

Sea change in struggle to

Smash

white supremacy!

By John Catalinotto

Charlottesville, Durham, Boston, New Orleans and more — anti-racist actions all across the country are proof of a sea change in the struggle against white supremacy. It began on Aug. 12 when thousands in Charlottesville, Va., stood their ground against heavily armed fascist forces. Those antifa, communist and left activists who faced down the fascists also exposed the role of the police before the entire country — a role already understood by most Black, Brown and Indigenous people. They were the first heroes of the week of struggle. Charlottesville shocked the country, too, with the beating and injuring of Deandre Harris, a Black youth, and the cowardly murder of freedom fighter Heather Heyer.

When the president, who is the ugly face of U.S. rulers, himself lined up with the Nazis and Klan, it made it clear to many that the pinnacle of the government itself is to blame for the racist crimes.

That the police did nothing to stop the racist and anti-Semitic thugs came as a shock to many in this country who want to end the plague of white supremacy, and now realize that they have to do it themselves and defend themselves.

Response to Charlottesville

Young people in Durham, N.C., including Workers World Party members, answered the Charlottesville outrage by ridding that city on Aug. 14 of its shameful Confederate monument. With their action they showed that the people can take the fight for justice into their own hands.

This people's toppling inspired a mass movement to rid the entire country of these symbols of slavery.

When nine people were then arrested in Durham, charged with felonies for this bold act against white supremacy, many forces came together to show the defendants that they were not alone.

At a court appearance on Aug. 17 for a few of those arrested, some 200 people showed up at the sheriff's office in a magnificent display of solidarity. Scores of them volunteered to "confess" to helping topple the statue three days earlier. They collectively accepted responsibility for the action, although the Durham prosecutor refused their "confession."

The next day, when the Ku Klux Klan threatened to rally in Durham, many youth from Durham's Black community joined the activists and spent hours seizing the space, stopping the Klan from showing its face. The

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Black organizing unites Boston, crushes fascist rally



By Diva T. Williams
Boston

Revolutionary Black love saved Boston on Aug. 19. A group including queer, disabled, Afro-Latinx, working-class Black activists consolidated their resources, knowledge and radical discipline. Every intersection raised itself up, aided each by the others, to utterly crush a fascist onslaught.

Three months earlier, in May, a repugnant collection of Klansmen, neo-Nazis, "Proud Boys," "Oath Keepers" and various unaffiliated white nationalists attempted to march on Boston's Freedom Trail. The Freedom Trail is a popular tourist attraction that links historical landmarks in the city, including a number of Black heritage sites.

The May 2017 fascist rally was tenuously held at bay by a small group of daring Antifa defenders. In early August, those same defenders informed this author that the fascists planned to return in force.

Events in Charlottesville on Aug. 12 further galvanized intersectional, radical Black activists internationally, uniting those willing to engage in a co-ordinated militant resistance.

Monica Cannon-Grant, of Roxbury-based Violence In Boston, sparked

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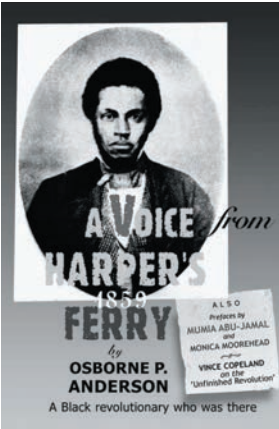
WWP Southern Marxism School sparks deeper commitment

By Meghan Watts
In the Virginia mountains

Over the Aug. 11-13 weekend, in the picturesque mountains of Virginia, 14 young candidates and senior comrades of Workers World Party came together to discuss, learn and deepen their understanding of what it means to be part of a revolutionary cadre organization. To be a member of Workers World Party requires commitment, not only to struggle, but to continual learning.

The Southern Marxism School began by welcoming comrades and candidates from Florida, North Carolina, Virginia and New York. Grounding, introductions and orientation kicked off the first night in preparation for classes and discussions the next day.

Topics discussed included imperialism and its attacks on Latin America, particularly on contemporary Venezuela; the historical role of the Bolshevik paper Iskra in early 20th-century Russia; the current role of Workers World paper, and how to find one’s place in the party through writing; Marxist economics and terminology; Queer, Trans and Women’s Liberation, which led to a powerful discussion on the role of the police and military in a workers’ revolution in light of the ban of trans people from the military; and Identity Politics, Cadre and Building the Party in the South. Members and candidates were



A Voice from Harper’s Ferry, written by Osborne P. Anderson, a Black revolutionary who was there. Essays by: Mumia Abu-Jamal, Monica Moorehead and Vince Copeland on the ‘Unfinished Revolution.’

Read it at www.workers.org/ebooks/AVoiceFromHarpersFerry.pdf
Available at online and other bookstores.



Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, 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 in the 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.

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WW PHOTO: DURHAM BRANCH WWP

left reflecting on how to cement themselves in a struggle identity.

A candidate comrade stated: “Our conversation surrounding identity politics really resonated with me. I came away with a better understanding of a revolutionary identity. Through the support of branch leadership, comprised mainly of female and gender nonconforming people of color, I’ve been able to root myself in our collective struggle towards liberation.”

“Whether it was discussions about the role Marxism-Leninism plays within Black and Brown communities or learning how the party stands in solidarity with and fights for oppressed and marginalized people and nations fighting imperialism, I discovered what it means to be a member of Workers World. With the mentorship from powerful, queer, people of color party leaders I experienced the true essence of comradery,” said another candidate comrade.

During the Aug. 12 classes and discussions, reports came in from comrades fighting back in Charlottesville, Va., including reports of the injuries to dozens and the death of Heather Heyer. Comrades found comfort and strength in each other, remaining rooted in a Marxist-Leninist perspective and committed to the revolutionary path forward. Pause and reflection came that evening on a mile-high mountaintop, in what would become a calm before the storm of struggle poised to form in Durham, N.C.

The weekend ended with discussions of upcoming initiatives and pledging commitments toward local work. The Durham branch, in particular, is ripe for growth, with a strong dedication to theory and practice. □

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 capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. □

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Generals over the White House

Bannon out — but hold the cheering

By Deirdre Griswold

When the news broke that Steve Bannon, the racist “alt-right” adviser to Donald Trump, had been forced out of his job at the White House and was returning to his home at Breitbart News, it was easy to feel elated. (This writer confesses to blurting out “Yeah!”)

Bannon is a far-right ideologue who feels comfortable with the Nazis and the Klan. He advised the president to blame “many sides” in Trump’s notorious press conference equating these murderous, racist groups with the protesters who came out against them in Charlottesville, Va. Of course, Trump is perfectly capable of saying such vile and dishonest things without Bannon’s advice.

Bannon’s ouster came on Friday, Aug. 18. The country was in the middle of the biggest uprising against white supremacy and fascism seen in decades. It was easy to interpret Bannon’s departure as a concession to the militant movement against the right, which has sprung up all over the country and brought tens of thousands of Black, Brown, Indigenous and white people into the streets in militant rejection of the Nazis and Klan, often at grave personal risk.

So it’s great Bannon’s gone. But he was fired for the wrong reasons.

The White House is now largely in the hands of generals, both active and “retired.” The White House Chief of Staff is Gen. John Kelly. The national security adviser, and a major rival of Bannon, is Gen. H.R. McMaster (active duty) and his deputy is Maj. Gen. Ricky Waddell.

In addition, the position of secretary of defense, usually a civilian, has been given to Gen. James Mattis. Gen. Mark S. Inch has been put in charge of the Bureau of Prisons. And there are many more.

Why do the generals despise Bannon?

Because besides being a racist, Bannon is an “economic nationalist,” who sees involvement in foreign conflicts as a drain on the U.S. capitalist economy.

What really got him in trouble with the generals was when he told a reporter at The American Prospect, a liberal imperialist magazine, while referring to north Korea: “There’s no military solution, forget it. Until somebody solves the part of the equation that shows me that ten million people in Seoul don’t die in the first 30 minutes from conventional weapons, I don’t know what you’re talking about, there’s no military solution here, they got us.” (Aug. 16)

This came at a time when the Pentagon was making daily threats against the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea over its nuclear defense. And it was preparing for huge, expensive war “games” aimed at that country, which began on Aug. 21.

The generals in the White House certainly don’t want the public to think all this is futile, not when their buddies, the military contractors, are raking in hundreds of billions of dollars from the Pentagon war machine.

Another sticking point is the war in Afghanistan. Three days after allowing Bannon to be sacked, Trump got

before the cameras and announced a big increase in U.S. troops to be sent to Afghanistan. Breitbart News, with Bannon now back at his desk, immediately attacked Trump for repeating the failed policies of his predecessor, President Barack Obama.

This whole struggle is a falling out among thieves. There’s only one way to fight racist reaction at home and imperialist war abroad: Build the mass movement, particularly based in the most oppressed sections of the working class, that has no stake in propping up this dying capitalist system. □

‘Hands off DPRK!’

Anti-war and anti-imperialist activists from several organizations heeded the call by Workers World Party for a demonstration in downtown Detroit on Aug. 16 opposing U.S. war threats against the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. A multinational crowd gathered on busy Jefferson Avenue during the afternoon rush hour to denounce the bellicose war-mongering of Trump and to defend the DPRK’s right to defend itself from imperialist aggression.

President Donald Trump began threatening the DPRK in early August after the United Nations Security Council unanimously voted to impose sanctions because of the country’s ballistic missile tests. He ominously threatened the DPRK on Aug. 8 with “fire and fury ... the likes of which the world has never seen” when reports surfaced that the socialist country had developed a miniature nuclear warhead for long-range missiles.

Protesters said the DPRK has every right to defend itself from the regime



change that the U.S. Pentagon tries to carry out against every country that dares to be independent and anti-imperialist. Activists expressed their solidarity with the DPRK as well as with Venezuela and Cuba and all other countries in the crosshairs of U.S. aggression and destabilization. They demanded funding for jobs and

human services, not the Pentagon.

Hundreds of workers heard these sentiments from WWP and other activists. The main message was echoed in a popular chant: “Hey hey, what do we say? U.S. hands off the DPRK!”

— Report and photo by
Kris Balderas Hamel

Fight the power! BUILD WORKERS WORLD!

Workers World newspaper has a point of view. Unlike the corporate press, we report events from the perspective of the workers and the oppressed. But you know that. That’s why you choose to read this newspaper.

But what you may not be aware of is that our purpose goes beyond passive reporting. Our Marxist-Leninist vision of an equitable, just world based on socialist planning and plenty for all peoples spurs us to advocate for change.

That’s why we’re devoting so much coverage to the rising mobilization against white supremacy that exploded in Charlottesville and is now sweeping the country. The thousands who flooded Boston in defense of Black Lives Matter and against virulent racism are a really welcome development, especially given the city’s racist history. And bringing

down the statue in Durham, N.C., is having a domino effect, with statues being immediately removed in many other cities, as they were in Baltimore and Los Angeles.

