



People's Climate March protesters say:

'We know who is to blame'



Anti-imperialist contingent at massive New York march, Sept. 21. Read more on pages 6-7, including a 'Flood Wall Street' direct action on Sept. 22.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

By **Betsey Piette**
 New York City

Activists in over 2,808 cities in 166 countries participated on Sept. 21 in the first international People's Climate March. The events took place two days before more than 120 world leaders will convene for the United Nations Climate Summit in New York City on Sept. 23 to plan for a new global climate treaty in 2015.

By far the largest turnout was in New York, where as many as 400,000 demonstrators gathered to fill the streets of Manhattan along Central Park West from 86th Street to Columbus Circle and then jammed the entire 2.2-mile march route.

The New York march was led by survivors of Hurricane Sandy, the 2012 mega storm fueled by climate change that displaced thousands of people on the East Coast. Residents of Moore, Okla., where 24 people were killed by a massive tornado in 2013, also marched. The National Black Environmental Justice Network participated, including people impacted by 2005's Hurricane Katrina.

Other contingents included Indigenous peoples from North and Central America and members of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Americas (ALBA). Delegations came from many U.S. states and Canadian provinces impacted by fracking or threatened by gas and oil pipeline development.

A labor contingent marching behind a streetwide banner that read "Healthy Planet and Good Jobs" included members of the United Auto Workers, Teamsters, and 1199 SEIU, who carried signs with the message, "Climate change is a health care crisis."

Palestinian contingents could be seen along the march carrying signs opposing Israeli apartheid and occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. Other signs identified the U.S. military and the Pentagon as the single largest contributor to pollution and global warming.

Several protesters carried banners and signs calling for justice for the Cuban Five.

While the turnout included people of all ages, the participation of youth was particularly impressive. Students and faculty from high schools and colleges attended, including a delegation under the banner "Historical Black Colleges and Universities."

While many marchers carried signs urging action to "Save the Planet," others did not hesitate to label capitalism as the cause of planetary destruction and urged "System Change, not Climate Change."

Clearly influenced by funding from some of the same corporations responsible for global warming, the official organizers of the People's Climate March did not raise demands nor were there speakers or a sound system that could be heard through the entire length of the event. The only official part of the event that unified all the delegations was a moment of silence followed by coordinated chants and whistle blowing.

One section has a strong message

To compensate for this lack of messaging, several contingents brought their own sound systems and staged rallies prior to the start of the official march. The most militant, diverse and revolutionary contingent in the People's Climate March was a block-long gathering under the general theme, "We know who is responsible," that gathered along Central Park West near 79th Street.

A broad array of groups participated there in a unity rally co-chaired by Joe Lombardo of the United National Antiwar Coalition and Sara Flounders of the International Action Center. The drums and gongs of BAYAN-USA, the International League of People's Struggle and Nodutdol for Korean Community Development kept spirits strong as people waited to march out.

Bernadette Ellorin of BAYAN and Hyun Lee from the

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WORKERS WORLD PARTY

Who we are & what we're fighting for

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

Workers built it all — it belongs to society, not to a handful of billionaires! But we need a revolution to make that change. That's why for 55 years WWP has been building a revolutionary party of the working class inside the belly of the beast.

We fight every kind of oppression. Racism, sexism,

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

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

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Despite some rearrests

Charges dismissed for most Moral Monday activists

By Peter Gilbert
Durham, N.C.

Tens of thousands of North Carolinians protested and nearly 1,000 were arrested in the summer of 2013, demonstrating against attacks by the right-wing state legislature against teachers, unemployment insurance, Medicaid, voting rights, environmental protections and reproductive rights. (See tinyurl.com/kvl5szv) Moral Monday demonstrations were held every week that the legislature was in session last year.

Since then, the hundreds of individual cases have been winding their way through the courts, with many protesters having to travel to Raleigh for court multiple times. From the beginning, the trials had varied and yielded conflicting results. While Black Workers for Justice leader Saladin Muhammad and others were convicted, some were found not guilty. (tinyurl.com/mjxgpx6)

Lawyers for the protesters have consistently argued that the arrests violated the protesters' constitutional rights and

were unreasonable and overbroad restrictions on free speech. After months of making these arguments and of wide support among the public, in the media and by law professors, a Superior Court judge dismissed several cases on appeal and agreed that the restrictions on free speech were unconstitutional. On Sept. 19, the district attorney agreed to dismiss the charges in most of the remaining cases.

Unfortunately, many demonstrators had already accepted plea bargains, unwilling or unable to miss work to travel to court for repeated appearances. The district attorney is still proceeding in about 50 of the cases from protests in July of 2014, cases in which he claims that it was legal to arrest the protestors in the building because the legislature was not meeting at the time. On July 22, demonstrators gathered to protest the racist Voter ID bill; on July 24, six protesters were arrested at the office of Speaker Thom Tillis, who was rushing the bill to a vote without proper debate or notice.

Lawyers for the remaining defendant demonstrators are optimistic that the same constitutional arguments will prevail in these cases.

Some still face police harassment

Although the long battle with the police and courts is over for many of those arrested, some continue to face police harassment. In May, the Rev. John Mendez, a civil rights activist and Baptist minister from Winston-Salem, N.C., was re-arrested and charged with missing one of his court dates, in April 2014. The court date occurred more than a year after his initial charge, after he had already been to court several times, and after he had been informed by his lawyers that his charges had been dismissed.

On Sept. 11, police came to the home of Naeema Muhammad and Saladin Muhammad and arrested both of them on similar charges of missing a court date. Saladin had already been convicted, and Naeema had been to court five or six times already.

Although both had the same misde-

meanor charges, Saladin was given a \$500 bond, while Naeema's was set at \$5,000. The magistrate would not tell them why the bonds were different, which court dates they allegedly missed, or why they were now being re-arrested.

Naeema Muhammad, in her role as the interim director of the North Carolina Environmental Justice Network, had recently filed a complaint with the federal government against the state of North Carolina for discrimination in where it allows factory-scale hog farming. She guessed that "my bond was set so much higher because my name was in the news about the Title VI complaint -- [there's] no other explanation for my bail being so much higher for the same charge. It feels like a form of harassment."

While many in North Carolina are celebrating the dismissals, the fight is not over. Naeema reminds us that "although the cases have been dismissed, things have not gotten any better. People need to stay aware of what is going on in the state of North Carolina. And be prepared to keep standing up." □

Community activist wins R.I. primary

By Johnnie Stevens
Providence, R.I.

African-American activist Mary Kay Harris won the Democratic primary nomination on Sept. 9 for Providence City Council Ward 11, defeating two opponents. She will face the Republican candidate on Nov. 4 in the general election.

Asked by Workers World about how she won the primary race on a very small budget, Harris commented, "It was boots on the ground, door to door." Campaign flyers described her record of support for tenants' rights, affordable homeownership, better schools and safe streets.

The key volunteer leading the campaign was an 83-year-old Black woman, Barbara Thurman, a 46-year member of the Wiggins Tenant Association in one of the ward's housing developments. The tenant association took a step toward autonomy from the local police department by hiring their own security guards for their housing unit.

Thurman stated that people feel safer

because the guards have no guns, and there is no need to call the police.

Rhode Island has an official poverty rate of more than 13 percent and the third-highest unemployment rate in the country, behind Georgia and Mississippi. With an overall population of just over a million, the state has a very large Latino/a immigrant population, more than 100,000, including Dominicans, Puerto Ricans, Colombians, Mexicans and other Central and South Americans. West Africans, mainly from Liberia and Nigeria, and Black Caribbean islanders together number at least another 50,000.

Dissatisfaction with the current City Council leaders, reflecting anger over joblessness and poverty, enabled Harris' People First/El Pueblo Primero campaign to win the primary.

The community was electrified. When a 90-year-old Black elder, known as Mr. Red, saw Harris at a bar on Sept. 13, he held a soap box rally right there, thanking her for a community-run campaign that addresses issues affecting him, such as

poor bus service and route cuts by Rhode Island Public Transit Authority. Mr. Red pledged to work with Harris' campaign to become a City Council member.

People of all ages are inspired by Harris. Fourteen-year-old Cory Williams says he and his mother "worked on Miss Mary's campaign" and plan to work on the general election as well.

As a former organizer of Direct Action for Rights and Equality (DARE), founded in the 1980s to fight for social and economic justice in communities of color, Harris learned the lessons of mass people's power movements, such as that led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in the 1950s and 1960s. She says that one of her greatest inspirations comes from seeing Black, Latino/a, Asian, Native and white people unite around a common struggle for justice.

She tells WW: "Those historical struggles have inspired me to fight for a City Council seat to be an advocate for the people's right to jobs and services ... especially here in a ward which has a major-

ity people of color and always gets the least of the resources."

Harris called for and chaired the Women of All Colors Assembly on International Women's Day 2014 and has been an active participant in the Rhode Island Peoples Assembly since its founding 10 years ago.

On Oct. 14 the RIPA will mark the 50th anniversary of Dr. King's Nobel Peace Prize award, highlighting the lack of fulfillment of his program and agenda for freedom and equality, jobs for all at decent wages, prioritizing human needs, a world at peace and a healthy planet.

To volunteer for Harris' campaign, share an idea or voice a concern, contact Harris at 401-481-8268 or at MaryKayWard11@gmail.com. To share thoughts on the meaning to you of the MLK Nobel Prize 50th Anniversary, contact organizer Bill Bateman at 401-481-6672 or liberator401@cox.net. □



PHOTO: ROBERT MALIN

Mary Kay Harris

Killer cop of Dontre Hamilton is exposed

By Workers World Staff
Milwaukee, Wis.

The struggle for justice for Dontre Hamilton intensified Sept. 18, when his family released the name of the cop that shot him 14 times at Red Arrow Park in Milwaukee on April 30, killing him instantly.

After four months of absolute refusal by Milwaukee Police Chief Ed Flynn and District Attorney John Chisholm to release the name of the killer cop, the Coalition For Justice — formed by Nathaniel Hamilton, Dontre's brother, and supporters, after the killing of his brother — released public record information about Christopher Manney, who killed Dontre.

