Migrants in ICE jails launch hunger strikes

By Kathy Durkin

Sixty im/migrant prisoners began a hunger strike July 17 at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in the Bristol County House of Corrections complex in North Dartmouth, Mass. Another 72 prisoners joined this bold action on July 20. These detainees, some undergoing removal proceedings and others awaiting deportation, are protesting the deplorable conditions of their captivity.

Chief among their complaints are “nearly nonexistent medical care, inedible food, abuse from facility employees and exorbitant commissary prices,” says a press release issued July 19 by Families for Freedom, a multinational, New York-based immigrant rights organization and mobilizing center for migrants fighting deportation.

Detainees called the group’s hotline to ask for help in publicizing their protests over the facility’s terrible conditions. They say the food served them is not nutritious and often rotten, and they are ignored if they get food poisoning. It can take up to two weeks to get needed medical care, if it’s provided at all. One prisoner with a broken hand has not seen a doctor for three weeks. People having seizures get no care, and those needing medications don’t get them.

Hunger strikers report that showers and bathrooms are full of mold. Phone and commissary prices are double — or more — the cost outside the prison, but the facility’s food is so bad that detainees must buy food at the canteen. They report being subjected to racist and other verbal abuse by guards, as well as inhumane treatment, including guards laughing at prisoners who faint from hunger.

Families for Freedom reports: “Bristol County House of Corrections is a facility with a history of mistreatment” and high suicide rates. “Sheriff Thomas Hobson, a Trump fan, is known for his exceptional brutality, misconduct, including receiving kickbacks from prison telecoms and his proposal to use prison labor from his county to build Trump’s border wall.” (Press release, tinyurl.com/y9padac4)

The hunger strikers’ Call to Action succinctly lists their demands for proper medical care, nutritious food and essential hygienic equipment and services. They ask supporters to advocate for them by calling the following officials to ask that their demands be met: Bristol County Detention Facility at 508-995-6400 and Acting ICE Field Office Directors Thomas Brophy and James Rutherford at 781-359-7500.

Women migrants resist!

Across the country, im/migrants are protesting horrendous conditions of their captivity through whatever means they can. Women migrants held at... Continued on page 9

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Challenges facing the working class

WORKERS ON THE MOVE

Michigan

AFGE

Chicago

Prisons are the crime

Israeli apartheid law

Venezuela’s popular militia

Women migrants resist!

An 11-person delegation representing FIRE (Fight for Im/migrants and Refugees Everywhere) visited the South Texas Human Rights Center in Falfurrias, Texas, on June 30.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

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WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE
#NoDAPL water protector sentenced to 57 months

By Mahtowin

#NoDAPL water protector Red Fawn Fallis was sentenced July 11 to 57 months in prison by a federal judge in North Dakota. She was given 18 months’ credit for time served prior to trial, and will have three years of probation supervision after her release. She and her family and friends are planning to appeal the sentence.

Red Fawn had previously accepted a plea agreement that included two federal felony convictions — civil disorder and possession of ammunition by a convicted felon — in return for dropping a more serious weapons charge that would have carried a minimum prison sentence of 10 years.

Her charges resulted from the Oct. 27, 2016, militarized police attack on the Oceti Sakowin Camp near Standing Rock, directly in the path of the Dakota Access oil pipeline (DAPL). Red Fawn was tackled by several cops, who then claimed that she had a gun and fired it during that time.

As it turned out, the gun belonged to Heath Harmon, a paid FBI informant who had weaseled his way into Red Fawn’s life as her boyfriend and into her family’s good graces. Many believe this spying was done to try and obtain information through Red Fawn about actions and plans of the #NoDAPL camps. Red Fawn, who is from the Pine Ridge Reservation and also Denver, Colo., comes from a proud line of American Indian Movement activists.

Red Fawn understood clearly that there could be no justice for an Indigenous woman in any court in North Dakota. Her lawyers were told they could not introduce evidence at trial about relevant subjects such as treaty rights and the FBI informant who targeted Red Fawn and likely planted the gun at the time of her arrest.

The prosecution refused to produce important evidence that might have cleared Red Fawn. As a result, she accepted a plea deal that would eliminate the more serious weapons charge, out of concern that otherwise she would be found guilty and sentenced to more than 10 years.

More ‘civil disorder’ charges

As an Indigenous woman, Red Fawn is being severely penalized for daring to defend treaty rights, protect the water and stop the Dakota Access Pipeline. Since the beginning of settler colonialism, Indigenous women have been violated, repressed and punished.

This is not an anomaly, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward! Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself, as they never ending quest for ever greater profits. Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, joblessness and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it.

Continued on the next page

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black and Brown youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capital interest profits. The Workinger, N.Y., 585.436.6456 rockford@workers.org

Rockford, Ill.

#NoDAPL water protector being arrested.

Rockland, N.Y.

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people who defend their lands. Centuries-old history of government repression at Standing Rock were part of a cage upon arrest. They were strip-searched and placed in dog cages. Actually, the Cold War was a genuine class war—a struggle between the ruling classes. Actually, the Cold War was a genuine class war—a struggle between the ruling classes. The basis for the attempted rapprochement is two of the greatest enemies of the workers and oppressed at home and abroad. Democratic rights in the U.S. are far worse than those of the Russian ma...
Big win for University of Michigan teachers

By Martha Grevatt
Detroit

After nine months of tough negotiations, nontenured lecturing instructors at the University of Michigan’s three campuses have won an agreement that provides substantial pay increases, improved access to health benefits, increased union representation and stronger job security guarantees.

The 1,700 members of Lecturing Employees Organization, American Federation of Teachers Local 6024, voting on July 11-13, ratified the new contract by a 98 percent majority. There was strong member participation in the electronic ratification process.

Under the old contract, starting pay for full-time lecturing instructors was only $27,300 at the Flint campus, $28,900 in Dearborn and $34,500 in Ann Arbor.

But many instructors make much less. Many are part time, with no control over their course load, which is decided each semester by the administration. Instructors working less than 60 percent of full time have no health benefits. Those working less than full time pay a large percentage of their health care premiums.

A lecturer who teaches two or more classes one semester could lose access to health benefits the next semester if their course load drops to one class.

This deplorable situation is not unique to Michigan. Across the country, few professors are being contracted for full-time, tenure-track positions and are being replaced by lecturers who are paid lower salaries and do not have job security or even a predictable income due to last-minute scheduling.

The new contract at UM will raise pay by an average of 30 percent by the third year of the contract. Currently employed lecturers will receive substantial raises. Access to health benefits is now based on average annual course load.

