had been enforced in many European countries by long-established bourgeois political parties that were used to serving the class interests of the financiers and CEOs in times of relative stability and growth. Some were social-democratic parties that at one time had even presided over concessions that helped raise the working class’s standard of living. Suddenly, they found themselves confronted with very large anti-austerity demonstrations, mainly by workers in the public sector but also involving great masses of people who were feeling the cuts most deeply.

These huge demonstrations in countries after country began to affect the political climate, undermining the incumbent parties as the voters looked for ways out of their suffering. The biggest break so far, of course, has been in Greece, where, this January, a relatively new electoral formation, Syriza, was catapulted into office with the promise that it would refuse to carry out the cuts that Europe’s imperialist bankers had demanded in social services, particularly government salaries.

Even though the Greek crisis has not been resolved and the threats being made against Syriza by the financiers, especially the German banks, have grown in stingency, the political fallout against established ruling parties elsewhere continues to grow, taking many forms.

From Greece and Spain to Ireland, Scotland and even Canada, voters have been drawn to parties, some of them brand-new, that attack austerity and promise to find a way out of the budget cuts that the politicians in office defend as absolutely necessary.

Conservative setbacks in Spanish state

The latest setback for the incumbents came in Spain, where voter support for the left-wing coalition Podemos in local and regional elections on May 15 brought some surprises. Podemos, like Syriza, has been a brand-new, on-the-ground party that has not been afraid to impose austerity measures on the people.

In Barcelona, the second-largest city in the Spanish state and capital of semi-autonomous Catalonia, the new mayor will be Ada Colau, head of Barcelona en Comú, a coalition of leftist parties that were used to serving the class interests of the financiers and CEOs but have changed since the economic crisis. On May 28, members of her Coalition of the Center, Socialists and大幅扩展，并覆盖到金融网络。许多国家的政府被迫采取措施，以支撑其金融网络，包括在非洲和拉丁美洲，减少公共健康、教育、基础设施和其他重要服务的支出。所有的这一切都是为了获取这些国家的资源，这些资源已经被偷走了一个多世纪，而这些资源被那些同帝国主义势力有关的国家所获取。

这些后果极其严重。绝望的移民一直从这些国家涌入。尤其是在西部非洲地区的利比里亚、塞拉利昂和几内亚，这些国家的经济崩溃，直接导致了对公共健康的巨大需求，迫使这些国家按照“结构调整”方案的要求进行削减。

但银行家的要求还没有结束。在最近几年，尤其是在2008-2009年全球资本主义经济危机之后，这种情况从未真正克服，紧缩也在许多发达国家中成为平常。在过去，一些社会民主政党曾领导过这样的政策，这些政策在某种程度上帮助提高了工人的生活水平。突然间，这些政党发现自己面临着非常大的反对紧缩的示威活动，主要是由公共部门的工人发起，但同时也包括了大量希望摆脱紧缩政策的人群。

这些巨大的示威活动在各国引起了一连串的反应，从而影响了政治气候，削弱了执政党，使选民寻找出路。

最大的转折点是发生在希腊，那里，2011年1月，新成立的政党Syriza被选入议会，其竞选承诺是，拒绝执行欧元区的削减计划。

尽管希腊的危机尚未解决，并且反对Syriza的威胁越来越严重，尤其是在德国银行的威胁下，政治影响在其他国家继续扩大，采取各种形式的增长。

从希腊和西班牙到爱尔兰、苏格兰以至加拿大，选民被吸引到新的政党，其中一些是全新的，它们攻击紧缩并承诺找到摆脱预算削减的方法。

保守派在西班牙的挫折

最近，西班牙选举提供了令人惊讶的变化。Podemos，如同Syriza，是一个全新的、扎根于地上的政党，它不想受到紧缩措施的支配。

在巴塞罗那，西班牙的第二大城市和半自治的加泰罗尼亚首府，新市长将是Ada Colau，她是En Comú Podem联盟的新市长。

En Comú Podem是加泰罗尼亚的一个左翼联盟，它曾为银行和CEO服务，但自从经济危机以来，它已经发生了变化。在5月28日的市政选举中，她的这股中产阶级、社会民主主义和大幅扩展，并覆盖到金融网络。许多国家的政府被迫采取措施，以支撑其金融网络，包括在非洲和拉丁美洲，减少公共健康、教育、基础设施和其他重要服务的支出。所有的这一切都是为了获取这些国家的资源，这些资源被那些同帝国主义势力有关的国家所获取。

