Tell Greyhound: 

ICE off our buses!

Build solidarity and worker power to end Greyhound collaboration with ICE!

The call to action below can be shared and signed at bit.ly/ICEoffBuses. Fight for Immigrants and Refugees Everywhere (FIRE) and the International Workers’ Solidarity Network (IWSN) call for the immediate end of Greyhound’s collaboration with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Every day across the U.S., ICE, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) agents freely board buses with Greyhound’s permission and attempt to identify and detain migrants. Greyhound is not required to allow immigration agents onto its buses, but rather does so voluntarily, conceding to the racist climate created by Trump to demonize migrant workers and divide working-class people. It is imperative that all workers unite in solidarity to challenge this egregious collaboration with white supremacy by Greyhound.

The union that represents Greyhound drivers, mechanics and terminal workers—Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1700—has courageously spoken out to condemn the company’s complicity in the racist war against migrants being carried out by the Trump administration.

In a statement, President Karen Miller said: “I’ve seen this happen before. I used to drive a Memphis-Dallas Greyhound bus, and law enforcement would sometimes stop my bus, search it with dogs and ask for IDs, mostly from people of color. I hated it then, but now it is happening more often, and the consequences are devastating for our passengers and their families.

“At a time when our government has implemented inhumane and cruel immigration policies—such as separating children from their parents, holding families in indefinite detention and deporting people who have been in the country for decades—we cannot allow this to happen.”

In recent months, Trump and his allies have dramatically escalated the brutal and long-standing U.S. war on migrant workers, carrying out clandestine raids in communities across the country, separating children from their families and establishing a network of migrant detention centers.

The call to action below can be shared and signed at bit.ly/ICEoffBuses. Fight for Immigrants and Refugees Everywhere is a multinational, multigendered organization based in the U.S., seeking to bring together all sectors of society to concentrate on abolishing Immigration and Customs Enforcement, immediately putting an end to all deportations and closing all migrant detention centers. The International Workers’ Solidarity Network is building an international network of working-class organizations and activists who understand that every struggle is a workers’ struggle and recognize the urgency of developing global working-class solidarity.

Continued on page 3
In a fascist massacre two young women— one wearing a hijab, the other a Black woman. The three men were attacked after they defended these women.

Anti-racists fight back

The Aug. 17 pushback began at a Downtown waterfront park with the progressive community holding a rally. Some carried signs reading, “Heather Hayer Prezente,” honoring the memory of the anti-racist counterprotesters in Charlottesville. Others carried signs which read, “White supremacy is terrorism.” Portland NAACP President Rev. E. D. Mondaire led the crowd in singing a marching song of the Black Freedom Movement, “Ain’t gonna let nobody turn me around.”

The fascists tend to show up at demonstrations with guns and other weapons, but the Portland anti-fascist movement has dealt with that before. The recent multinational, mostly young crowd was courageous, putting their bodies on the line in the great struggle against racism and bigotry. When fascism is finally defeated, the pillars of capitalism will begin to crumble and fall, because the workers will be united. And the workers united will never be defeated.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people’s movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigenerational and multinational working class. It is time to point the blame at—and challenge—the capitalist system.

The fascists tend to show up at demonstrations with guns and other weapons, but the Portland anti-fascist movement has dealt with that before. The recent multinational, mostly young crowd was courageous, putting their bodies on the line in the great struggle against racism and bigotry. When fascism is finally defeated, the pillars of capitalism will begin to crumble and fall, because the workers will be united. And the workers united will never be defeated.

Contact a Workers World Party branch near you:

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<td>801-750-2543</td>
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Members of the Portland, Ore., Antifa contingent against racism on Aug. 17.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward! We are a party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward! We are a party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Workers appeared at the south end of the park, a crowd of at least a thousand militant anti-racists headlined for them. The people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

Workers World World Official of the Black Freedom Movement, “Ain’t gonna let nobody turn me around.”

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

Workers World
147 W. 24th St., 2nd Fl.
New York, NY 10011
Phone: 212.627.2994
E-mail: ww@workers.org
Web: www.workers.org
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Managing Editors: John Catalinotto, LeaNell Davis, Martha Greavett, Monica Moorehead, Minnie Bruce Pratt
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Supporter Program: Coordinator Sue Davis

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of concentration camps along the border—an extension of the system of mass incarceration that imprisons upwards of 2 million workers in the United States, most of whom are Black and brown, of all races and color. At the same time, a number of U.S. corporations are getting rich off their colleagues, including those in the attacks against migrant workers. In an effort to divide workers from uniting to fight their true enemies, the small group of Wall Street bankers and owners of big business, Trump has emboldened the most reactionary elements of society to come forward and act as foot soldiers in this war. White supremacist groups have targeted not onlyport of terrorist massacres targeting Black and Latinx workers in Gilroy, Calif.; El Paso, Texas; and elsewhere. Trump, with the related rhetoric of bigotry, hatred and ultra-powerful guns in the wrong hands must be addressed. ... [If all of us would speak out against hatred, against racism, against anti-Semitism, against anti-Muslim attacks, against bigotry wherever we see it, we would make future tragedies less likely. ... We need to take the necessary steps for a consensus to stop the epidemic of hatred and violence.]