The union did not win everything it had asked for and hopes in future bargaining to address the pay discrepancy between the main Ann Arbor campus and the Flint and Dearborn locations.

Lower-paid teachers at the satellite campuses were the most active in the contract struggle.

Victory for teachers and students

“We’ve been working since October 2017 to create an agreement that will ensure quality education for our students and fair compensation for our members,” said LEO President Ian Robinson, a lecturer in the Sociology Department at UM in Ann Arbor, in a June 22 LEO news release.

Kirsten Hrdlicka, a lecturer at the UM School of Public Health, LEO vice president and manager of the LEO bargaining team, added: “Higher pay will lead to less turnover, more lecturers working full time — rather than holding multiple part-time jobs — and a more stable learning environment for our students to whom our membership are so dedicated.”

This victory was not achieved through skilled negotiations alone. LEO built a public “Respect the Lecs” campaign that included rallies, electronic petitioning and an April 22 sit-in outside the administration building.

The union hired organizers who made a point of talking to every member, hearing what their primary issues were and giving regular updates. Teachers were all set to go out on a two-day strike, which was only called off when the administration began agreeing to LEO’s proposals.

There was mass support from tenure faculty, the Graduate Employees Organization, other campus workers, students and members of the Board of Regents. Students filled out hundreds of postcards giving their reasons for supporting the union. GEO and LEO have a history of mutual solidarity, which has benefited both groups of exploited education workers.

There was also strong support from the nurses in the UM hospital system, who have been dealing with the same hostile management in their negotiations. LEO members are being urged to attend rallies to back the nurses.

The upsurge of education worker resistance, beginning with the powerful strike in West Virginia, has spread to higher education.

Federal workers mobilize against Trump’s union busting

By Sue Davis

While the right-wing majority on the Supreme Court awarded two major wins in anti-union, anti-worker cases this spring — the reactionary Epic Sysmics and Janus decisions — the bullying billionai r boss in the Oval Office was also busy, issuing union-busting executive orders on May 25 and July 9. These unpublicized orders are designed to strip 700,000 federal workers, particularly women of color, of their rights on the job.

A crime of such magnitude against working people has to be exposed and fought with a mighty fist.

The Trump administration’s new rules are designed to dramatically decrease the union membership and rank and file unionization of federal workers. The evidence needed to take disciplinary action against employe es has been reduced from over 120 days to 30 days. J. David Cox, president of the American Federation of Government Employees, which represents the work ers, told Payday Report: “I have no doubt that the policies and actions of this admin istration disproportionally impact women and minority workers.

“The agencies that have been attacked most severely, agencies like [Housing and Urban Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Social Security Administration] and the Department of Education not only provide the greatest amount of jobs to women and minorities, they also have very high percentages of women and minorities in their work force.” (July 11)

Increasingly, affirmative action programs and a workforce unionized at four times the rate of private sector unions have made the federal government a more welcoming workplace for women and people of color. Though African American workers account for only 10 percent of the “civilian” workforce, they account for 18 percent of federal workers.

“The new executive orders are going to make it even harder for us to recruit and retain people of color,” said Linda Wertheim, president of AFGE Local 1224, representing workers in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The African American union leader asserted, “This is just giving management more power to just get rid of people because of whatever reason.”

Trump’s rules also weaken the union’s ability to represent workers. For example, all Title 38 employees at the VA, including many nurses, physicians and mental health specialists in the majority female workforce, are no longer allowed to have shop stewards represent them in disciplinary hearings on official government time. Now, stewards have to dock out.

The new executive orders “don’t allow to use federal computers or email to communi cate across workplaces, making it difficult for stewards to meet and talk with work ers on the job.” They are making us all at- will employees,” notes Ward-Smith. “A lot of times, we take these jobs for protection. This is why we come to the federal government because we have unions, but now it is just as bad as the private sector.”

National Fightback needed

At the Social Security Administration, where 32 percent of the workforce is African American, the Trump administration has banned local unions from representing workers in federal buildings, though that’s been accepted practice for decades. Even unions offering to rent office space at market rate are no longer allowed to deal with federal business having been allowed to do so. AFGE Council 220, representing about 29,000 employees in Social Security Administration offices and service centers, has filed four class-action grievances against the SSA for using a promotion system they say is discriminatory. Statist ics over four years show that “twice as many whites as minority people get the highest rating,” said Vida Slivnyczynski, president of Council 220. Now, SSA workers won’t be allowed to file grievances showing the promotion system is discriminatory.

Council 220 officials view such signs Continued on page 10

Skyscraper window washers on strike

By Jeff Sorel
Chicago

Suppose you had to earn your living washing skyscraper windows a thousand feet in the air? In summer you exposed to the sun as you dangle from your rope, while in winter your soapy, water-covered skin freezes.

At a minimum, you would expect size able pay and benefits for engaging in such a brutal job. The six companies that employ them handle most of the windows in the city-to-skyline Millenium Park.

When their contract expired on that date, July 26, 2018, thousands of window washers poured into Chicago to protest. Their employers donned superhero costumes — and family members poured into Chica go’s downtown the morning of July 10 to protest. Their signs read, “Window washers are Chicago’s real skyline superheros.” They temporarily blocked the busy intersection of Michigan Avenue and Randolph Street before rallying in Millennium Park.

About 260 union window washers represent ed by Service Employees Local 1, have been on strike since July 2 — right in the middle of peak washing season. When their contract expired on that date, their employers began to scurry for pick et signs. The six companies that employ them handle most of the windows in the city’s downtown buildings.

On July 18, as the strike continued, they marched on City Hall, which led a large number of the City Council’s 50 mem bers to express their support. City Councillor seeks an increase in starting wages to a range of $16 to $25 an hour. It also wants an increase in life insurance coverage (which makes plenty of sense, given the risks of the job) and removal of the current cap on employer health insurance contributions.

The workers say they won’t go back to work until their employers start bargain ing in good faith.
Disability pride parade targets potential service cuts

By New York Disabilities Bureau of Workers World Party

On a glorious Sunday morning, after a thunderstorm had cleared the air, thousands of disability, lgbtq, and workers activists and their friends and families walked, rode, rolled and scooted down Broadway from Madison Square Park to Union Square Park in the 15th Disability Pride Parade. A festival was scheduled at the end of the parade.

Supports were high. Concerns about the heat had been raised in social media by many groups, including the NY Peoples Power Assemblies. The FPA had carried out telephone surveys.新品味の“Shade”campaign to reverse the route so the parade would end at Madison Square Park and the three-hour festival could be held in the shade. Many disabled people are adversely affected by excessive heat. In 2015, three participants had to be hospitalized.