Hamilton, speaking at a Sept. 18 Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission

meeting, after announcing Manney as the killer, had his microphone cut off after speaking for two minutes. The Hamilton family and their supporters at this and previous Fire and Police Commission meetings have been set upon by Milwaukee police, being forcefully removed from this public meeting and from City Hall, where the meeting takes place, while it is still in session.

Following the Fire and Police Commission meeting, the coalition wrote on its Facebook page Sept. 19:

"The MPD Officer who shot Dontre Hamilton 14 times and took his life from him was named Christopher Manney. This man had a history of violence and excessive use of force and the City has a history of excusing it, as proven by a write up from 2007. City officials and the media

refuse to release his name, so we will!"

The Milwaukee district attorney refuses at this time to charge Manney with any crime. The Hamilton family is demanding Manney be charged, at the least, with homicide.

Dontre's murder follows dozens of killings by Milwaukee cops, mostly of Black and Brown people, over the previous two decades. These killings punctuate numerous other atrocities committed by the police, including the forcible stripping of Black men and women in public and the conducting of "cavity searches."

Besides the police terror epidemic, the murders of Corey Stingley and Bo Morrison are two known vigilante killings over the past two years. The killers of these two Black men were never charged with any crime and are walking free.

Supporters of Dontre are continuing the struggle with various activities, including two upcoming "No Justice, No Compromise" protests at Red Arrow Park (N. Water and E. State streets), in Milwaukee, scheduled for 4 p.m. on Sept. 24 and at 6 p.m. on Sept. 30. A Sept. 26 fundraiser to raise much needed funds for the Coalition For Justice is at 6 p.m. at the Riverwest Public House, 815 E. Locust St., Milwaukee.

Also, a related event, a Black and Brown unity rally and march will take place Sept. 26 at 12:15 p.m. at the Milwaukee Area Technical College.

For more information and updates about the struggle for justice for Dontre Hamilton and other victims of police terror go to: facebook.com/justicefordontre and www.wibailoutpeople.org. □

Pack the courtroom Oct. 6

Drop charges against Boston school bus drivers' leader

By Tony Murphy

The Boston School Bus Drivers Union fight against heartless union-buster Veolia is being waged on many fronts. It's now a fight to get the frame-up felony charges on Grievance Chair Steve Kirschbaum dropped; to rehire the four unjustly fired leaders; and to win a just contract, which expired on June 30.

On the frame-up charges, members of United Steelworkers Union Local 8751 turned the courtroom in Dorchester District Court into a union hall on Sept. 15, packing it to overflow capacity, and then taking over the steps outside for a rally after the hearing.

The next hearing is Monday, Oct. 6. The combined forces of union members and community supporters who came out on Sept. 15 have vowed to make the

next court date a repeat performance of solidarity and fightback.

Charles Clemons of Touch 106.1, the fighting radio station of Boston's African American community, declared, "When we come back on Oct. 6, we're going to have justice!"

Having just witnessed the hearing — in which the prosecution appeared unprepared and fumbled for facts to back up its assertions — Clemons called attention to the fact that the so-called case against Kirschbaum was unraveling. "They tried to bring these trumped-up charges with no evidence," he told the rally.

The strength of the membership, with solid community support, is forcing some cracks in both the Boston establishment's "case" and alliance against the union. And while the union membership stands solidly behind Kirschbaum in opposing

the trumped-up charges — and in demanding the reinstatement of the four — they know the ultimate target is their union rights. "Veolia was brought in to destroy this union," said Local 8751 negotiator Georgia Scott, also on the steps of the courthouse.

This is made all the more obvious by the day-in, day-out current struggle against Veolia's speedups and reductions of workers' hours — another front the workers are fighting on. Thousands of hours a week of "exception time" are being logged. What that means in plain language is that the company, along with Transdev, an Illinois-based corporation overseeing the four bus yards, is only pledging to pay the workers for sped-up, unrealistically determined bus routes. If the drivers want to get paid for their full shifts, they have to then submit addition-

al time sheets with "exception time."

This bottom-line approach is resulting in thousands of dollars not being included in drivers' paychecks; hundreds of students being late for school; hundreds of students missing their breakfast programs; and hundreds of unjust disciplines against drivers carried out by Veolia and Transdev.

The words on the union's placards "Safety for the Children, Justice for the Drivers" is no mere slogan. In fighting for their rights on the job, the school bus drivers are also fighting for safe, on-time transportation for students — and, by extension, access to equal, quality education.

For more information on the Oct. 6 hearing, visit the Facebook page of "Team Solidarity — the Voice of United School Bus Union Workers." □



Garry Murchison, Steve Kirschbaum, Andre Francois, Steve Gillis

A voters' right victory

Quitman 10+2 defendant acquitted

By Kevin Moran
Quitman, Ga.

On Sept. 17, after three trials held over four years, Lula Smart, the first of the Quitman 10+2 to be tried, was found not guilty on all thirty-two counts.

The main issue in the 19-day trial related to the use of absentee ballots by Black voters to insure that their votes were counted accurately. A small group of eleven African-American women and one man organized an effort to elect African-American candidates to the Brooks County school board in the summer of 2010. They accomplished this by helping registered African-American voters to apply for and vote with absentee ballots.

Their efforts were successful. Three highly qualified Black educators were elected, changing the racial composition of the Brooks County, Georgia School Board to majority African-American for the first time.

Quitman is a small city in southern Georgia in Brooks County, along the Florida border. Despite African Americans making up at least 60 percent of the population, an entrenched aristocracy of white

businessmen and politicians had held the power for generations.

This odyssey began when a white school board member who was also the senior assistant attorney in the district attorney's office complained to the local DA of the impending absentee ballot-driven victory.

Following the election, voter fraud charges were leveled against the leaders of the absentee ballot campaign.

Within months, Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal removed the newly elected school board members and replaced them with the defeated white incumbents.

In two subsequent elections, these African-American candidates were re-elected with over 60 percent of the vote. They serve on the school board today.

However, the charges of vote fraud in the 2010 election continued to be pressed by Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp, at the behest of the governor. In three separate trials, with hung juries in the first two, Smart was accused of illegally touching or transporting ballots, a felony under Georgia law. It was never suggested that she tampered with a single ballot.

The prosecution's case relied on the testimony of a postal clerk, John Boone, who

claimed to have observed the defendant delivering bundles of ballots to the Quitman post office. He testified that on several occasions he removed these ballots from the mail receptacle and wrote down the names and addresses of the voters. He later provided these lists to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Cross examination established that half the people on the list submitted at trial either delivered their own ballots to the registrar's office, didn't return their ballot or didn't receive one, according to the county registrar, who keeps track of absentee requests and ballots returned.

GBI lead investigator, Special Agent Amy Braswell, testified that she questioned over 400 absentee voters at their homes or their workplace.

Defense witnesses described how intimidating these "interviews" were, with armed agents appearing at their doorstep or job, demanding to know who they voted for and why they used an absentee ballot. Some who went through this experience expressed their reluctance to vote again.

The trial judge on multiple occasions criticized the prosecution for the lack of specificity of the indictment, asking "What

act makes it vote fraud?" The multiracial jury likewise could find no evidence of a criminal act and delivered a resounding defeat for the prosecution.

Lula Smart's acquittal in Quitman, along with the exposure of this strategy of candidate intimidation and voter suppression, may have wider ramifications. What will happen with the charges against the remaining members of the Quitman 10+2?

While this trial was taking place in south Georgia, Kemp made highly publicized allegations of voter registration irregularities against the New Georgia Project's campaign, which has registered over 86,000 African Americans in the last six months. At a packed Sept. 17 public meeting of the State Elections Board, it was revealed that 26 registration forms had been found to have incorrect, false or unverifiable information, with a similar number still being investigated. There was no suggestion that the New Georgia Project had deliberately engaged in any illegal practices despite Kemp's repeated, blanket assertions of fraud to the press.

It is evident that in this 50th anniversary year of the Civil Rights Act, racism continues to reveal itself in crass and open efforts to block voting rights in Georgia. □



Lula Smart

Brooklyn, N.Y.

No library cuts!



WW PHOTO: ANNE PRUDEN

At the Brooklyn Central Library at Grand Army Plaza, librarians protested cuts in jobs and services in the New York Public Library system on Sept. 16. As several branch libraries in the Brooklyn area face closure, protesters say the main library will have to cope with increased pressure for services without an increase in funding and jobs there. After rallying outside the library, the protesters moved inside for a confrontation with the library's board at one of their meetings. See citizensdefendinglibraries.blogspot.com.

— LeiLani Dowell

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That's why we are devoting so much coverage to the rebellion in Ferguson, Mo., against the police murder of Michael Brown and the racism and class divisions deeply imbedded in this capitalist society. That's why we focus on the People's Power Assemblies taking place from Baltimore



to Chicago to Los Angeles — to show that when workers and oppressed peoples take action in our own interests, we begin to build the structures that can challenge the rule of the powers that be.

That's why we're helping to build a protest at the World Business Forum in New

York Oct. 7 and 8, called an "Assembly against Poverty." It's essential to Workers World that we not be mere bystanders while the 1% gather to hatch future attacks on the 99%. We need to be there to fight for "\$15 and a union," an end to profit-driven wars and so much more.

If you agree, then it's time to join the **Workers World Supporter Program**, which since 1977 has been helping put out this newspaper.

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As killer cop Darren Wilson testifies

Where is justice for Michael Brown?

By Chris Fry

Legal expert Lisa Bloom told Chris Hayes on his “All In” show on MSNBC on September 17: “Every time this prosecutor [Robert P. McCulloch] has had a choice of two different options, he has chosen the option that leans towards the defense [for Ferguson, Mo., cop Darren Wilson].”

“He didn’t recuse himself. He didn’t file charges against Darren Wilson as he could have. And now he is allowing Darren Wilson to testify in front of the grand jury,” she said.

“I don’t see anyone in this grand jury room who is an advocate for Mike Brown.”

Knowing that the so-called “justice system” in the U.S. is designed to implement occupation, terror, murder and imprisonment on the African-American community, this latest move by the St. Louis prosecutor to have Darren Wil-

son testify is one more sign of contempt for oppressed people and for their calls for justice in the cold-blooded killing of Michael Brown.

Prosecutor Robert McCulloch himself has four times presented evidence to a grand jury after a fatal police shooting. In none of those cases were the officers involved indicted.

