Wall Street calls shots at DNC

Protests rock convention

By Teresa Gutierrez

Teresa Gutierrez is campaign manager for the Workers World Party 2016 presidential election candidates and long-time immigrant rights activist.

The two national conventions of the big business parties are over, and the final stage of the 2016 presidential elections has begun. In less than 100 days, either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump will have been chosen the next president of the United States.

Whoever wins, it will be a landmark. It could be the first woman president — or the first reality show demagogue. The election will assuredly go down in history as one marked by a deep economic crisis, accompanied by the rise of white supremacy and police terror.

It also marks a rise of disenchantment with the parties of the ruling class. Whatever the outcome of the election, it bodes well for revolutionary struggles ahead.

DNC: ‘Do Not Challenge, Do Note Cynicism’

The Democratic National Convention held in Philadelphia July 25-28 was fraught with spectacle. That can also be described as skillful, cynical manipulation.

Both in the open and behind the scenes, struggles broke out around the massive and progressive support for candidate Bernie Sanders versus the long-time establishment and Wall Street support for Hillary Clinton.

When Bernie Sanders, both in his state caucus and on the floor of the convention, announced his endorsement of Clinton, boos of disagreement followed. More than once, cameras panned the convention floor to show young people with tears streaming down their faces as they realized that Sanders’ political revolution had come full circle back into the folds of the Democratic Party.

The protest by these forces on the floor was wonderful to see, in that it challenged, even if in a limited way, the status quo. Signs of “No TPP” were displayed vibrantly, shouts of “No war! No more drones” were reported throughout the convention. Speakers were interrupted repeatedly with these slogans as well as cries of “Bernie, Bernie, Bernie.”

A highlight was when shouts of “No more war” greeted former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta as he addressed the convention. (Ralph Nader blog, July 29)

Other sites reported shouts of "Liar, liar." Sectors of the anti-war movement were clearly at the convention. But at the end of it all, it was the corporate lobbyists, the establishment, the Pentagon and the Wall Street wing that prevailed.

Image as party of working class

The Democratic Party has long been seen as the party of the working class. Unlike the Republican Party of 4 weeks trial $4 | 1 year subscription $30

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Local elections in South Africa

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The Democratic Party has long been seen as the party of the working class. Unlike the Republican Party of...
No Trump! No KKK! No racist fascist USA!

By Workers World Staff
Roanoke, Va.

In one of the largest protests in recent Roanoke history, a diverse rainbow of community members sent a clear message on July 25: Standing will be the anti-worker racism of Donald Trump and his vice presidential running mate Mike Pence of Southwest Virginia.

Standing for hours in sweltering 90-plus degree heat, protesters held signs lampooning Trump, Pence and their supporters, and chanting, “No Trump! No KKK! No Racist Fascist USA!” and “Don’t give in to racist fascists, stand up together.”

The two candidates were in the city for a campaign event at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center.

Demonstrators came from unions and worker rights organizations, including the Food and Commercial Workers, the Virginia Professional Staff Association and Fight for $15.

They were joined by leaders of the Flowshare Peace & Justice Center, Community Cultivators Inc., 13 Now Roanoke, Black Lives Matter and Workers World Party.

The demonstration also included young children, high school and college students, and teachers protesting for the first time.

Many Roanoke residents are fed up with Trump’s anti-worker hate and racism.

Trump doesn’t speak for white workers!

A statement by protest organizers on their Facebook event page read: “Donald Trump and vice presidential running mate Mike Pence are the racist enemies of all running mate Mike Pence are the racist enemies of all Americans. Both candidates attack working people. Trump doesn’t speak for white workers! Trump is long known for attacking workers and their families.

His passing is one of imperialism’s wars and aggressions. The peaceful July 25 protest is the second major protest against Trump’s anti-worker hate and racism.

This July 25 protest is the second major protest against Trump in Southwest Virginia this year. In February, hundreds of students and other community members confronted Trump and his supporters at Radford University in Radford, Va., disrupting his speech multiple times.

Outside of the auditorium, they conducted picket lines with banners reading “Donald Trump: Tool of the Rich — Racist Enemy of All Workers.” Placards read “Trump Is for the Rich and Against Everyone Else” and “Trump Doesn’t Speak for White Workers.”

Both candidates promote the privatization of public education and other public services.

Roanoke is a working-class, diverse city that needs union jobs and resources for our neighborhood, and the racist anti-worker hate and division that Trump and Pence are whipping up.

Numerous participants kept protesting during Trump’s speech and confronted his supporters again when the protest was over. Then a contingent led by young students and marched from the protest site through downtown Roanoke demanding freedom, justice and equality for all poor and working people.

The protesters vowed that every time Trump or Pence plan an appearance in Southwest Virginia they will be confronted.

So far the July 25 protests and in the days following, photos and videos taken during the protest were shared widely across social media and in the streets, breaking through a virtual corporate media blackout of the protest.

The July 25 protests are part of a national wave of worker solidarity across the country and aimed to hold the candidates accountable for pandering to white supremacy.

Hate capitalism!

Workers World Party fights for a socialist society — where the wealth is socially owned and working people are planners and stewards of human need. This outmoded capitalist system is dragging workers’ living standards while throwing millions out of their homes.

The demonstrations and the July 25 protests are part of the growing and widening workers’ movement.

We fight every kind of oppression. Racism, sexism, degradation because of their nationalities, sexual or gender identity or disabilities — all are tools the ruling class uses to keep us apart. They ruthlessly super-explot some in order to better exploit all.

Almost all workers work different hours, provide care for children and elderly, and are exposed to occupational hazards.

We demand the right to a living wage and an end to the exploitation of workers. We demand the end of wars and military interventions.

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 75 years WWWP has been building a revolutionary party of the working class inside the hearts of the people.

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Mundo obrero WORKERS WORLD
Who are we & what we’re fighting for

Workers World Party fights for a socialist society — where the wealth is socially owned and working people are planners and stewards of human need. This outmoded capitalist system is dragging workers’ living standards while throwing millions out of their homes. If you’re young, you know they’re stealing your future. And capitalism is threatening the entire planet.

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We fight every kind of oppression. Racism, sexism, degradation because of their nationalities, sexual or gender identity or disabilities — all are tools the ruling class uses to keep us apart. They ruthlessly super-exploit some in order to better exploit all. WWWP builds unity among all workers while supporting the right of self-determination. Fighting oppression is a working-class issue, which is confirmed by the many labor struggles led today by people of color, immigrants and women.

WWWP has a long history of militant opposition to imperialist wars. The billionaire rulers are bent on turning back the clock to the bad old days before socialist revolutions and national liberation struggles liberated territory from their grip. We’ve been in the streets to oppose every one of imperialism’s wars and aggressions.

In the U.S.
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Honeywell ‘took on the wrong union local’
ChV: Workers Center win in wage theft
Iowa Fight for $15 activists critical of union merger
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Stop Washington’s aggression!

Noticias en Español
Además de Trump, ¿quién está realmente detrás de él?

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Vol. 58, No. 31 • Aug. 11, 2016
Closing date: Aug. 2, 2016
Editor: Deirdre Griswold
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Supporter Program: Coordinator Sue Davis
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Subscriptions: One year: $35. Institutions: $35. Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited. Articles can be freely reprinted with credit to Workers World Press, 147 W. 24th St. 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10011. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and on CD-ROM from: NA Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 998, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0998. A searchable archive is available on the Web at www.workers.org.