But the action in Durham has special meaning to WW because it was our comrades who planned and executed that dramatic, watershed action. It’s an example of having our fingers on the anti-racist pulse, just as we have on so many anti-imperialist struggles, over the past 58 years. Most recently we’ve championed the Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela and defended the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea’s right to self-defense.

It’s essential for Workers World not to be a bystander — to take action in defense of our Marxist-Leninist principles and beliefs.

If you agree with us, then it’s time to join the Workers World Supporter Program, which since 1977 (that’s right, 40 years!) has been helping us put out the paper.

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Know that we’re grateful for your help in building Workers World — for today and for the future!

NY-WWP reportback on Charlottesville

Courage, discipline in face of fascists

By John Steffin
New York

The Solidarity Center in New York City was standing room only as impassioned anti-racist activists gathered Aug. 17 to hear reportbacks from the Aug. 12 anti-racist mobilization in Charlottesville, Va.

Members of Workers World Party and other groups — including Black Lives Matter Greater New York, GABRIELA-NYC, People's Power Assembly and the Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council — spoke about their experiences traveling south to shut down one of the largest gatherings of white supremacists in recent history.

While a shadow was cast on this victory when a white supremacist terrorist drove a car into counterprotesters, killing Heather Heyer and injuring 20 others, this cowardly act only emboldened anti-racist forces in the U.S., as could be seen in the center that day.

These brave freedom fighters, who put their lives on the line that weekend, shared their fears going into the struggle, the determination and strength they felt on the ground, and the care they received from their comrades.

All the activists who were part of the Workers World Party contingent — led by members from Durham, N.C., Baltimore and New York — spoke of the party's discipline, precautions and the sense of safety they felt fighting the Klan alongside our cadre. This discipline comes from years



Rafael



Taryn

of experience in the anti-fascist and anti-racist struggle.

In 1962, in fact, the first action of Youth Against War & Fascism, the youth arm of Workers World Party at the time, was a huge counterprotest against George Lincoln Rockwell, founder of the American Nazi Party. Scheduled to speak in New York, Rockwell was a no-show. His motorcade turned around at the George Washington Bridge.



Nupol



Nate



James

At the meeting on Charlottesville, a special telephone presentation was given by

Workers World member and North Carolina Central University student Takiyah "Take Em Down" Thompson. Her action that facilitated the pulling down of a Confederate statue in Durham has helped to ignite a nationwide people's movement to destroy, deface and topple these altars to



Vijou



Julia

PHOTOS: PEOPLES VIDEO NETWORK

white supremacy. Some public officials, notably in Baltimore, Austin, Texas, and Los Angeles, have even begun removing Confederate statues quietly in the night in fear of this wave of popular, direct action.

A livestream of the New York event attracted almost 3,000 views that evening and, as of this writing, has reached over 5,000 views. A recording of this stream can be found on Workers World Party Facebook. □

Mother of slain anti-racist: 'Carry on her legacy'

By Kathy Durkin

Susan Bro, the mother of Heather Heyer, brought a crowd of 1,200 people to their feet several times at her daughter's memorial in Charlottesville, Va., on Aug.16 as she honored her slain daughter's commitment to the fight for social justice. She stressed that her death should be seen as a call to action.

Heyer, a 32-year-old legal worker, was killed by a racist who was seen deliberately driving his car into a multinational crowd demonstrating against a Nazi/Ku Klux Klan rally in Charlottesville on Aug. 12.

"They tried to kill my child to shut her up ... but they only magnified her," said Bro. She quoted her daughter's favorite line: "If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention." Bro encouraged the crowd to "carry Heather's spark of conviction" and confront injustice — and carry on her legacy by "channeling anger into righteous action. That's how you're going to make my child's death worthwhile. ... If I have to give her up, we're going to make it count." Bro emphasized that she is going to be the voice her daughter can no longer be. (NPR, Aug. 18)

A paralegal, Heather Heyer also had a job as part of a cafe's wait staff. She came from a working-class family and had a high school education. Virginia Tech University employs her mother as an administrative assistant.

Bro refused to speak to President Donald Trump because the "bigot-in-chief" equated anti-racist protesters like her daughter with the Nazis and KKK at an



Aug. 14 press conference. Because of her principled stance, she has been the target of numerous death threats.

The 20-year-old racist James A. Fields rammed his car into the counterprotesters, killing Heyer and seriously injuring at least 19 other people. Among those severely hurt was African American Marcus Martin, who pushed his fiancée, Marissa Blair, away from the car. Martin was hit hard and sent flying into the air, resulting in several fractures in his left leg. Martin and Blair, friends of Heyer's, were walking with her as the car crashed.

Martin emphasized that "racism is real, hate still lives," as he called for those responsible for the racist rally to be held accountable for Heyer's death and all of the injuries. (Newsplex, Aug. 13)

Eyewitnesses at the anti-fascist protest reported that white supremacists pursued African Americans. One of their targets was 20-year-old Deandre Harris, who had to fight for his life when sev-

eral neo-Nazis brutally beat him with metal flag poles in a parking lot, while yelling racist slurs. Since then, Harris, who has multiple injuries, has received hateful messages and death threats on his phone and social media.

Cops and Klan, hand-in-hand

"No law enforcement stepped in to help me," said Harris, a statement echoed by many anti-racists in Charlottesville. Moreover, despite explicit videos of the horrific attack on Harris, police have not arrested anyone as of a week after it occurred. (Daily News, Aug. 18)

Heather Heyer's is the most recent murder by white supremacists in the long, hard-fought struggle against racial injustice and oppression. Often backed by the state, these bigots resort to intimidation, terror and the worst violence. Today they have been emboldened by Trump's overt racism and encouragement.

Many African Americans and their allies in the 1950s-1960s Civil Rights Movement sacrificed their lives fighting Jim Crow segregation and discrimination. Besides the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, there were Medgar Evers, Viola Gregg Liuzzo, James Cheney, Mickey Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, Jimmie Lee Jackson, Clyde Kennard, Rev. James Reeb, Johnnie Mae Chappell, Benjamin Brown, Rev. Bruce Klunder, Henry H. Dee and Charles Moore.

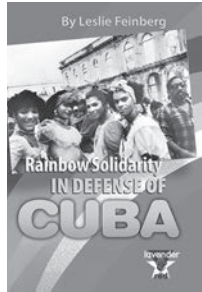
Other heroes were Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Vernon Dahmer, Willie Brewster,

Oneal Moore, Rev. George Lee, William Lewis Moore, Harry Moore and Henrietta Moore, Lt. Col. Daniel L. Penn, Willie Edwards Jr., Herbert Lee, Paul Guilhard, Cpl. Roman Ducksworth Jr., Lamar Smith, Lewis Allen, Clarence Triggs, Wharlest Jackson, Samuel Leaman Younger Jr., Virgil Ware, and Ben Chester White.

Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson and Cynthia Wesley were the "four little girls" killed in the 1963 Birmingham church bombing. Mississippi vigilantes killed 14-year-old Emmett Till in 1955. Police fatally shot South Carolina students Samuel E. Hammon Jr., Delano H. Middleton and Henry E. Smith in 1968. (Southern Poverty Law Center, tinyurl.com/htgagdu)

It is important to also remember the 4,000 African Americans lynched from 1877 to 1950, Black Liberation Movement members killed by police, and today's annual slayings of hundreds of African Americans, including children and youth, by racist vigilantes and police. □

Rainbow Solidarity In Defense of CUBA



Leslie Feinberg's book documents revolutionary Cuba's inspiring trajectory of progress towards liberation of sexualities, genders and sexes.

A compilation of articles from the Workers World series entitled *Lavender & Red*, online at workers.org. The book is available at online booksellers

Takiyah Thompson speaks

On taking down racist monuments with people's power

Workers World: Bree Newsome took down the Confederate flag in South Carolina in June 2015. Now, two years later, what recent events sparked you to act?

Takiyah Thompson: With the rise of Donald Trump, there's been a rise of white nationalists clinging to different symbols of hate in a much bigger way. Since Bree, there's been a real resurgence of people flying the [Confederate] flag and having racist bumper stickers. I grew up mostly in New York City, have lived in North Carolina for about the last five years. Being from New York and moving to the South, I wasn't used to such outward displays of racism and hate. When I've talked about it with other Black people, we agree that when we see [racist] stuff like that, it always sparks a very particular feeling — it's psychological terror.

[Planning for the action] started when we were on our way back from Marxism School and got a cell call that the Indivisibles, a faction [aligned with] the Democratic Party in N.C., were organizing an Aug. 14 vigil for Heather Heyer [the young white woman worker killed by a white supremacist in Charlottesville, Va.]. We thought that was a good idea. They invited [local] Industrial Workers of the World and some of us from Workers World Party to speak. When the IWW organizers said they wanted to lead a march after the vigil, that request got them disinvited.

At the vigil, the IWW comrades and Q from WWP wanted to speak and were refused. The [vigil organizers] wanted to sing "This Land Is My Land," a song used during the Civil Rights Movement and anti-war movement in a progressive way. But now, in my age group, we remember this song as taught in schools alongside the national anthem — it's been co-opted! In Charlottesville, white supremacists were chanting "Blood and soil!" You can't sing "This Land Is My Land!" People took offense at that. So all of that led to a countermarch on Sunday at the vigil.

Then we decided to have a march and rally on the next day, Aug. 15. Of course, we were addressing the far-right and white nationalism and racism. But we were also trying to address the problem with liberalism acquiescing to white supremacy. People in the crowd took that challenge in and questioned the liberal notion of what resistance is.

WW: Would you talk about the connection between "white nationalism" and white supremacy?

TT: When I think about white nationalism, I think about whiteness as being held as the ideal, and whiteness as being held as intellectually, genetically superior. And that's white supremacy. When I use white nationalism, I am using it interchangeably with white supremacy.

WW: What event or person first sparked your activism?

TT: I think gaining a deeper understanding of what the Black Panthers were all about and what they did. When I was in high school, I thought of the Panthers as Black folks wearing all black outfits and carrying guns. Then I learned they were so much more, so that really knowing what their program was about was the biggest catalyst for me.

I watched documentaries about the Panthers. I studied about Kwame Toure, learning about how he marched on foot through the South, registering people to vote, taking that direct action. I wouldn't have been able to see the necessity of even joining a revolutionary party if it wasn't for the political and historical education I received at NCCU. My ideology and the evolution of my politics I owe to my history department and my political science department for exposing me to a more radical set of politics.

I learned Ella Baker's philosophy, teaching people how to get what they want. One of her quotes always sticks with me: "Strong people don't need strong leaders."