As a result of this campaign, the city spent a significant amount on two large tents to provide shade in the pavement, treeless area of the park where the festival was held.

The theme of the parade was “Express Yourself” and prizes were awarded to the most creative expression of that. The feeling was definitely celebratory. Two men sitting on benches played bongo drums. Wheelchair dancing took place in a designated area in front of the stage. At one point, a wheelchair user threw her hands up in joy as her partner twirled her around several times. “Move whatever you’ve got — a toe, a head, an arm,” encouraged the emcee.

Protest serious cutbacks

At 12:15 p.m., disabled people gathered in front of the Con Edison building. Andrew Cuomo’s threat to close the Independent Care System, which provides essential services that enable disabled people to live at home.

Wheelchair user Shafira Abou-Hamda, founder of the Civic League for Disability Rights, thrilled the audience on the front steps, speaking to Cuomo and his content plan to close ICS. She emphasized that the Civic League has fought to protect Medicaid, health insurance, furniture, wheelchairs, and equipment, and to make public transit more accessible.

She explained: “Today we are fighting to save Independent Care Systems also known as ICS. ICS exists for one reason: to make sure that people like me, people with disabilities, can live independently. I do not need a doctor. The state wants to close ICS to save money, and the only way to do that is to cut our services. Because of my condition, I need 24-hour home care, which ICS pays for. No other plan has ICS’s disability expertise. ICS made it possible for me to live and work in my own house and undergo complicated surgery and emerge in good health when my own doctors did not have a clue how to make that happen. My story is multi-

plied thousands of times....

“We have the right to live independently with dignity instead of being locked up in institutions. Governor Cuomo: Save ICS.” Some 50 wheelchair users then surrounded the stage. Holding a handmade paper sign reading, “ICS Is the best,” they chanted, “Save ICS!” for more than 15 minutes.

Disability rights movement more diverse than ever

An inspiring list of more than 50 organizations participated in the event. The grand marshal of the parade was Judy Heumann, a wheelchair user who pioneered the disability rights movement. As a student at Long Island University, she organized disabled students to fight for ramps. She sued her school district for the right to teach. In 1970, she founded Disability in Action, a Vanguard group in the disability civil rights movement. In 1977, she partook in a day in silence for disability rights in San Francisco. In 1981, she helped found the World Institute on Disability.

More than 30 signs prepared by Workers World Party, Peoples Power Assemblies, Peoples MTA and Parents to Improve School Transportation were handed out through the crowd; some were enthusiastically mounted on wheelchair users. Signs included the police killings of disabled people, lack of elevators and access to the subway system, and defending Medicaid.

The Americans with Disabilities Act and ICS.

WW contingent in Disability Pride parade.

On July 26, 1953, Cuban revolutionaries staged a brilliant coup against Batista in Santiago de Cuba. Less than six years later, Fidel and his guerrillas ousted the U.S.-backed dictatorship, marching into Havana in early January 1959.

That same year, Workers World newspaper began to publish. After more than a decade of anti-communist repression in the U.S., the Cuban Revolution helped revive interest in revolutionary socialism. The more outrageous the anti-Cuba propaganda in the corporate press, the harder Workers World has worked to tell the truth about this great victory over U.S. imperialism.

In 1961, when the U.S. announced that it was breaking diplomatic relations with Cuba, WW’s first editor, Vince Copeland, led a protest inside the United Nations, his booming voice proclaiming the U.S. “speaks for the bankers, not the people.”

In the early 1990s, Cuba endured great economic hardships after the Soviet Union fell and the U.S. tightened its blockade. Workers World helped build the Peace for Cuba International Appeal to end the blockade, the travel ban and all intervention against Cuba.

Despite the choking blockade, the Cuban Revolution only grows stronger and more respected as it saves life-saving medical institutions all over the world. As the Trump administration increases its hostility to the socialist country, Workers World remains dedicated to defending revolutionary Cuba. Donations from WW supporters have helped get our pro-Cuba writings in print, distributed and posted at workers.org. We invite you to join the 41-year-old WW Supporter Program to help us continue to publish articles in solidarity with workers and oppressed peoples worldwide and in opposition to U.S. wars. The newspaper is a source of anti-racist, anti-sexist, pro-LGBTQ news and working-class truth, while it supports immigrants, opponents, and helps build pro-socialist campaigns.

To join, write checks to Workers World and mail them, with your name and address, to 147 W. 24th St., 2nd floor, New York, NY 10011. Or donate at workers.org/donate/. Supporters who contribute $57 receive a year’s subscription, a monthly letter and five free subscriptions. Sponsors who contribute $100 also get a book published by World View Publications. Sustainers who contribute $300 or more receive five free books. Thank you for your help in building the revolutionary press in the U.S.

Crumbling infrastructure spewed deadly asbestos

By G. Dunkel

New York

Early on the morning of July 19, part of the infrastructure crumpled in New York City’s bustling Flatiron district, a mixed business and residential area. An 86-year-old steam pipe broke, spewing steam, asphalt, mud and toxic asbestos into the air in a jet stream that reached at least 200 feet high. The explosion left a crater the size of a city bus at 21st Street and Third Avenue. Several utility access holes in that area also popped open.

Since it was relatively early in the morning, streets and offices were closed. Only five people were injured, none seriously. Forty-nine buildings were evacuated.

As of July 23, nine buildings had been cleaned up, four once asbestos had been blocked.

Workers from Con Edison, the city’s billion-dollar energy supplier, and the $13 billion energy supplier, and the New York Times of July 19, 2007, reported that there had been at least 12 steam pipe explosions since 1989. All of them spread asbestos. The city’s 100 miles of steam lines consist of asbestos-covered pipes that are at least 50 years old.

Con Ed warned 20 years ago

It’s ironic that this steam line explosion happened only a block north of a major water main break followed by a gas line explosion in 1998. The water main was 86-year-old steam pipe broke, spewing steam, asphalt, mud and toxic asbestos into the air in a jet stream that reached at least 200 feet high. The explosion left a crater the size of a city bus at 21st Street and Third Avenue. Several utility access holes in that area also popped open.

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Con Ed warned 20 years ago
An important issue under discussion inside Workers World Party, which resulted in members of the WWP Detroit branch resigning on July 14, is over the issue of “identity politics.” The former Detroit members held the position that the issue of “identity politics” is harming the working class. The majority in the Party disagree with their position. The internal party document below, prepared for a recent leadership meeting, and now being made public, was written by WWP First Secretary Larry Holmes on May 14, 2020, to contextualize some of these differences, particularly the section entitled “We must push aside all barriers to organizing our class.”