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Purvi Patel’s 20-year sentence for “feticide” was overturned by the Indiana Court of Appeals on July 22. Ruling there was no evidence that lawmakers “intended the feticide statute to apply to pregnant women,” the court vacated the false charge against Patel and excused the 35-year-old South Asian American woman.

The second charge against Patel of child neglect was lowered from a Class A felony neglect of a dependent to a Class D felony and re-manded the case back to the trial court for re-sentencing. Patel, who was originally sentenced to 20 years on March 30, 2015, and could now be sentenced from six months to three years, has already served 16 months.

The charge of child neglect hinges on the prosecution’s insistence that the fetus, which it alleged to be 25 to 29 weeks at the time Patel miscarried on July 13, 2013, took a breather and was therefore able to survive outside the womb. But Patel, who took pills ordered online prior to the miscarriage, testified that it was stillborn.

However, the prosecution used the 17th century “best test,” discredited since the 1980s as junk science by the medical establishment, to conclude that the fetus took a breath. Despite Patel’s lawyers’ best efforts to rebut the so-called “evidence,” the jury still convicted Patel of child neglect. (Rewire, July 22)

Asian-American women’s groups lead Patel defense

Five friend-of-the-court briefs, each with multiple signers, were filed supporting Patel’s appeal on May 23 by a new legal team headed by Stanford professor Lawrence Marshall, co-founder of Northwestern’s famous Center on Wrongful Conviction. Two briefs were brought by several dozen Asian-American and Pacific Islander organizations that have rallied to Patel’s defense. Signers of all the briefs celebrated that the feticide conviction was overturned, demanded that Patel be freed immediately and defended the goal of reproductive justice for all women.

“No woman should fear for her safety or freedom based on the outcome of her pregnancy,” noted a statement from the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum. “There is much more work to be done to ensure that women — particularly Asian-American and Pacific Islander women, low-income women and all women of color — are not punished for their pregnancy outcomes.” (NAWAP News, July 26)

Lakshmi Sridaran, a director of South Asian Americans Leading Together, said, “It’s important to remember that Indiana has enforced its feticide law against two pregnant women, both of whom are Asian American. We hope the strong precedent set in Patel’s appeal will protect women of color in states like Indiana and others where laws that should protect them often end up criminalizing them instead.” (NAPAWF News, July 25)

While Patel has the dubious distinction of being the first U.S. woman to be sent to prison for inducing her own abortion, Chinese-born Bei Bei Shuai was charged in Indiana with feticide in 2011 after a failed suicide attempt resulted in a miscarriage. The charge was later dropped as part of a plea deal.

“An amicus brief by National Advocates for Pregnant Women, which has supported Patel since before her 2015 trial, had 26 reproductive justice, medical, law and women’s rights organizations defending signers, including Physicians for Reproductive Health and the National Latina Roundtable for Reproductive Health. Representing the National Network of Abortion Funds, Director Yamani Hernandez noted, “People of color are bearing the brunt of unscientific laws and misplaced moral outrage against abortion, which is blurring into the territory of miscarriage, putting any pregnant person at risk of prosecution and incarceration. It needs to stop, and the decision didn’t go far enough to restore full justice for Purvi Patel.” (Guardian, July 22)

Need to unite against racist reaction

It must be pointed out that the state of Indiana, whose governor is Mike Pence, the far-right, racist, conservative, staunch opponent of women’s reproductive rights and Trump’s vice presidential running mate, could still appeal the court decision.

That the only cases of women charged and jailed for feticide in the U.S. were brought against immigrant women in Indiana is an ominous reminder of Trump’s impulsive initial statement that women should be punished for having abortions and his viciously racist anti-immigrant attacks. If Trump intends to delegate all domestic issues to Pence, as he has stated, that could lead to a national crisis in reproductive health care for all women — but especially women of color, undocumented immigrants, low-wage workers, youth, rural women, survivors of incest and domestic violence.

But given the way many progressive forces in the U.S. have rallied to defend Purvi Patel and are fighting to free her, it’s not a stretch to assume that those groups and others defending human rights will rise up and unite with movements like Black Lives Matter and The Fight for $15 and a Union. Unity is essential in the fightback against all forces of reaction and oppression, whether in Indiana, the rest of the U.S. or around the world.

As cops walk in Freddie Gray death

Activists hit ‘miscarriage of justice’

By Sue Davis

After enormous pressure from the Fraternal Order of Police, Baltimore State’s Attorney Marilyn Mosby on July 27 dropped the indictments against the remaining three of six police officers who had been charged with the murder of Freddie Gray while he was in police custody. The young African American had been arrested after “making eye contact with the police.”

The three other police had earlier been acquitted, not by a jury but by Circuit Judge Barry Williams, who claimed that the prosecuting attorneys had failed to present significant prosecutorial evidence of any misconduct.

Mosby faced vociferous criticism from the police for having filed multiple criminal charges against the officers after the medical examiner determined that Gray’s death was a homicide. She had also received death threats before her decision to drop the charges and has now hired bodyguards. This and unrelenting pressure from the FBI as factors in her decision to rescind the charges against the police.

Mosby’s decision to halt the prosecutions was called “a miscarriage of justice” by the Rev. Courty “CD” Witherspoon, president of the Baltimore chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and a leader of the People’s Power Assembly. “It deprived the people of Balti-more of the one opportunity to receive police accountability,” said Witherspoon, who has been a leading community activist protesting police violence and brutality.

Witherspoon also criticized the State of the City Address by Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, in which she “did not appear as dedicated to ending police brutality as she was in ending ‘Black on Black’ crime.” This phrase has been used to divert from the real problems of the Black community, which face discrimination, poverty, poor housing and mass incarceration, as well as police crimes.

In a joint statement, Andre Powell, who is running for mayor, and Sharon Black, who is running for City Council president, said, “No matter what the decision, the people of Baltimore — and those fighting for justice in Baltimore, and everywhere else in this country where racism rears its ugly head. Along with the police murders of Freddie Gray, Anthony Anderson and other victims, the struggle for justice continues.” Powell and Black are members of Workers World Party. They are running as independents.

Freddie Gray’s death is part and parcel of the genocidal actions of police against African Americans. The settlement over Freddie Gray’s death is part of a pattern where racism rears its ugly head. Along with the police murders of Freddie Gray, Anthony Anderson and other victims, the struggle for justice continues. Powell and Black are members of Workers World Party. They are running as independents.

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**Honeywell ‘took on the wrong union local’**

By Martha Grevatt

Honeywell locked out 317 members of United Auto Workers Local 9 in South Bend, Ind., and 42 members of Local 1596 in Green Island, N.Y. on May 9. This followed the workers’ overwhelming rejection five days earlier of the company’s “last best offer.”

Honeywell is operating the factories with management employees and scabs provided by the professional union-busting Polsky County Board of尺度 or workers in Indiana, none of whom have crossed the picket line, have been waiting for the state to determine their eligibility for unemployment benefits due to the lockout.

Unity on the round-the-clock picket lines was strong. The presence of other union workers and the material assistance from UAW regions and locals around the country, Green Island workers who were joined in May by Veri- zon strikers, who later secured a contract that prevented Verizon management from imposing major concessions. Teamsters are honoring the strike lines. Community support is also strong.

Negotiations had begun in April, only three weeks prior to the lockout. At that time the UAW had said it was willing to continue working under the previous contract, which expired May 3. Honeywell workers had landed big concessions in the past few contracts, which includ ed a multilayer pay structure that divides union workers into two tracks.