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Global economic slowdown and the Greek crisis

By Fred Goldstein

June 1: U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew sounded the alarm recently about the Greek debt crisis on his way to a G-7 finance ministers’ meeting in Dresden, Germany.

“Brinkmanship is a dangerous thing when only taken for one’s country,” Lew said at the London School of Economics. “No one should have a false sense of confidence that they know what the result of a crisis in Greece would be.” (New York Times, May 27)

His statement of alarm came as the leftist Greek government headed by Syriza was being pressured by European bank- ers to crack down on its already suffering working class as the June 5 deadline to pay IMF near $11 billion euros approach- ed. (USD $934 million)

The International Monetary Fund, the European Central Bank and the Euro- pean Union are demanding that Greece restructure its massive budget overspending, which set off a world financial crisis in 2008, which set off a world financial crisis in 2008. The IMF is only one statistic that you need to know about the wider consequences of austerity. The Royal Bank of Scotland, dominated by the German Central Bank, issued a report entitled “Brinkmanship is a dangerous thing when only taken for one’s country.”

The IMF, ECB and EU, as well as U.S. imperialists, are not just being arbitrary in trying to force the Greek government into a humiliating capitulation. The fact of the matter is that if bankers were to make concessions to the Greek government, they would be making a huge mistake in the face of a worldwide crisis that could easily begin to spread among other European debtor countries.

It is likely to fall to 24 percent this year. It is against this background of a smol- dering global economic, social and po- litical crisis that Lew issued his alarm, which could easily begin to spread among other European debtor countries.

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Donbass protests demand Justice for victims of U.S.-Ukraine war

By Greg Butterfield

With sorrow and rage, people in the Donbass region have ripped aside the veil of U.S. diplomatic maneuvering to reveal what is truly happening there: ongoing war crimes against children and other civilians by forces loyal to the extreme right-wing Ukrainian government backed by Washington.

In several mass outpourings in late May, residents of the primarily Russian-speaking region — formerly part of eastern Ukraine, now the independent people's republics of Donetsk and Lugansk — honored their dead and demanded an end to Kiev's constant violations of the Minsk-2 ceasefire signed by Ukraine, Russia, France and Germany in February.

On May 29, thousands of people attended the funeral of 11-year-old Katya Tuv and her father Yuriy in Gorlovka, Donetsk. The Tuv family home was destroyed during heavy shelling of the town by Ukrainian forces on the night of May 26. Katya's mother, Yekaterina, lost her arm and her younger brother was badly wounded.

Once again, the Ukrainian side showed it won't carry out the peace agreement, charged Donetsk leader Aleksandr Zakharchenko. "They prefer to violate it blatantly." (Novorossiya Today, May 29)

In Donetsk's capital city, some 7,000 people protested on May 28, two days after the slaughter of the Tuvs. A Requiem ceremony followed on June 3 for at least 69 children killed since the start of the Kiev regime's "Anti-Terrorist Operation" against Donbass in April 2014.

Also on May 28, thousands of people braved pouring rain in Alchevsk, Lugansk, for the funeral of assassinated anti-fascist militia and two civilians, all killed in an attack on May 23.

Some 6,000 protesters in Lugansk and Lugansk militiamen have recorded dozens of daily violations of the ceasefire by the Ukrainian Armed Forces, fascist battalions and mercenaries — sometimes up to 50 in a single day with increasing casualties. Gorlovka is one of the hardest-hit cities.

Behind the crisis: Washington and Wall Street

Increasingly, people in the Donbass are looking beyond the immediate threat posed by the coalition of oligarchs, neo-liberal politicians and neo-Nazis that seized power in Kiev last year, and working to draw the world's attention to the force behind it: U.S. imperialism.