The idea of people's power is we don't have to wait for elected officials to realize our humanity. We can claim it for ourselves. People's power is not just confrontation with the state, but like the Black Panthers, giving blood tests for sickle cell research, their child care program, their breakfast for the children. Through organizing and building community, people's tangible needs can be met, and then they can confront the state. This is a battle that has to be fought on many different fronts.

WW: Tell us some lessons you learned from this action.

TT: What I learned is definitely that we are stronger together. Everyone has their own unique perspective to add. When I spoke and when some of my white comrades spoke, we touched on similar issues but from different points of view. Some of



WW PHOTO: L.T. TRAN

Takiyah Thompson was interviewed by Workers World editor Minnie Bruce Pratt on Aug. 20. Thompson is the North Carolina Central University student and Workers World Party member who climbed the Confederate statue in Durham on Aug. 15 to begin the act of taking it down. Thompson was subsequently arrested for the action, along with eight other people, all facing both felony and misdemeanor charges. Their court date is Sept. 12. Stay tuned for updates to workers.org.

the white liberals in the crowd might have questioned my point of view. But when my white comrades reiterated, that spoke to those

liberals in a different way. Even though that is troubling, that they might not have listened to me, that's where people are at. The different perspectives are needed.

An organizer down here once told me: "There is a place for everyone in the revolution. If it happened today, we'd need revolutionary janitors, electricians, teachers, etc." If the revolution were to come today, we'd still need the basic things we need today. The question is how would we change what we do to fit the revolutionary moment.

WW: How do you think the continued dismantling of the Confederate monuments and white supremacy will impact the struggle going forward?

TT: I think white supremacy and racism exist to obscure the material basis, to disguise class conflict. White supremacy and capitalism are peas in a pod. This is not to minimize sexism or anti-LGBTQ oppression — all very real. But when you confront white supremacy, you are confronting the idea that all these groups of people of color, and all these marginalized groups, are inferior. So now you are getting at the idea that it is OK to oppress people under "capitalist democracy," that is, in the name of capital. And when we force these concessions from the ruling class, it becomes harder and harder for it to maintain itself.

When I say capitalism and racism are two peas in a pod, the origins of both in the U.S. start in the same place — slavery with workers who were paid nothing so profit could be maximized. After emancipation, there was sharecropping, workers paid barely enough to survive but kept in debt to maximize profit. Then, the



convict lease system, people jailed, hired out at cents an hour to big businesses with their wages going to the state governments, exploited to maximize profit.

Now, there's the prison system where, because we live in a "liberal democracy," not only Black people are jailed. Now, inmates are paid 6 cents to make license plates, or do a plethora of other work: making furniture for wealthy bidders, being servants in a governor's mansion, working on prison fish farms that sell to Whole Foods, taking orders at call centers, selling underwear for Victoria's Secret. The prisons are a vast industry of modernized integration, disproportionately locking up people of color and also poor whites.

You can just look at pay gaps between Black men and white men, or Latinx women and white women. Peas in a pod, capitalism and racism.

WW: What would you say to those readers who are looking for the next step to take?

TT: Kwame Toure talked about the importance of organization. His point was that we are battling white supremacy and capitalism. They have their schools, courts, prisons, vast institutions to oppress us. They are organized!

The only way to fight their organization is with our organization.

I would say: Find an organization that is focused on people's power. Not on voting people's power away, or giving it away to a candidate who may or may not do what you want.

Even if you are still figuring out your politics, it's important to find an organization that's committed to building people's power. Find an organization that is invested in returning power to the people. □



Sea change in struggle to smash white supremacy!

Continued from page 1

racists had to settle for a small, symbolic appearance late in the day away from the announced place.

Throughout the U.S. there were hundreds of protests and vigils in solidarity with Charlottesville anti-racists and inspired by the Durham initiative.

An attempt by Klan and Nazi elements to call an "alt-right" action in Boston Commons on Aug. 19, disguised as a "free-speech" rally, galvanized reaction by a multinational mass wave of struggle. Some 40,000 people came into the streets, defying physical threats and following the leadership of Black Lives Matter organizers and other Black and Brown people, led by women, to overwhelm the racists by 800 to 1. (See article by Diva Williams.)

In Baltimore, in anticipation of a popular action, the mayor and City Council removed four Confederate monuments in the wee hours of the morning of Aug. 16.

In New Orleans, Take 'em Down NOLA, which has been campaigning to remove a Confederate monument for years, and others held a mass rally of 2,000 people on Aug. 20.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, the mostly Black workers of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union announced they are making plans to show the potential for working-class action in this country against racism.

In Philadelphia, Black and other organizations have targeted the statue of Frank Rizzo, a racist former police commissioner and mayor. This action brings the anti-racist struggle together

with the history of resistance to police brutality and murders of people in the African-American community.

Durham activists from many organizations, inspired and encouraged by the massive support they got during the week, are now coming together to form a united organization to fight racism. A success in Durham can inspire more of the same throughout the U.S.

It is encouraging for the building of a united struggle against racism that national figures like Dr. Cornel West thanked the Antifa forces for their role in physically confronting the fascists and maintaining the safe and organized resistance in Charlottesville.

Those on the front line of the struggle — and they are all Antifa in the sense that all share a desire to root out the violent

racists — need the support of all thinking people who want no part of a racist U.S.

A good first step is to support Takiyah Thompson — the young Black woman pioneer in this struggle who hung the rope around the neck of the Durham statue — and the eight other defendants in Durham. Their local supporters ask that you:

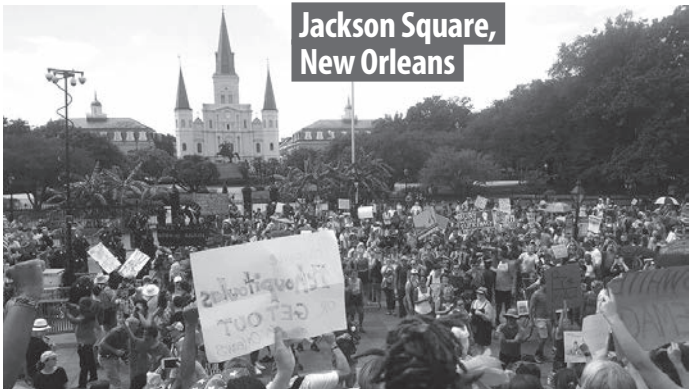
- Call the District Attorney's office and ask that all charges against Thompson and the other protesters be dropped: 919.808.3010.
- Donate to a Freedom Fighter bail/defense fund at Durhamsolidaritycenter.org/bondfund.
- Sign the petition at tinyurl.com/y9j4ya4x/.
- Support Takiyah Thompson at venmo.com/solidarity-takiyah or paypal.me/unrulybabyhair.



PHOTO: HYOSUB SHIN



WW PHOTO



WW PHOTO: DEVIN COLE

Attacked by racists, he gets hero’s welcome back home

By Anne Pruden
Suffolk, Va.

A multinational crowd of over 100 people came together here on Aug. 19 outside City Hall to support their friend, Deandre Harris, who had stood up for justice in Charlottesville, Va.

Harris, a 20-year-old Black man from Suffolk, had joined the Charlottesville event against the Klan and Nazis on Aug. 14 “to voice my opinion.”

He was physically attacked in a parking garage beside a police station by a group of white supremacists who threatened his life, while shouting vicious racist language. They have not been arrested. He later wrote: “I was chased and beat with metal poles. I was knocked down unconscious repeatedly. Every time I went to stand up I was knocked down.”

Harris suffered a concussion and broken arm and needed eight staples in his head. He also has a chipped



WW PHOTO: ANNE PRUDEN

tooth, along with many abrasions and lacerations.

Among those at the Suffolk rally were many ministers from the community and six people from nearby Norfolk who also rallied against white supremacy in Charlottesville. Some wore Black Lives Matter T-shirts. They attended a similar event in Norfolk the previous day.

Harris’ mother spoke briefly. Along with others, she wore a T-shirt reading “Justice for Dre.” His GoFundMe page has raised over \$100,000 to help with his medical costs, showing enormous community support for the heroes who went to Charlottesville.

Quoting the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Pastor Da ‘Qwone D. Hill said, “It’s great how we have come together ... and stand stronger against divisiveness and racism.” Harris’ friend Imari Griffin, 25, attended the same high school and felt compelled to build support for him. She planned the rally, which was covered by local television and newspapers. □



Hundreds of Berliners demonstrate solidarity with the anti-racists of Charlottesville, Va., on Aug. 16 near the Brandenburg Gate. Three days later, Berlin’s anti-fascists outnumbered and stopped a group trying to commemorate Nazi leader Rudolf Hess.

PHOTO: GABRIELE SENFT

Black organizing unites Boston, crushes fascist rally

Continued from page 1

the flame. Her widely shared Facebook event page was meant to help put bodies on the line and physically block the planned racist rally at the Parkman Bandstand in Boston Common. “We can’t be complacent,” Cannon-Grant told Facebook viewers on a live video feed. “We need to show up and let them know we are not scared — this is our city!”

Overnight, thousands answered Cannon-Grant’s call, committing to show up for a rally in Roxbury and then march downtown to join with other counterdemonstrators and block the racist rally.

Black Lives Matter-Cambridge organizer DiDi Delgado and an international collective of Black activists from Louisville, Ky., Washington, D.C., Baltimore, New Jersey, upstate New York and Toronto came together in solidarity with the Boston forces to coordinate this timely and necessary response. This author joined them as a queer, Black, Afro-Latina with disabilities and a representative of Workers World Party.

It is no secret that one of the sicknesses of this vile racist system is divisions and chauvinist exclusions that can seep into and infect our social movements. Boston is not immune to this. However, in the face of the impending violent attack on the people, which every white supremacist, “free speech” rally has come to implicitly promise, a broad swath of radical and revolutionary currents came together in the name of anti-fascism.

In the week leading up to the rally and counterprotests, Boston’s establishment politicians had ample

opportunity to deny permits for the fascist rally. They didn’t. Instead, the mayor’s office issued mild statements of condemnation for the fascists’ racism and then went to work with the cops, doubling down on a massive, military-style police operation to defend any fascists who wanted to show up.

Tens of thousands pour into the streets

The “Fight Supremacy” march, secured by volunteer marshals from the community and by Antifa, began with a rally at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center in the Roxbury section of Boston. It was crucial to begin in this neighborhood, where anti-segregation street battles raged in the 1970s and where gentrification jeopardizes Black people’s access to fairly priced housing.

Waves of people arrived throughout the morning, filling Malcolm X Boulevard to overflowing and chanting, “Whose streets? Our streets!”

A short rally kicked off the procession, raising voices of Native, Latinx and Black community leaders. “The city has no right to grant a permit to these racists; the site is stolen Native Land,” Mahtowin Munro, of United American Indians of New England, reminded the huge crowd. “Indigenous people have more than 500 years of experience dealing with white supremacists, and our ancestors are with us today.”