UAW International President Dennis Williams, in a letter to congressional representatives, wrote: “Honeywell made a unilateral decision to move to a new labor model that strips paid wages. We have filed a complaint with the NLRB wherein it retained the right to unilateral decision to modify and cut the current benefit package. The variety of benefits including health benefits and the unlimited right to change other terms and conditions of employment.”

Williams, who has supported “partnership with corporations,” understands that this is essentially proposing that UAW workers accept an employee handbook instead of a collective bargaining agreement.

Both plants make components for the aerospace industry. They were owned by Bendix until Bendix merged with Allied Technologies, which later also bought Honeywell and assumed Honeywell’s name. Six other plants that were under the UAW-Bendix master contract have been closed.

**Historical context**

In 1936, Local 9, one of the earliest chartered UAW locals, held the union’s first sit-down strike. After a six-day occupation, Bendix conceded to the workers, recognizing the UAW and denying recognition to a company union, the Bendix Employee Association.

This win at Bendix and a subsequent victory at Kelsey-Hayes encouraged the UAW to take on General Motors, leading to the 44-day Flint sit-down that forced GM to recognize the union. This victory was one of the most important events in U.S. labor history.

Local 9 members are proud of their legacy. One picket sign reads, “Hey Honeywell, you picked the wrong workforce, local 9, to mess with.”

Grevatt, a veteran UAW unionist, is the author of the pamphlet, ‘In Our Hands Is Placed a Power: The Flint Sit-down Strike’

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**Central New York**

Workers’ Center win in wage theft

By Minnilee Bruce Pratt

The Workers’ Center of Central New York scored another big win in an ongoing series of contract battles with employers who steal wages from temporary, low-wage and immigrant workers. Earlier WCNYC actions have returned pay to workers who were underpaid for work in construction, food service and janitorial services. (Workers World, March 27)

Andrea and Loures were hired by a subcontractor to clean at the Cheesecake Factory in upscale Destiny Mall in Syracuse. The Latina women said: “We cleaned bathrooms, swept, mopped, picked up chairs, cleaned the windows, dusted tables. We worked at night. We did what no one else wanted to do.”

The other subcontractor is the sub-contractor which hired them disappeared, ignoring phone calls and owing the women almost $400 a week, the equivalent of a month’s rent. (WAER Syracuse Public Radio)

**Iowa**

‘Fight for $15’ activists keep fighting

By Mike Kuhnebeck

Des Moines, Iowa

July 28 — The “Fight for $15” struggle in Polk County, Iowa, continues as a county task force resists workers’ growing demand for a living wage.

Workers calling for a $12-per-hour minimum wage met on July 14 with the Polk County minimum-wage task force. The federal minimum wage is just below an increase from the current $7.25 to $8.75, starting Jan. 1, 2007, and increasing annually until it reaches $10.15 per hour in 2019. The Polk County task force will vote on this proposal at the next task force meeting on Aug. 1, much to the chagrin of activists.

The statewide minimum wage of $7.25 per hour, a figure that can best be described as an “unlivable wage,” was last increased in 2008. The pay bump promised will not be enough to make the wages of Iowa’s minimum-wage workers livable.

Iowa’s “Citizens for Community Improvement” organizer Bridget Fagan-Reidburn is quoted in an Iowa City release noting that the task force “focused on what they believe is politically possible, not at all about what people need to survive. ‘It’s our job to keep pushing for a living wage,’ Slade said. ‘They need to know that it is illegal to not be paid.’” (WAER, July 27)

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**Workers’ mass transit**

**Bosses say ‘Keep paying!’**

By G. Dunkel

In 2015, 1.8 billion trips were made on New York City subways, about 6 million a day. This is a 50 percent increase from the 1990s, when the daily ridership was around 4 million.

Subways are essential to the economy of the city and make possible its huge density of offices, culture, arenas, stores, universities and all sorts of services. Workers are also essential to workers, who use them to get to their jobs and to visit friends and family.

According to U.S. Census figures, 41 percent of all New Yorkers take a train to work, while only 12 percent take the bus and 10 percent walk. Fifty-four per cent of all New Yorkers take a subway to work, while only 12 percent take the bus and 10 percent walk. Fifty-four percent of all New York families do not own a car. Currently, a number of workers are without work, and passengers wait for four or five trains before they can find a spot. Like much U.S. infrastructure, subways have not been maintained properly.

The investments to keep the system resilient, capable of overcoming catastrophes and disasters, have been a low priority.

Superstorm Sandy battered the New York subway system in 2012, hitting the tunnels that connect the island of Manhattan to the rest of the city. The Canarsie tunnel, used by the L-line to connect Brooklyn and Manhattan, was filled with highly toxic contamination for 11 days and is now falling apart.

The Canarsie tunnel was built in 1924 with only two tubes, one with a track for Brooklyn-bound trains, the other with a track for Manhattan-bound trains. Any acci- dential blocking one tube slows down traffic significantly as only one tube is avail- able for both directions. The tunnel is now used by nearly 250,000 passengers a day.

For workers who relied on the L-line to get to jobs in Manhattan, the absence of L service was a major blow. Commutes that took 20 to 30 minutes stretched to two to three hours. Instead of simply making a few stops on the L, some workers had to transfer to one or two other lines, a trip that was once a part of the area served by the L is not served by any other subway line.

On July 25, the MTA announced it would shut the L-line down for 18 months starting in 2019. What the MTA hasn’t announced is how the 250,000 people who use the L-line daily will get to work in a reasonable amount of time during the repairs. The shutdown will affect not only workers coming from Brooklyn but commuters and residents of thirty thousand people a day use the L-line in Manhattan.

One reason the MTA announced the shutdown so far in advance is that the city of New York is feuding with the state of New York for which government source will pay, and each is trying to shift blame. But workers don’t need the blame. They need to get to work.
Black Lives Matter resists police threats

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

Syracuse, N.Y.

On the evening of July 28, longtime community activist Maurice “Mo” Crawley was working as a Syracuse neighborhood anti-violence monitor with the group O.G.'s [Original Gangsta's] Against Gun Violence. He was live-streaming two Syracuse cops across the street as they arrested a Black man, commenting while streaming that this was to make sure the cops were not doing anything they should not be doing. Suddenly, one of the cops rushed Crawley, threatened him, threw him to the ground and arrested him. It is not illegal to videotape police in New York state.

Twelve hours later, Black Lives Matter Syracuse New York rallied in front of the Onondaga County so-called “Justice Center” to protest the brutal and illegal arrest.

New York City

Movement for Black lives organizers occupy City Hall Park

By Workers World New York Bureau

Millions March NYC began an occupation of New York’s City Hall Park the morning of Aug. 1. Organizers say they will remain until Mayor Bill de Blasio makes good on his promise. Fire Police Commissioner Bill Bratton and others led the具体 law he was charged with violating. The law specifies acts by government officials who violate election laws. The court, however, ruled that the provision in Pinkney’s case also applies to any individual, not just officials.

In an outrageous argument, the court held that “sufficient evidence was presented to support the jury’s guilty verdicts” based entirely on the fact that Rev. Pinkney was “the leader in the recall efforts,” had previously sponsored several recall campaigns, “circulated 33 of the 62 recall petitions,” spoke at city commission and other meetings about the recall and “denounced animosity towards [Mayor] Hightower in various ways.” The court decided that this alone is enough “to find the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.”

Rev. Pinkney is an African-American man from a city that is 90 percent African American, but he was tried in front of an all-white jury by a white prosecutor and a white judge.