In the view of Workers World Party, the term “identity politics,” used both affirmatively and derivatively by differing forces in the broad working-class movement and on the left, essentially poses this question: Is acknowledging and supporting the legitimate struggles of oppressed sections of our class and all of society against racism, sexism, etc. a betrayal to the objective, class strug- gle of the class struggle against capitalism? We believe it to be integral. More will be said later in this document.

The party must begin to orient itself to the next stage of the class struggle. Obviously, we cannot predict the course of future events. But that fact alone is no reason for the party not to prepare politically and organiza- tionally for a new level of global class struggle. The crisis in the global capitalist mode of production is quick- er or slowly or unevenly this might develop. The new level of struggle is predicated on the extreme char- acter of the global capitalist crisis, what that crisis must prepare for, and what the party must do if we truly want to inhabit the vacuum that is waiting for a real revolution- ary workers party to step up. The working class, including the organized, and espe- cially the far larger unorganized, section of it has reached a kind of precipice.

Either something changes or the setbacks that we have witnessed over three or more decades will accelerate.

The Janus case before the Supreme Court, a threat to the labor movement that I assume comrades are famil- iar with, is an ideological expression of the crisis of consciousness that our class must confront and transcend.

Not so long ago, there was a school of thought among bourgeois academics that predicted that the working class was withering away. Just the opposite is true. The working class is growing as more of society is pushed into it by the vicissitudes of capitalist change and decay. The composition and parameters of our class are constantly changing and expanding.

Yet, the conventional thinking of most of the trade union leadership remains the same. That thinking main- tains that if a group of workers regardless of where they work is unable to win union recognition or negotiate a contract or engage in collective bargaining and pay work- ing union dues, then these workers cannot gain entrance to the labor movement. This thinking excludes the over- whelming majority of workers from the labor movement. Both in thinking and in practice this norm must change.

The term that many, ourselves included, call this thinking “business unionism.” Business unionism has long since exhausted its ability to defend the working class. Business unionism defines a narrow, limited and conserv- ative approach to organizing workers that is funda- mentally based on a nonstruggle, class-collaborationist orientation. One of the big problems with this kind of unionism is that it tends to prioritize defending the gains of workers in the limited scope of the workplace, need to organize more workers. Both needs should have equal priority. Until that is the case, it will be easier for the ruling class to pit sections of the working class against each other.

The capitalist system was inherently unstable and subject to greater and even greater catastrophic crises. He warned that any improvement in the conditions for workers won in the class struggle with capital was subject to being re-versed so long as the capitalist class held power. What’s more, in documents prepared for the con- vention of the First International almost 150 years ago, Marx explained that the labor movement, as it evolved to higher and higher stages, needed to abandon all narrow or limited conceptions so that its initial aim, the improve- ment of the conditions for workers, changed/evolved to become the overthrow of the capitalist system.

The influence of these cen- tral principles of revolutionary Marxism in the broad work- ing-class movement has dimin- ished over a protracted period. This is especially true for the working class struggles in the centers of world imperialism, like the U.S. It is less true for the national lib- eration movements, the workers and peoples oppressed, in some- times referred to as the Global South, which includes most of the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

How did this come to be? The short answer is that his- torical developments over the past three-quarters of a century have led to the isolation of capitalism and imperialism a new lease on life. Consequently, much of the working-class movement bought into the illusion that capitalism was more or less per- manent, as well as more or less stable. It is this illu- sion that has led the capitalist class and its agents to or- ganize to the bourgeois, social-democratic political parties, i.e., the Democrats in the U.S.

Capitalism has now entered another epoch, the epoch of advanced permanent crisis and decay. Capitalism can no longer afford the price of social democracy. Moreover, the capitalist class no longer needs social democracy as an anti-communist bulwark against the former Soviet Union and the other former socialist countries.

The collapse of social democracy: a major dilemma for the working class

The collapse of social democracy has left the working class temporarily disarmed. The next period of the po- litical development of the working class is how, through action, organizing, struggle, experience, political devel- opment and solidarity, it rearms itself.

The magnitude of the crisis remains, for a time, far beyond the political level of the working class and its or- ganizations. That will and must change. Simply wishing that the workers were somehow able to catch up overnight to what the crisis demands of them won’t make it so.

Nonetheless, communists must understand that howev- er long it might take, at a certain point significant sections of the working class will understand the necessity that the struggle must be for more than gaining or defending con- ceptions, that it must be for complete emancipation.

As some comrades have pointed out over the years, we have at our disposal transitional demands and oth- ers — more or less bound to the party line — that can be made against repressive authority, that can be justified to help workers to think and act in solidarity. These will help them cross the bridge from the struggle for re- form to the struggle for revolution.

The party has a tremendous amount of experience in the working-class struggle in virtually every industry and in every region of the country. The comrades in the labor fraction have been doing a great job, especially with the limited time and resources they have. Going forward, the party must begin to transform itself in preparation for this challenge.

We must push aside all barriers to organizing our class

The inability or unwillingness of the business union- ists model to embrace and lift up immigrant workers and the abandonment of the campaign to organize fast food workers, which many considered never serious to begin with, are examples of the crisis in the labor movement. In spite of this, hundreds of thousands of people are still being organized or self-organized — a tremendous sign that workers are waking up and taking matters into their own hands.

The booklet shows women rising up in a wide range of struggles that oppose the reactionary characteristics of any organization, or even the state, that pretends to be our rights: against racism and white supre- macy, for health care and control of our bodies; for ending the payday gap and for union power; and for recognition of transgender people’s rights.

Learn more. Read pamphlets that are compilations of WW articles online at: www.workers.org/books
There have been more workers’ strikes this year than at any time since the late 1970s. I wholeheartedly agree with Marx and Sam Marcy that the political movements of the oppressed, be it Black Lives Matter or migrant workers or women or LGBTQ people, are not separate from the class struggle, but rather part of it and integral to it. The same is true for the unemployed, street vendors, cultural workers, people with disabilities, sex workers, prisoners and retirees. As important as the economic-based struggles of our class are, the political struggles against war or in solidarity with the Palestinian struggle or the people of Puerto Rico and against the capitalist system itself are no less important than the economic ones. Ultimately, the political struggles are far more important.