The march poured onto Tremont Street, overflowing four lanes and stretching more than six blocks. People cheered from stools and windows, many joining the march from sidewalks, until an estimated 40,000 had massed with the procession. The iconic sound truck of Steelworkers Local 8751, Boston School Bus Drivers — a truck well-known to area activists and protesters — fulfilled its usual role of literally amplifying the voices of the most oppressed among us.

Before the contingent reached the contested Parkman Bandstand, the fascist threat had mostly been subdued. The sheer number of anticipated counterprotesters caused well-known bigots Gavin McInnes, “Augustus Invictus” and others to cancel their participation. Some had been escorted away from protesters by Boston Police Department bodyguards. Most had failed to show their craven faces. The remaining 20 or so were chased off by those already gathered on the Common.

Black-led organizing meets the people’s needs

At the heart and head of this action were Black women. The rallying cries demanded that the people trust, believe and follow Black women.

These women tirelessly organized everything, from accommodations for people with disabilities to ensuring food, child care, shelter and transportation for the Black



WW PHOTO: STEVAN KIRSCHBAUM

Mahtowin Munro of the United American Indians of New England

From Kaepernick to Charlottesville

Sports figures tackle Trump, racism

By Monica Moorehead

The Aug. 12 protest in Charlottesville, Va., where thousands of anti-racist activists united against armed white supremacist terrorists, has galvanized broad sectors of society to speak out against racism and fascism, including athletes and coaches.

Even before Aug. 12, it was Colin Kaepernick's silent but powerful protest against ongoing police brutality by kneeling during the national anthem throughout the National Football League's 2016 season that sparked an unprecedented wave of various forms of protest in U.S. sports, amateur and professional.

Those protests continue today as Kaepernick, who left the San Francisco 49ers, is still unemployed as a quarterback before the opening of the 2017 NFL season. Some prominent NFL players, including Richard Sherman, Michael Jenkins and Brandon Marshall, say that Kaepernick is being "whiteballed" by the 97 percent white NFL owners because they want to pressure others players to remain silent on social issues, especially racism.

But this tactic will backfire, especially after Charlottesville.

For instance, during the playing of the national anthem at their pre-season games, a few white NFL players, including Chris Long and Justin Britt, put their arms around their Black teammates — Philadelphia Eagle Malcolm Jenkins and Seattle Seahawk Michael Bennett — who protested.

Long, a graduate of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, stated, "If you don't see why you need allies for people that are fighting for equality right now, I don't think you'll ever see it. My thing is Malcolm's a leader and I'm here to show support as a white athlete." (sbnation.com, Aug. 19)

During an Aug. 21 game, 12 predominantly Black members of the NFL's Cleveland Browns took a knee during the national anthem, with one being white. This is the largest single number of players who have knelt on one team.

Other prominent athletes who have criticized President Trump's support for the white supremacists include Kevin Durant of the Golden State Warriors, the 2017 National Basketball Association's champions. Durant, who won the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player award, stated that he would boycott going to the White House if Trump was still in office. It is a tradition that amateur and professional championship teams pay annual visits to the White House for photo ops with the president.

Other Warriors players, such as Steph Curry, David West and Andre Iguodala, stated right after they won the title that they would boycott the White House due

to Trump's racism and misogyny. Durant told ESPN, "I don't respect who's in office right now. ... I'm representing a lot of people. As far as what's going on in our country, for one, as an athlete, you have to commend Colin Kaepernick, LeBron James, Carmelo Anthony, CP3 [Chris Paul and] Dwyane Wade for starting that conversation last year. Russell Westbrook also said something in his speech. A lot [of] guys with platforms have drove the conversation in a good direction. And what's going on in Charlottesville, that was unfathomable." (Aug. 17)

LeBron James, recognized universally as the best NBA player today, stated on Twitter: "Donald Trump just made [hate] fashionable again!" (Aug. 15)

Malcolm Brogdon, a member of the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks and a graduate of UVA, stated that Confederate statues "have no place in our society right now." (rollingstone.com, Aug. 17) Since the presidential election, the Bucks have boycotted staying in Trump hotels.

Steve Nash, a former two-time NBA MVP who is white, referring to Trump's winery in Charlottesville, stated on Twitter: "To defend white supremacists and then slang his shitty ass grape juice pretty much sums the man up." (Aug. 15)

David Fizdale, the Black coach of the NBA's Memphis Grizzlies, said of Trump in a Aug. 16 interview, that equating the Nazi marchers with Black Lives Matter



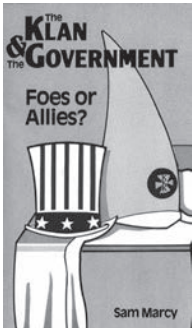
12 Cleveland Browns protest national anthem, Aug. 21.

protesters was "disgusting." "What are you taking about here, how can you even say that?" (Dime Magazine) Fizdale also expressed his solidarity with activists taking down Confederate statues in Durham and elsewhere.

Women's National Basketball Association teams such as the New York Liberty, Minnesota Lynx, Washington Mystics, Seattle Storm and Los Angeles Sparks, the current WNBA champion, have linked arms during the national anthem at their recent games to show unity with anti-racist activists in Charlottesville. □

The Klan and the government

In November 1982, the Ku Klux Klan announced it would be holding a demonstration in the heart of Washington, D.C. Ronald Reagan had run with the endorsement of David Duke and the KKK and was in the second year of his presidency. A powerful anti-Klan demonstration took over the streets of Washington on Nov. 27, 1982, and drove them out. Below is an excerpt from the foreword to the book "The Klan and the Government: Foes or Allies?" The book is a collection of articles by Sam Marcy, the founder of Workers World Party, written in the midst of the struggle to smash the Klan. It can be read online at www.workers.org/marcy/klan/.



Bourgeois liberals most concerned with Klan's 'rights'

The police massacres in Memphis and New Orleans [in 1982] aroused less concern among the liberal bourgeoisie than did the Klan demonstration in Washington, D.C. Strange as it may seem, some of the liberals, pressured by the way the media handled the counter-demonstration against the Klan, turned their fire on the counter-demonstration rather than on the Klan itself.

For instance, a long letter in the Guardian of January 19, 1983, spent hundreds and hundreds of words attacking the counter-demonstration. It was written by a "so-

cialist," no less, David McReynolds, a leader of the Socialist Party, USA.

His conclusion, like that of many others in the camp of the liberal bourgeoisie, was: The counter-rally would only result in "the level of violence within society increasing. ... Are we going to undermine our own right to speak fully and freely by calling for the selective enforcement of the Bill of Rights? Is there anything the Klan can say that is one-half as dangerous as our saying it should not be allowed to speak?"

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sisters, brothers and siblings whose diligent labor made this action possible.

Black-led, proactive fundraising ahead of the action enabled a swift, organized response to bail out every one of the 37 people who were unjustly brutalized and arrested by Boston police in full riot gear after the final rally dispersed.

Attending to every conceivable need that the community has — and deserves to have met — was a conscious consideration in organizing. Lifting up those who experience oppression, repression and other barriers to participation in fighting back was a primary goal. And over the course of about six days of round-the-clock organizing, this unified, intersectional, nonsectarian collaboration under the leadership of Black women revealed its power to heal — for a day — fractures among progressives and left forces in Boston.

The reclaimed Boston Common was the site of several victory rallies after the fascists were routed. In one area of the park, a multinational crowd of about 5,000 gathered to share messages of solidarity with one another's struggles.

Nat Heathman, a Native and Black Two-Spirit activist, told the gathering, "The white supremacy we fought back against here today is part of a whole oppressive system of capitalism — and we need to bring this kind of resistance to the fight against the whole capitalist system."

This author also spoke to the crowd, reminding them: "This is not a one-day deal. We ain't finished yet. Together, we shall determine the tactics that we will employ to defend each other and secure our future. It is our duty to fight for our freedom. Together, we will win." □

WHY COLIN KAEPERNICK IS RIGHT

From the pages of
**WORKERS WORLD
MUNDO OBRERO
NEWSPAPER**

WHY COLIN KAEPERNICK IS RIGHT

- **KAEPERNICK: 'This generation's Muhammad Ali'**
Monica Moorehead May 24, 2017
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- **Kaepernick 'effect' grows with every police atrocity**
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- **Desatada por Kaepernick — protestas deportivas golpean el racismo**
Minnie Bruce Pratt October 18, 2016

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Farmworkers protest corporate murder, exploitation

By Jim McMahan
Seattle

Mexican farmworkers in northern Washington state struck Sarbanand Farms on Aug. 4 to protest the death of Honesto Silva Ibarra, who died of overwork and heat exhaustion in the blueberry fields, according to Community2Community Development, a solidarity organization.

This was the first strike by workers since the bracero-type H-2A visa system was instituted in 1986. Some 15,000 agricultural workers in Washington are H-2A workers this year. These workers were brought up from Mexico and forced to work 13-hour days picking berries for Sarbanand Farms. Sarbanand Farms is owned by Munger Farms, a major agribusiness corporation in Delano, Calif., which is known for its abuse of farmworkers.

Honesto Silva Ibarra, the father of three children, had complained for several days about being so sick he couldn't work. "They said if he didn't keep working he'd be fired for 'abandoning work,'" said a co-worker. Silva died several days later after being transported to a local clinic and then to Harborview Hospital in Seattle.

When the workers found out he was in the hospital, they formed a committee and demanded better conditions from management. When they were turned away, 70 workers went on strike. The next day, they were fired for "insubordination."

The farmworkers had complained for weeks about the terrible working and living conditions, according to Ramón Torres, of Familias Unidas por la Justicia (FUJ), a local farmworker union. The food is bad with only small portions, the

drinking water is warm, and the workers have to pay for both. The temperatures are in the 90s with no shade in early August. Also, the air is smoky from recent forest fires. Some workers have fainted while picking the blueberries.

After the 70 workers were fired, they packed their bags, moved a mile down the road and began an occupation — despite receiving threats of being deported. They camped out on the property of a friendly Latinx family. Hundreds of local people donated tents, water, food, coolers, a generator and more. The workers were helped by the FUJ and the women-led Community2Community Development.

The workers from the camp marched on Sarbanand with solidarity groups on Aug. 8. When they reached the farm, 50 more workers came out and joined them. By now, the workers at the camp were receiving publicity and support from media across the country and in Mexico.

Questions remain for the workers. What will happen to their visas? Will they be able to work in the future under the H-2A system? They could be dropped from any future employment by the company that recruited them, CSI Visa Processing. At least the workers have supporters working on these issues.

The workers are now starting to return to Mexico, with their transportation paid by Sarbanand, as the law requires. The farmworkers have strengthened their standing by organizing and fighting back. They've exposed H-2A as a system of bondage set up for the advantage of the bosses against the working class. Honesto Silva Ibarra, ¡presente! □

On the picket line

By Alex Bolchi and Sue Davis

All out to support Charter/Spectrum strikers!