The court completely brushed aside the effect on the jury of the prosecutor harping again and again on the defendant’s activist history. The court argued that “the jury was properly instructed” and “the acts of a political activist in the country to be found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.”

Finally, the court upheld the introduction of a “motive” to commit election violations. These included his “radio show,” “his recall efforts in the local community,” “his speaking engagements across the country” and “his search for justice and equality in general.” According to the three judges, this “showed that defendant had a motive to alter the dates on the recall petitions, thus providing evidence of the identification of the perpetrator.”

This last conclusion can condemn every political activist in the country to be found guilty of any political crime just for being a community activist as “motive” to commit election violations. These included his “radio show,” “his recall efforts in the local community,” “his speaking engagements across the country” and “his search for justice and equality in general.” According to the three judges, this “showed that defendant had a motive to alter the dates on the recall petitions, thus providing evidence of the identification of the perpetrator.”

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This last conclusion can condem
Wall Street calls shots at DNC
Protests rock convention

Continued from page 1

modern times, its social base has indeed huge numbers of union members, women, youth and people of color.

It is a progressive base, as it reflects the reality of the lives of workers. It is not unusual to see some of these Democrats at revolutionary events or demonstrations against war and racism or for higher wages.

This base was visible not just on the convention floor but on the podium as well. Because of the strength of the progressive movement, especially in this period of the Black Lives Matter and the immigrant rights movements, representatives of these struggles were allowed to address the convention.

It demonstrates Frederick Douglass’ creed: “Without struggle, there is no progress.” And the Black community has definitely had its struggle.

One of the most moving moments of the convention was Tuesday night, when nine African-American women whose children had been killed by police terror or racist vigilantes took the stage.

The Boor chanted “Black Lives Matter” at the presence of mothers Wanda Johnson (Oscar Grant), Gwen Carr (Eric Gay), Trayvon Martin (Trayvon Martin), Geneva Reed-Veal (Sandra Bland), Lacy McBeth (Jordan Davis), Cleopatra Pendleton (Hadiya Pendleton), Maria Hamilton (Dontre Hamilton) and Annette Nance-Holt (Blair Holt).

Trayvon Martin’s mother, Sybrina Fulton, stated, “This isn’t about being political it’s about being human. It’s about our children. That’s why we’re here, tonight, with Hillary Clinton.

It should be pointed out that Tamir Rice’s mother, Samaria Rice, told Fusion earlier that no candidate is “speaking my language about police reform.”

Alternet.net noted that Mothers of the Movement was Number Three of the 10 Top Moments of the DNC. Their top three, in fact, all had to do with women.

Their Number One Top Moment was Clinton as she accepted the nomination to become the first woman president: “If there are any little girls out there … let me just say: I will be the first woman president, but one of you is next.”

Number Two Top Moment was Michelle Obama’s exceptionally moving speech, which included: “That is the story of this country, the story that has brought me to this stage tonight, the story of generations of people who felt the lash of bondage, the shame of servitude, the sting of segregation, but who kept on striving and hoping and doing what needed to be done so that today I wake up every morning in a house that was built by slaves.”

Other moments that reflected the struggle of the oppressed included actress Eva Longoria, who took a line right out of the movement for Chicanos: “I didn’t cross the border, the border crossed me.”

One might add that many an activist grimaced at this, for it occurred in the political party that really represents the same class forces that continue to rob and steal from Mexico to this very day.

Social base doesn’t call shots

Herein lies an example of the incredible cynicism manipulated in Philadelphia.

While the social base of the Democrat Party reflects working people, the party does not reflect their class interests.

While the struggle has forced the Democratic Party to co-opt some issues, the party nonetheless reflects the class that continues to exploit, bomb, deport and kill workers and oppressed here and around the globe.

Who really called the shots at the convention? What really came out of it, despite all the platitudes mouthed regarding issues of the oppressed?

The donors who were actually paying for much of the convention are anonymous. But it is not a mystery. While the convention floor rocked with chants, yells and much hyperbole, the real seat of power was elsewhere. The workers and oppressed might have thought they were making a difference challenging the Democratic Party inside the convention, but it was Wall Street that was still calling the shots.

Executives from JP Morgan Chase, Johnson & Johnson and Verizon were just some of the many major donors and CEOs who stayed in the very expensive hotel rooms outside the city.

The progressive Sunlight Foundation, a nonprofit organization that aims to make government and politics more accountable and transparent, reported, “The power some lobbyists hold over both parties … and the White House is well documented. But what’s not well documented is how lobbyists play a role in the Democratic Party’s nominating process.”

The issue of super-delegates became key with regard to the Sanders movement. According to Sunlight, those delegates can support “whomever they choose and are not bound by any primary or caucus result,” adding, “some of the super-delegates also help to lobby for interests like big banks, payday lenders, health care insurers.”

Notable lobbyist super-delegates included: “Donald L. Fowler, a former Democratic National Committee chair who was a registered lobbyist for the S.C. Credit Union, Joyce Brayboy, lobbyist for Goldman Sachs; Steve Grossman, a former president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC); Andres Ramirez, super-delegate from Nevada.

“According to disclosure documents from the Nevada legislature, as recently as 2005, Ramirez represented a company called Community Loans of America Inc., which is the parent company of several payday and title loan lenders” — a total volume that feeds off workers in communities around the country.

Sunlight concludes, “In short, [the super-delegates are the embodiment of the institution Democratic Party] — every one from former presidents, congressional leaders and big-money fundraisers to mayors, labor leaders and longtime soul party functionaries. Nearly six-in-ten are men, close to two-thirds are white, and their average age (as best we could tell) is around 60.”

Behind-the-scenes power brokering

In a July 25 Los Angeles Times editorial titled “Who Pays for the Democratic Convention?” Nikil Saval writes that “if you try asking [former Philadelphia mayor] Ed Rendell where he got the money, he won’t tell. He treats [it] like a national security secret — despite a court order to the contrary. On June 14, the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records ruled that the host committee was required to disclose its list of donor records immediately, but it refused to comply.”

All this behind-the-scenes power brokering has become a real lesson for the burgeoning youth movement and others around Sanders.

The Democratic Party has been exposed as the party of the ruling class. No matter the bells and whistles, no matter the faces of people we respect and even love, such as the Mothers of the Movement, a big convention has been exposed.

The reality and contradictions between the platitudes of the politicians and what is really going on in society will continue to erupt and play out. It is understood why a mother who has lost her child to police violence hopes that a woman Democrat can be more helpful than a hateful racist demagogue.

It is understood why a young whose parents could be deported at any moment continues to hope in the party that has carried out more raids than any other. The devil you know appears safer than the devil who wants to build a wall.

But may are now thinking about the need for a third option, which is one of the astounding outcomes of the DNC.

This paper has often written that it does not matter who is in the White House, it matters who is in the streets. That remains true. But support for a third candidate would be further proof of the growing disenchantment in this country. It would mean a further break of sectors of the working class from the bosses’ party, the Democratic Party, and that is a step forward for the struggle.

That third candidate is WV’s revolutionary socialist, Monica Moorehead.

Haitians challenge Clinton

By G. Dunkel

Komokoda (the Committee to Mobilize Against Dictatorship in Haiti) protested in Philadelphia on July 26 against the ruinous role played in Haiti by former President Bill Clinton, Democratic Party presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and their family foundation.

Komokoda, a group in the Haitian community that has actively protested the Clintons for years, marched in the Shut Down the DNC protests. The group released a statement, saying: “We will not be counted among those frightened by bigot Trump into silence or into supporting the career criminal Clintons.”