The Stand reported Aug. 5 that union delegates from across Washington state have identified institutional racism as a labor issue and recommitted to fighting it—both inside and outside the labor movement. At the 2019 convention of the Washington State Labor Council (WSLC), delegates unanimously approved Resolution 380—entitled “Resolution on Race and the Labor Movement 3.0.” This is “the latest in a series of directives from grassroots rank-and-file union members to advance the WSCLC’s ground-breaking efforts to educate union members about the origins and consequences of racism. It notes that unions, which lift wages and living standards for millions of workers, are in a unique position to advocate for racial justice and have a responsibility to do so on behalf of not only their members, but also the communities they serve.”

National Nurses United, representing 150,000 registered nurses, issued a statement Aug. 4 about the mass shoot- ings in Gilroy, Calif.; El Paso, Texas; and Dayton, Ohio: “The current political cli- mate has fanned the flames of hatred and division, creating fertile ground for white supremacists, racism, and violence,” said NNU President Jean Ross, RN. “We must denounce not only these violent acts, but the rhetoric and policies that delegitimize our fundamental belief that all people are entitled to dignity and respect, regardless of their race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identification, or immigration status.

“As registered nurses, we honor the dignity of each human life and focus on the commonalities that bind us all. Nurses take a sacred oath to care for anyone who needs help, and inherently reject intolerance, racism, hate, and bigotry. NNU would like to offer thanks and praise to the first responders who jumped into action as these tragedies unfolded in our communities. We are heartened by the response of those in the communities who have offered their support, their help, and their hands to aid their neighbors in this time of need.”

All these statements are powerful. They are a real contribution to the need to raise anti-racist consciousness among the membership.

However, what is still needed is action to put some muscle behind strong words. Unions and allies from around the country marched on Canton, Miss., to denounce union busting and racist abuse of workers by Nissan in 2017. Why don’t they come back to Canton, one of the towns raided by ICE, and rally in solidarity with the immigrant union members who were so viciously attacked?

Martha Grevatt contributed to this article.
By Ted Kelly

Kidnappings, robberies, racist and sex- ist terror, violence, bombings, murder—there is no crime that the Philadelphia Police Department has not committed against the city. It has been a century since Frank Rizzo became police commissioner and later realized his goal, as mayor, of creating a white supremacist, anti-communist army. To this day the PPD is one of the most powerful forces in Philadelphia politics. Now, as the capitalist system hurries toward another devastating crisis, the cops are taking their war on workers to the next level.

On Aug. 14, while purportedly attempting to serve a warrant, police instigated a standoff with North Philadelphia resident Maurice Hill that led to SWAT teams and hundreds of cops occupying the area around Broad Street and Erie Avenue. Cops claim that Hill shot at the police when they entered his property. After negotiating with Hill, the police engaged in a firefight and Hill surrendered to police.

Hill was not the target of the warrant and wasn’t even in the house that the police were supposed to search. Although police claimed that they were looking for a weapon with a high-powered rifle, all six of the officers who were allegedly hit were released from the hospital after less than an hour.

The Philadelphia police have a known history of instigating gunfire that often ends in death when they search warrant claims. In 2015, 95 people have been killed by police in the U.S., and 199 in Philadelphia. On Aug. 14, while police were looking for a 25-year-old Black man named Bryant “BJ” Henry at the Broad and Oney subway station in North Philadelphia, just four stops away from where the standoff with Hill took place. Witnesses say that the arresting officers used their Taser on Henry, causing him to fall onto the tracks and hit the electrified overhead wires. As bystanders began to confront the police, a witness who recorded the incident had her phone snatched by police.

“There was a girl who was taking video. They went over to her and took her phone, and they trashed it,” a witness told the Aug. 1 Philadelphia Inquirer.

Now the PPD is denying everything. They claim that no Taser was deployed and that officers never confronted or destroyed a witness’s phone. They say Henry fell while trying to flee the police and that body camera footage corroborates their narrative. Unsurprisingly, they refuse to release that footage.

Rampant racism by ‘progressive’ officials

Just one week after the police lynching of Henry, Rutgers University released a study that found getting shot by police to be one of the leading causes of death for Black men in the United States. One of 1,000 Black men and boys will die at the hands of a police officer in this country. The study also found that police kill Native and Latinx men at a much higher rate than they do white men. Since 2015, 45 people have been killed by police in Pennsylvania alone. There have also been more than 80 mass shootings in Pennsylvania since 2014, the year Gov. Tom Wolf was elected. But it wasn’t until last week, when Hill, a Black man, defended himself from an attack by police, that Wolf was suddenly inspired to launch a statewide “gun control” initiative. This comes as no surprise to those who know the history of gun control in the U.S., which is largely a response to the arming and self-defense of oppressed communities by groups like the Black Panthers and Brown Berets.