The 1,800 Charter/Spectrum workers have been on strike since March 28. Members of International Electrical Workers Local 3 have been pounding the bricks for five months all over the New York metro area. They're fighting to continue their medical and pension plans and to stop Spectrum from blaming them for its failure to update faulty equipment and for its inflated promises to customers.

To dramatize the strike, Local 3 has organized a march across the George Washington Bridge "against corporate greed and unfair labor practices" for Aug. 25. A strong showing there — particularly from the many unions that sent Local 3 solidarity messages (posted on NYCcabletruth.blogspot.com) — will go a long way to help Local 3 in its next negotiating session on Aug. 29.

When it comes to corporate greed, Charter Communications CEO Thomas Rutledge is its poster child. Forbes magazine ("The Capitalist Tool") identified Rutledge as the highest-paid CEO in 2016, with a total compensation package worth \$98 million. His base salary is currently \$2 million, but he receives millions in cash bonuses and millions in stock. (Aug. 11) Economist Les Leopold estimates the wage gap between today's CEO and the average worker is 829 to 1. (Labor Press, Aug. 17)

Though Charter/Spectrum is offering the workers raises to "compensate," it claims, for cuts in medical and pension benefits, Local 3 sees through that ruse. In the long run, higher wages won't make up for benefit cuts, given soaring medical costs and switching from a pension plan to a 401(k), based on the Wall Street crash known as the stock market. "It's union busting — 101 — definitely," cable tech Ayobam Ouedapo told Labor Press. Sociologist professor Chris Rhomberg agreed, saying: "The Spectrum workers are at the forefront of a battle to defend good jobs across the economy, including the right to bargain collectively. The company is benefitting from its franchise agreement with the city, and it should negotiate fairly with its workers. This is a fundamental crisis that we ignore at our peril."

At spectrumstrike2017.com, in addition to learning more about the strike from a worker-made video, there are two ways to help the workers. Sign the petition addressed to New York City elected officials to "immediately pull Charter/Spectrum's franchise agreement with the City of New York." Then file a complaint against the company on the NY Public Service Commission website. For updates on the struggle, visit NYCcabletruth.blogspot.com.

Supreme Court to address attack on labor legislation

Pro-corporate interests and Trump administration lawyers are setting their sights on an important lifeline for workers. In October, the Supreme Court will hear arguments in NLRB v. Murphy's Oil (an Arkansas-based transnational corporation) which, if the business side wins, could have a devastating effect on workers. The case seeks to strip us of our ability to navigate workplace disputes collectively in court. (Economic Policy Institute, Aug. 10)

This could have huge implications for the class struggle. The National Labor Relations Act codifies workers' rights to act collectively, guaranteeing workers the right to stand together for "mutual aid and protection" when seeking to improve wages and working conditions, and that includes actions in court. However, corporate interests are arguing, bolstered by the business-friendly government tide, that workers should be forced to sign arbitration agreements. According to the EPI, that would force every single worker to hire their own private lawyer and navigate the legal process alone! If the Supreme Court rules against this case, it could have devastating effects for all U.S. workers. Stay tuned.

Teachers reach agreement with D.C. Public Schools

After five years of struggle, the Washington Teachers Union (American Federation of Teachers Local 6) has finally gotten District of Columbia Public Schools to negotiate a tentative contract. In a statement on the local's website, President Elizabeth A. Davis urged its 5,000 active members to vote yes on the deal, which includes 9 percent raises over the course of the three-year contract, upgraded benefits and more say in the workplace. The agreement is retroactive to last October. Not every victory was won, Davis admitted, but the local fought to secure a much-deserved raise before the upcoming school year. Last year, teachers took to the streets to protest stalled union negotiations under the school board's failing misleadership. (Washington Post, Aug. 14) Lesson learned: Direct action and input from passionate unionists brought the gains this contract offers.

Interview with Dick Gregory 'CIA is responsible for every death'

The following is excerpted from a conversation with Dick Gregory by WW West Coast correspondent and the 2004 WWP candidate for president John Parker on Nov. 28, 1996.

Gregory, the legendary, brilliant, socially conscious comedian who used humor to promote support for the Civil Rights Movement and against U.S. imperialism, died Aug. 19 at the age of 84.

He continued to speak out around the country against racist injustice until his death. Gregory was the first comedian to demand that African-American comedians not only perform their routines, but be interviewed by prominent talk show hosts like Jack Paar. Gregory went on numerous hunger



PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL
Dick Gregory speaks out to Free the Cuban 5, 2012, at the White House.

strikes to protest the war in Vietnam, apartheid South Africa and police brutality and to support women's rights, Indigenous rights and more. Gregory was a supporter of the 1974 historic March against Racism in Boston.

The major media tried desperately to debunk reports of the CIA's role in trying to destroy the social fabric of the Black community with drugs and guns. Instead, all the major news media apologized

for the CIA by blaming the Black community and calling some African-American leaders ignorant, paranoid and delusional. One of those under attack was Dick Gregory.

Dick Gregory presente!

violence in the community.

DG: Right, because before now we didn't have this type of physical evidence.

WW: In spite of the physical evidence, the media say it doesn't exist and that we in the Black community are paranoid.

DG: Well, the last time I checked it wasn't Black people who were talking about seeing Elvis on the corner or jumping out of windows from the voice of Orson Welles. Just ask yourself the question: Who owns NBC and ABC? The CIA was arguing for their right to keep CIA agents on staff for newspapers as journalists. ...

But we can still win without the press. In the 60s they weren't with us. In fact they were bashing us. Go back and read the press reports. When King said to march on Washington, they said it was a bad idea. When white students came out against the Vietnam war, the press wasn't there, but we still won. We won with economic boycotts and prayers and fasting and by going to jail.

You see, the fight against Jim Crow was so hard

Continued on page 11

As judge refuses to let her speak Rasmea Odeh sentenced to deportation

By WW Staff

Palestinian-American freedom fighter Rasmea Odeh made her final court appearance in Detroit on Aug. 17 to hear the sentence agreed upon earlier: removal from the U.S.

Odeh had hoped to make her final public statement before the court, but in another of many violations of the rights of this political activist, Judge Gershwin Drain suppressed her reading of the speech in his courtroom.

Some 150 supporters joined Odeh in Detroit for the hearing. The defense, prosecution and judge had already agreed in April to a plea agreement. Drain interrupted Odeh's speech three separate times and even threatened to jail her for contempt of court.

According to the Rasmea Defense Committee, despite its insisting "for almost four years that the immigration case brought against her in October of 2013 was

nothing but a pretext to attack the Palestine support movement in the U.S., Drain tried to protect Israel and the U.S. government from Rasmea's brutal description of their crimes against her, her family and the Palestinian people as a whole.

"Forced to stop reading her statement, Rasmea ad-libbed: 'I'm not a terrorist and my people are not terrorists. [The Israeli military] tortured me. They raped me. They destroyed my house. ... I will raise my voice to say this: we have the right to struggle for our country.'

"And at a post-hearing press conference, she added, 'Really, I feel angry because the judge didn't allow me to [tell] my story ... but we will continue to struggle for our cause. We will liberate our Palestine, all [of] Palestine.'

"Drain ended the proceedings by restating the agreed-upon sentence, which includes no further jail time, the revocation of Rasmea's U.S. citizenship and deportation. He also fined her \$1,000."

On Aug. 12 in Chicago, a standing-room-only crowd of over 1,200 people packed the International Union of Operating Engineers hall in solidarity with Odeh.

Statement to the court

Below is part of Odeh's statement, which can be found in full at tinyurl.com/ycbcr2b4.

On this court's platform, I'm standing today to raise my voice on behalf of myself as a Palestinian woman and on behalf of all Palestinian people, whether under occupation, in refugee camps or scattered in exile across the world.

Honorable Judge Drain: First, I would like to clarify that my following message is not directed at you personally.

I am a Palestinian woman who was born into a family that had simple dreams and desires to live in peace and tranquility, far away from bombs, explosions, murder and displacement.

But those dreams turned into a night-

mare at the hands of the Zionist Haganah gangs, whose crimes are hard to imagine. The Zionists committed massacres, killing children and the elderly without any consideration of human values. ... They turned us into strangers in our own country, and pushed us into the inhumane conditions of refugee camps inside Palestine and other Arab countries. ...

I personally experienced a harsh, unstable and terror-filled life in Palestine, like all my people under occupation. I was pushed off my land two separate times, my family home was destroyed twice, and my young sister was killed by the trauma of war. I was a political prisoner who was brutally tortured and raped by Israeli soldiers and prison authorities, and was almost killed more than once. ...

Black-Palestinian unity and solidarity is at its absolute height in the U.S., because both peoples recognize that the racist nature of the U.S. government and the racist nature of Israel are the same. □

asks: 'In Cuba, health care is a human right. Why not in the U.S.?'

By Cheryl LaBash

Two major health care unions have endorsed the Third "Days of Action Against the Blockade" scheduled for Sept. 11 to 16 in Washington, D.C.

As U.S. workers see threats to existing health care support, this action raises a vital question: "In Cuba, health care is a human right. Why not in the U.S.?"

National Nurses United and the New York State Nurses Association have joined the action project initiated by the International Committee for Peace, Justice and Dignity.

At the center of events are two Cuban health professionals, Dr. Jesús de los Santos Renó Céspedes and nurse practitioner Eduardo Gonzalez Copello. They are emblems of Cuba's profound commitment to international solidarity, as well as examples of Cuba's dedication to prioritizing the wellbeing and development of all people, particularly children.

Dr. Renó is head of pediatrics at the



First U.S. graduates of Cuba's free Latin American School of Medicine.



Dr. Jesús de los Santos Renó Céspedes.

National Institute of Oncology and Radiology in Havana. He is a professor, researcher and specialist in pediatric oncology and also a member of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology.

Copello has specialized in infectious diseases, such as leprosy, and sexually transmitted diseases like HIV/AIDS, and teaches at several educational institutes in Cuba. In 2014, he went to West Africa where he worked with victims of Ebola.

Five U.S. medical students from Cuba's Latin American School of Medicine (ELAM) will join the Cuban medical professionals in Washington for a packed week of meetings with medical school students and public events. Swedish and U.S. doctors will join advocacy teams in the halls of Congress to press the need to end the U.S. blockade of Cuba.

A major public event at Calvary Baptist Church on Sept. 14 will host Cuban Ambassador Jose Ramon Cabanas. In addition, Canadian author Stephen Kimber and Dr. Margaret Flowers, a U.S. pediatrician and health care activist, will join the ambassador and the Cuban medical

professionals and students.

Public programs are scheduled daily, including screening a new film about U.S. graduates of ELAM: "Dare to Dream: Can One Medical School Change the World?" Filmmaker Jennifer Wager will lead a question-and-answer discussion after the viewing. Find the full schedule of events at tinyurl.com/y8ud6nkb.