The group leafleted the protest with this statement, which concluded: “For the first time in pushing the line that Hillary is the ‘lesser evil,’ she will tell them loud and clear Trump’s camp has yet to enact policies which have killed our people in Haiti, Honduras, Palestine, Libya, Iraq, Afghanistan; which have jailed millions of our black and brown brothers and sisters; which have defunded schools and cut much-needed social programs to build prisons and turn police departments into military forces.”

Migrant rig

WW PHOTOS: G. DUNKEL
Marchers oppose Clinton and DNC racism

By Philadelphia Workers World Staff

"Don’t vote for Hillary, she’s killing Black people!" a thousand protesters chanted over and over as the Black DNC Resistance March against Police Terrorism and State Repression ensued midday traffic while they rallied and marched through North Philadelphia’s Black community. The July 26 march was timed to coincide with — and disrupt — the 2016 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Coalition for REAL (Racial, Economic and Legal) Justice, a Black-led group of progressives, anti-racists and anti-capitalists organized against police occupation and murders of Black and Brown people, called the march. The march kicked off with a rally in the Cecil B. Moore neighborhood of North Philadelphia. Anti-gentrification activists from the “Stadium Stompers” joined the rally. The latter group is fighting Temple University’s latest attempts to build a football stadium that would further displace Black and working-class communities. The Philly Coalition for REAL Justice connected the nationwide onslaught of gentrification in historically Black communities to the epidemic of police violence. Speakers read the names of police terrorism victims one-by-one, passing out dozens of signs bearing those names. “Who will carry this name?” asked Eric Mines of REAL Justice after reading each name. “We will!” responded the crowd each time. Several Puerto Rican flags could be spotted within the gathering. “The Comité Boricua in Defence of the Motherland and People of Puerto Rico” (Camden Boricua Committee) contingent marched in support of Black Resistance behind a banner calling for independence for the U.S. colony of Puerto Rico.

The Philadelphia South Asian Collective and the immigrant rights organization Juntos also joined the march. Cephus Johnson (aka Uncle Bobby), whose nephew Oscar Grant was shot and killed in 2009 by cops in Oakland, Calif., gave an impassioned speech expressing police as protectors and servants of the racist state, not the people. Asia Khalif, whose cousin Brandon Tate-Brown was killed by Philadelphia police in December 2014, called for a revolutionary movement to overthrow the system of white supremacy. The Black and Brown Workers Collective, representing nonprofit sector workers, and the Palestinian resistance movement were also represented in the ranks of protesters, as well as low-wage workers from Fight for $15.

Over 500 undocumented and other immigrants and their supporters held a Migrant Rights March on July 25, the first day of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia. Activists came from as far away as Georgia, Louisiana, Illinois and Tennessee to demonstrate their commitment to immigrant rights at the site of the DNC and to stand in sharp contrast to the attacks on immigrants that had been launched earlier by Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump during his acceptance speech. Juntos, the #NotOneMoreCampaign, the Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights, the Congress of Day Laborers and many other groups gathered in South Philly. They rallied and then began to march from Capitolio Field, in a neighborhood known many Mexican, Hispanic and other Central American migrants live and worked. As the temperature reached 95 degrees, organizers handed out bottles of water and fresh peaches from a nearby shopping area, long known as the Italian Market, but where many vendors from Latin America and Asia now sell produce and run stores and restaurants.

Their demands were clearly stated on many colorful banners and signs: “Mora- torium on deportations NOW,” “Dismantle ICE” [Immigration and Customs Enforcement]” “End all detentions” and “No unip’s” [Not one more]. Another sign, “Shut down Berks,” referred to a facility 60 miles west of the city where hundreds of mothers and their children are being held in the Berks Family Detention Center. One Latina held a sign reading: “The only ICE we want is water ice,” ferring to a frozen delicacy popular in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Workers World Party Presidential Candidate Monica Moorehead called for the end of the apartheid of U.S. police. Presidential Candidate Lamont Lilly, an anti-police brutality activist from North Carolina, joined other Black activists in leading chants throughout the entire 5.5-mile march. When the Black DNC Resistance March arrived at City Hall, the crowd from the Shut Down the DNC rally surged into the streets to join them. Standing on the back of a pickup truck amidst a sea of people, signs and red-black-green flags, members of the REAL Justice Coalition delivered speech after explosive speech exposing Hillary Clinton, the Democratic Party and U.S. imperialism as enemies of all working and oppressed people.

Black and Brown solidarity

In a strong show of Black and Brown solidarity, a migrant contingent joined in carrying a Dismantle ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) banner. Fernando Lopez, with the New Orleans Workers Center for Racial Justice, led the crowd in chanting “Dismantle ICE, Defund the Police.”

Marchers again took to the streets for yet another dynamic and spirited march to the Wells Fargo Center in South Philadelphia where the DNC was being held. As the march neared the convention site, the chanting, migrant crowd forced a line of motorcycle cops trying to block the street to turn around one-by-one. The protesters pushed forward toward the DNC, with their leading vehicles forcing police cars with flashing red lights and blaring sirens to back off and retreat. Meanwhile, hundreds of supporters of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, including those who had walked out of the convention, marched toward the advancing Black Resistance demonstrators while chanting “Black Lives Matter!”

At the end of the eight-hour march, Cornelius Moody of REAL Justice urged Sanders supporters to return to their communities to actively support the Black-led movement.

13,000 protesters in 60 actions: issues DNC omitted

From July 23-29, an estimated 13,000 protesters took part in some 60 rallies, marches, indoor meetings and civil disobedience actions in Philadelphia against the DNC and Hillary Clinton. Several were for Sanders, fueled by Wikileaks exposure of emails showing that Democratic Party leaders manipulated the primary elections in Hillary Clinton’s favor. These marches also targeted Clinton for waverings on rejection of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact and for her legacy of promoting U.S. imperialist policies on a global basis. Indoor gatherings addressed the problems of Islamophobia and the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

Before the convention opened on July 24, Indigenous activists led about 8,000 people gathered at City Hall for a March for Clean Energy. Many signs opposed fracking and the construction of oil and gas pipelines like Keystone XL.

On the DNC’s opening day, July 25, the Poor Peoples’ Economic and Human Rights Campaign kicked off a March for Our Lives. This action focused on the issues of long-term and widespread poverty in Philadelphia, the student debt crisis, epidemics of mass incarceration and drug addiction, and the lack of affordable health care. Earlier in the day, immigrants marched for their rights and against ICE raids (see separate article on this issue).

Philadelphia officials initially tried to limit public opposition to the DNC and Clinton by denying permits for marches, especially in Center City during morning and afternoon rush hours. The city was forced to back down after demonstrations held a press conference in late June and a legal action by the Pennsylvania American Civil Liberties Union.

Marchers chanted “Uncodocumented! Unafraid!” “No papers! No fear!” and other slogans in Spanish and English as they walked down Ninth Street, up Lombard and then down 13th Street through the “Gayborhood,” where participants wear “Soy Queer Latino!” shirts led the march chanting “Soy Queer Latino!”

The march ended at City Hall, where a short rally was held.

The next day, in a strong show of Black and Brown solidarity, a migrant contingent carried a “Dismantle ICE” banner in protests led by two coalitions: Black DNC Resistance against Police Terror and “Shut Down the DNC.” Fernando Lopez spoke at a City Hall rally from the back of a pickup truck, and a recent release and chanting, “Dismantle ICE! Defund the police!”