But law-and-order Democrats like District Attorney Larry Krasner, Wolf and Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney consistently defend the white supremacist mili-

tia of Frank Rizzo, all the while posing as “progressives.”

Kenney campaigned for mayor on the promise of ending stop-and-frisk. He lied. The unconstitutional, aggressive police tactic that overwhelmingly targets youth of color is still in place.

Kenney promised that the statue of Rizzo, in front of the Municipal Services building across from City Hall, will be taken down. But the statue still stands. It’s the equivalent of Birmingham, Ala., boasting of a statue to Bull Connor. Rizzo was endorsed by the Ku Klux Klan. Krasner, his co-defendant, could have been a state attorney for mayor under the slogan “Vote White.”

Kenney is fond of referring to Philadelphia as a “sanctuary city” that is welcoming to immigrants. But Philadelphia’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement office is the most notorious in the entire country, kidnapping and arresting more migrants than any other in the U.S. The Philadelphia ICE office proudly coordinates raids with the PPD.

Rizzo, likewise, campaigned as a progressive reformer who would restore the reputation of the corrupt DA’s office. (His predecessor, R. Seth Williams, is currently in prison after being indicted for bribery, corruption and fraud.) Yet Krasner alienated his entire progressive base after blocking new appeal rights for Mumia Abu-Jamal. He also refused to release that footage.

Kenney initially withheld evidence from both the courts and Mumia’s defense attorneys, then released boxes and boxes of previously concealed evidence after he claims, stumbling across them when looking for office furniture. Only after a massive outcry and organized pressure from Mumia’s supporters did Krasner drop his attempt to block Mumia’s newly granted appellate hearing.

Krasner also refuses to turn over video footage of the killing of Khalil Lawal, a 31-year-old man from Arlington, Va., who was killed by a police officer in South Philadelphia in 2018. Lawal’s family says police surveillance footage clearly shows that he was accosted by white and Latinx police officers, yet they refused to release the “misinformation” coming out of the White House.

Kenney even showed up at the Hill standoff to negotiate personally with Hill and his lawyer. He then bragged to the media that he had offered Hill a “phony” plea deal to get him out of jail. That means that Krasner—Philadelphia’s top cop and chief prosecutor—will argue a case in which he is personally a witness against a defendant whom he personally gave fraudulent legal advice to.

How then are we able to confront this racist police force when self-styled “pro-
gressive” politicians are too afraid to cooperate with the cops? We must look to the victories we have won, always in spite of politicians. Five of the surviving MOVE 9 members are free because of a decades-long pressure campaign against the parole board and the courts. Mumia Abu-Jamal is no longer on death row because tens of thousands of people marched in the streets to stop his execution. When the people of Durham, N.C., wanted to get rid of a racist statue placed by philanthropists they tore it down themselves.

The police are servants of capital who catch poor people and lock them in cages. They use their weapons to protect the right of all-right neo-Nazis to march across town. Cops are at the service of gentrifiers who push Black and Brown people out of their own homes and of elite students in luxury condos who want to be “safer” as cops chase away trans, homeless, religious, and sexual lines. That’s what cops are really paid to do.

Police department escalates war on Philadelphia

Philadelphia REAL Justice leads demonstrations calling for the abolishment of the police and the removal of a statue of racist mayor and police chief Frank Rizzo in August 2017.
By Monica Moorehead

At the height of the Black Liberation Movement in the U.S., in the late 1960s and early 1970s, African-American athletes not only performed on an elite level in their individual sports, they were also politically outspoken on important social issues. The great heavyweight boxer, Muhammad Ali, and amazing sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos helped to pave the way during this electrifying period.

Ali refused to be drafted into the U.S. Army, as he was a conscientious objector. He virtually became an anti-war activist by opposing an imperialist war against the Vietnamese people due to his religious beliefs as an avowed Muslim. He publicly stated, “I ain’t got no quarrel with them Vietcong” and “No Vietcong ever called me nigger.” Ali also declared, “Why should they ask me to put on a uniform and go 10,000 miles from home and drop bombs and bullets on brown people in Vietnam after so-called Negro people in Louisville are treated like dogs and denied simple human rights?” (New York Times, June 26, 1977) His words resonated around the world.

Refusing to comply with the draft carried a 5-year prison term and a $10,000 fine. The prison term was suspended for Ali, but this did not stop the New York State Athletic Commission and the World Boxing Association from stripping him of his world heavyweight title in 1967 and, therefore, stripping his right to box.

Ali, the most well-known and popular athlete in the world, sacrificed the most productive years of his boxing career to take a principled position against war and racism. For almost four years until the U.S. Supreme Court overturned his conviction, Ali became the most popular outspoken anti-war speaker on college campuses and universities. He was soon regarded as a hero by millions of people.

From Tommie Smith and John Carlos to Colin Kaepernick

During the same time frame, Black athletes were discussing whether to form a coalition to boycott the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City to protest racist repression at home. When the boycott failed to materialize, U.S. sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos carried out a protest of their own at the Olympics. It followed their first- and third-place finishes in the 200-meter dash.