Direct talks in Sochi between U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on May 32 led to speculation that some deal might be in the works to tamp down the war in Donbass. Six days later, Republican non-conservative U.S. Under Secretary of State Victoria Nuland, one of the architects of the February 2014 coup that brought the Kiev junta to power, visited Moscow for talks about Minsk-2 (the cease-fire agreement signed last February).

After Washington's latest round of diplomatic maneuvers, during a meeting in mid-May with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, President Barack Obama declared that "Russia occupies a more aggressive stance" on Ukraine, TASS News Agency reported. This signaled that the Democratic-Republican bloc backing Ukraine's war in Donbass continues and will still try to shift blame for this not only on Putin.

An even clearer signal was the approval of a $7 billion U.S./International Monetary Fund emergency bailout, part of a $40 billion package including loans and other credits, to stave off default by the collapsing Ukrainian economy.

The integration of neo-Nazi "volunteer battalions" into the Ukrainian military structure also continues, as does the U.S. Army's training of Kiev's fascist National Guard.

Taking his cue from Washington, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko denounced the leaders of Donetsk and Lugansk, saying he would never negotiate with "homeless people, atheists and parasites who were given weapons, unable to feed themselves, [with an] irresponsible attitude towards children and the elderly." (Gazeta.ru, May 29)

He conveniently left out the fact that Ukraine and its Western allies have imposed an economic blockade on the Donbass, and that he is responsible for the bombing of children and the cutoff of pensions to seniors.

The surprise appointment of fugitive ex-President of Georgia and noted U.S. puppet Mikhail Saakashvili as governor of Ukraine's embattled Odessa region on May 29, and the concentration of junta military forces there, may signal increased repression not only for the nationalist right but also for neighboring Moldova, whose oligarchic government is closely allied with Kiev. (Timer-Odessa.net)

'Now is the time to stand up'

Citing intelligence reports, Donetsk Defense Ministry spokesperson Eduard Basurin warned that a team of U.S. chemical weapons specialists are traveling to Ukrainian-occupied Mariupol, where they may assist the Kiev junta's forces in carrying out a provocation in order to charge the people's republics with 'crimes of inhumanity.' (NewsFront.info, May 29)

How will the anti-war and other people's movements in the U.S. respond to Washington's role in these war crimes?

In a powerful video appeal, Russell Bonner Bentley, an anti-fascist Donbass militia volunteer known as "Texas," took viewers on a tour of the bombed-out remains of the Tuvs family home in Gorlovka.

Speaking directly to U.S. workers and activists, Bonner Bentley said: "This is what the United States is doing in Ukraine. All the people that have been killed, all the homes like this that have been destroyed, are only because this war was started by the U.S. government...."

"What kind of person are you? You see this video, you know what's the truth. If you vote for Obama, you vote for Bush, you vote for Hillary Clinton, what kind of people are you to do that?" he asked.

"This is your responsibility, (U.S.) Americans are like the 'good Germans' who supported Hitler and said we don't care what the Nazis do in other countries as long as we have our jobs, watch sports and drink beer...."

"Are you going to be on the side of the people who do this? If not, now is the time to make your move," declared Bonner Bentley. "Now is the time to go to the street. Now is the time to stand up."

The video (in English with Russian subtitles) can be viewed here: youtube.com/watch?v=5arGID5rILc

Donbass protests saw solidarity actions

New Yorkers protest assassination of Donbass leader

Special to Workers World

Anti-war, community and solidarity activists gathered at the statue of Latin American liberation hero Simon Bolivar in Central Park May 27 to honor assassinated Donbass leader Alexei Mozgovoi and four of his companions of the Ghost Brigade anti-fascist militia and two civilians, all killed in an attack on May 23.