—Joe Piette
ARACELIO IGLESIAS DÍAZ
20th century labor leader remembered

By Ildefonso Gustavo Díaz Sandyol and Rosa María Oliva Enriquez

A guest article from correspondents in Cuba.

Aracelio Iglesias Díaz was one of those people who cannot be erased from history. He was born to a humble family on June 22, 1901, in Consolación del Sur, in Pinar del Río province, Cuba. When only 13, he was orphaned, losing both his father and mother. He was referred to Havana and began to live in Regla.

His laboring life began at 15 when he started to work on the docks at the port of the Bay of Havana. He related to the workers, and felt through his own flesh and muscles how dock workers were exploited.

Aracelio was shaped as a revolutionary at an early stage of his own harsh experience as part of the working class. Already possess­ing a broad political viewpoint, he joined the ranks of the Communist Party of Cuba in 1929.

Gerardo Machado ruled Cuba from 1925-33. In 1929 when a strike against the Machadist tyranny was declared, Aracelio played an important role as one of the organizers of the strike in the port sector.

After the fall of the dictator, Aracelio devoted himself to recruiting comrades to the party from the dock workers. A fierce fighter for workers’ rights, he be­came a proletarian leader. Then he was held in the prison on the Isle of Pines (now called Isle of Youth). After three years behind bars, he was released.

Life in prison did nothing to dimin­ish his revolutionary convictions. On the contrary, upon his release Aracelio resumed his activities as a revolutionary and a union leader.

The Palestinian Arab people have been struggling for 100 years for the right to live and to reclaim their land and liberate their people from colonialism, occupation and racism. And our people have and continue to recognize that our natural position is in the struggle alongside the oppressed peoples, and not alongside states that trample people’s rights, plunder the wealth of the people and impose their will on the impover­ished and oppressed peoples.

The United States government supports and perpetrates injustice and occupation in Palestine, and provides military and financial support from taxpayers’ money, rather than spending that money on programs and services for poor people, education and social programs. Instead, the United States perpetuates injustice and violence and funds prisons and police oppression.

We emphasize that your role and your struggle have and continue to recognize that your role and your struggle have and continue to recognize that Palestinian solidarity is a central, pivotal and leading role in stopping the Israeli and U.S. policies by:

• Participating in boycott campaigns against the occupation and against the private security corporations like G4S that provide it with support and services.
• Organizing delegations of solidarity with the Palestinian people and the prisoners.

Today, I extend to you from occupied Palestine, a message of solidarity and support as well, for your struggle inside the belly of the imperialist beast, and for your struggle for the freedom of all political prisoners in the United States. Freedom for the imprisoned struggle from just causes and for liber­ation, whether they are in the U.S. or Israeli prisons, and anywhere they are where prisoners are being held because of their commitment to defend justice and human dignity, giving years of their life to defend their oppressed peoples and their right to self-determination.

As Palestinians, we know very well what injustice means, what occupation means and what arrest means. From occupied Palestine, we salute the strug­gles of Mamia Abu-Jamal and all of their fellow militant Black leaders and political leaders in U.S. prisons. We are on their side in their struggle and their just cause for freedom and dignity.

Freedom for Bilal Kayed!

This excerpted letter from Mahmoud Kayed, brother of Palestinian political prisoner Bilal Kayed, is available in full on Workers World online.

BILAL KAYED

This letter from correspondents in Cuba.

Aracelio is especially noted for stand­ing up to the Ward Line shipping compa­ny. In 1938 he was elected financial sec­retary of the Union of Port Workers. Aracelio’s tireless struggle as head of the union, leader of the workers, and a communist by conviction, and because of the victories he ripped from the employers, he was characterized in the Yankee press as the “Red Czar of the Port of Havana.” Because of that, under direct orders from the U.S. government, the Cuban government of Prío Socar­rés ordered his murder. Aracelio was brought down by assassins’ bullets on Oct. 17, 1948, at the headquarters of the Union of Port Workers.

But his murder did not stop the strug­gle. It was one more motive for continu­ing it. Today the Cuban workers do not forget you, Aracelio Iglesias. They re­member you as an upright, serious and very sociable man, who was concerned for others. They know that you did not grow arrogant due to your qualities as an exceptional leader, but that, with a natu­ral ease, you helped your comrades who were within your reach.

Freedom for Bilal Kayed!

This letter from correspondents in Cuba.

Aracelio is especially noted for stand­ing up to the Ward Line shipping compa­ny. In 1938 he was elected financial sec­retary of the Union of Longshoremen and Laborers of the Port of Havana. One year later, he became its general secretary.

In January of the following year, during the Constituent Assembly of Cuba’s Workers’ Federation of Cuba (CTC), he joined the Executive Committee of this organization.

In 1946 he became secretary of the Working Maritime Federation Local of the Port of Havana. During his leader­ship, this body succeeded in implement­ing the rotational list in the port, a sys­tem that gave all the longshore workers the opportunity to work. The Bay of Hav­anna was the only port during World War II where subsidity was charged for dock­ing in the port, in this way also assisting the workers of the interior of the country. When ferries and sea trains were in­troduced to the port, an innovation that meant reducing the workforce, Aracelio won a regulation that established a pro­portion between the load, the number of necessary workers and their wages, to avoid massive dismissals. During this time, payment was won for vacation days and 48 hours pay for working 44 hours.

As a Black man, a communist and a labor leader, Aracelio was always con­cerned about what the exploiters, Ven­zuelan imperialism and the successive cap­i­talist-linked governments of Cuba, were up to. It was not by chance that, during Ramón Grau San Martín’s presidential term, the repression of the labor move­ment and its united leaders was constant. Repression was aimed especially against...
After owners kick them out

Venezuelan workers take over U.S. plant

By Deirdre Griswold

Nearly a thousand workers at a large, former Kimberly-Clark plant in Venezuela are back on the job after the company's U.S. management shut down a personal care products line to avoid newly imposed tariffs. The Social-Democratic, pro-Kurdish HDP coalition, even the leaders of the CHP and also the AKP have sought a meeting with the social-democratic HDP, which the company shut down operations and sent the workers home, claiming a lack of raw materials. The AKP regime has concentrated its key in the 1920s, and now second in party development and Justice Party (AKP) have from the leaders of the CHP and also the coup makers. AKP speakers also par together with much political support throughout Latin America, Bol- vivian Venezuela has brought health care, education and better housing to millions of poor people. But most of the economy has remained in the hands of the bourgeoisie, a wealthy ruling class accustomed to exerting a great deal of power in collaboration with the U.S. ever since the 1920s, when the Rockefeller dy- nasty began exploiting Venezuelan oil. Chávez died in 2013 and his successor, President Nicolás Maduro, a former bus-driver, has been hard-pressed to count- er the economic sabotage being waged by the imperialists and their Venezuelan collaborators, who have taken advantage of the severe drop in oil prices to step up their efforts to bring down the Bo- livian government. The AKP regime has concentrated its repression on those it considers mem- bers of the Hizmet organization, led by Fethullah Gülen, who Erdogan blame for organizing the coup. Gülen has been living in exile in the United States since 1999. Before 2013 he and his group were allied with Erdogan and the AKP.