While the U.S. national anthem played, they both raised black-gloved fists in the air, the Black Power salute, while standing barefoot on the podium.

The U.S. Olympics Committee then stripped Smith and Carlos of their credentials, forcing them to abruptly leave Mexico City, and return to the U.S. Even though it was difficult for them to find jobs for years, they refused to apologize or back down from their principled, heroic actions.

A 22-foot-high statue of Smith and Carlos’ Olympic protest was erected in 2001 at their alma mater, San Jose State University in San Jose, Calif. Fifty-one years later, their silent but powerful protest inspires new generations of activists because their image of white supremacy still dominates all sectors of U.S. capitalist society.

One athlete inspired by Smith and Carlos was Colin Kaepernick, the Black quarterback with the San Francisco 49ers. He decided to take a knee during the playing of the national anthem preceding every National Football League game during the 2016-17 season. In fact, this August marked the third year anniversary of his protest that began during the pre-season.

His motivation for taking this stance was to protest the racist police killings of two Black men, Philando Castile and Alton Sterling, respectively, within one day of the other in early July 2016. Both brutal murders were captured on videotape. None of the killer cops have been brought to justice.

Kaepernick’s protest caught fire among the majority of NFL teams, as multiple players took a knee before each game. Their actions helped to bring new energy to the dynamic Black Lives Matter movement. Soon athletes in other sports—all of genders, gender expressions and ages—followed suit, much to the dismay of the majority-white billionaire NFL owners. Like many rich, capitalist owners in any industry, they had hoped the workers would not make any political demands that challenged the status quo.

Just like Ali had sacrificed his career to raise consciousness for social justice, so had Kaepernick. He not only earned the ire of the deplorable then presidential candidate, Trump, but has been “blackballed” from playing in the NFL since the end of the 2016-17 season. Recently, Joy-Z, the billionaire hip-hop artist, has come under fire for her new partnership with the NFL hierarchy, that represents the interests of the football owners, to promote “social justice” causes that exclude any guarantee that Kaepernick will be signed to a team.

What’s noteworthy is that Kaepernick put himself on line during a period in which that ushered in the extremely reactionary Trump presidential era. So many voters, especially oppressed peoples, were not excited about voting for Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Since Trump took office, the number of NFL players taking a knee may have declined, but one player in particular has continued the crusade that Kaepernick began. That player is Kenny Stills, the 27-year-old Miami Dolphins wide receiver. He recently made headlines when he openly criticized on Twitter the billionaire Dolphins’ owner, Stephen Ross, for hosting a fundraiser for Trump.

Stills told reporters: “It just doesn’t make sense to me. It just doesn’t align to be running a nonprofit focused on equalit and talking about sports and equality and then to be holding a fundraiser for a man that we know isn’t standing up for that same cause or championing that same cause.” (latimes.com, Aug. 9) Stills said that he has received close to a dozen death threats for criticizing Ross—but that will not stop him from speaking out.

Anti-Trump protests at Pan-Am Games

The movement that Kaepernick sparked was played out at the XVIII Pan-American Games held in Lima, Peru, from July 26 through Aug. 11. Forty-one nations from South America, Central America, the Caribbean and North America participated. Two U.S. gold-medal-winning athletes protested against Trump’s policies during the medal ceremonies.

Owen Berry, a Black hammer thrower, courageously raised her fist and bowed her head during the playing of the national anthem. She stated: “Somebody has to talk about the things that are too uncomfortable to talk about. Somebody has to stand for all of the injustices that are going on in America and a president who’s making it worse.” (CNN.com, Aug. 12)

Louis Moore, professor of history at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., and author of “We Will Not Be Moved: The Civil Rights Movement, the Black Athlete, and the Quest for Equality” told CNN: “Specifically for Berry, her protest is especially significant because hers first should come as a reminder that Black women athletes were not just to join the protest leading up to the Games or during the Games. But today, whether we are talking about the WNBA players, Serena Williams, or Gwen Berry, they aren’t waiting and they aren’t asking. They are using their platform how they see fit.” (Aug. 12)

Fencer Race Imboden, who is white, took a knee, to also protest Trump’s racist issued. He pointed out on Twitter, “multiple shortcomings of the United States racism, the need for gun control, the mistreatment of immigrants, and a President who spread hate.” (Aug. 6)

Both Berry and Imboden face punitive measures from the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, which could have repercussions for their participation in the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan.

Bravely speaking out on sexual abuse

Simone Biles is the 22-year-old reigning world champion gymnast, who won her sixth straight U.S. championship in 1968 were not asked to join the protest. “Why should they ask me to put on a uniform and go 10,000 miles from home and drop bombs and bullets on brown people in Vietnam after so-called Negro people in Louisville are treated like dogs and denied simple human rights?” (New York Times, June 26, 1977) His words resonated around the world.