Some 600 people whoop and holler on May 29, 2015, for the capital in the Donbass in the capital of Donetsk, May 28, 2015. Protest against the bombing of Gorlovka. The video (in English with Russian subtitles) can be viewed here: youtube.com/watch?v=5arGID5rILc

by Sara Flounders

"By revealing the underbelly of the empire, Flounders sheds insight on how to stand up to the imperialist war machine and, in so doing, save ourselves and humankind," said Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, former UN General Assembly President, 2008-2009. Foreign Minister of Nicaragua's Sandinista government. Available online and at bookstores around the country.

PentagonArchillesHeel.com

"Lives" and anti-fascist flags, activists demanded a halt to Ukrainian military attacks and the economic blockade of the Donestk and Lugansk People's Republics. They distributed leaflets to passersby calling for an end to Washington's economic, political and military support of the far-right Kiev regime.

Anna Rebri, a student activist whose family lives in Ukraine and Lugansk, told the group: "This act of international solidarity is important. A revolutionary might be killed, but the revolution goes on."

"Mozgovoi was one of the most committed and radical leaders of the anti-fascist resistance in Donbass," said Greg Butterfield, of the IAC. "He was also committed to defending the people of Lugansk and Donestk from the war unleashed by Ukraine's fascists and U.S. imperialism. He was committed to building a new society based on freedom and social justice for all working people."

"Commander Mozgovoi was also an internationalist who understood that Novorossiya and Ukrainian workers must unite on a class basis to defend the fascist junta in Kiev," Butterfield noted.

"We hear all the time from the U.S. corporate media and Washington officials that the people of Donbass live in fear under the rule of 'Ukrainian invaders' and 'terrorist separatists.'"

"These are lies meant to distract people from the fact that both Democrats and Republicans are united in sending billions of dollars and weapons to the illegal regime in Kiev, while cutting desperately needed social programs here at home.”

"It's meant to distract us from the fact that U.S. troops are training neo-Nazis in Ukraine to kill civilians in Donbass, which is being occupied by police murder them, and Brown people from New York to Baltimore to Ferguson," charged Butterfield.

Other speakers included Russian community activist Andy Aero; Comrade Shahid, of the Pakistan-USA Freedom Forum; trade unionist Mike Gimbel; IAC Co-Director Sara Flounders; and Bill Dores, of Workers World Party. FIST (Fight Imperialism, Stand Together), Party of Communist USA and U.S. members of the Soviet People also participated in the memorial.
In New York and the Bay Area with one voice: Free Oscar!

By Berta Joubert-Ceci
Harlem, N.Y.

The streets of Harlem saw the largest mobilization to date calling for the release of Puerto Rican political prisoner Oscar López Rivera on May 30. More than 3,000 people, marching under the slogan, “One voice for Oscar,” demanded President Barack Obama immediately release the Puerto Rican patriot.

López Rivera, 72, is now the longest-held Puerto Rican political prisoner. On May 29, he completed 34 years in the empire’s prisons — 12 of them in solitary confinement. He was accused of “sedition conspiracy” for belonging to the Puerto Rican Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN). This same charge was used against Nelson Mandela in apartheid South Africa before his release from prison. The FALN, based in Chicago, was fighting to free the Puerto Rican colony from its U.S. yoke.

The demonstration in Harlem reflected the broad support López Rivera has won in the past year. Based on protesting the violation of his human rights, the campaign has even added the voices of rightist politicians. A prime example of this is the letter from the U.S. Congressmen from Puerto Rico, the district in which López Rivera resides, to President Barack Obama, Jr. signing the broad support for López Rivera.

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The sudden, dramatic arrest of nine high-ranking officials of the top world-wide soccer organization and five corporation executives on charges from the U.S. to Cuba, which has become a beacon for poor and oppressed people the world over. If it dares to stand up to U.S imperialism.

According to international law, a blockade is an act of war. Since 1992, U.S. General Assembly has passed annual resolutions with almost unanimous votes calling on the U.S. to end its illegal blockade of Cuba. Supporting these resolutions, Cuba detailed the many hardships inflicted on the Cuban people, but the United States has remained unmoved in its hostility to Cuba. The United States claims its priority of human beings over profit.