There have been other signs. Instead of specifying charges against Wilson for this brutal killing, Prosecutor McCulloch has left all decisions about charges to the 12-person grand jury, nine of whom are white.

Benjamin Crump, an attorney for the Brown family, says the grand jury is being used as “a smoke screen.”

“There’s enough probable cause that exists to indict the officer now,” Crump said. “We don’t need this grand jury.” (MSNBC.com, Sept. 17)

Democratic committeewoman of Ferguson Township, Patricia Bynes, said, “There is a concern that there may be some racial bias. With the jury being overwhelmingly a white male jury, it does give us a little pause. It feels like business as usual in St. Louis County.” (washingtonpost.com, Sept. 7)

This grand jury’s term was set to expire before the end of September. But a judge has extended their term to early January. Many in the African-American community believe that those who rule want them to contend with an unjust decision during the cold and snow of winter.

“I think it’s a prequel to a non-indictment,” said Umar Lee, a St. Louis cab driver and Brown supporter. “I think they’re waiting to January because they want people to fade and for the movement to fizzle out in the cold weather,” he said. (MSNBC.com, Sept. 17)

But the community does not choose to wait. On Sept. 16, protesters packed a St. Louis County Council meeting and disrupted it with chants of “Arrest Darren Wilson!”

And plans are underway to protest the shooting and the prosecutor’s inaction at the National Football League’s Rams vs. Cowboys game in St. Louis on Sept. 21. Charles Modiano, also a Ferguson protester, told a reporter: “I love this idea. We have to keep the protests alive. Darren Wilson has not been arrested. The police chief has not resigned. The militarization continues. As long as there is no justice, there’s no time for games.” (edgeofsports.com, Sept. 18)

The only hope for justice for Mike Brown is the determined and courageous struggle by the community and all progressive supporters to force the thorough prosecution of Darren Wilson now! □

National convergence in Ferguson Oct. 9-13

The following excerpts are from a statement released by the “Hands Up” coalition, comprised of mainly St. Louis County activists, including from Ferguson, Mo., who have announced a mass mobilization in Ferguson from Oct. 9 to Oct. 13 to demand Justice for Michael Brown. Email handsupcore@gmail.com or go to handsupunited.org.

We are in a movement moment.

What began as a local call for “Justice for Mike Brown” has grown into a nationwide shout for justice. Mike Brown falls in a long line of others killed as a result of systemic racial bias and violence against black and brown communities. John Crawford III, Ezel Ford, Eric Garner, Oscar Grant, Amadou Diallo, Marilyn Banks and countless others named and unnamed have been killed through the excessive use of force by law enforcement.

As droves of people, many of them young and black, took to the streets of Ferguson in resistance and to demand justice for Mike Brown, thousands of others joined in solidarity around the country. The interconnectedness of our struggles became clear. Police brutality and excessive use of force against young people of color, militarized policing, poverty, economic inequality and the absence of real participatory democracy deeply harm our



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

“Hands up, don’t shoot” activist at Climate Change March, New York City, Sept. 21.

communities from Dayton, Ohio, to Los Angeles, Calif.

The uprisings in Ferguson and mobilizations around the country represent a desire by community members to claim their right to self-determination, energy to strengthen a movement for racial justice, and to end violence against black and brown communities.

We are calling for a convergence in Ferguson, Mo., from Oct. 9th to 13th to con-

tinue the fight for justice for Mike Brown and to spark the broader movement for racial justice and sow transformative seeds for others to carry back home. There is an urgency in this moment to strengthen the mobilizing, organizing and resistance happening across the country to build a movement.

If you want to join in this national fight, sign up to organize locally and come to Ferguson, Mo., Oct. 9th to 13th.

Our values:

This mobilization is centered around the following key values:

* There is a prevailing need to empower individuals and communities with the knowledge and resources they need to transform the world around them.

* Constant struggle and vigilance are necessary to protect our rights and achieve the justice that we seek.

* Our shared oppressions cannot be reduced to the personal; our issues are systemic, so the solutions should be as well.

* While racism can manifest itself personally all too often, racism is also institutionalized and structural. The sooner we can see racism as structural, the sooner we can try to break the cycle.

* Our current economic system degrades people of color and low-income

people — justice must address the economic inequality built into the capitalist system.

* We believe that movements are based in local struggles; sometimes, like here in Ferguson, our movements find a crack where we must all push together. We are fighting for Justice for Mike Brown, for many others murdered by the police and for people of color as a whole.

What to expect:

Thousands of leaders from around the country will arrive in Ferguson on October 9th and 10th. Hands Up United will hold direct action trainings, have people participate in actions and identify leaders for demonstrations planned for the weekend. We will also ask organizers coming to town to canvass and do grassroots outreach.

On Saturday, Oct. 11th, there will be a large mobilization march. We expect large numbers for this march, and your participation is key to making this happen.

On Sunday, Oct. 12th, we will be having faith meetings and trainings in preparation for distributed actions which will take place on Oct. 13th.

On Monday, Oct. 13th, we will have a distributed day of action with civil disobedience and major demonstrations at significant targets. □

NATIONAL CARAVAN to the MEXICO & TEXAS BORDERS

in **SOLIDARITY** with

Central America refugee children & their families
& all children & youth under attack



CARAVANA NACIONAL a la FRONTERA de MEXICO y TEJAS

en **solidaridad** con

Los niños refugiados de Centro América y sus familias
y todos los niños y jóvenes bajo ataque

Immigrant rights, labor union, faith-based, community and many progressive and social justice activists are organizing a caravan to South Texas in support of migrant refugees. This caravan will take badly needed material aid to the children on the border as well as to organizations that are supporting immigrants. We will carry out a National Educational Campaign.

Save the Date: Send off for Caravan in NYC • Friday, October 10th • 7pm

Location TBD

Caravan Leaves NYC Oct. 11th! Route includes: Philadelphia; Durham, N.C.; Jackson, Miss;

In Texas: Houston; Austin; San Antonio; Laredo and McAllen

WE DEMAND:

- Refugee status for all Central American children
- An end to the deportation of all immigrants
- Legalization for the over 12 million undocumented immigrants
- An end to U.S. neoliberal foreign policy, both economic and political, that leads to forced migration around the world
- An immediate end to the Prison Industrial Complex and mass incarcerations
- An end to the killing and abuse of children and youth from Ferguson to Gaza to the Mexico and Texas borders

How you can help:

- Attend our organizing meetings in NYC. For dates and locations, check our website: may1.info
- Donate funds and material aid. Tax-deductible checks payable to: IFCO/Solidarity Caravan 2014 Address: 418 W 145th Street New York, NY 10031
- Participate in the Caravan as a driver or a passenger.
- Ask your church, mosque, synagogue, union or community organization to make a donation, send participants.
- Organize a local Caravan committee in your city.
- Volunteer to host the Caravan.

For more info, call: **917.328.6470** Caravanasolidaridad@gmail.com

Make a donation online: gofundme.com/solidaritycaravan
Caravan leaves NYC around Oct. 11! www.may1.info

People's Climate March protesters sa



New York City, Sept. 21.

Larry Adams, a postal worker and vice president of the People's Organization for Progress, also spoke.

Fatin Jarara of Al-Awda N.Y. caught the anger and resistance of Gaza and Dr. Khalidoun Makhoul and Avin Dirki raised opposition to the new war on Syria. Anti-war organizers Marilyn Levin, a coordinator of UNAC, Bill Dores of ILPS, Marty Goodman from Socialist Action, Comrade Shahid of the Pakistan USA Freedom Forum and James Jordan from the Alliance for Global Justice also offered perspectives.

Kevin Zeese of Popular Resistance and Ann Peterson of Global Justice Ecology announced the "Flood Wall Street" sit-in and protest actions planned for the next morning to highlight the role of the banks and corporations in the climate crisis. □

Continued from page 1

ILPS addressed the gathering. The audience included representatives of community groups that had mobilized and brought forces to the rally to connect the corporate war on the environment with racist and imperialist wars at home and abroad.

Other speakers included Sumumba Sobukwe from Ocu-Evolve and Occupy Wall Street; Nellie Bailey of Black Agenda Report and the Harlem Tenants Council; and Larry Holmes from the People's Pow-

er Assembly, who announced the next mass rally at the World Business Forum on Oct. 8 in front of Radio City Music Hall.

William Camacaro of the Bolivarian Circle; Lucy Pagoda of Honduras Resistencia; Carla García, a Garifuna representative; César Aponte, a climate activist from Venezuela; and Teresa Gutierrez of the May 1 Worker and Immigrant Rights Coalition were among the Latino/a speakers and strong immigrant rights organizers.

Alisha of the Movement to Protect the People challenged gentrification in Brooklyn, while Betsey Piette, with the International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal, addressed the danger of fracking in Pennsylvania.

'Flood Wall Street!'



Mobilizing via the hashtag #FloodWallStreet, thousands of anti-capitalist protesters confronted the profiteers responsible for climate change by sitting down outside the New York Stock Exchange on Sept. 22. Some had traveled far — from countries like Nepal and Nigeria — to expose imperialist corporations that have impoverished their countries while destroying the global environment. Others represented Native nations in the Western Hemisphere whose land has

been despoiled in order to fatten the bank accounts of the rich. Godwin Uyi Ojo of Nigeria told the crowd: "These criminal acts started a long time ago, from slavery to colonialism to structural adjustment programs to neoliberal policies. Corporations took power. Now it is time to take back our power." (commondreams.org) Police arrested 200 of the protesters while allowing the profiteers to continue their criminal activity at the Stock Exchange.

— Report by Deirdre Griswold



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

SEATTLE

Protesters challenge polluters



Two thousand people marched in Seattle after a big downtown rally on Sept. 21. Protesting coal ports and oil trains, demonstrators marched to the waterfront and blocked two train engines and forced them

to back away. Oil and coal trains have been blocked a number of times in recent months in the Northwest, as the movement takes on the polluting energy monopolies.

— Jim McMahan

y: 'We know who is to blame'



WW PHOTOS:
BRENDA RYAN



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

WW PHOTO: JUDY GREENSPAN

By Terri Kay
Oakland, Calif.