After one of her dazzling, historic routines, Biles stated, while in tears, that USA Gymnastics “failed” her and her fellow gymnasts when it came to protecting them from Nassar, the team doctor, against sexual abuse. She continued, “It’s hard coming here for an organization and having had them fail us so many times. They couldn’t do one damn job. You had one job. You literally had one job and you couldn’t protect us. Every time I go to the doctor or training, I get worked on, and I don’t want to get worked on, but my body hurts. I’m 22.” (thescore.com, Aug. 8)

Simone Biles

Not to forget Megan Rapinoe. A lesbian, she is the U.S. soccer player who has taken a knee in solidarity with Kaepernick and fought for equal pay for women and gender-oppressed players.

All these multigenerational athletes have refused to shut up and just play sports when it comes to fighting for social equality and protesting against white supremacy and misogyny.
The escalating demonstrations are linked to the U.S. trade war, tariffs and military encirclement of China. Four hundred—half—of the 800 U.S. overseas military bases surround China. Aircraft carriers, destroyers, nuclear submarines, jet aircraft, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile batteries, and satellite surveillance are stationed across the South China Sea, close to Hong Kong. The People's Liberation Army is legally allowed to request help from the central military to defend China's sovereignty. The Chinese People's Liberation Army is part of the People's Republic of China. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is legally an internal part of China. This is an internal security issue, a territorial dispute, and not an issue related to freedom. The Hong Kong government is responsible for maintaining public order and social stability in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong government has the right to take all necessary measures to maintain public order and social stability.

By Sara Flounders
Aug. 19—Since this article was written on Aug. 15, hundreds of thousands of Chinese people have demonstrated in support of the People's Republic of China and against the counterrevolutionary demonstrations in Hong Kong. Almost half a million reportedly marched in Hong Kong on Aug. 18, while thousands of Chinese youth held pro-China demonstrations and confronted right-wing actions in Canada, France, England, Australia, the U.S. and elsewhere.

Follow the money
What's behind Hong Kong protests?

The demonstrations in Hong Kong, now an open confrontation with the People's Republic of China, have a global impact. What are the forces behind this movement? Who provides the funds and who stands to benefit?

The increasingly violent demonstrations in Hong Kong are completely embraced and enthusiastically supported in the U.S. corporate media and all the imperialist political parties in the U.S. and Britain. This should be a danger sign to everyone fighting for change and for social progress. U.S. imperialism is never disinterested or neutral.

The disruptive actions involve helmeted and masked protesters. Squibs, smoke bombs, bricks, arsenic and steel bars, random attacks on buses, and air- and mass transit shutdowns. Among the most provocative acts was an organized break-in at the Hong Kong legislature where “activists” vandalized the building and hung the British Union Jack flag. U.S. and Hong Kong colonial flags are prominent in these confrontations, along with defaced flags and other symbols of People's China.

The New York Times described the airport shutdown: “The protests at the airport have been deeply tactical, as the largely leaderless movement strikes at a vital economic artery. Hong Kong International Airport, which opened in 1998, the year after China reclaimed the former colony, is part of China. This is an internal security issue, a territorial dispute, and not an issue related to freedom. The Hong Kong government is responsible for maintaining public order and social stability in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong government has the right to take all necessary measures to maintain public order and social stability.

China has a right to intervene
It must be strongly stated that China is not invading Hong Kong if it moves against current violent disruptions. Hong Kong is part of China. This is a national matter, and the call for independence for Hong Kong is a direct attack on China's national sovereignty.

Under Hong Kong's Basic Law, the constitution for the city, the government is legally required by treaty from the Chinese People's Liberation Army. The Chinese government has announced that it will intervene militarily to defend China's sovereignty. Top government officials have labeled the most extreme acts as “terrorism” and denounced martial law, strict curfews and military intervention to restore order. Protesters have shown no signs of retreat. The U.S. and Britain are determined to propel forward those hostile political forces they have cultivated over the past two decades.

The escalating demonstrations are linked to the U.S. trade war, tariffs and military encirclement of China. Four hundred—half—of the 800 U.S. overseas military bases surround China. Aircraft carriers, destroyers, nuclear submarines, jet aircraft, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile batteries, and satellite surveillance are stationed across the South China Sea, close to Hong Kong. The People's Liberation Army is legally allowed to request help from the central military to defend China's sovereignty. The Chinese People's Liberation Army is part of the People's Republic of China. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is legally an internal part of China. This is an internal security issue, a territorial dispute, and not an issue related to freedom. The Hong Kong government is responsible for maintaining public order and social stability in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong government has the right to take all necessary measures to maintain public order and social stability.

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China has a right to intervene
It must be strongly stated that China is not invading Hong Kong if it moves against current violent disruptions. Hong Kong is part of China. This is a national matter, and the call for independence for Hong Kong is a direct attack on China's national sovereignty. Under Hong Kong's Basic Law, the constitution for the city, the government is legally required by treaty from the Chinese People's Liberation Army. The Chinese government has announced that it will intervene militarily to defend China's sovereignty. Top government officials have labeled the most extreme acts as “terrorism” and denounced martial law, strict curfews and military intervention to restore order. Protesters have shown no signs of retreat. The U.S. and Britain are determined to propel forward those hostile political forces they have cultivated over the past two decades.