Neither the Erdogan nor the Gülen forces represent the working class nor any real anti-imperialist position. They both stand for the continued oppression of the Kurdish community, which make up 18 percent of the 80 million people living in Turkey. On July 24, the CHP — a former ruling party — representing the Social-Democratic, pro-Kurdish HDP coalition, even the leaders of the CHP and also the AKP have sought a meeting with the social-democratic HDP, which the company shut down operations and sent the workers home, claiming a lack of raw materials. The AKP regime has concentrated its key in the 1920s, and now second in party development and Justice Party (AKP) have from the leaders of the CHP and also the coup makers. AKP speakers also par together with much political support throughout Latin America, Bol- vivian Venezuela has brought health care, education and better housing to millions of poor people. But most of the economy has remained in the hands of the bourgeoisie, a wealthy ruling class accustomed to exerting a great deal of power in collaboration with the U.S. ever since the 1920s, when the Rockefeller dy- nasty began exploiting Venezuelan oil. Chávez died in 2013 and his successor, President Nicolás Maduro, a former bus-driver, has been hard-pressed to count- er the economic sabotage being waged by the imperialists and their Venezuelan collaborators, who have taken advantage of the severe drop in oil prices to step up their efforts to bring down the Bo-}

Coup and ‘countercoup’ disrupt Turkish state

By John Catalinotto

Aug. 1 – Two weeks after the collapse of an attempted coup, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and the ruling Development and Justice Party (AKP) have yet to stabilize the Turkish government and state. The AKP regime has concentrated its repression on those it considers mem- bers of the Hizmet organization, led by Fethullah Gülen, who Erdogan blame for organizing the coup. Gülen has been living in exile in the United States since 1999. Before 2013 he and his group were allied with Erdogan and the AKP.

Neither the Erdogan nor the Gülen forces represent the working class nor any real anti-imperialist position. They both stand for the continued oppression of the Kurdish community, which make up 18 percent of the 80 million people living in Turkey. On July 24, the CHP — a former ruling party — representing the Social-Democratic, pro-Kurdish HDP coalition, even the leaders of the CHP and also the AKP have sought a meeting with the social-democratic HDP, which the company shut down operations and sent the workers home, claiming a lack of raw materials. The AKP regime has concentrated its key in the 1920s, and now second in party development and Justice Party (AKP) have from the leaders of the CHP and also the coup makers. AKP speakers also par together with much political support throughout Latin America, Bol- vivian Venezuela has brought health care, education and better housing to millions of poor people. But most of the economy has remained in the hands of the bourgeoisie, a wealthy ruling class accustomed to exerting a great deal of power in collaboration with the U.S. ever since the 1920s, when the Rockefeller dy- nasty began exploiting Venezuelan oil. Chávez died in 2013 and his successor, President Nicolás Maduro, a former bus-driver, has been hard-pressed to count- er the economic sabotage being waged by the imperialists and their Venezuelan collaborators, who have taken advantage of the severe drop in oil prices to step up their efforts to bring down the Bo- livian government. The AKP regime has concentrated its repression on those it considers mem- bers of the Hizmet organization, led by Fethullah Gülen, who Erdogan blame for organizing the coup. Gülen has been living in exile in the United States since 1999. Before 2013 he and his group were allied with Erdogan and the AKP.

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Stop Washington's aggression!

By Abayomi Azikiwe
Editor, Pan-African News Wire

June 14 - A nationwide election for local offices in 278 municipalities across South Africa is taking place Aug. 3. South African officials have called for the election to test the continued integration of former bantustans. Most of these imperialist countries are in NATO. There is also Japan, which is rearmament under the aegis of the U.S. These imperialist countries have supplied or are selling a few military instructors or advisers. They include bombing runs and the potential for sending combat troops. They will even inflict more suffering on the people of West Asia and North Africa.

U.S. planes bombed Libya on Aug. 2. It was the first extensive attack since U.S.-NATO forces destroyed the legitimate government of Libya in 2011. A key aim was to murder President Moammar Gadhafi. This brought chaos to Libya and destabilized much of North Africa, exacerbating the refugee and migration crises.

Washington and NATO allies have also been targeting the Syrian government, especially since 2011, when NATO armed al-Qaeda-type groups to fight the Damascus government. This is what opened up Syria to the Islamic State group, or ISIS. The result was the deaths of about 300,000 Syrians and turned millions into refugees. Lately, the U.S. has changed its tactics and bombed Raqa, the IS “capital.”

The U.S. military has been sending hundreds of troops to Iraq, this time to help the Baghdad regime retake the city of Mosul from IS. No one should forget that it was the illegal U.S.-British invasion in 2003 that destroyed the Iraqi government in the name of liberating the Iraqi people. Currently, U.S. bombs have again destroyed the cities of Fallujah and Ramadi in order to retake them from IS. The bombing of Mosul is on an even bigger scale.

In Iraq, Syria and Libya, the Barack Obama administration now explains its intervention by the need to destroy IS.

What is Washington's relation to IS?

The U.S. approach to organizations like IS and al-Qaeda is two-sided. Beginning in 1979, the CIA and Saudi Arabia secretly funded and nurtured al-Qaeda and groups with similar feudal ideology to fight against a progressive government in Afghanistan, one that had abolished the purchase of brides and opened schools and other institutions to women. But what is Washington’s relation to IS?

In Iraq, Syria and Libya, the U.S. military is based entirely on volunteer retainers—living on the U.S. taxpayer.

Current challenges in South African election

By Adi Chola

The ANC is facing challenges from the largest opposition party, the Democratic Alliance (DA) and the smaller Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF). The DA has a 17% level of support, which would enable them to secure the most seats in the August 3 legislative elections. The EFF has an upsurge in support and their support is growing in the black townships. While the ANC is the largest party and is expected to win the election, they have a few challenges that they need to address.

The ANC has a huge expense. Not to mention the monthly overhead for our newspaper. This has raised our printing costs. We've been looking for other ways to fund our newspaper. We've had to cut back on staff and resources. We've also had to reduce our coverage of local events and issues.

If reading Workers World newspaper has convinced you that the capitalist system is not working, then consider investing in Workers World as a way to help support our work. We are looking for investors who are committed to supporting a socialist future. We are not looking for investors who are interested in making a profit on their investments. We are looking for investors who are willing to support our work and our vision for a better world.

We are looking for investors who are committed to supporting our work and our vision for a better world. If you are interested in investing in Workers World, please contact us at workers.org/donate. We are looking for investors who are committed to supporting our work and our vision for a better world.
Remember Emmett Till and Tamir Rice!

By Dolores Cox

Had it not been for the brutal, racist murder of Emmett Till, a 14-year-old African American, he would have celebrated his 75th birthday on July 25. While visiting relatives in Money, Miss., Till was killed for allegedly flirting with a white woman, a Southern taboo. Born and raised in Chicago, he was accustomed to the state-sanctioned violence and legalized Jim Crow racial segregation in the South. On Aug. 24, 1955, Till and his cousins left Money, and when Till entered, the only person inside was Carolyn Bryant, the owner's spouse. She claimed that Till "made lewd advances and then wolf-whistled at her." Others on the scene refuted this allegation, (history.com) When her spouse, Roy Bryant, heard about the alleged incident, he and his half-brother J.W. Milam, went to the home of Till’s great uncle, Moses Wright, in the middle of the night on Aug. 28. They also accosted the teenager and made him carry a 75-pound cotton gin fan to the Tallahatchie River. They brutally beat him, gouged out an eye, and then shot him in the head. They threw his body in the river, with barbed wire tied to the fan and around his neck.

Till’s disfigured corpse was found three days later. He was identified by his father’s ring on his finger that his mother had given him.