More than a thousand people gathered at the Lake Merritt Amphitheater on Sept. 21 for the Northern California People's Climate Rally. The organizers called for a world with an economy that works for the people; a world safe from the ravages of climate change; and a world with good jobs, clean air and water, peace and justice, and healthy communities.

The event, called in solidarity with the People's Climate March in New York held the same day, focused on local climate issues such as coal shipping through the Port of Oakland; health and safety problems as a result of dirty oil at Chevron in Richmond, Calif., and four other Bay Area refineries; and the hauling of flammable crude oil by rail through Bay Area communities.

Speakers and entertainers included Corrina Gould, Idle No More; Andres Soto, Communities for a Better Environment; Michelle Damocol, Filipino/American Coalition for Environmental Sustainability; Jeff Mackler, System Change Not Climate Change; Filipino-American poet Isabela Borgeson; Clarence Thomas, International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10; and Boots Riley of the hip-hop group The Coup.

WW asked union activist Clarence Thomas, "What is the importance of the climate movement to you as a worker?"

Thomas replied: "For going on 20 years now I personally have been involved,

representing Local 10, in working with coalitions like the Ditching Dirty Diesel Collaborative, the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project and the Pacific Institute — a think tank around environmental issues for communities of color. We engaged in struggle with the Port of Oakland to get them to establish some kind of maritime air quality standards, reducing the particulate matter otherwise known as diesel soot at the Port of Oakland. It has adverse impacts on the workers and the people who live in the communities adjacent to the port.

"You have to speak truth to power. When I found out that these blockades were taking place, with regards to stopping mountaintop removal, fracking, blockading these pipelines of various descriptions — that's the kind of militant action that's going to be required. I was able to draw from the experience as a longshoreman, when there have been community blockades at the port resisting apartheid in South Africa, apartheid in Israel, the actions that were taken in stopping Wall Street on the Waterfront with Occupy in 2011.

"Those were blockades, and they mean something because what they really do is to challenge capitalism, and when we're talking about climate change and we want to stop it, that's what you have to do. People have to begin to see the link with capitalism, because capitalism doesn't care about the environment, it doesn't care about the earth. It's all about profits, and it doesn't want anything to get in the way.

"When you talk about things like privatization, deregulation, cutting public spending, allowing the market to run unbridled — this is what leads to climate change. People need to understand that. All these dots have to be connected. They don't want to do things to mitigate pollution because that will cut down production on the waterfront. Anything that costs them money, anything that puts controls on and changes the way they do business, the capitalists don't want it. And that's what people need to understand.

"This is a fundamental way of explaining what capitalism is: It's profits before people. It's all about the shareholders. It's

all about the market, commodifying everything. And people need to have a sense of what that means. Capitalism is against the community. It's against democracy. When we see things such as gentrification, the displacement of people, it's the same thing. It ties into the issue of climate change. In what way? People are being displaced so they can drill for oil; people are being displaced for fracking. All of this ties in together." □

Clarence Thomas,
ILWU L. 10 leader

WW PHOTO: TERRI KAY

OCT. 8:

Protest the bosses

Special to Workers World

A protest will be held against the World Business Forum on Wednesday, Oct. 8, starting at 4 p.m. at Radio City Music Hall at 50th Street and 6th Avenue in Manhattan. The call for the protest was initiated by the People's Power Assembly and endorsed by political, labor and community forces.

On October 7-8, the highest concentration of CEOs and the superrich will gather for a conference entitled "Provocateurs." Although this conference of corporate criminals will advertise feel-good speakers like Malcolm Gladwell and Robert Redford, it will really be a strategy session for the 1%.

Their final and keynote speaker is Ben Bernanke, former chairman of the Federal Reserve — and one of the forces

behind Wall Street, the too-big-to-fail banks and the economic crash of 2007-2008.

The heads of such corporations as Monsanto, Time Warner, General Electric, Goldman Sachs, Citicorp, Bank of America, Darden Restaurants, McDonald's, Duke Energy, GM, Microsoft and about 5,000 other transnational corporations will be there.

The title "Provocateurs" is being used to mislead, by invoking the image of daring and innovative agents of positive change. In reality, this is a conference for the forces who mobilize to stop fast food workers from getting a living wage. These are the all-powerful ruling class figures— who fire workers, pay the lowest wages possible, bust unions, pollute and destroy the planet, and make wars of conquest in order to make higher profits. □

Stop the war on workers & the poor

\$15 & a Union... End Racism & War... Stop corporate destruction of our planet

Protest THE WORLD BUSINESS\$ FORUM

The world's largest gathering
of corporate CEOs in 2014



Wed OCT 8 4 pm

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

50th St and 6th Ave MANHATTAN

The heads of such corporations as MONSANTO ■ verizon

■ TIME WARNER ■ GE General Electric ■ Goldman Sachs

■ citicorp ■ Bank of America ■ DARDEN RESTAURANTS

■ McDonald's ■ DUKE ENERGY ■ GM ■ Microsoft

and about 5,000 other transnational corporations will be attending the 'WORLD BUSINESS FORUM' in NYC this October.

These are the all-powerful 1% that fire workers, pay the lowest wages possible, bust unions, pollute and destroy the planet, and make wars of conquest in order to make higher profits.

WEEKLY PLANNING MEETINGS

Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm • 147 W 24th St, 2nd Fl, NYC 10011

Partial list of endorsers People's Power Assembly • Occu-Evolve • May 1st Coalition for Worker and Immigrant Rights • NYC Coalition of Black Trade Unionists • Chris Silvera, Secretary Treasurer Local 808 Teamsters • The Laundry Workers' Center • Colia Clark • American Islamic Committee for Women and Children • International Working Women's Coalition • Community Labor United for Postal Jobs & Services • Egyptian Americans for Democracy & Human Rights • Parents to Improve School Transportation • Peoples Organization for Progress • Rob Robinson • East Harlem/El Barrio Community Action • Fight Imperialism - Stand Together (FIST) • United National Antiwar Coalition - UNAC

For more information: PeoplesPowerAssemblies.org
On Facebook: [Occupy the World Business Forum](https://www.facebook.com/OccupytheWorldBusinessForum)

Meet Borotba

By Greg Butterfield
Simferopol, Crimea

Since arriving on Sept. 16, I've been able to spend time with many of the extraordinary Union Borotba (Struggle) activists living in exile here. All have scars of some kind from the events of the past eight months, but they are also determined to return to Ukraine and fight for socialism.

There's Alexei, father of two, an elected regional deputy from Odessa. He survived the fascist massacre at the House of Trade Unions on May 2. Shortly afterwards, he and his family were forced to flee to Crimea, where he helped to establish the Committee for the Liberation of Odessa and 2May.org, a website gathering information for an independent investigation of the massacre.

Quiet, intense Masha, an activist from Dnepropetrovsk, was detained by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) in June. She and her companion Sasha then came here. Sasha, a former teacher, enjoys pointing out the architectural highlights of Simferopol.

Vanya has a wry wit that served him well living through the siege of Slaviansk.

He is very knowledgeable about the international communist movement, and loves "film noir" and U.S. mafia shows. He is an international visitor's best friend.

Svetlana and Denis are two of the best-known radical trade union activists in Ukraine. They are also high on the junta's hit list. Forced to leave Kiev after the coup, they went first to Kharkov, where they helped to lead the city's anti-fascist protest movement. In May, a death squad attempted to kidnap them in broad daylight following a rally. They fled to Svetlana's native Donetsk, and recently arrived here.

Naya is a single mom and longtime resident of Crimea. She used to work as a press secretary for a local leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine. Now she is Borotba's information hub, writing articles, updating the website Borotba.su, reaching out on social media and arranging interviews.

Then there's Comrade M., who undertakes dangerous work as liaison between the exile community in Crimea and activists working underground in Ukraine.

Mayya is a new arrival in Simferopol. A friend of Borotba from Odessa, she is also the companion of political prisoner Vlad



PHOTO: NAYA SERPIN

Exiled Borotba activists in Simferopol. WW contributing editor, Greg Butterfield, is third from the left.

Wojciechowski.

Maxim is a burly, gregarious fellow, Siberian by birth. He travels frequently between Crimea and other areas of the Russian Federation, where he is also an organizer for the Left Front.

Victor is the glue that holds them all together. He makes sure that everyone has tasks to carry out and no one is left out or neglected. He is constantly on his cell phone or laptop, negotiating with allies, organizing.

These revolutionary activists, who are so similar to their counterparts in the U.S.,

have seen their country and their efforts torn out from under them this year. They have lost comrades, sacrificed jobs and homes, been separated from family and friends. They have struggled just to survive.

Thanks to their Marxist outlook, they know the moment will come when they can intervene — in Ukraine, in Donbass — with the program of revolutionary proletarian socialism.

They mourn. They support one another. They prepare.

They live to fight another day. □

From exile, anti-fascists organize for imprisoned comrades



WW PHOTO: GREG BUTTERFIELD

Mayya stands next to Soviet Union memorial, Simferopol.

By Greg Butterfield
Simferopol, Crimea

On Sept. 20, the 15th day following a cease-fire agreement brokered by Russia and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Ukrainian troops loyal to the far-right junta in Kiev bombed a chemical plant in Donetsk, sending a mushroom-shaped cloud over the capital city of the Donetsk People's Republic.

In the neighboring Lugansk People's Republic, hundreds gathered the same day in Stakhanov for the funeral of three local fighters of the People's Militia who died in a Ukrainian military attack on Sept. 18. A young militiaman mourned for his dead mother, a militia fighter beheaded in the attack.

While the Kiev regime carried out numerous cease-fire violations and continued its war crimes and military buildup against the newly independent Donbass region, the U.S. Congress lauded the oligarch president, Petro Poroshenko, at a joint session in Washington on Sept. 18.

Here in Simferopol, capital of the Crimea region of the Russian Federation, these crises loom over Ukrainian revolutionaries and anti-fascist activists.

Crimea separated from Ukraine through a popular referendum following the U.S.-backed coup that seized Ukraine's government last Feb. 22. Members of the Marxist Union Borotba (Struggle) have gathered here in Crimea, along with others forced into exile under threat of arrest or death by the Kiev junta and its neo-Nazi footsoldiers.