The escalating demonstrations are linked to the U.S. trade war, tariffs and military encirclement of China. Four hundred—half—of the 800 U.S. overseas military bases surround China. Aircraft carriers, destroyers, nuclear submarines, jet aircraft, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile batteries, and satellite surveillance are stationed across the South China Sea, close to Hong Kong. The People's Liberation Army is legally allowed to request help from the central military to defend China's sovereignty. The Chinese People's Liberation Army is part of the People's Republic of China. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is legally an internal part of China. This is an internal security issue, a territorial dispute, and not an issue related to freedom. The Hong Kong government is responsible for maintaining public order and social stability in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong government has the right to take all necessary measures to maintain public order and social stability.

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Solidarity with the people of Kashmir

By Sara Flounders

Workers World Party has always recognized the right of the people of Kashmir to self-determination. WWP considers Kashmir to be an oppressed nation under the rule of India.

As the world’s only colony, the state called Jammu and Kashmir, is under total lockdown and martial law. The Indian government has more than 600,000 Indian troops in Kashmir. They act as an army of occupation against Kashmir’s 14 million people, the majority of them Muslims.

All communications have been shut off, including internet, phones and social media. Schools and markets are closed and millions of people are under complete curfew and incommunicado, not even allowed to go outside. Indian police have opened fire on protest demonstrations in Srinagar, the capital, and other towns and cities. Hundreds have been arrested.

All autonomy was revoked by an Executive Order of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Aug. 5, which has now become Article 370 of the Indian Constitution. This wiped away a decades-old provision that gave Kashmiris special land ownership rights in the area, which is located in a fertile valley between rugged mountains. It will encourage millions of Hindus from India to move into the valley.

Kashmir’s population is about 14 million people. Two-thirds of its population are Muslims, making it India’s largest Muslim-majority state. Two-thirds of the valley is in India, about one-third in Pakistan, and a very small piece is in China.

Kashmir has been a region of deep dispute between India and Pakistan since 1947, when both countries gained independence from British colonial domination. India and Pakistan have fought four wars over the status of Kashmir.

British ‘divide and rule’ legacy

For 100 years, Britain used “divide and rule” tactics that have left a legacy of national, and especially religious, animosity among all the peoples of the Indian subcontinent. The U.S. and Britain have continued to exploit these differences to keep all South Asia divided.

At this time, Modi and his right-wing Hindu nationalist BJP party have a close alliance with U.S. imperialism. Earlier, especially during the war in Afghanistan, it was Pakistan that had a close relation with the U.S. Pakistan is still deeply in debt due to extensive U.S. weapons purchases.

The BJP has also gained the presidency in India. However, it is Prime Minister Modi who wields the power and has used anti-Muslim attacks throughout India to build a base of support among the Hindu majority population. This is similar to the Mao Trump in the U.S. who has whipped up racism, white supremacy and anti-migrant attacks.

Muslims are an oppressed minority in India, with almost 15 percent of the population.

Under British rule of the Indian subcontinent, Kashmir was a princely state with a Muslim majority but ruled by a Hindu monarch. This oppressive system was kept in place by Britain’s colonial policy.

In 1947, a British partition plan divided the subcontinent into India and Pakistan. Most Kashmiris wanted independence, but the British plan only allowed them the option of being part of either India or Pakistan, whose competing claims on the region ended in a war.

A United Nations-sponsored plebiscite for the people of Kashmir has been promised since 1948 but has never taken place. However, Kashmir was supposedly guaranteed a special status of autonomy within India that ensured the Muslim-majority state its own constitution and independence over all matters except foreign affairs, defense and communications. This status has now been illegally revoked by Modi’s declaration.

Demonstrations in solidarity with Kashmir have occurred around the world.

What’s behind Hong Kong protests?

Continued from page 6

undercut the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions founded in 1949, which is still the largest union organization with 410,000 members.

The HKFTU has been a target of years of brutal repression under British colonial rule as it fought for basic protection of workers’ rights. A strike organized by the HKFTU shook British colonial rule in 1967. The strike became a citywide rebellion sparked by mass layoffs of workers from the plastic flower factory. British colonial authorities harshly suppressed the uprising, resulting in 51 deaths and hundreds injured and arrested. The HKFTU supports Hong Kong’s resistance to the reactionary demonstrations.

NED funding = CIA support

Allen Weinstein, a founder of the NED, told the Washington Post in 1991, “A lot of what we do today was done covertly 25 years ago by OSS,” (Sept. 21, 1991).

The NED funds, coordinates and weaponizes nongovernmental organizations and social organizations with the capacity to organize and mobilize kinds of misguided, ideologically alienated youth on the streets.

Philippines: From the NED, the Ford, Rockefeller, Soros and numerous other corporate foundations, Christian churches of every denomination, and government-sponsored think tanks hostile, subversive network orchestrating the Hong Kong protests.