The Congressional Accountability Office recently reported that from 1996 to 2011, Congress appropriated $205 million for Cuba “democracy” assistance. Most of this went to the U.S. Agency for Interna- tional Development for “inaugura- tion” projects that involve mostly targets who are non-U.S. citizens in a sport that is vastly more profitable than the Olympics and the National Football League.

We have no “inside” information about FIFA. But Workers World has a clear view of how large private corpo- rations function in a world dominated by imperialism. Their goal is to maximize profits. That means constantly increasing the exploitation of their workers and of whole oppressed na- tions.

It also means using all measures, including bribes and intimidation in the face of the U.S. This includes threatening war — to pin down new markets at profitable prices. It means risking all sorts of illegal activity — from banks laundering illicit drug cash to gun running — that will keep markets at profitable prices. It means threatening war — to pin down new markets at profitable prices. It means risking all sorts of illegal activity — from banks laundering illicit drug cash to gun running — that will keep markets at profitable prices.

Investigative reporting by the Associat- ed Press exposed the smuggling into Cuba of military grade communications by Alan Gross (who was caught and jailed) and the ZunZuneo caper to set up a Cuban social media like Twitter, secretly paid for by the CIA.

Some capitalist intellectuals and apol- ogists for imperialism have attempted to justify the gross hypocrisy of U.S. diplomacy under the doctrine of “American Exceptionalism.” This chauvinistic, racist idea asserts that the United States, because it is such an exceptionally “good” force in the world, has a responsibility to maintain and expand “American Empire,” and should therefore not be accountable to international law. (Marilyn B. Young, “One Empire Under God.”)

This rubbish must be exposed for what it really is: an ideological weapon used to pummel any nation or individual who dares to stand up to U.S. imperialism. This is especially true when it comes to Cuba, which has become a beacon for poor and oppressed people the world over. If it wants to normalize relations with Cuba, the U.S. should first end its illegal blockade.
By Abayomi Azikiwe

In the central Yemeni city of Taiz, which has been under aerial bombardment and street fighting for months, the Houthis and elements of the Saudi-led coalition carried out 250 air attacks on military installations, schools, hospitals, markets and other civilian targets in the city between March 22 and May 27, according to a statement issued by HRW on May 31. The report said that the ongoing military conflict between the Houthis and elements of the Saudi-led coalition has resulted in the deaths of more than 1,300 civilians and thousands of others injured.

The Houthis and their allies have continued to attack military bases and other installations in central Yemen, including an airport in Sanaa, the capital city, and a military camp in the southern province of Taiz. The Houthis and their allies have also launched attacks in the northwestern province of Saada, which has been heavily affected by the conflict.

The Houthis and their allies have also continued to attack civilians in areas controlled by the Saudi-led coalition. The Houthis have launched attacks on military targets in the city of Taiz, which has been under aerial bombardment and street fighting for months.

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¿Qué va a hacer la Izquierda con el plan del gobierno para aplastar el Levantamiento La Vida de Negros Importa?

Análisis de Workers World Mundo Obrero

Por Harry Holmes

El gobierno tiene la intención de aplasta- lar el levantamiento La Vida de Negros Importa (BLM por las siglas en inglés) que se extendió por el país a raíz de la re- bellión el año pasado contra la violencia policial racista en Ferguson-Misuri. La represión que se está preparando en con- tra de esta sublevación será mucho mayor que la represión del movimiento Occupy Wall Street debido a que el levantamiento BLM plantea una amenaza mucho mayor para el sistema.

Políticos y funcionarios policiales espe- ran que el levantamiento nacional per- diera fuerza. Sin embargo, la revuelta en Baltimore por el asesinato de Freddie Grey en abril – una revuelta que se extendió rápidamente por todo el país – es prueba inequívoca de que el levantamiento BLM ha sacudido al establishment capitalista no va a desaparecer.

Los departamentos de policía locales coordinados por el Departamento de Se- guridad Nacional, con la participación del FBI y el Pentágono, están planeando romper con fuerza las protestas masivas contra la policía. De hecho, el nuevo centro coordinado de represión ya ha comenzado. El despliegue de la Guardia Nacional en Baltimore y el establecimiento de un toque de queda constituyeron un experimento calculado para probar cómo se podrían utilizar estas medidas para hacer arrestos masivos y despejar las protestas con fuerza policial abrumadora.