The youth, who are drawn to the fight against white supremacy, racism and fascism, in my view, are very much part of the class struggle. In the first decade of our party’s existence, most of the cadre we recruited came off the campuses. In most instances, the first experience of comrades back then was in the anti-war and anti-racist movements. Fifty years ago, the chances of someone having a fairly comfortable life were pretty good. Today, young people with college degrees are trapped in the precarious “gig” economy, constantly moving from job to job, apartment to apartment, and saddled with tens of thousands of dollars in student loan debt.

The point being: the young radicals that the party is recruiting today are more likely to be in the working class than was the case a half century ago. There are some comrades who believe that identity politics is anti-working class. I disagree.

Those in the movement who have minimized or disparaged identity politics have not helped our class gain a deeper understanding of what is required to forge greater solidarity with the most oppressed. We need to struggle over whatever differences there may exist in our ranks so that we can more effectively struggle for this view in the wider movement.

There are aspects of the gender nonconforming, nonbinary struggle that have revolutionary implications. Backward ideas tend to thrive where people’s knowledge of the world they live in is limited by the level of the productive forces.

The material basis for the new confidence that women and LGBTQ people have in asserting their rights is in part because of the incredible development of the productive forces due to technology. This is true, even though the productive forces remain under the ownership of the capitalist ruling class. Like every struggle, the gender nonconforming struggle has a potential to be co-opted by the ruling class and, at the other extreme, a potential to be revolutionary. The significance of the revolutionary potential is a full-scale rebellion against patriarchy, which is a key pillar of class society.

The time has come for our class to take another look at the struggles of prisoners and sex workers and all other sectors of our class who have been told that they are not part of the working class. Class solidarity is about multiplication, not subtraction and division. The communications technology that is derived from the incredible growth of the productive forces makes real working-class internationalism, which not so long ago was mostly symbolic, now practical and available.

Third worldism, a continuing discussion related to our class

The discussion of third worldism might seem separate from a discussion of the problems facing our class. It is not. A few months ago, I promulgated a few comrades that I would enlist their ideas in helping the party deepen its understanding of third worldism. I apologize for not being able to do so yet, but I intend to follow through on this as soon as possible.

The term Third World, which was very popular in the progressive and revolutionary movements, as well as in the national liberation struggles during the 1960s, 70s and 80s, was used to describe underdeveloped countries, colonies or neocolonies. It was also used to describe a block of countries that wanted to be independent from both the big imperialist countries as well as the socialist countries.

The term third worldism is used by several overlapping yet distinct ideologies. The ideology that most of the comrades of my generation associate the term with is essentially the nationalism of the oppressed in the struggle for liberation and self-determination. The term is also used by a section of the Maoist left. The grouping uses this term to describe themselves that I am the least familiar with are those who consider white workers to be settler colonialists and therefore reactionary and undeserving of any support.

The reason this came up in the party was that during the education workers’ strike in West Virginia back in March, a few former comrades in West Virginia unfortunately did not support the strike, at least initially, and even disparaged it on social media, basing their position on the white-settler variant of the term. Some of us had hoped to hold on to and educate these comrades, but they chose to leave the party.

From Detroit and Mahtowin from Boston wrote interesting pieces on this question, which I believe have drawn attention both inside and outside of the party. Of course, we understand and support the movements of oppressed peoples, especially Indigenous peoples, who justifyfully consider themselves the survivors of white settler colonialism. The charges against imperialism, colonialism and before it slavery, the genocidal displacement of Indigenous peoples, along with the occupation and theft of the entire southwest from Mexico, are undeniable historical facts. It is also true that imperialism has used some of the wealth (a mere fraction of it) that it has stolen from the land and labor of oppressed peoples to, in a sense, buy off sections of the working class.

Has this been an obstacle to the political development of the working class as an independent anti-capitalist social force? Yes, it’s been a problem. Has this affected the whole of the working class in the imperialist countries? No. It’s mostly affected the higher-paid workers. Has it stopped the day-to-day class struggle? No, as any comrades and millions upon millions of workers can attest to. Has it made the working class or sections of it irrevocably reactionary? No.

As a matter of fact, central to the political crisis of capitalism is the fact that the systemic crises of the capitalist system are depriving it of the extra crumbs it has relied on to pacify sections of the working class.

The economic crisis is leveling the degree of inequality in the working class. However, inequality obviously exists, and that will continue to be the case for some time to come. This inequality will be used to divide workers, especially if it is ignored instead of being addressed by progressive and revolutionary workers.

This discussion is relevant to an understanding of the attraction of the many variants of anarchism, particularly those that are the most anti-working class, in which category I place the ideas that influenced a few of our former comrades in West Virginia.

As long as the working-class movement, including the organized labor movement, is more or less tied to business unionism, the Democratic Party and class collaboration — which endangers every unionized worker and the rest of the working class in even greater peril — some radicals will write off the working class as well as Marxism and gravitate to dead-end, pseudo-radical

Continued on page 11

The need for a political and organizational strategy

Meeting the challenges facing the working class, including ‘identity politics’
Prisoners call for national strike

By Terri Kay
Oakland, Calif.

A deadly atrocity took place at Lee Correctional Institution, a South Carolina maximum security prison, on April 14. The jailers intentionally set up what was essentially a gladiator fight, housing rival groups of prisoners together in densely over-crowded cell blocks, locking the gates with no means of escape and turning their backs for hours. It was a setup that led to the deaths of seven prisoners.

In response to this, a core group of organized inmates, including prisoners in the collective, Jailhouse Lawyers Speak, has issued a call to the national prison strike from Aug. 21 to Sept. 9.

August 21 is the anniversary of the assassination of Black Panther Party Field Marshal and prison activist George Jackson in 1971. September 9 is the anniversary of the Attica Prison Rebellion, which erupted two weeks after Jackson’s assassination.

In an April 24 press release, Jailhouse Lawyers Speak stated that the Lee uprising “would have been avoided had the prison not been so overcrowded from the greed wrought by mass incarceration, and a lack of respect for human life that is embedded in our nation’s penal ideology. These men and women are demanding humane living conditions, access to rehabilitation, sentencing reform and the end of modern day slavery.” (sawarimi.org/national-prison-strike)

Inmates have been doing work as prison labor since the mid-1800s. There are 43 inmate firefighting camps in California. Most California inmates volunteer to fight fires. They must pass a fitness test, and then they receive as little as three weeks’ training, compared to a three-year apprenticeship for full-time civilian firefighters.

Firefighters to battle these blazes. Overcrowded prisons and a lack of housing when their homes and businesses were destroyed. It took more than 11,000 firefighters to battle these blazes.