Initial endorsers include Health over Profit for Everyone (HOPE), Health Care Revolution (student organization at Georgetown University), Institute for Policy Studies, IFCO/Pastors for Peace, Clinica Martin-Baro, Labor Campaign for Single Payer, Birthing Project USA, Pan-African Community Action (PACA) and Do No Harm Coalition.

Organizers are asking for help in spreading the word: "No stone should be unturned in the struggle for universal health care to be in the U.S., as it is in Cuba, a human right."

Share the Facebook page: [Facebook.com/DaysOfAction2017](https://www.facebook.com/DaysOfAction2017). □

Thousands of Haitians flee U.S. to Canada

By G. Dunkel

Thousands of Haitians are fleeing from the United States to Canada, fearing deportation back to Haiti once their temporary protected status runs out in January. Some 60,000 Haitians got TPS after the devastating earthquake in 2010 destroyed the Haitian economy and left around 300,000 people dead and hundreds of thousands severely injured.

Some of the Haitians crossing the U.S.-Canadian border are asylum seekers who were turned away from Brazil.

Almost none of the tens of thousands of homes the earthquake destroyed in Haiti have been replaced. There have been other recent blows to Haiti's infrastructure.

Hurricane Matthew in 2016 annihilated much of Haiti's agricultural produc-

tion. The United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Aid estimated that Matthew severely damaged 200,000 houses and caused a major increase in food prices.

The tens of thousands of people of Haitian descent recently expelled from the Dominican Republic still have not been absorbed into the Haitian economy.

In the view of Mona Peralte, who wrote an Aug. 17 column for Haïti-Liberté, Donald Trump's racist, anti-immigrant statements have panicked the fleeing Haitians. Though most of the U.S. president's vicious diatribes are directed against Muslims and Mexicans, Haitians say that his blatant attacks on people of color very easily extend to them. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement persecutes immigrants and much of the corporate media repeat

his charges.

Since the beginning of June, some 6,500 Haitians have stealthily crossed the border between Rouses Point, N.Y., and Lacolle, Quebec. In the first two weeks of August, according to Canadian immigration, 3,800 people — the vast majority Haitian — crossed the border without going through customs.

When they cross, a French-speaking cop from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police meets them. The police detain them for a few days before they are moved to facilities in Montreal.

If someone crosses the border officially and requests asylum, a 2010 agreement between Canada and the U.S. requires that the person be sent back to the country where they first landed.

Richard Goldman, an immigration attorney with the Committee to Aid Refu-

gees in Montreal, told the Aug. 17 Miami Herald, "The success rate for last year, 2016, was 50 percent, so you're facing a very real risk of being refused." The rate of refusal in the U.S. is much higher.

If Haitian citizens who are parents are deported to Haiti, their U.S.-born children, who are U.S. citizens, face a complex legal problem. Can they follow their parents to Haiti, or must they be returned to the U.S.?

A recent trip to Montreal by Haitian Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Rodrigue and the minister for Haitians living abroad, Stéphanie Auguste, had a public relations aspect, involving the Canadian government's relations with the large Haitian community in Quebec. It also allowed the Haitian government to make clear how it will handle mass expulsions from Canada. □

WORKERS WORLD editorial

Take ‘em all down

More than 700 Confederate monuments stand in public places in the U.S. There are 191 schools named after Confederate leaders, with 129,000 children attending those schools. More than half of those are young people of color, over 27,000 Black and 40,000 Latinx children. (essence.com, Aug. 18) Ten U.S. military posts are named after Confederate generals. Thousands of roads are named after Confederate commanders and politicians.

These are not memorials to some long lost ancestors. These are signposts to convey a simple, heinous message: white supremacy. That is why the murderous Klan and Nazis gather around them like carrion crows, backed up by cops, prosecutors, courts, legislators, governors and, of course, Boss Trump himself — all in defense of white supremacy

The brave North Carolina activists who tore down the Confederate soldier statue in front of the Durham, N.C., courthouse are being persecuted and prosecuted — because they defied white supremacy. Many were gravely injured in Charlottesville, Va., and a young woman worker was brutally murdered there — because they were dedicated to stopping white supremacy.

Most of the Confederate monuments were erected in the 1890s through the 1920s, when racist “Jim Crow” laws were put in place throughout the U.S. South.

The social and political gains of Black people had been dramatic after Emancipation and during Reconstruction. But they were cut short in 1877, when Wall Street and Northern politicians cut a deal with big Southern land, mill and mine owners who had supported slavery and secession. Federal troops were withdrawn, and white supremacy vigilantes like the new Ku Klux Klan were let loose to begin the arson, beatings, rapes and lynchings known as the “White Terror,” backed up by the courts and sheriffs.

The infamous “Black Codes” or Jim Crow laws were passed in all former Confederate states, codifying the virtual re-enslavement of free African-American people through forced labor contracts, sharecropping farm debt and convict-lease imprisonment.

At the same time, a powerful wave of propaganda was launched to romanticize and justify the white supremacist

Confederacy. Racist lies and myths about a noble “Lost Cause” were spread through textbooks, popular songs, novels and movies, like the infamous 1915 “Birth of a Nation,” originally titled “The Clansman.” The U.S. capitalist establishment backed this white supremacist propaganda to reinforce its continuing war against Indigenous peoples and people of color both inside and beyond U.S. boundaries in newly launched imperialist wars.

This resurgence of white supremacy was a time when many Confederate monuments were set up, often to “guard” courthouses in the South. Then in the 1950s and 1960s, more monuments to white supremacy were built to counter the growing Civil Rights Movement. Thirteen more have been erected since 2000, and some are even being built today.

The equestrian statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee that racists and fascists rallied around in Charlottesville was put there in 1924.

The great historian W.E.B. DuBois exposed the meaning of all these monuments in 1928 when he condemned the sanctification of Robert E. Lee: “The New York Times may magisterially declare: ‘Of course, he never fought for slavery.’ Well, for what did he fight? State rights? Nonsense. The South cared only for State Rights as a weapon to defend slavery. ...

“People do not go to war for abstract theories of government. They fight for property and privilege and that was what Virginia fought for in the Civil War. ... It is ridiculous to seek to excuse Robert Lee as the most formidable agency this nation ever raised to make 4 million human beings goods instead of men.” (cwmemory.com)

These Confederate monuments are not just statues. They are lies about history turned into marble and brass. They are the embodiment of racist psychological terrorism. They are overseers looming over us, designed to protect and glorify white supremacy, and to maintain a capitalist system that uses racism to divide us from each other.

We have the right to pull these monuments down. The movement to remove them is growing. What about invader-colonizer Christopher Columbus next?

Take ‘em all down! Smash white supremacy! 

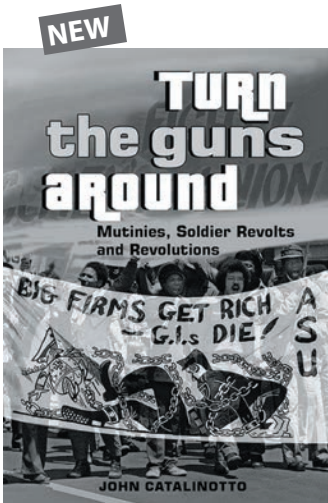
TURN THE GUNS AROUND Mutinies, Soldier Revolts and Revolutions

by John Catalinotto

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

“If schools in the United States really wanted to impart historical truth, Catalinotto’s ‘Turn The Guns Around’ would be required reading. He tells the true story of this epoch. Few participants know more about the massive GI rebellion against the Vietnam War, the anti-war veterans’ movement or the history of soldier revolts from the Paris Commune to the Portuguese coup.”

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



Available at online booksellers

Detroit

Bolivarian rep on situation in Venezuela

By Jerry Goldberg
Detroit

Detroit Workers World Party and the Moratorium Now! Coalition held a meeting Aug. 17 to defend the Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela and the Cuban Revolution.

The meeting was opened by Elena Herrada, a longtime Chicana activist and member of the Detroit School Board in-exile. She recalled her trip to Venezuela with a delegation from the Detroit-led Welfare Rights Organization in 2006.

The featured speaker was Jesús Rodríguez-Espinoza, former consul general for the Venezuelan Consulate in Chicago. Four months ago, the U.S. terminated Rodríguez-Espinoza’s status and said he had to leave the U.S. or be declared persona non grata and expelled. The U.S. State Department has refused to reinstate his visa. Because of this, Rodríguez-Espinoza has been reassigned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Caracas.

Addressing the meeting via video conferencing, the Bolivarian government representative gave an optimistic view of current developments in Venezuela. He reported that although the economic situation worsened in 2015 and 2016, his impression is that there is economic improvement today. There is still a crisis, brought on primarily by the drop in oil prices and the financial destabilization caused by U.S. imperialism and its allies, which has drained Venezuelan cash reserves. However, the availability of food and goods seems to be improving. The images of people dying from lack of medicine are simply untrue, he stated.

Rodríguez-Espinoza said the biggest problem is inflation. It is caused in large part by the “black market,” which is a product of the unfavorable exchange rate for Venezuelan currency caused by international attacks on Venezuela’s financial sector. This has led to speculation and hoarding of goods.

Low-wage workers and the poor, however, are protected from the effects of inflation by government programs that assure the distribution of food to them. The rich do not feel the effects of inflation, which fall primarily on the middle class.

‘Deepening the revolution’

Rodríguez-Espinoza described the importance of the recent Constituent Assembly election. Some 8.1 million people voted, and with the right wing attempting to disrupt and prevent the vote, the 8.1 million were primarily Chavistas and constituted the largest Chavista vote ever.

The Constituent Assembly represents an effort to go past the traditional political parties, with direct representation by the communal councils, Indigenous population and workers. Rodríguez-Espinoza stated that as a Marxist, he views the Constituent Assembly as a move in the direction of deepening the revolution and transforming and advancing the political process in Venezuela.

Most importantly, Rodríguez-Espinoza affirmed how the election was a setback for the right-wing forces. Since the election, there has been a sense of peace and calm in Venezuela, with the opposition not currently capable of bringing people into the streets to create violence



WW PHOTO

Jesús Rodríguez-Espinoza speaking in Detroit, April 2015.

and disruption. Reports of dissension within the Venezuelan military were overblown, in his opinion, with the military still basically united in support of the Bolivarian revolution.

Rodríguez-Espinoza emphasized that the greatest threat to Venezuela is the direct threat of U.S. military intervention, as expressed by President Donald Trump. Vice President Mike Pence’s weeklong Latin America trip starting Aug. 13 was devoted at least in part to gathering support for such military intervention by U.S. imperialism.

Cuba and the ‘spirit of resistance’


Rodríguez-Espinoza said that U.S. military threats against Venezuela are deepening the spirit of resistance and anti-imperialism of the Venezuelan people, who for years have looked to Cuba as the example for defending their revolution against these types of threats.