But their immediate, urgent task is fighting for the lives and freedom of two of their own: Vladislav Wojciechowski and Nikolay Popov.

The two Odessa activists are being held in administrative detention for 60 days following their arrest on the night of Sept. 12-13. They are charged with plotting to

create "a terrorist Ukrainian Red Army."

Wojciechowski is a Borotba member and a survivor of the May 2 neo-Nazi massacre at the Odessa House of Trade Unions. Popov is affiliated with the Communist Party of Ukraine.

Family members report that Wojciechowski was brutally beaten during the raid on his apartment, carried out by the Security Service of Ukraine and neo-Nazis. Explosives were planted during the search. Forced confessions were taken from both men under torture.

"I associate Vladislav's arrest with his political activity, solid citizenship and anti-fascist struggle," says Alexei Albu, Odessa Regional Council deputy and Borotba leader. "We see how the government is trying to intimidate anyone who holds a different point of view on the events taking place in Ukraine.

"This is a great signal to me, as a deputy, of what can happen in case I return to Odessa. But I can say with confidence that such intimidation will not work on me. We still will go back to a liberated city."

Borotba is appealing to international human rights groups and attorneys to investigate and represent the two activists.

"We encourage everyone to paste leaflets, write graffiti and post about it on the Internet," says Victor Shapinov. "We are looking for maximum impact. The fate of our friends depends on our actions today."

In the U.S., the International Action Center has joined the call for Wojciechowski and Popov's immediate release. Readers are urged to contact the nearest Ukrainian embassy or consulate and the White House in Washington, D.C. Let them know you hold Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and U.S. President Barack Obama responsible for the youths' safety.

In the U.S., contact Igor Sybiga, Chief of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York, 240 E. 49th St., New York, NY 10017; phone: 212-371-6965; fax: 212-371-5547; email: gc_usn@mfa.gov.ua; website: ny.mfa.gov.ua.

White House switchboard: 202-456-1414; comment line: 202-456-1111; submit messages of protest to President Obama at Whitehouse online at: gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments

FARC-EP statement on Ukraine

True to our anti-imperialist and anti-fascist commitment, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army, FARC-EP, strongly condemns the vile aggression unleashed by the Kiev regime against the workers and dissident population of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian people have been caught in the crossfire by the United States and the European Union — the first in its task of warmongering encirclement and provocation against Russia, and the second in its quest to annex Ukraine. Both aim toward further NATO expansion eastward with the aim, poorly disguised, of taking over mining and energy resources.

Nobody in their right mind can doubt that behind the so-called "Orange revolution" first, and then the Maidan movement, the imperialists are wolves in sheep's clothing disguised as democrats and defenders of human rights.

This coup has brought to power a clique with oligarchic and neo-Nazi components, has unleashed a civil conflict and violent witch hunts not only against the Communists, but also all opponents and Russian-speaking people in general.

Despite the onslaught, there was a gigantic popular response from the anti-fascist resistance of the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics, against

which the government oligarch [Petro] Poroshenko, guided by Washington and Brussels, has launched an encirclement operation and extermination campaign with all kinds of weapons and tens of thousands of soldiers and mercenaries. The so-called Anti-Terrorist Operation has killed or seriously injured thousands of innocent people, and the fascists seek to destroy the civilian population of the Donbass region not only with shells and guns, but also hunger and thirst.

In recent weeks we have witnessed an armed counteroffensive of the anti-fascist militias led by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Ukraine, Novorossia and Russian Lower Carpathians, whose struggle for freedom and social justice is striking major blows against the Kiev junta, several of which ended in open rout.

We express our internationalist solidarity with the Ukrainian people and anti-oligarchic and anti-fascist fighters of Donbass, and call on the people of the world to mobilize to counter any attempt by imperialism to impose neocolonial wars and undemocratic regimes.

Today as yesterday, fascism will not pass!

International Committee of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army, FARC-EP

September 15, 2014

Capitalism at a Dead End

Job destruction, overproduction and crisis in the high-tech era

For more information on these books and other writings by the author, Fred Goldstein, go to www.LowWageCapitalism.com Available at major online bookstores.

Congress backs Obama's 'war on Islamic State'

By John Catalinotto

Washington slid further down the slippery slope toward a new major war in Western Asia as Congress voted support for arming and training 5,000 troops from the "moderate opposition" in Syria. Meanwhile the top military brass expressed their skepticism that U.S. goals would be reached without U.S. "boots on the ground."

"Yes" votes came from both Democrats and Republicans, with the vote 273-156 in the House on Sept. 17 and 78-22 in the Senate the next day, giving President Barack Obama a green light to escalate the war. The House and Senate members pledge to hold a serious debate on the war — but only after the November election.

This desire to avoid discussing war tactics before the election shows that elected officials are aware that voters oppose a war involving massive commitment of U.S. troops. There is a contradiction between the officials' loyalty toward the U.S. ruling class they serve — who gain from the expansion of U.S. financial and strategic interests — and their need to win votes from the workers — who pay in sweat and blood for those interests.

The pro-war vote was substantial in Congress from both parties. Still, it showed a big change in attitude since before the war against Vietnam. Consider the vote for the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution 50 years ago that gave President Lyndon Johnson a blank check to expand the war. That vote was 416-0 in the House and 98-2 in the Senate.

It is remarkable that even the capitalist media bombardment showing U.S. citizens decapitated by Islamic State (also called ISIS or ISIL) agents was unable to arouse the knee-jerk patriotism that existed in the U.S. in 1964. The bitter lessons of the war against Vietnam still reinforce a popular anti-war mood.

No one can expect, however, that mere skepticism and anti-war sentiment will stop the war. Active resistance will be needed.

The generals challenge Obama

Even before the votes in Congress, the Pentagon brass began to challenge the Obama program for carrying out a "war on ISIS." Speaking to the Senate Armed Services Committee on Sept. 16, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairperson Gen. Martin Dempsey said his view was that if Obama's plan was falling short, "then I, of course, would go back to the president and make a recommendation that may include the use of U.S. military ground forces." (New York Times, Sept. 16)

Dempsey's statement was a direct challenge to Obama's repeated promises to avoid putting U.S. ground troops back in the region. Obama answered Dempsey the next day at U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida. "But I want to be clear," said Obama. "The American forces that have been deployed to Iraq do not and will not have a combat mission."

A similar dispute erupted between the White House and the generals in 2009, when Generals David Petraeus and Stan-

ley McChrystal pushed for a massive "surge" in U.S. troop strength in Afghanistan, against Obama's wishes. In the end, Obama sent another 30,000 troops.

Just today, Sept. 22, the New York Times reported a major revamping of the U.S.'s nuclear arsenal, under a president who campaigned for "a nuclear-free world."

The two examples above make it clear that whatever the program expounded by the White House or whether or not its attitude is sincere, the militarists decide.

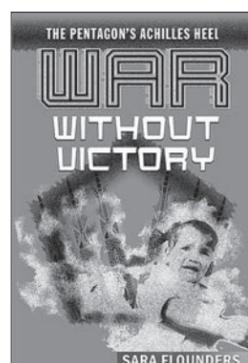
Obama's strategy toward the Islamic State is so filled with contradictions that one can expect it won't accomplish what the White House promises. As we have shown in previous articles, Washington and its major allies in the region — Turkey, Saudi Arabia, the Gulf Emirates — have armed, funded and tried to use forces like the Islamic State against the more independent and secular governments, as in Afghanistan in the 1980s and those in Libya and Syria more recently.

Can the administration, even if it wants to cut down this self-created enemy, really expect to line up these forces against ISIS?

There is a big question as to whether a "moderate Syrian opposition" even exists. And it seems like a bad joke that this opposition force is being trained in Saudi Arabia, which is the ideological homeland of the al-Qaida ideology.

The only land forces that are seriously fighting the Islamic State in the region are the Syrian government forces — which the U.S. has demonized as an enemy — and Kurdish guerrilla forces from Syria and Turkey, and Hezbollah from Lebanon — all of whom Washington calls "terrorists."

It seems likely that unless the anti-war movement can stop the U.S. ruling class from trying to impose its will on that region, there may well be an introduction of U.S. ground forces on a massive scale, that is, another costly and disastrous war of U.S. aggression. □



WAR WITHOUT VICTORY

by Sara Flounders

"By revealing the underbelly of the empire, Flounders sheds insight on how to stand up to the imperialist war machine and, in so doing, save ourselves and humanity."

— Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann,

President, U.N. General Assembly, 2008-2009;

Foreign Minister of Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

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PentagonAchillesHeel.com

Growing labor support for the Cuban Five

By Cheryl LaBash

The Service Employees union headquarters ground-floor meeting room in Washington, D.C., was standing-room-only on Sept. 13 for the premiere of Cuban 5 Antonio Guerrero's newest watercolors, followed by music, spoken word, the debut of a three-minute "Discover the Five" animation video and a panel of speakers, including Cuban Interests Section Chief José Ramón Cabañas.

Guerrero created the paintings to mark the 16th year of unjust U.S. imprisonment of the Cuban 5. Guerrero, Ramón Labañino and Gerardo Hernández are still being held in U.S. prisons. Fernando González and René González have returned to Cuba after serving their full sentences and are fully engaged in the global organizing to free their comrades.

Gerardo Hernández — vindictively sentenced to two life terms plus 15 years — wrote from prison in Victorville, Calif.: "I cannot reiterate enough the importance of you once again holding activities in the U.S. capital calling for our freedom. This is the place to keep telling the truth about the Cuban Five. This is the place to let U.S. authorities know that it's about time to correct the grave travesty of justice that our case represents. ..."

"On behalf of the Five ... I would like to thank the Service Employees International Union for providing their hall for you to use, showing once again the important role that organized labor has in the solidarity movement calling for our freedom." (theCuban5.org)

Valarie Long, international executive vice president of the Property Services Division of the SEIU, welcomed the



WW PHOTO: G. DUNKEL

At the Climate Change March, New York City, Sept. 21.

gathering to labor's house on behalf of 2.2 million SEIU members, SEIU International President Mary Kay Henry and the officers of the SEIU. "I believe that if we do not look more to issues globally around the world, we are going to be lost here in the United States," Long stated. The Property Services Division represents more than 400,000 workers across North America.