The NED bankrolls the Hong Kong Human Rights Movement, the Hong Kong Professional Alliance for Change, Labor Party and Democratic Party. They are members of the Civil Human Rights Front that coordinates the demonstrations.

This role of the NED in China is increasingly harder to obscure. Alexander Rubenstein reported in “American Gov’t, NGOs Fuel and Fund Hong Kong Anti-Extradition Protests” (mintpressnews.com, June 13): “It is inconceivable that the organizers of the protests are unaware of the NED ties to some of its members.” (tinyurl.com/y6nhzmp4)

The goal is to promote a hostile and suspicious attitude toward China and toward communist and to foster the false concept of a past democratic Hong Kong with a distinct identity. China wisely warns: “In recent years, there have been warnings that color revolutions are emerging as a new form of warfare employed to destabilize certain countries.” (Aug. 12)

Which system works better?

The Aug. 13 New York Times refers to Hong Kong as a “bastion of civil liberties” to counter “Beijing’s brand of authoritarianism.”

British colonial past is deeply mythologized. Twenty-two years of constant nos- talgia for this past, supposedly glorious Hong Kong, has increased intensifying impoverished youth.

Despite decades of multimillion-dollar Western funding, Hong Kong has a poverty rate of 20 percent (23.1 percent for children) compared to less than 1 percent in mainland China. In the past 20 years, mainland China has lifted countless millions of people out of poverty. Just across the border from Hong Kong sits the city of Shenzhen. It is one of the Special Economic Zones established to lure Western technology. These zones, originally with thousands of labor-intensive factories and millions of workers earning low wages, were centers of capital exploitation and enormous profits for U.S. and other global capitalists.

Shenzhen grew from a city of 30,000 in 1979 to a megacity of 20 million, with the largest migrant population in China. Shenzhen had a population three times the size of Hong Kong. With investments via Hong Kong, this new city became a massive polluted factory town with sweatshops spewing out clouds of dark toxic smoke.

In the past five years, through city and national urban planning, Shenzhen is today one of the most livable cities in China, with extensive parks, tree-lined streets and the largest fleet of electric buses in the world (16,000), along with all-electric cabs. Shenzhen aims to have 90 percent of its new buildings zero-emission by 2030. It is full of apartment blocks, office towers and modern factories with advanced equipment manufacturing, robotics, automation and giant tech startups.

For the last 10 years wages have been stagnant in Hong Kong while rents have increased 300 percent; it is the most expensive city in the world. In Shenzhen, wages have increased 8 percent every year, and more than 1 million new, public, green housing units at low rates are nearing completion.

The U.S. is demanding that China abandon state support of its industries, the ownership of its banks and national planning. But contrasting the decay, growing poverty and intense alienation in Hong Kong with the green vibrant city of Shenzhen across the river shows that there are two choices for China today, including the angry forces mobilized in Hong Kong: modern socialist planning or a return to the super-exploitation and imperialist domination of the colonial past.

For decades Britain and the U.S. used the people of Hong Kong for cheap labor. Now they are using the same population for cheap political propaganda. This cynical maneuver is just one more weapon in a desperate effort to disrupt China’s further development.

U.S. corporate power is incapable of meeting any of the desperate needs for housing, health care, education and a healthy environment for people here. Instead, it is relentlessly drive for profits, enormous resources are squandered on militarism to threaten countries around the world.

We must demand: U.S. Hands Off China! U.S. Out of Hong Kong!
Alaska ferry workers win strike

More than 400 ferry workers at Alaska Marine Highway began picketing when their ships arrived in port on July 24. These workers help run the Marine Highway system that connects 30 remote communities and islands across the state. The Inlandboatmen’s Union, an affiliate of the Longshore and Warehouse union (ILWU), represents the largest group of workers.

The IBU ferry workers were fighting pay cuts and a higher health care contribution demanded by Gov. Mike Dunleavy, who had already slashed ferry funding by 75 percent earlier this year and keeps pushing for privatization. (IBU memo, July 26) “We tried to work with the state, but we’re just beating our heads against the wall,” a union official told USA Today, calling the strike a last resort. (July 24) Their last contract expired in 2017, and the workers have been operating under interim contracts since then.

Solidarity from major unions and a support demonstration July 29 in Bellingham, Wash., where one ferry docks, helped win the strike. IBU reached a tentative agreement Aug. 2 for a three-year contract (one year was all the state had offered). Though their pay is lower than the average in 2017 levels, the workers will get a 1.5 percent increase in 2020 and 2021. And while the workers will begin contributing to their health plan Aug. 1 for a three-year contract (one year was all the state had offered). Though the workers will begin contributing to their health plan in 2021, they will not automatically lose coverage when they’re not working, and they will no longer have to pay for hotels out of pocket. (Reuters, Aug. 2) This is the first IBU ferry worker strike since 1977 and a partial win!