He stressed the importance of solidarity from the progressive movement in the U.S. in defense of the Bolivarian Revolution and answering the U.S. ruling-class barrage of slanders against Venezuela. He mentioned how heartened he was by the enthusiastic response he received at the Workers World Party Midwest conference last March.

Rodríguez-Espinoza concluded by expressing the solidarity of the Venezuelan people with the movement against white supremacy and fascists within the U.S. He emphasized the importance of struggle to isolate and defeat the right-wing ideologues when they take to the streets.

A video of the Venezuelan presentation, with questions and answers, can be found at tinyurl.com/y8rf278c.

The meeting was also addressed by Tyler Vosgerchian and Koz Mo of Workers World Party, who went on trips to Cuba this summer. Vosgerchian, part of a delegation from Pastors for Peace, gave a history of that group’s defiance of the U.S. blockade against Cuba and discussed the history of relations of the church to the Cuban Revolution. Mo went on the 48th Venceremos Brigade. He emphasized the spirit of internationalism and solidarity with all oppressed people fighting imperialism that emanated from the Cubans he met, including a deep level of solidarity with the struggle of Black and Brown people in the U.S.

Anya Summers of WWP reported on the arrests in Durham, N.C., of freedom fighters who tore down a Confederate statue on Aug. 14, and urged people to make calls demanding all charges be dropped. 

The Klan and the government

Continued from page 7

This is the standard bourgeois liberal position and has been the prevailing current of bourgeois political thought on this question ever since the Klan came into existence. ...

While interest in the resurgence of the Klan in liberal circles seems to be on the wane, the controversy which the counter-demonstration aroused continues to have more than topical interest. This is because in the eyes of the liberal bourgeoisie a militant struggle against the Klan, that is, to drive it out wherever possible, violates the sacred norms of imperialist democracy.

The axis of the controversy takes the usual form: “The Klan and other fascist organizations should be permitted to exist and exercise the rights of free speech and organization the same as other political organizations.”

Unless one sees the Klan and other fascist organizations in the general context of the developing struggle of the workers and oppressed, one runs the danger of completely abdicating, if not surrendering, the struggle and using the free speech amendment as a cover for it all. ...

Violence and the state

It has to be remembered that the use of violence and mass repression is a congenital tendency of the capitalist state. Even in the so-called best of times the capitalist government not only tolerates terrorist organizations like the Klan, but once the class struggle of the workers and oppressed people takes on the character of a genuine mass upsurge, the capitalist government is more likely than ever to encourage and promote the likes of the Klan and other mediums of repression.

If the U.S. is resorting more and more to naked armed force on a world scale to the point of threatening nuclear first strikes, if it is hastily building super aircraft carriers for the Navy to prowl the seven seas, threatening mass destruction of Third World people, is it likely under these circumstances that so-called “domestic tranquility” will prevail, that is, class peace, the peace of the oppressor imposed on the oppressed?

Indeed, one should put the shoe on the other foot. It is the ever-expanding growth of the police and military forces at home which makes repression and violent outbursts an inevitable outgrowth of the deepening class antagonisms. The preachments of the liberal bourgeoisie to rely on First Amendment rights are a mere cover-up for a grim reality which is expanding and not in any way receding.

Besides, First Amendment moralists frequently abandon their own position in moments of great crisis. They either surrender or fall to pieces altogether under the stress of right-wing political pressures.

In 1939 when there was a brief but very hysterical witchhunt which rose out of the short-lived Nazi-Soviet non-aggression pact, the liberal bourgeoisie com-

pletely defected on the question of civil rights and joined the camp of the right-wing witchhunters.

That splendid defender of civil liberties, the ACLU, capitulated to the witchhunters during that 1939-1940 nightmare. Its national board expelled from board membership Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, who was then an outstanding leader of the Communist Party.

None other than Norman Thomas, leader of the Socialist Party and the ideological godfather of David McReynolds who so sanctimoniously cites the First Amendment against the anti-Klan counter-demonstration, called for a purge of communists in the ACLU. He did so in an article in the Socialist Call of December 16, 1939.

So what did freedom of speech amount to in a time when the bourgeoisie was putting on the pressure?

The vote for expulsion was a shameless exhibition of liberals voting in unison and goose-stepping to the tune set by the FBI and capitalist government. J. Edgar Hoover had his own personal attorney, Morris Ernst, sitting on the ACLU board and acting as its co-counsel. How in the world can one be a counsel for the ACLU board and at the same time be the attorney for J. Edgar Hoover? This is how consistent liberalism can be in a crisis – they go over to the other side. (See Corliss Lamont’s excellent account in his “The Trial of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn.”) During the 1950s, they crumbled altogether and then became victims themselves of the witchhunt.

As the capitalist crisis deepens, as unemployment grows, as the U.S settles its international disputes not merely on the basis of gunboat diplomacy as of old but of nuclear might, what is the only realistic expectation? Some utopian era, when class antagonisms will soften and diminish and collisions between the classes slowly disappear, leaving extremist right-wing organizations like the KKK with no material basis for existence and therefore tending to disintegrate and disappear?

On the contrary, this is the most unlikely and the least possible variant in the next stage of capitalist development.

That being the case, it is most important to discard the liberal straitjacket that only leads to defeat and frustration and arm the mass movement of the working class and oppressed with a revolutionary perspective. It is necessary to politically prepare for the impending struggle not less, but better than, the bourgeoisie prepared to win their struggle when they were a subject and oppressed class centuries ago in Europe under feudalism.

It is better to learn the progressive lessons that the bourgeoisie assimilated in their struggle than to become an object of mass confusion through the medium of petty bourgeois preachers and moralists who righteously wave the flag of freedom but abandon it as soon as the class struggle sharpens. □

Interview with Dick Gregory

Continued from page 8

because Jim Crow was legal — yet we still destroyed it. This should be a cake walk compared to that since what the CIA did is illegal. ... These denials by the CIA and the FBI and papers are what is called ‘disinformation.’ The FBI and CIA have plants in these newspapers across this country.

WW: In Afghanistan the CIA was also caught promoting the heroin trade to fund its support for the anti-Soviet terrorist group there. Does drug selling seem to be a common tool of the CIA’s covert warfare strategy?

DG: It is also a slick tool because they will use that for the money that can be raised. You have to question where the money comes from. ...

WW: Besides the desire to raise funds for covert war, why would the CIA help destabilize the Black community?

DG: First, if we look at the history of the CIA and FBI, they’ve been spying on Black leaders around the clock for years with the most advanced electronics. And with the sophisticated equipment they had they must have known when someone was sent to kill our leaders.

WW: When the Kerry Commission investigated the Iran-Contra drug/arms connections to the CIA, much of the most damaging evidence heard was during secret session for reasons of “national security.” One of the chief investigators, Jack Blum, said, “I am sick to death of the truths that cannot be spoken.” In view of the history of CIA denials of drug dealing in the past, do you expect anything to come out of the CIA investigation of itself?

DG: No. I think when they’re ready they will try to bury it in a congressional committee.

WW: Now it’s 1996 and all the damage is still being felt in our communities from the crack and the encouraged violence in our streets. Who is responsible?

DG: They talk about personal responsibility all the time, but when it comes to my turn to say who’s responsible the rules always change. The CIA is responsible for everyone murdered, every parent killed by someone on crack, every crack baby. The Black community must be compensated. □



#DefendDurham: Actualización sobre la batalla para acabar con la supremacía blanca

Continua de página 12

tuiteó que se trataba de un momento “Yo soy Spartacus”, refiriéndose a la película sobre el líder de la rebelión de esclavos en la Antigua Roma.

En este caso, el grupo aceptó colectivamente la responsabilidad de la acción tres días antes. El fiscal de Durham rechazó la oferta y se abstuvo de arrestar a las/os voluntarios.

La primera persona arrestada por la acción fue Takiyah Thompson, estudiante de la Universidad Central de Carolina del Norte y miembro del Partido Workers World-Mundo Obrero en Durham. El 14 de agosto, Thompson había subido una escalera hasta la cima del monumento y había colocado una soga alrededor del cuello de la estatua – las/os asistentes hicieron el resto. Ella fue arrestada al día siguiente después de dar una conferencia de prensa después de su primera aparición en la corte.

Luego fueron detenidas/os Dante Strobino, Ngoc Tran, y Peter Gilbert, también miembros del PWW-MO. Para el viernes 18 de agosto, Aaron Caldwell, Raúl Jiménez, Elena Everett y Taylor Jun Cook habían sido arrestados.

Thompson está acusada de conducta

desordenada, daño a bienes inmuebles, participación en un motín con daños a la propiedad de más de \$1.500, e incitar a otros a disturbios donde hay daños a la propiedad de más de \$1.500. Todas/os los acusados se enfrentan a cargos similares y han sido liberados con la siguiente fecha de corte fijada - para todas/os - el 12 de septiembre en Durham.

La gran afluencia el 17 de agosto de personas solidarias con las/os detenidos y al día siguiente para la marcha anti-Klan demuestra la extensión y el entusiasmo del apoyo para librar a la ciudad y al país de los monumentos racistas.

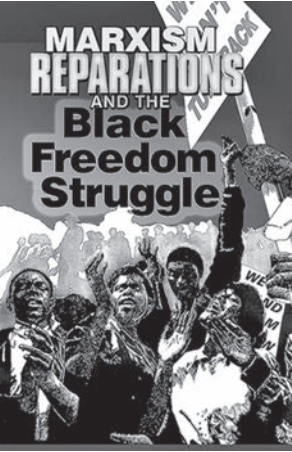
Las/os partidarios de Thompson y los otros acusados le piden que:

Llame a la oficina del Fiscal del Distrito para cancelar todos los cargos contra Thompson y todos los manifestantes: 919-808-3010

Done a un fondo de libertad bajo fianza Freedom Fighter en Durhamsolidarity-center.org/bondfund

Firme la petición en tinyurl.com/y9j4ya4x

Apoye Takiyah Thompson en venmo.com/solidarity-takiyah o paypal.me/unrulybabyhair □



MARXISM, REPARATIONS & the Black Freedom Struggle

An anthology of writings from Workers World newspaper. Edited by Monica Moorehead.

- Racism, National Oppression & Self-Determination** Larry Holmes
- Black Labor from Chattel Slavery to Wage Slavery** Sam Marcy
- Black Youth: Repression & Resistance** LeiLani Dowell
- The Struggle for Socialism Is Key** Monica Moorehead
- Domestic Workers United demand a Bill of Rights** Imani Henry
- Black & Brown Unity** Saladin Muhammad
- Harriet Tubman, Woman Warrior** Mumia Abu-Jamal
- Alabama’s Black Belt** Consuela Lee

Are Conditions Ripe Today? The Watts Rebellion John Parker

Available at online book sellers

Cover graphics: Sahu Barron

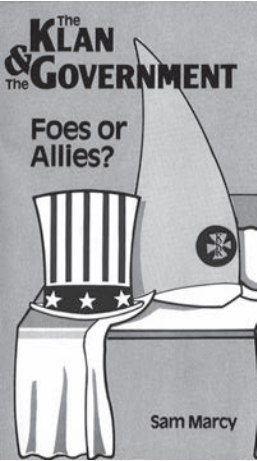
The Klan & Government: Foes or Allies?