Officially, 17 state prisons are funded through a 20 percent cut of Cal Fire, the state’s firefighting force, are prison inmate crews, and the number may be as high as 20 percent. Of the 600,000 people who served time in prison, the number of those who work for Cal Fire is unknown, but it is estimated that about 1 percent work for Cal Fire.

Firefighting is dangerous, with injuries and deaths. Prisoners in California firefighting fight to mind chains without the chains.

Prison labor and fires

Inmates have been doing work as prisoners in California since the mid-1800s. The earliest state prison was on a ship. Inmates on the state’s first prominent prison.

In the early 1900s, inmates were paid to build roads and highways. During the Depression, they were moved into temporary camps in a public relief program. They also harvested crops and repaired infrastructure. During World War II, prisons became factories for the military.

In 1946, the Conservation Camp Program began using prison labor to fight deadly fires, under the joint supervision of the Division of Forestry and the Department of Correction, and later under the supervision of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). California’s institutionalized inmates make license plates, prison uniforms, office furniture for state employees, and anything else the prison may need. They usually earn between 8 cents and 95 cents per hour.

But inmates in the forestry program are paid more to fight fires. They may earn up to $26.40 a day in camp, plus $1 an hour when fighting fires, though during training they may be paid nothing at all.

In comparison, full-time civilian firefighter salaries start around $40,000 yearly or $77 per hour minimum.

In 2014, when California courts took up the issue of overcrowded prisons, the state attorney general’s office argued against shrinking the number of inmates because prisoners were needed to fight fires. In 2015, Gov. Jerry Brown agreed. Other states use prison firefighters, but not nearly on the scale that California does.

In California, the Bay Area National Prison Strike Solidarity Committee has been contacted by the Prison Strike Media Coalition and called to action on Aug. 25 at San Quentin State Prison. Its objective is “raising awareness of the inhumane conditions, treatment and policies that afflict those held in these gulags through-out Amerikkka.”

Prisoners are part of the working class, being forced to work as slave laborers under the most inhumane conditions. Workers World Party not only supports their right to organize and strike, but it is for the complete abolition of prisons and mass incarceration, which are tools of capitalist rule and white supremacy. We are for the abolition of all exploitation, wage slavery and capitalism itself.
Postal union protests police killing

By Lyn Neeley
Portland, Ore.

Some 6,000 members of the National Association of Letter Carriers at their annual convention in Detroit during the third week of July protested the brutal killing of Jason Washington by Port Isabel Detention Center, a prison in Texas where he worked protocols in place to ensure that non-Jewish indigenous Palestinian citizens of Israel because, since its creation in 1948, Israel put in place an intense feeling of isolation, grief for holding a Palestinian flag and will labor to encourage and promote its establishment and development.

Judaizing Jerusalem

The third clause of the nation-state law reiterates Israel’s illegitimate claim to the whole of Jerusalem as its capital, an illegal and internationally unrecognized claim that was first enunciated by Donald Trump’s move of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. Interestingly, however, this new law does not define state borders and Israel remains the only country in the world without declared borders. This is not surprising, as Israel is a still-expanding settler-colonial state, even though their admission to the United Nations in 1948 was based on their claim to the 1947 armistice line, which does not include Jerusalem or any other part of the West Bank.

Remember and support Ramsey Orta!

By Henry Hagins
New York

Courageous Ramsey Orta must not be forgotten! As witness to a grave injustice being committed on Staten Island on July 17, 2014, this fearless young man, using his cellphone, recorded the infamous and deadly chokehold assault on Eric Garner. That unwaranted action by police officer Daniel Pantaleo resulted in Garner’s death, even as he was desperately proclaiming, “I can’t breathe.” Fellow officers stood by, offering no assistance to the obviously stricken neigh-

Immigrant hunger strikes

Continued from page 1

the Port Isabel Detention Center, a prison-like ICF facility in Los Fresnos, Texas, have intense feelings of isolation, grief and anxiety, exacerbated by separation from relatives, especially their children. They are subjected cruelly to conditions that are aimed at keeping them in solitary confinement if they fast, a number are

Israeli ‘nation state’ legislation parallels Nazi Nuremberg Laws

By Susan Abulhawa

Roughly 80 years after Nazi Germany enacted what became known as the Nuremberg Laws in September 1935, Israeli lawmakers in July codified a new Jewish supremacy law, which effectively mirrors the Nazi-era legislation of ethnonationalist or anti-Semitic racial segregation of German citizenship.

Ethnoreligious purity

This brings us to the second Nurem- berg Law: “Law for the Protection of Ger-

ullousness exclusive to people of “German or kindred blood.” Since there was no scientifi-

cally sound way to distinguish Jewish Germans from the rest of German soci-

ey, as they were racially white European-

cans and ethnically German, lawmakers looked to genealogy for Jewish grand-
parents, as required by the nation-state law for Indigenous Palestinian citizens of Israel because, since its creation in 1948, Israel put protocols in place to ensure that non-

Jews did not assimilate into mainstream Jewish society.

Rights exclusive to Jewish citizens

Dubbed the “nation state” law, its first clause enshrines the idea that “acquisition of the right of national self-determination in the state of Israel is unique to the Jew-

ish people.” In other words, the 1.7 mil-

lion Palestinian citizens of Israel, the na-

tive inhabitants who managed to remain in their homes when European Jews con-

quered Palestine in 1948, shall be with-

out sovereignty or agency, forever living at the mercy of Israeli Jews.

One of the early anti-discrimination laws in Germany, the first of the Nuremberg Laws, was the Reich Citizenship Law, which likewise deemed citizenship privile-
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Jews did not assimilate into mainstream Jewish society.
Venezuela: Popular militia advances

In the face of economic sabotage, subversion, and threats of open military intervention from U.S. imperialism and its puppet regime in Colombia, the Bolivarian government of Venezuela has taken steps to strengthen its armed forces and to reinforce ties among the soldiers, workers and peasants of the country.

In May, the government arrested 40 officers of the armed forces after it discovered a plot to kidnap President Nicolás Maduro and put him on trial. For a more long-term plan to eliminate the threat of a coup and to strengthen popular defense of the country, the Bolivarian government announced steps in early July to integrate popular organizations with the armed forces.

The most important step is to activate local committees, officially called “Committees for Security and Integral Defense,” and to select one person from each of the 50,000 local committees to train with the country’s Bolivarian Militia units.