Long said that the Cuban 5 had been unknown in her circle of family and friends before she told them about speaking at this event. And when they learned, their reaction showed they understood the injustice.

Raising Michael Brown and Amadou Diallo and all the atrocities that happen here in the U.S., Long said, "We do not have the common decency to recognize that people in other countries have the right to have sovereignty. ... It is not fair that these men have been in prison so many years. ... We can do better. I am sure that with ... more solidarity in the labor movement, we will do better and these men will be made free. ... Let's make sure that President [Barack]

Obama and all the powers-that-be hear our voices."

The Sept. 13 panel included Stephen Kimber, whose book, "What Lies Across the Water: the Real Story of the Cuban Five," just won the 2014 Evelyn Richardson Award for Nonfiction at Canada's East Coast Literary Awards; Yeidckol Polevnsky, the former vice-president of the Mexican Senate; and a statement from Ann Wright, anti-war activist and former U.S. army colonel. Piero

Glejeses, a professor at Johns Hopkins University and expert author on Cuba's role in Africa, noted that Cuba sacrificed the possibility of ending the U.S. blockade against the country by following its anti-apartheid principle.

The public meeting culminated days of congressional visits and a picket in front of the White House, followed by a reception at Impact Hub DC and a community meeting hosted by the Takoma Park, Md., Committee to Free the Cuban 5. The International Committee for the Freedom of the Cuban 5 completed the third "5 Days for the Cuban 5" in Washington only a few months earlier, in June.

The highest levels of the labor movement in Britain and Ireland and many other countries recognize the injustice done to the Cuban 5 and their families. Unable to hear directly from the Cuban 5 family members, that recognition among labor in the U.S. has been slow going.

Since 2008, the labor movement in Britain and Ireland has reached out to its U.S. counterparts. Tony Woodley, former general secretary of "Unite the Union," visited Gerardo Hernández and in 2011

spoke in Los Angeles at the first labor-organized meeting in the U.S. to build awareness about the case. That British and Irish trade union boasts 1.4 million members.

The Sept. 13 event built on outreach to rank-and-file union leaders that has been done through information tables at the 2012 SEIU Convention and flyer distributions at the Longshore Workers union, the 2013 Women of Steel Convention, a meeting hosted by the postal workers in Washington and the 2014 Steelworkers convention.

To see photos and more information, go to theCuban5.org □



WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

A standing-room-only crowd attended an evening of "Love and Resistance for Imam Jamil Al-Amin" at the 1199 SEIU auditorium in Manhattan, N.Y., Sept. 12. Al-Amin, formerly known as H. Rap Brown — a political prisoner falsely convicted of murder in Georgia — is in grave medical condition in a prison hospital in North Carolina. Speakers urged the crowd to build a campaign to ensure that he is not returned to maximum solitary confinement when he is released from the hospital. For more information, go to freemumia.com.

— Monica Moorehead

WORKERS WORLD editorial

Sexism & the blame game

Recent revelations about athletes and domestic abuse imply that these horrific acts are particular to sports culture in the United States. This is not so. This phenomenon stems from the oppression of women in class society, which exists side by side with racism, worker exploitation and other forms of inequality and discrimination.

Domestic abuse exists along with other forms of violence against women, their degradation and unequal treatment. Where do the social attitudes come from that perpetuate this oppression? They are embedded in capitalism. As Karl Marx said more than 150 years ago, “The ideas of the ruling class are in every epoch the ruling ideas.”

How are attitudes promulgated about women’s social status by the super-rich and the government? Congress has not passed an Equal Rights Amendment or the Paycheck Fairness Act, although companies still pay women less than men and pay even less to African Americans and Latinas. Nor has Congress raised the minimum wage, which affects millions of women workers, especially women of color and single mothers. States are undermining women’s rights, closing health care facilities and slashing funds for shelters for battered women.

Sexual assaults and harassment are common occurrences within government departments, in workplaces and on college campuses; few perpetrators are penalized. The U.S. military refuses to prosecute thousands of sexual assault cases within its ranks, and has defeated attempts to remedy this situation, despite the courageous efforts of women’s rights’ advocates.

In her new book, “Off the Sidelines,” New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand cites incidents of sexual harassment that she faced from Congressional colleagues.

A. Hope Jahren, a geobiology professor, wrote in the Sept. 20 New York Times that one-fourth of women scientists surveyed reported being sexually assaulted doing fieldwork. “[T]he perpetrators were predominantly senior to them professionally within the research team.”

Hundreds of women firefighters in the U.S. Forest Services filed a legal complaint in August against the Department of Agriculture, alleging job discrimination, harassment and sexual abuse by male co-workers, which agency officials did not stop, reported the same Times edition.

Demeaning remarks about women, especially low-income and oppressed women, immigrants and youth by right-wing politicians and talk show hosts are repeated endlessly on TV and online.

Colorlines reported that “Fox & Friends” anchors laughed about Ray Rice knocking out his then-fiancée, Janay Palmer, as if domestic abuse is a joke. (Sept. 8)

U.S. culture endlessly promulgates the demeaning, objectification of and violence against women in movies, TV, video games and the Internet.

One in three U.S. women affected by partner abuse

While degradation of women is part of sports culture, its extreme manifestation of physical abuse is not unique to the sports world. It is rife throughout U.S. society and exists across class, community and regional lines. Experts say that one-third of women in the U.S. (42.4 million) have been physically or sexually assault-

ed or stalked by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

Yet, the public does not see media coverage of abuse that occurs in the households of the super-rich. Rarely are privileged abusers vilified in the press. However, since racism is always lurking behind the scenes, the media zero in on bad behavior by sports figures, especially vilifying Black athletes.

Where are the news headlines about white CEOs, bankers, military commanders, government officials, politicians, police officers, media moguls or professionals who beat their spouses or partners? Their abusive behavior goes on behind closed doors, not splashed across the headlines. Do any of them lose their jobs because of it?

Federal Judge Mark Fuller of Alabama “allegedly” brutally beat his spouse, Kelli Fuller, in August. This lifetime appointee, named by former President George W. Bush, is still on the bench despite calls for his resignation.

The discrepancies in media coverage and criminal justice inequities are examined in the 2014 Sentencing Project report, “Race and Punishment.” It says the media present “African-Americans and Latinos differently than whites” and “overrepresent racial minorities as crime suspects.” The report criticizes “Crime policies that disproportionately target people of color” which can foster “a sense of legal immunity among whites.” Really.

Underlying professional sports is the drive for profits. Whether or not team owners or officials are racist or sexist is ignored for years — as long as mega-profits roll in. The public racism of former Clippers’ owner Donald Sterling brought so much pressure from players and fans that he was forced to sell the team. Atlanta Hawks’ owner Bruce Levenson and his general manager, Danny Ferry, also got in trouble for their racist rants and are on their way out.

National Football League Commissioner Roger Goodell is on the hot seat for inaction on players’ domestic abuse incidents. Pressured by fans, including many women, and corporate sponsors which fear losing profits, Goodell is aggressively penalizing players. On Sept. 15, he named four women executives to advise the NFL on handling domestic violence.

The NFL’s image has deteriorated; it has lost popularity among women, who are seen as vital to the league’s profits. The NFL is seeking “new consumers for its merchandise,” aiming to increase its annual \$10 billion in revenue. (NY Times, Sept. 18)

Goodell should have involved women years ago in NFL decision making about domestic abuse, assert many women. Nita Chaudhary, co-founder of UltraViolet, a women’s advocacy organization, says the NFL has a “long way to go before it proves ... it takes domestic violence and sexual assault seriously.” (NBC News, Sept. 15) That group and the National Organization for Women, among others, are demanding Goodell’s firing.

NOW’s website says, “Football as a sport is not to blame for domestic violence and the broad cultural tolerance for violence against women. The institution is a product of a wider cultural problem, but that doesn’t mean it cannot play a huge part in changing the culture of violence.” (Sept. 16) □

Ebola crisis in Africa

Cuba sends health care workers, U.S. sends troops

By **Abayomi Azikiwe**
Editor, Pan-African News Wire

Eight experts and journalists visiting the West African state of Guinea were found dead in Nzerekore on Sept. 20. They went there to educate about preventing the spread of Ebola. Reports from Guinea say the delegation met with community elders, then was later attacked by youths.

Guinea is the first country identified in the latest spread of the disease, which has periodically struck in Central and West Africa over the last three decades.

Although the motives are not known for the killings, many people mistrust the motivations of foreign aid workers responding to the crisis. Doctors Without Borders reported in April that their teams had to withdraw from Macenta in Guinea after being stoned by youths who said the teams were there to spread the disease.

In fact, mistrust surrounds Ebola’s spread in some West African states impacted by the epidemic. Newspaper articles and rumors say the outbreak results from biological warfare waged by imperialist countries against the African continent.

Bio-weapons and economic underdevelopment

The most controversial article related to Ebola’s spread was published by Liberia’s leading newspaper, The Observer on Sept. 9. Dr. Cyril Broderick, a former plant pathology professor at the university there, asserted that the disease’s spread stems from U.S. Department of Defense bio-warfare against Africa.

Broderick’s article stated, “Africa must not relegate the Continent to become the locality for disposal ... of hazardous chemicals, dangerous drugs, and ... biological agents of emerging diseases. There is urgent need for affirmative action in protecting the less affluent of poorer countries, especially African citizens, whose countries are not as scientifically and industrially endowed as the United States and most Western countries, sources of most viral or bacterial GMOs that are strategically designed as biological weapons. It is most disturbing that the U. S. Government has been operating a viral hemorrhagic fever bioterrorism research laboratory in Sierra Leone.”

This author asks if there are others, then “it is time to terminate them. If any other sites exist, it is advisable to follow the delayed but essential step: Sierra Leone closed the U.S. bioweapons lab and stopped Tulane University [from] further testing.”

Broderick has been criticized by “western pro-pharma media,” which say “that such an inflammatory piece of writing is ‘irresponsible’ since so many Africans”

already distrust Western medicine. “They see western medicine as the answer to Africa’s deadly diseases such as Ebola, while Dr. Broderick sees it as the cause. [He] states, ‘African people are not ignorant and gullible, as is being implicated.’” (Health Impact News, Sept. 22)

While U.S. deploys more troops ...