Durante las últimas semanas, la policía ha atacado las protestas contra la vio- lencia policial en Nueva York, Filadelfia, Cleveland y otras ciudades, golpeando y arrestando a cientos de manifestantes. En Baltimore, sin embargo, se ha impuesto la prohibición de protestas por la noche, y otras ciudades planean imponer prohibi- ciones similares. Las llamadas de la policía de “ataque ‘anti-terroristas”’ están siendo or- ganizadas por la policía con el propósito explícito de aplastar las protestas.

Algunas ciudades, incluyendo Nueva York, tienen previsto elevar el cargo de resistirse al arresto, de un delito menor a un delito grave. Esto es solo el comienzo. La policía se está disponiendo a ejecutar una mayor represión mientras se prepa- ran para el aniversario de la muerte de Michael Brown en agosto.

Los políticos, junto con personalidades de los derechos civiles a favor del sistema y los medios de comunicación están pro- poniendo “soluciones” de corto plazo y la policía restringiendo el pretender de “detener la vio- lencia” para aplastar la protesta.

La Cuestión Nacional y la Liberación Negra

¿Cómo las fuerzas progresistas, espe- cialmente las/os progresistas blancos, responden a una crisis como esta es una pregunta con que las/os marchistas han estado lidiando incluso antes de que Vladimir Lenin declarara hace un siglo que “la historia se hace en el momento presente”. Los trabajadores, los trabajadores de la clase trabajadora, que la política restringiendo el pretendido de “detener la vio- lencia” para aplastar la protesta.

El movimiento obrero en el Norte hizo poco, si acaso hizo algo, para detener la contrarrevolución racista contra la Re- construcción. Por desgracia, el fracaso del movimiento obrero y amas de casa para responder a la oposición nacional del pueb- lo negro a finales del siglo 19, establecido desde entonces un patrón de deprivaciones similares.

Mucho ha cambiado desde que la Re- construcción fue aplastada; sin embargo, ninguno de esos cambios ha negado la importancia de la Cuestión Nacional re- specto al pueblo negro.

La izquierda debe involucrarse

Vamos al otoño de 2014. Imaginense lo trascendental que habría sido si la Mar- cha de Cambio climático de cientos cien- tos de miles de personas en septiembre en la ciudad de Nueva York —que, aunque claramente no eran todas blancas, eran mayoritariamente blancas— hubiera sido convertida en una marcha solidaria con el levantamiento de Ferguson. Esto no qui- re decir que la lucha por salvar al planeta es un tema urgente, más bien que sí es con- templado como un tema urgente, incluso más bien que en que momento, el tema más urgente para el movimiento de masas era la sub- levación en Ferguson.

Para las/os activistas y revolucionarios – ya su principal preocupación sea opon- erse al imperialismo de Estados Unidos, luchar contra el capitalismo, apoyar la lucha de la clase obrera o luchar por el socialismo – una mirada más profunda a la importancia del levantamiento BLM, debería ser suficiente para convencerle de que es fundamental, quizás incluso deci- sivo la necesidad de apoyarlo.

Este levantamiento ha demostrado una vez más que la lucha por la Liberación Ne- groa, haya más mujeres y lesbianas, gays, bisexuales y personas transgénero ju- gando un papel clave en el levantamiento BLM. Esto tiende a hacer el levantamien- to más radical y multinacional. La participación de jóvenes activistas en Nueva York, por ejemplo, ha sido una realidad que conlleva a pensar en que para el momento en que el movimiento BLM no es políticamente homogéneo. Como todo movimiento, el movimien- to BLM no es políticamente homogéneo. Como todo movimiento, el movimien- to BLM no es políticamente homogéneo. Como todo movimiento, el movimien- to BLM no es políticamente homogéneo. Como todo movimiento, el movimien- to BLM no es políticamente homogéneo.