World outrage at Till’s murder

Mississippi authorities wanted to bury Till’s body immediately, but his mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, fought to have his body returned to Chicago. After seeing her son’s mutilated remains, she decided to have an open-casket funeral so that the world could see what racist murderers had done to her only child. Jet magazine and the Chicago Daily Defender published photographs of Till’s body, outraging people everywhere.

Milam and Bryant were tried in a segregated courthouse. Wright identified them. On Sept. 23, 1955, the all-white jury deliberated for less than an hour and reached a "not guilty" verdict. The state did not indict them for kidnapping.

Demonstrations protested the verdict in major U.S. cities and Paris. Mississippi was seen as the epitome of racism and stronghold of white supremacy.

This murder trial revealed the brutality of Jim Crow racism and was an impediment for the Civil Rights Movement. It was also a reason for passage of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1957, allowing the Justice Department to intervene in local law enforcement issues when civil rights are compromised.

When Rosa Parks refused to move to the back of the bus in Montgomery, Ala., on Dec. 1, 1955, she said she "thought of Emmett Till and just couldn’t go back."

Milam and Bryant admitted to Look magazine in 1956 that they killed Till. They had no remorse.

Mamie Till-Mobley wrote in “The Death of Innocence: The Story of the Hate Crime That Changed America”: “When it goes to lynching, it is not just the actual killers who go free. It’s the dominant culture, the entire society that permits such a thing, that encourages it. Bryant and Milam weren’t the only guilty parties in the lynching of my son. Witnesses have pointed to at least six or seven people. But … there were so many thousands more. People who were responsible, powerful, influential. People who could’ve come forward with what they knew about the event, left Sumter County, Ala., and settled in Chicago in the early 1920s.

The action, part of a national campaign, was sponsored by the group “35 Mujeres para Oscar/35 Women for Oscar.”

It took until 2007 for Tallahatchie County to issue a formal apology to the Till family.

Fifty-nine years after Till’s murder, 12-year-old Tamir Rice was shot by a white police officer while playing alone with a pellet gun in a Cleveland park on Nov. 22, 2014. He would have been 14 on June 23.

A grand jury declined to indict the cop who murdered Rice — like the majority of cases today where police are not prosecuted for fatally shooting African Americans.

‘Sons of the Great Migration’

Isabel Wilkerson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of “The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration,” writes that Till and Rice are “both tragic symbols of the search for Black freedom” and “sons of the Great Migration, those who defected from the Cotton Belt in the South. They could not stand the way things were, or the hostility they would face wherever they went. The horror of both their deaths was a matter for all Americans.

‘Liberation, ya Liberation now!’

The women led a strong protest, including many families, across the Williamsburg Bridge to rally at Brooklyn’s El Puente Academy for Peace and Justice, which has been an organizing center for the Puerto Rican working class for decades. People chanted, “Your democracy is a lie!” Marchers spread their support from President Obama, chanting “Liberación ya! Liberation now!” Marchers helped to continue fighting for Oscar López Rivera’s freedom, shouting the words “¡Hasta su regreso! Until he returns!”

Current elections in South Africa

Continued from page 10 and the labor movement in trying to turn the economy around and building confidence in the economy. This comes shortly after Moody’s confirmed confidence in our economy around and building confidence in our economy.

Unemployment is rising throughout the country and the value of the national currency, the rand, has been falling.

Increasing wariness of Washington

Uncertainty about relations with Washington was fueled over the last few days after the U.S. Embassy issued a warning, saying South Africa could be a target for an Islamic State attack. The ANC government refused the security advisory, saying there were no credible threats.

Relations between the U.S. and South Africa have been strained since late last year when the Obama administration temporarily suspended Pretoria from a government-to-government agreement on the African Growth & Opportunity Act. Earlier this year, ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe accused the U.S. of plotting regime change inside the country.

These sentiments are shared by neighboring states. On June 10, in the state-run Zimbabwian Herald newspaper, correspondent Christopher Farai Charamba wrote: “One must be critical of these alerts. The South African government has labelled the information ‘dishonest and unsubstantiated.’ Should this be the case then what motive would the U.S. have to issue this second alert?”

Charamba continued: “In 2013 there were reports that the Botswana government, member of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), had given the American military permission to start construction of facilities inside the Thebeputsha air base in Gaborone. This was seen as the first step in plans to relocate the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) from Stuttgart, Germany, to the Southern African country.

“Under the guise of the war on terror the USA has invaded countries, disposed of government, established military bases in a number of countries,” emphasized Charamba. “With these new alerts in what is arguably one of the most peacefull regions in the world, SADC countries should be skeptical of U.S. intentions.”

By Anne Pruden

Brooklyn, N.Y.

Calling him their Nelson Mandela, Puerto Rican women held their monthly protest for Oscar López Rivera in New York City on July 31. Political prisoner López Rivera, jailed by the U.S. for his struggle for an independent Puerto Rico, has served 35 years of a 55-year sentence. The action, part of a national campaign, was sponsored by the group “35 Mujeres para Oscar/35 Women for Oscar.”

Oscar López Rivera

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¿Quién está realmente detrás de él?

Por Deirdre Griswold

La Convención Nacional Republicana (RNC por sus siglas en inglés) produjo una cantidad de puras mentiras como mucho en un montón de estófolo. Algunas de las mentiras han sido expuestas en varios medios capitalistas. Pero hay una mentira en relación con Donald Trump y sus seguidores que se repite como buena moneda por aquellos que deberían saber mejor.

Y esa es que las/os constituyentes de Trump son trabajadores. Que su discurso rabiósamente racistas y reseña usas con las/os trabajadoras blancos que no tienen educación y carecen de refinamiento, al igual que Trump.

Bueno, eso es un mitón de boba. ¡Es claramente la que personas que votaron en la Convención Nacional Republicana son racistas y anti-trabajadores! Esos son los jóvenes están sintiendo el dolor económico real de un sistema que ha empobrecido a tantas personas, y a la vez enriquecido enormemente a los muy, muy, muy pocos en la cima, incluyendo a Trump.

Cuando Trump arremete contra las/os inmigrantes diciendo que quitan empleos “americanos”, y el público aplaude, - eso es lo que esperarían. El programa de Trump, si es que se puede llamar así, ya que parece que lo van componiendo a medida que avanza, es sacar provecho de las frustraciones de los de la clase media que tenían el sueño de llegar a ser tan ricos como él, pero vieron sus ambiciones frustradas por la crisis económica.

¿Quién está realmente anhelando trabajar en una fábrica, o ser jornaleros, o trabajar en una fábrica, ¿están estos realmente anhelando trabajos como niñeras o recoger las cosechas, que pronto va a cerrar porque la empresa o ser jornaleros, o trabajar en una fábrica, que pronto va a cerrar porque la empresa.

Es más probable, que Trump apelaba a los no-tan-republicanos de la clase obrera al vincular a los trabajadores blancos con Trump. Lo que hace esto es su principal peligro - la ratificación y miedo a los misóginos, a los racistas, a los conservadores progresistas de quedarse en el Partido Republicano es más fuerte. Estas son las áreas geográficas en las que los medios de comunicación neoliberales concentraron la adicción a drogas entre los veteranos de la guerra, entre los que parecen estar aprovechando el cansancio de las constantes guerras, entre los que parece estar aprovechando el cansancio de las constantes guerras.

Trump está tratando de sacar provecho de la reacción al progreso que se ha hecho contra la opresión después de décadas de luchas de masas en las calles. Esto llega en un tiempo en que la lucha, no las elecciones de los partidos capitalistas, que traerán a luz un futuro mejor.