President Barack Obama announced on Sept. 16 that the U.S. would deploy 3,000 troops to the affected West African states to combat the disease. He said, “The United States will leverage the unique capabilities of the U.S. military and broader uniformed services to help bring the epidemic under control. These efforts will entail command and control, logistics expertise, training, and engineering support.” (White House press statement)

Washington is already involved militarily in Africa. Several thousand Pentagon troops, Central Intelligence Agency operatives and State Department functionaries are there with the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM). This intervention since 2008 has created more instability and underdevelopment in Africa — in Egypt, Mali, Libya, Somalia, South Sudan and Nigeria — where the ostensible partnerships aimed at curbing “terrorism” have intensified conflict, dislocation and famine in the Horn of Africa.

Pentagon and CIA drones have carried out targeted assassinations in Somalia. In Mali, a U.S.-trained military officer staged a coup providing a rationale for internal destabilization and France’s ongoing occupation.

Cuba offers medical solidarity

Meanwhile, revolutionary Cuba pledged to send medical personnel to help fight Ebola. Cuba has a profound history of providing unconditional solidarity on the African continent. Cuba has built up considerable trust there due to its consistent policy of international solidarity. This approach contrasts sharply with that of the White House and Pentagon.

Cuba’s Vice Minister of Foreign Relations Abelardo Moreno told the U.N. Security Council emergency session on Ebola on Sept. 18, “Cuba’s response is part of our solidarity with Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. Over the last 55 years we have collaborated in more than 158 countries, with ... 325,710 health workers. [Some] 76,744 collaborators have worked in 39 African countries. Today, in this sector, 4,048 Cubans are serving in 32 African nations; 2,269 of whom are doctors.” (granma.cu, Sept. 19)

Moreno reported, “The medical brigades [going] to Africa to fight against Ebola form part of the ‘Henry Reeve International Contingent,’ created in 2005. [It is] composed of doctors specializing in com-

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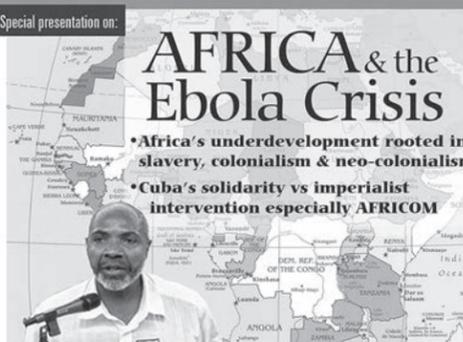
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Scottish independence and the struggle against austerity

Excerpts from a talk given at a Workers World Forum in New York on Sept. 19.
Read more at workers.org.

By Caleb Maupin

Until recent weeks the question of Scottish independence seemed an abstract question. Some revolutionary forces in Britain saw it as a diversion from the class struggle. But you can't ignore what happened yesterday [Sept. 18].

Nearly half the voters — about 45 percent — cast their ballot for independence. The “yes” campaign was staffed mainly by college students and unemployed youth who packed meeting halls and community centers.

Millions of Scottish people suddenly became extremely excited about the idea of independence and the ruling class got very scared.

The bourgeoisie spent over a billion dollars making threats and promises to ensure a “no” vote. British Prime Minister David Cameron announced that Britain would not decide on military action in Iraq until after the vote. Mark Carney, head of the financial stability committee of the G20, missed the G20 summit in Austria to work against independence.

All three major political parties in Britain — Labor, Conservative and the Liberal Democrats — opposed Scottish independence.

Former Prime Minister Gordon Brown spent almost a month in Scotland, begging people to vote “no.” U.S. President Barack Obama, British Petroleum and Shell Oil all urged a “no” vote.

As Marxist-Leninists, we have to analyze what happened in Scotland. The fact

that there has been such an explosion of activism and such a large number of Scottish people wanting to break out of the U.K. is symbolic of the current crisis facing all the capitalist countries of the world.

Crimes of British imperialism

Britain was once the top dog in the global system of imperialism. Not a day goes by without people in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Caribbean cursing the British Empire and its royal family for their disgusting crimes against humanity.

The way the British imperialists made their oppression work was by dividing the working class at home. They let some workers get higher wages and a more comfortable lifestyle. They encouraged others to become settlers around the world — to act as overseers, bosses and landlords over Third World peoples.

The British bankers didn't do this because they felt like it. They did it because they had to.

In the 1920s and 1930s, British imperialism was in crisis. Britain was shut down by a general strike in 1926. Communist influence grew. In 1932 unemployed miners from Scotland walked all the way to London, demanding food and housing while waving the hammer and sickle flag. A hundred thousand supporters met them at London's Hyde Park.

As Wall Street emerged in the 20th century, British imperialism began to decline. Wall Street is now the center of the profit-making, blood-thirsty imperialist system.

After World War II, concessions were made to win back the British workers' loyalty to the empire, including a nation-

al health service and a free university system. A Labour Party government nationalized some ailing industries.

But now the Western capitalist world is facing another economic crisis. “Austerity” is the watchword. Many British university students now have to pay for their education. Government workers are losing their jobs and livable pensions. Youth unemployment is huge, while those with jobs get very low wages and have far less job protection.

Does this sound familiar?

In 2011, youth in Britain rebelled, breaking into stores and causing a huge episode of social unrest. There have been massive protests by unions and on college campuses.

The movement for Scottish independence is very much part of the working-class resistance to austerity.

What is Scotland?

Scotland is definitely a nation. It has a national territory, a national language and distinct religious groups. It has its own unique culture and history.

Scotland is a nation, but within the British imperialist homeland. Scottish bankers make super profits, exploiting people around the world, just as English ones do. Scotland is not part of the so-called Third World and is not a colony of England.

The struggle for Scottish independence is not a classic “national liberation” struggle like in Ireland or Puerto Rico or other countries from the oppressed world.

The overwhelming majority of Scotland's billionaires and bankers oppose independence, but not all. Some Scottish capitalists think they could get a better deal with independence.

Independence would have put control of Scotland's natural gas and oil resources up for grabs. A lot of billionaires on the London Stock Exchange and on Wall Street could have lost out to other capitalists.

However, for the millions who campaigned for independence, it wasn't about oil or even about the national question.

Scotland is a stronghold of the unions and the Labour Party. For 51 years, the Scottish people never voted in the Conservatives. Scottish workers have lower incomes, on average, and tend to be more left, especially on economic issues. Universities are still free in Scotland.

The millions were voting for independence from the Conservative Party. They were voting against cuts in education, health and child care. They were voting to preserve the jobs of government workers and stop austerity. They were voting against Britain storing its nuclear weapons in Scotland.

The Scottish National Party and the Scottish Socialist Party, which dominate the local governments in Scotland, called for immediate nationalization of certain industries.

Many activists pointed out that the referendum didn't call for true independence. Scotland would still have belonged to the British Commonwealth and recognized the Queen of England. Scotland's military would have remained united with Britain's. The British pound would still have been the currency.

The huge resistance in Ferguson, Mo., the Occupy Wall Street protests, the response to the killing of Trayvon Martin, and now the upsurge and outpouring for Scottish independence all point toward the potential for greater working-class struggles. □

Ebola crisis

Continued from page 10

bating disasters and large-scale epidemics. Cuba's response confirms the values of solidarity which have guided the Cuban Revolution ... to share what we have.”

At least three countries report improvements in fighting Ebola and its proliferation. In Nigeria, the federal government reopened schools on Sept. 22 despite opposition from sections of the Nigerian Union of Teachers.

In Sierra Leone, a state of emergency restricted movements for three days. The government announced on Sept. 22 that the situation was under control. Similar announcements were made in Senegal where at least one case has been reported.

Nonetheless, 3,000 deaths have been attributed to the disease. There are still questions about the conditions under which the disease is spread and the most effective means to treat and eradicate the epidemic. (WHO Update, Sept. 22)

This outbreak shows the need for genuine independence and development on the African continent. The training of medical personnel and scientific researchers would contribute immensely to preventing future health care crises.

Cuban revolutionary foreign policy exemplifies how underdeveloped states — which have a legacy of slavery, colonialism and neocolonialism — can transform through class struggle and self-reliance. Despite more than five decades of hostility from the U.S., Cuba has been able to significantly contribute to African liberation — whether in the past fight against settler-colonialism in Southern Africa — or through today's challenges involving the Ebola outbreak, the training of African medical personnel and other health care issues. □

HAITI

A tenacious resistance arises

By G. Dunkel

For over a month now, the residents of Petit Goâve, a small city on the southwest coast of Haiti, have been out in the streets in struggle.

They are demanding that the deputy representing the town in the Haitian parliament, Jacques Stevenson Thimoléon, and the town's mayor, Sandra W. Jules, both resign. The protesters claim that Thimoléon, who is the head of Haiti's lower house of parliament, and Jules have led and promoted violence against members of the press, street merchants and members of the opposition, as harsh as it was under the dictatorship of the Duvaliers before the 1986 uprising threw out “Baby Doc” Duvalier. Jules is also accused of accepting bribes.

Besides setting up barricades of burning tires, the people shut down a number of government offices and attempted to shut down City Hall, where they confronted partisans and security team members of the two politicians. There were daily protests from Sept. 10 to Sept. 12.

The protesters also demanded that Laurent Lamothe, the prime minister, and Michel Martelly, the president of Haiti, resign. Lamothe and Martelly run the country in a micromanaging manner and bear ultimate responsibility for events in Petit Goâve.

Lamothe, who was appointed prime minister in 2012 by President Martelly, is

a former major telecommunications entrepreneur. Martelly became president in 2011 in an election where his candidacy was “urged” forward by the then U.S. secretary of state, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and “arranged” by the Organization of American States.

Elections in Haiti in general are not expressions of democracy. They are rather a mechanism by which the dominant imperialist power, the United States, along with its close allies France and Canada, anoint their choice of local agents with the oil of domestic and international legitimacy.

The imperialists remember all too well the election of 1990 when the masses decided to elect Jean-Bertrand Aristide and created a mass movement. Since then, the Haitian authorities have kept control of elections by keeping progressive candidates off the ballot.

Six courageous Haitian senators, calling themselves the G 6, have delayed the election scheduled for this year, which they consider a fraud. They have boycotted a vote on some needed amendments to the election law.