According to an article published July 11 in venezuelanalysis.com, “Those selected representatives will then form a link between the Venezuelan state’s militias and the communal councils, which since 2006 have organized groups of 20 to 400 families across the national territory.”

To the extent that these plans succeed in training additional fighters and establishing links to the population, they multiply significantly the ability of the armed forces to defend Venezuela’s sovereignty from imperialist aggression. In addition, they connect the armed forces to the desires and needs of the most politically active sector of the population.

U.S. imperialism, under both Democratic and Republican administrations, has been attempting to undermine and overthrow the Bolivarian government since the late Hugo Chávez first took office in 1999.

A coup in 2002 failed and left Chávez stronger than before. Violent street demonstrations the last few years have also failed. Despite the daily hardship faced by the workers and farmers in obtaining necessities of life, including food, the right-wing opposition parties have been completely discredited and Maduro easily won last May’s election.

With the failure of disruption and “regime change” comes the possibility that U.S. imperialism and its West European allies will rely on direct military intervention. U.S. media outlets recently broke the news that the U.S. president raised — both to his inner circle and to a group of Latin American presidents — the possibility of a direct U.S. military intervention.

The Caracas government is taking this threat seriously. Its latest steps to strengthen both the military and popular resistance and to defend the opportunity for the workers and farmers of Venezuela to struggle for a socialist future can only be applauded by those who support a sovereign Venezuela.

Anniversaries of invasion

Since that July 25, several events have occurred on this disastrous anniversary, beginning with the July 25, 1952, proclamation of a “new” constitution by the first elected Puerto Rican governor under colonial rule, Luis Muñoz Marín. What had been an official holiday commemorating the U.S. invasion was then called “Constitution Day.”

But this farce, called the “Free Associated State” (Estado Libre Asociado) or Commonwealth, was under U.S. control. The U.S. was in the middle of the Cold War and had to appear as a democratic nation. When it simply had a colony, it had to give yearly reports to the U.N. and was seen as an imperialist nation. Therefore, the ELA was established to give the illusion of a certain “sovereignty” in Puerto Rico.

By Berta Joubert

This year marks the 120th anniversary of the U.S. invasion and occupation of Puerto Rico during the Spanish-U.S. war, which ended with the U.S. capturing Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Philippines and Guam.

July 25, 1898, was the day when U.S. ships, commanded by General Nelson A. Miles under orders from President William McKinley, landed in Guánica on the southwestern coast of Puerto Rico. However, little is said about May 12 of that year, when 11 U.S. military ships arrived in San Juan on the northern coast. This fact is important to remember, since the apologists for colonization want to dismiss the violent nature of the U.S. invasion.

It was clear from the start what the U.S. had in store for Puerto Rico. This was expressed in a speech Gen. Miles gave in Ponce, just three days after the invasion: “To the Inhabitants of Puerto Rico: In the prosecution of the war against the kingdom of Spain by the people of the United States, in the cause of liberty, justice, and humanity, its military forces have come to occupy the island of Puerto Rico. They come bearing the banner of freedom, inspired by a noble purpose to seek the enemies of our country and yours, and to destroy or capture all who are in armed resistance.”

(HTBM's emphasis) (encopiediaprq.org)

This ongoing destruction, in the form of destruction, torture, long imprisonment, repression and assassination of independence movement representatives, has been well documented throughout the history of the occupation of Puerto Rico.

Federal workers mobilize

Continued from page 4 as Trump’s preparation for an all-out war against the agency. “They wanna short-circuit the bargaining we already agreed to by making changes to 21 articles we already agreed to,” stated Skwierczyński. Workers fear agency management will impose a contract on them, instead of bargaining when the current contract expires this summer.

In March, the administration imposed a union contract on Department of Education workers that stripped them of many civil rights gains the federal workforce had won over decades.

A major focus of AFGE’s fightback strategy so far has been on Congress. AFGE has been supported through a series of letters from lawmakers calling for Trump to rescind his union-busting orders that undermine workplace rights. The latest, sent July 9 and signed by 132 members of Congress, noted: “Federal workers are public servants who deserve the workplace rights and protections that last month’s Executive Orders would take away. Those Orders are unfair and will make it harder to attract and retain a qualified federal workforce.” (afge.org, July 6)

A hearing on the AFGE lawsuits against the executive orders is set for July 25, which AFGE calls #RedForFed Day of Action.

Not only is a protest planned on the Mall adjacent to the Capitol in Washington, D.C., but, as of this writing, 15 other demonstrations are planned around the country.

“We gotta get the word out,” says West-Smith. “We gotta fight back.”

This was the reason that Rafael Cano- cel Miranda, Lolita Lebrón, Irvin Flores and Andrés Figueroa Cordero went to the hails of the U.S. Congress in 1954 and fired at the ceiling to call attention to this farce.

On that crucial July 25 was the Mas- sacre de Cero Maravilla. In 1978, two young independentistas, Arnoldo Dario Rosado and Carlos Soto Arriú, were arrested and subjected to ridicule, threats of open military intervention and torture involving the FBI against the independence movement. When they arrived at Cero Maravilla, they were killed in cold blood.

Now, on this July 25, 2018, Puerto Rico is facing the most important legal challenge to its political status. What is happening now is the culmination of the process of destruction of a people that began on the day of the U.S. invasion in 1898.

In 2016, the U.S. Congress, under President Obama, imposed the PROMESA Act to make Puerto Rico pay an illegitimate public debt of $74 billion. Since then, the Fiscal Control Board — whose seven unelected members were nominated by the same Congress — has been dictating severe austerity measures aimed at dismantling the economic and social base of Puerto Rico. The imposition of this board is like wolves guarding the sheep, since board members represent the economic forces that caused this debacle.

This July 25, the federal court assigned to cases involving PROMESA, under U.S. District Judge Laura Taylor Swain, will begin to hear several cases relating to the constitutionality of PROMESA and its Fiscal Control Board. In effect, it will deal with the island’s colonial status.

Whatever happens, one thing is indis- putable: The colonial situation has now been exposed and is no longer simply an issue of the “independentistas.” In fact, the outcome of the hearing might just affirm the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the 2016 Puerto Rico v. Sanchez Valle case. The court ruled then that “the sovereignty of Puerto Rico resides in that Congress” or, more clearly, that Puerto Rico is not a Free Associated State with any sovereign power, but an actual colony of the United States.

A People’s Tribunal

Under these circumstances, Puerto Rican activists, together with the Inter- national Action Center, began to conceive...
Meeting the challenges facing the working class, including ‘identity politics’

Continued from page 7

ideologies. I believe that this has exacer-
bated the general tension in the work-
ing-class movement on a world scale.