The capitalist government has covertly encouraged and promoted the Klan over decades. It is often overlooked in media reports that the durability of the Klan rests on long-term bonds to the state.

The capitalist government not only tolerates organizations like the Klan, but once the class struggle of the workers and oppressed people takes on the character of a mass upsurge, the capitalist government is more likely to encourage the Klan.

If the U.S. is resorting to naked armed force on a world scale, to threatening nuclear first-strikes, is it likely that the peace of the oppressor imposed on the oppressed will prevail?

Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/y9t8d8ok>





WW/MO FOTO: JOE PIETTE

Charlottesville: Momento clave en la lucha unida contra el fascismo

14 de agosto de 2017

La siguiente es una declaración del Partido Workers World - Mundo Obrero, que envió a muchas/os de sus miembros a Charlottesville, Virginia, para derrotar a los nazis y al Klan que marcharon allí.

La salida a la luz del día de un movimiento abiertamente fascista en Estados Unidos, como sucedió el 11 y 12 de agosto en Charlottesville, Virginia, confirma al menos tres cosas sobre el estado de este país.

En primer lugar, la manipulación de los medios de comunicación y las manio-bras financieras por parte de una impor-tante sección de extrema derecha de la clase multimillonaria para posicionar a uno de los suyos en la Casa Blanca ha en-valentonado a la escoria más racista, antiinmigrante, anti musulmana, antisemi-ta, misógina, supremacista y asesina de esta decadente sociedad capitalista.

En segundo lugar, el movimiento pro-gresista que ha crecido en defensa de

los derechos de las/os trabajadores, las comunidades oprimidas negra, latina y originaria, las mujeres, las personas LGBTQ y las/os inmigrantes, rechaza ser intimidado por estos matones fuerte-mente armados. Las/os que protestaban contra los nazis y KKK lucharon con un valor increíble en Charlottesville.

Y tercero, la policía y otras fuerzas represivas de esta “democracia” capi-talista no son protección contra la ul-tra-derecha. De hecho, permitieron que los fanáticos armados llevaran a cabo un desfile de antorchas tipo Nazi y Klan a través de la ciudad, algo que habría sido impensable hace apenas unos años. El movimiento progresista necesita seguir siendo autosuficiente, combativo y unido.

Los fascistas eran casi exclusivamente hombres blancos. Las/os contra-mani-festantes representaban un frente unido en la acción de un amplio espectro de personas, predominantemente jóvenes, de todos los grupos demográficos de este

país. Fue un atisbo inspirador del tipo de unidad y solidaridad que se necesita para vencer a los intolerantes y los plutócratas, poner fin a la violencia diaria contra las/os oprimidos, y provocar un cambio so-cial revolucionario.

Aquellos de la clase gobernante que ven su reputación dañada, están hor-rorizados por lo que pasó, pero no por las razones correctas. Quieren seguir explotando y dominando la mayor parte del mundo, pero detrás de un velo de “de-mocracia” y “derechos humanos”.

Ellos se incomodaron cuando por pri-mera vez Trump comentó públicamente sobre el ataque asesino de uno de los fas-cistas que lanzó su automóvil contra una densa multitud de manifestantes, matan-do a la activista Heather Heyer e hiriendo a decenas más. El racista gobernante no pudo ni siquiera intentar mencionar a los grupos responsables, diciendo que con-denaba “a muchos lados, a muchos lados”. Tres días después de la atrocidad, final-

mente lo obligaron a ir por segunda vez a las cámaras y leer de un guión en el que los racistas y los nazis fueron nombrados.

Los acontecimientos en Charlottes-ville serán recordados por mucho tiempo como un momento clave en el movimien-to en desarrollo para derribar las mural-las de la supremacía blanca y todas las formas de intolerancia y unir a las fuer-zas populares que luchan por un mundo mejor. La gente está mostrando con sus acciones que sólo tomando la lucha por la justicia en sus propias manos, sin con-fianza en los órganos del poder estatal, pueden lograr progreso.

El 14 de agosto, jóvenes de Durham, Carolina del Norte, derribaron una estat-ua confederada con sus propias manos, expresando su furia por el asesinato en Charlottesville.

¡Viva la lucha independiente de este nuevo movimiento progresista contra los fascistas, la policía y el establecimiento capitalista! □

Luchadoras/es por la libertad derriban estatua de supremacía blanca

Por L.T. Tran

Durham, N.C., 14 de agosto - Una multi-tud de más de 100 personas se reunió hoy frente a la estatua de la Confederación en el centro de Durham para protestar por la supremacía blanca. La protesta de soli-daridad fue convocada dos días después de que supremacistas blancos y neonazis descendieran sobre Charlottesville, Vir-ginia, dejando muchas personas heridas y la activista Heather Heyer, muerta.

La manifestación fue organizada por la rama en Durham del Partido WW-Mun-do Obrero, en solidaridad con las fuer-zas locales antirracistas y antifascistas. Hubo testimonios de primera mano de quienes lucharon contra la ultra-dere-cha en Charlottesville – organizadoras/es, activistas, madres y paramédicos que estuvieron en la escena. Frente a la anti-gua corte de Durham, la multitud grita-ba “la policía y el Klan van de la mano” y “No Trump, No KKK, No USA Fascis-ta”, mientras los coches de patrulla del sheriff bloqueaban las calles y la policía filmaba a las/os manifestantes desde las escalinatas de la corte.

Las/os luchadores por la libertad se

reunieron frente al tribunal mientras los comisionados se reunían adentro. Los comisionados de Durham han esta-do bajo el escrutinio y la presión de or-ganizadoras/es locales por su fracaso en abordar asuntos policíacos y de deport-ación en la ciudad.

Organizadoras/es estudiantiles negros locales hablaron de su lucha por elimi-nar una estatua de la Confederación en el campus de la Universidad de Carolina del Norte-Chapel Hill. Las/os estudiantes gritaron con la multitud ¡”Tumben esa estatua”! Cuando la consigna reverberó fuera del tribunal, las/os manifestantes comenzaron a dar vueltas alrededor del monumento, exigiendo que se tumbara.

En Carolina del Norte (CN) en 2015, el gobernador Pat McCrory firmó una ley que bloquea la eliminación de los mon-umentos confederados. La Asamblea General de CN continúa en su intento por suprimir la resistencia. Actualmente hay un proyecto de ley en consideración que haría legal que un conductor golpee manifestantes con su coche y no tenga consecuencias.

En Charlotte, los legisladores están tratando de hacer imposible que las/os

manifestantes se reúnan, con una ley que exige que las/os organizadores paguen el tiempo perdido en los parquímetros para poder recibir un permiso de protesta.

La lucha contra la supremacía blanca es una lucha contra los poderes gobernantes - políticos y especuladores que tienen tan-ta sangre en sus manos como el Ku Klux Klan que apareció en Charlottesville.

Las/os organizadores y manifestantes en Durham enviaron un claro mensaje: el amor no vence al odio; sólo el poder del pueblo movilizado puede derribar la su-premacía blanca.

El monumento en la antigua corte fue erigido en 1924 para “honrar a los mucha-chos en gris” - parte del movimiento de propaganda de Jim Crow en todo Estados Unidos para glorificar la Confederación racista y reforzar el “segundo ascenso” de un Klan anti-negro, anti-mujer y antiin-migrante.

Takiyah Thompson, estudiante de la Universidad NC Central y miembro de WW-MO Durham, con el apoyo de una multitud anhelante, subió una escalera y ató una cuerda alrededor de la estatua, lo que llevó a las/os luchadores antirracis-tas a derribar la estatua. La multitud ir-

rumpió en fervor revolucionario y se negó a ser intimidada por los supremacistas blancos, la policía o los políticos.

El papel del Estado es de colaboración directa con las fuerzas supremacistas blancas. Para vencerlos, debemos con-struir un movimiento de lucha contra la supremacía blanca en todas sus formas - desde los monumentos y los mítines del KKK hasta la brutalidad policial, la discriminación y gentrificación de la vivienda, el estado que amenaza guerras contra Venezuela y la República Popu-lar Democrática de Corea, a la guerra en casa contra personas de color, los pueblos indígenas, las personas LGBTQ, las mujeres, las personas con discapaci-dades, las/os migrantes, las/os musul-manes y las/os pobres.

Las/os luchadores anti-racistas en Durham tomaron la cuestión con sus pro-pias manos. La estatua confederada se der-rumbó. Esta es la primera de muchas sogas para derribar los pilares que sostienen la supremacía blanca y el capitalismo.

¡Los poderes actuales se desmoronarán bajo el poder del pueblo organizado!

¡Abajo todas las estatuas de la Confede-ración! ¡Abajo con la supremacía blanca! □

#DefendDurham: Actualización sobre la batalla para acabar con la supremacía blanca

Por WW-MO Durham, N.C.,
19 de agosto de 2017

Una marcha planeada por el Ku Klux Klan fue suspendida el 18 de agosto en Durham, N.C., por una tremenda mani-festación completamente multinacional de la comunidad. Más de mil personas se reunieron en el centro después de que se supiera la noticia de la marcha planeada del KKK esa mañana.

El 14 de agosto, una manifestación de

Durham contra la supremacía blanca y en solidaridad con Charlottesville, Vir-ginia, había derribado heroicamente un monumento confederado. Ocho perso-nas acusadas de ser participantes fueron detenidas más tarde. El Klan entonces anunció que marcharían al sitio donde estaba el monumento.

Pero debido a la solidaridad y a la abrumadora respuesta de la comunidad local, el Klan nunca apareció durante el día. Hubo informes de algunos del KKK

fueron por la noche a una zona no anun-ciada, defendidos por la policía.

La manifestación del 18 de agosto tuvo el carácter de un levantamiento. Duran-te casi siete horas, la gente sostuvo las calles en el sitio del monumento derribado. Más tarde marcharon a la cárcel y se enfrentaron con los policías antidisturbi-os. La gente quemó banderas confedera-das, redecoraron la base del monumento derribado con mensajes como “Muerte al Klan”; y bailaron y celebraron esta victo-

ria trascendental.

‘Arréstame también’

El día anterior, el 17 de agosto, en una magnífica muestra de solidaridad, unas 200 personas se presentaron en la ofi-cina del sheriff en el centro de Durham. Decenas de ellas se ofrecieron para “con-fesar” que ayudaron a derribar la estatua el 14 de agosto. El progresista periodista deportivo y analista político David Zirin

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