Occupation of Haiti, attacks on Aristide

Minustah, the United Nations occupation force, has been occupying Haiti militarily for nearly 11 years, providing an armed backup to guarantee that the repressive policies of the Haitian government are not overturned by mass pressure. It also ensures that the interests of

U.S., French and Canadian imperialism come before those of the Haitian workers and farmers.

Although Jean-Bertrand Aristide has been politically quiet since he returned to Haiti in 2008, he still is a symbol of the successful resistance of the Haitian people. Aristide was elected to the presidency by a landslide in 1990, but deposed by a coup the next year. He was returned as president from 1994 to 1996 and then re-elected to the presidency in 2000. A second coup — backed by the U.S., France and Canada — deposed him again in 2004 and deported him, and the Haitian people spent four years agitating in massive numbers to get him back in the country.

It is not surprising, given this history, that the government of Haiti, which is under the heavy thumb of the U.S., has opened up a criminal investigation into possible charges of corruption against Aristide, charges that his lawyer says were already dismissed. Along with applying charges, the government withdrew the armed guard in front of Aristide's house. Since there have been assassination threats, this withdrawal is a danger to his and his family's safety.

Rep. Maxine Waters, a U.S. House member from California, wrote an open letter to Secretary of State John Kerry expressing her concerns that an attempt to arrest former President Aristide, or worse, to kill him, would produce “chaos” in that country. □



MO/WW FOTO: G DUNKEL

Somalia petrolera, pero con hambre y ocupación militar de EUA

Por **Abayomi Azikiwe**

A principios de septiembre, el presidente de EUA, Barack Obama anunció que había realizado el asesinato selectivo del líder de la organización de resistencia islámica Al-Shabaab en Somalia. El grupo ha estado luchando contra el gobierno somalí y una fuerza militar regional por más de seis años.

En cuestión de días, Al-Shabaab se hizo responsable por ataques de represalia contra dos convoyes de la Misión de la Unidad Africana para Somalia (AMISOM por las siglas en inglés). Operaban junto a personal militar de alto rango de la inteligencia militar de EUA y representantes de una agencia asesora que ayuda al gobierno de Mogadiscio sobre métodos de contrainsurgencia en contra de Al-Shabaab.

Los ataques contra AMISOM y el personal militar de EUA no tuvieron amplia cobertura en los medios de comunicación occidentales. En su lugar, el Wall Street Journal publicó un artículo resaltando la naturaleza estratégica de la intervención de EUA en Somalia donde el petróleo y otros recursos están siendo explotados.

Las fuerzas de AMISOM, que suman 22.000, son financiadas, entrenadas y coordinadas por el Pentágono, la CIA y las fuerzas de la Unión Europea. Mientras el Occidente vuelca mucho dinero para esta intervención imperialista, se cierne una hambruna en Somalia. Importantes agencias humanitarias preocupadas por la seguridad alimentaria han informado que millones de personas están en peligro de morir de hambre.

Además de proporcionar armamento adicional, entrenamiento militar y apoyo diplomático para el fracturado gobierno en Mogadiscio, el Departamento de Estado de EUA no tiene planes para llegar a ningún tipo de acuerdo político en el país. Algunas tropas de la AMISOM de Uganda, Burundi, Sierra Leon, Yibuti, Etiopía, Kenia y otros estados, han estado operando en Somalia, algunas desde 2007.

Tensiones y conflictos en Somalia se han desarrollado en base a la ocupación en gran escala por las fuerzas de la AMISOM, financiadas por el occidente. Se han reportado acusaciones por abuso de mujeres por tropas de la AMISOM. En la región sureña del país, fuerzas militares no pertenecientes a Al-Shabaab se ha quejado de la dominación de Kenia en la política interna de la zona a través de sus fuerzas armadas.

Aunque la ocupación está aprobada por la ONU, los principales actores son Washington y sus aliados de la OTAN.

Hablando de la encuesta por Somalia Food Security Results, el director de la ayuda humanitaria para Somalia de la ONU, Phillipe Lazarrini, resaltó que: "Es terrible pensar que con casi 2,9 millones de personas necesitadas en Somalia, sólo el 30 por ciento del pedido de ayuda ha sido financiado, cuando se necesitan \$658 millones todavía para terminar el año 2014". (NTV Uganda, 11 de septiembre).

En el mismo informe televisivo, el di-

rector para el Programa Mundial de Alimentos en Somalia señaló que se espera que la escasez de alimentos sea más crítica en los próximos meses cuando los precios suban debido a las insuficientes lluvias y el creciente conflicto entre el gobierno, la AMISOM y Al-Shabaab. "Habíamos aumentado para satisfacer la creciente necesidad, pero la escasez de fondos significó que la organización corría el riesgo de quedarse sin suministros vitales para Septiembre, dejándonos sin más alternativa que reducir la asistencia alimentaria a los más vulnerables- [desplazadas/os] y niñas/os malnutridos".

Este problema no se limita a Somalia. Es regional en todo el Cuerno de África el cual abarca Etiopía, Yibuti, Eritrea y partes de Sudán. A lo largo de África del Este, una fuerte presencia militar de Estados Unidos ha reforzado los regímenes que juegan un papel integral en la realización de los imperativos de la política exterior de Washington.

El 15 de septiembre, se pusieron de relieve las dimensiones regionales de la crisis durante una conferencia de prensa conjunta celebrada por los representantes de la ONU y la Autoridad Intergubernamental para el Desarrollo (IGAD por sus siglas en inglés), una organización de África Oriental.

El Secretario General Adjunto de la ONU para Asuntos Humanitarios, Kyung-Wha Kang, y Mahboub Maalim, secretario ejecutivo de la IGAD, hicieron hincapié en la necesidad de financiación urgente para ayudar a 14 millones de personas en situación de inseguridad alimentaria en la región. "El desplazamiento en el Cuerno de África se estima que afecta a 6,8 millones de personas y 14 millones de personas padecen de inseguridad alimentaria, sin embargo la financiación se ha quedado solo en la mitad de lo requerido", dijo Kang. (Xinhua, 15 de septiembre)

Recursos de Somalia explotados por el Occidente

Todos los estados afectados en el Cuerno de África y África Oriental contienen petróleo, gas natural y otros recursos estratégicos. Sin el conflicto persistente que está fomentado en gran parte por EUA y otros países imperialistas, los pueblos en estos territorios tendrían alimentación adecuada y otros recursos para elevar su nivel de vida.

La exploración y perforación de petróleo está en marcha en Puntlandia, la región autónoma en el norte de Somalia. Una de las empresas principales es Africa Oil Corp., basada no en África, sino en Canadá. La búsqueda de petróleo también está ocurriendo en otra región separatista del norte conocida como Somalilandia.

A pesar de sus perspectivas económicas, la paz y la seguridad de Somalia siguen distante. En Somalilandia, el gobierno ha acusado a una empresa petrolera noruega de desestabilizar deliberadamente al país. (Reuters, 3 de septiembre)

El ministerio de petróleo de Somalilandia dice que las empresas petroleras están firmando contratos múltiples

y haciendo acuerdos con los gobiernos regionales que solo "añaden fuego a los conflictos".

"Estas pequeñas empresas están desestabilizando el país y destruyendo los esfuerzos de la comunidad internacional para construir la paz y la seguridad del país", continuó el ministerio.

El mismo ministerio destacó la empresa noruega DNO, acusando a la compañía de gas y petróleo con la "intención de introducir a milicianos armados en las zonas que ya están en conflicto, atizando así

enemistades antiguas que dan lugar a desplazamientos internos y hacen daño a inocentes y a las personas más vulnerables".

"Estamos advirtiendo a [esas] compañías que el gobierno somalí presentará denuncias ante sus respectivos países y al Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU", agregó el ministerio.

Importantes firmas petroleras reclamaron intereses en los recursos petroleros de Somalia, incluso antes de las intervenciones iniciales de 1991 a 1992 por la ONU y EUA. □

Calentamiento global:

Desastre para los pueblos del Ártico

Por **G. Dunkel**

El Ártico se está calentando dos a cuatro veces más rápido que el resto del mundo. Esto es debido a un bucle de realimentación que implica el efecto albedo (blancura) que es "una medida de cuánto la energía del sol es reflejada de nuevo hacia el espacio." (Skeptical-science.com)

El hielo y la nieve reflejan mucho más rayos solares que las aguas abiertas y la tierra desnuda. Conforme el calentamiento global enlentece la formación de hielo ártico en el otoño y acelera su rup-

tura en la primavera, más calor solar se transfiere al medio ambiente del Ártico, lo que aumenta los cambios en la cubierta de hielo y nieve.

Para los 250.000 aproximadamente habitantes indígenas en el Ártico – principalmente Inuit, que viven desde Alaska hasta Groenlandia; y también Sami al norte de Noruega; Aleut, Athabaskans y Gwich'in en América del Norte; Nenets, Chukchi y muchos otros pueblos indígenas en el norte de Rusia – los cambios producidos por este calentamiento arriesgan mucho más las formas en que obtienen el alimento que les sustenta. □

Alto a la guerra contra los trabajadores y los pobres

\$15 y Sindicato - Fin al Racismo y la Guerra - Alto a la destrucción corporativa de nuestro planeta

Protesta CONTRA EL FORO MUNDIAL EMPRESARIAL



La reunión más grande del mundo de empresarios corporativos en el 2014

**miércoles,
8 de octubre, 4:00**
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
en calle 50 St & avenida 6 NYC

Los jefes de las corporaciones como **MONSANTO** ■ **verizon** ■ **TIME WARNER** ■ **GE** General Electric ■ **Goldman Sachs** ■ **citicorp** ■ **Bank of America** ■ **DARDEN RESTAURANTS** ■ **McDonalds** ■ **DUKE ENERGY** ■ **GM** ■ **Microsoft** y alrededor de 5000 otras empresas transnacionales estarán presentes en el 'Foro Mundial Empresarial' en la ciudad de Nueva York este mes de octubre. odopoderoso que despide trabajadores, paga los salarios más bajos posible, rompe sindicatos, contamina y destruye el planeta, y usa el racismo y la guerra con el fin de obtener mayores ganancias.

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