The fact that some radicals are influ-
cenced by anti-working class ideas is only
symptomatic of much larger problems,
which are the weaknesses of the working
class and its organizations.

This is all the more reason for us to rise
to the occasion.

Solidarity must come first!

The ideas, norms and the institutions
that have been put in place by the ruling
class to maintain its power are fraying
and crumbling. Whatever else Trump’s
rise signifies, the decay of the capitalist
system is high on the list. Clearly, many
people are turning against capital-
ism and are attracted to socialism. On
top of growing economic deprivation and
insecurity associated with the opening days
of the Interim Central Committee (ICC).
In my view, to say more would be premature.
It is my hope that the ICC will resume
and that it will get over its rocky begin-
nings. In hindsight, everyone involved,
regardless of differences, should have
agreed that the very first duty of the
ICC should be to win the confidence of
the entire party and demonstrate that it
will strengthen solidarity in the party
instead of fracturing it. And forward, I
hope comrades will take heed.

I know that there are comrades who
view the culture of the party as being too
liberal or too petty bourgeois or not
communist or Leninist enough.

There is much about our party that can
be improved. Some areas of our work,
our organization and our practices are in
desperate need of improvement. But our
essential culture is not one of them. We
need make no apologies for making soli-
darity central to our party culture.

Solidarity should be first in all things
big and small. Even when comrades are
angry and frustrated, we must treat each
other with respect. I consider this to be a
principle. Absent this principle, we will
be weaker. Comrades have made a com-
mitment to devote their lives to the party
and to our class. Comrades must fight
to respect on their jobs and in all their
interactions with people and institutions
outside the party. I believe that our culture
reflects the political essence of our
very existence. It is a culture that has tried
to assimilate into its thinking and its ini-
tiatives that almost every major historical
mistake and innumerable smaller-day-to-
day mistakes made by the working-class
movement have been associated with a
falling or failure on the question of forg-
ing solidarity between the workers and
the oppressed.

In truth, our culture is about the
lengths we are prepared to go to support
the most oppressed sections of our class.
More importantly, our culture is a ma-
jor reason why our party has been able
to survive for almost 60 years through
periods where other communist and so-
cialist parties have fallen by the wayside
or have been crushed.

I urge comrades to take this proposal
seriously. I urge comrades to open a major
review of our understanding and approach
to our class, including to each other, and to prepare for

Comradely,
Larry Holmes

Women inmates fight blazes

Continued from page 8

They are considered a “resource” for the
state. California’s firefighting program
taxes taxpayers to cover $100 million
each year, according to the CDCR.
The cost for housing each inmate in a prison facility is $76,000 a year, as opposed to
$12,000 for a fire camp.

But the ACLU’s director of the Nation-
al Prison Project, David Fathi, points out
that such dangerous work outside prison
walls certainly runs the risk of govern-
mental abuse and that inmate firefighters
may not also be aware of the long-term
health risks. (The Daily Beast)

Prison firefighters put their lives on
the line for very little money. Fire camp
may be a “nicer way” for them to be in prison—but they’re still prisoners.

Women, Soldier Revoits and
Revolutions

continued on page 11
Por John Catalinotto

16 de julio — Solo porque el presi- dente estadounidense, un misógino, xenófobo y enemigo de la humani- dad, ha dicho algo, eso no Justifica a toda la OTAN (Organización del Tratado del Atlántico Norte) en la Cumbre de Bruselas del 11 al 12 de julio, alguien puede sugerir que el peligro general que se debe defender a esta organización. Pero no es así. Cuando se trata de la paz, que sea el objetivo a largo plazo de Donald Trump con re- specto a la OTAN, suponiendo que lo tenga, esta alianza es enemiga de los pueblos del mundo como siempre lo ha sido.

Un vistazo a sus miembros y su his- toria muestra el por qué.

La OTAN consiste de ...

Durante la mayor parte de su his- toria, la OTAN ha incluido a todas las principales potencias imperialistas ex- cepto a Japón y Australia. Los miembros han sido Estados Unidos, Francia, Gran Bretaña, Italia y Canadá desde 1949 en adelante, y Alemania desde 1995, cuando era Alemania Oc- cidental. Estos seis, más Japón, con- formaron el eje del sistema de con- flicto mundial y todavía están en el poder político mundial. El capitalismo del siglo XX, que se desarrolló como mecanismo para controlar el comercio mundial y reemplazar la economía de beneficiencia, se vio como una amenaza del capitalismo, en particular en la Doctrina Roosevelt. Durante la mayor parte de su historia, la OTAN ha sido más una herramienta de la política imperialista de los EUA.

La OTAN, como un sistema de defensa, tiene como objetivo fundamental proteger a los Estados Unidos y sus aliados. El papel de la OTAN ha cambiado con el tiempo, pero su objetivo fundamental ha permanecido: defender a los Estados Unidos y sus aliados.

La OTAN es una alianza de países que se unen para defender sus intereses económicos y políticos. Esta alianza fue creada en 1949 para proteger a los Estados Unidos y sus aliados de las amenazas del comunismo.

La OTAN consiste en países que han sido miembros de la antigua Alianza del Atlántico Norte (NATO) desde su creación en 1949. Estos países son:

- Estados Unidos
- Canadá
- Reino Unido
- Francia
- Italia
- Bélgica
- Holanda
- Luxemburgo
- Dinamarca
- Noruega
- Alemania
- Israel
- España
- Portugal
- Grecia
- Turquía
- Corea del Sur
- Corea del Norte
- Japón

La OTAN ha sido una fuerza poderosa en el mundo desde su creación. Ha sido utilizada para defender los intereses de los Estados Unidos y sus aliados en varias guerras y conflictos, incluyendo la Guerra Fría, la Guerra de Vietnam, la Guerra del Golfo y la Guerra en Afganistán.

La OTAN ha sido criticada en muchas ocasiones por su papel en el conflicto mundial. La OTAN ha sido acusada de ser una herramienta de la política imperialista de los EUA, y de ser una fuerza que ha hecho daño a muchos países a lo largo de su historia.

La OTAN ha sido un factor importante en la historia del mundo, y su impacto ha sido significativo en muchas áreas. Sin embargo, también ha sido criticada por su papel en el conflicto mundial y su papel como una fuerza de poder en el mundo. Aunque la OTAN ha sido una fuerza poderosa en el mundo desde su creación, también ha sido criticada por su papel en el conflicto mundial y su papel como una fuerza de poder en el mundo.