Mass. plant strike brings company back to table

The workers at the Kennametal Tap & Die plant in Greenfield, Mass., ignited a three-day warning strike Aug. 11 to protest management’s contract demands for forced overtime, significantly increased deductibles for health insurance plans, no living wage increases and a steady flow of exploited temporary workers. Contract negotiations started in March. United Electrical Workers (UE) Local 274, which has represented the workers since 1941, put forward solid proposals for fair wage increases, but Kennametal refused to budge. The union subsequently filed charges of unfair labor practices with the National Labor Relations Board. In April, the workers unanimously agreed to strike if negotiations stalled.

Kennametal is a ridiculously profitable company that received $2.4 billion in revenue in 2018. That same year, President/CEO Christopher Rossi was given a total package of more than $5.7 million in salary and stock options, including a $500,000 bonus. (Unions.org, Aug. 12) The community and other unions are siding with the workers — rallying with them and dropping off food, coffee and donuts. Restaurants are providing discounted pizza and more. (Greenfield Recorder, Aug. 14)

On Aug. 15, the company agreed to return to the bargaining table Aug. 20-21. If the union doesn’t get a reasonable deal, the workers vow they’ll return to the picket line. (#Union Strong, Aug. 15)

Amazon workers in Minn. win new strike

The latest strike by part-time, unorganized Amazon workers occurred at a delivery center in Eagan, Minn., on Aug. 8. This time it wasn’t about job safety, work conditions or religious freedom, but about lack of parking, which caused workers to be late punching in. Appeals to management were ignored for months. Then the bosses issued an ultimatum that double-parked cars would be towed and owners fined $350 if cars blocked vans and shuttles.

The angry workers immediately walked out, vowing not to go back until the situation was changed. Negotiations that day, Amazon issued a statement that it would provide additional parking across the highway where workers could punch in and that it would cover towing fees already incurred. (gizmodo.com, Aug. 8) There is nothing like a strike to grab the bosses’ attention!

Airline catering workers arrested for protesting low pay

Some 58 airline catering workers, represented by UNITE HERE, blocked intersections near American Airlines’ headquarters in the Dallas-Fort Worth airport and were arrested during a protest over pay so low they can’t afford health benefits. The union says one in four workers hired by catering contractor LSG Sky Chefs earns less than $12 an hour. The union is pressing American, Delta, United and other airlines to pay more to catering companies so they can improve pay and benefits for workers. UNITE HERE, which represents 11,000 LSG workers, is targeting American because it’s LSG’s biggest customer.

Bobby Kirkpatrick, a truck driver who flew in from Charlotte, N.C., for the protest, said he makes less than $16 an hour after 38 years. “American squeezes Sky Chefs so much, and then [Sky Chefs says] they can’t pay us as much.” (DallasNews.com, Aug. 13)

Negotiations discuss military/civilian mix in Sudan regime

By J.M. Straughn

Talks took place Aug. 17-19 between Sudan’s military government and the civilian opposition with the goal of defining new government bodies based on consensus rules. A massive uprising of the Sudanese people needed months of struggle to end the former military regime last October and oust President Omar al-Bashir on April 11. Since then, a military body called the Transitional Military Council has governed Sudan. Its candidate, Daniel Scioli, aroused no enthusiasm among the left.

Negotiations have been especially strained since June 3 when TMC-controlled forces violently dispersed a mass sit-in demonstration in Khartoum, Sudan’s capital. The attacks caused the death of 10 people and 250 injured by 700 protesters and others.

After talks on July 15, the Sudanese Communist Party, which had been involved in the civilian coalition, announced it would refuse participation in the transitional government. The SCP blamed the choice on the TMC’s decision to withdraw from points to which they had previously agreed.

The civilian coalition and Sudan Call — another alliance which includes armed rebels — had rejected the proposals of the TMC. In relation to the expected Constitutional Declaration, the SCP continues to call for mass mobilizations, according to statements on the SCP Facebook site. The SCP remains concerned that the currently configured transitional government will not meet the people’s demands to withdraw Sudan’s troops from the U.S.-backed, Saudi-led war on Yemen, continued on page 9
Bolivarian revolution and Black liberation

By Lyn Neeley
Portland, Ore.

Portland’s Hands Off Venezuela PDX sponsored a Skype teach-in on Aug. 17 with Dr. Layla Brown-Vincent, an assistant professor of Africana Studies at the University of Massachusetts in Boston, who spoke about the role of racism in Bolivarian Venezuela to a room of 25 Oregonians. She said, “Just as Haiti was a stronghold of Black liberation in the late 18th and 19th centuries, and Cuba became a beacon of global struggle for Black/African liberation in the 20th century, Venezuela’s Bolivarian Revolution... is the most earnest attempt to facilitate Black liberation of our time.”

Brown-Vincent recalled the 2017 murder of Orlando Figuera, a 21-year-old grocery worker, caught in the middle of opposition protesters in Venezuela. Figuera was dosed with gasoline and burned to death while right-wing supremacists yelled: “Hey Black guy, are you a Chavista? You see what happens to Chavistas?”

She noted that nearly 54 percent of Venezuela’s citizens are of discernible African ancestry. “Afro-descended people’s realities have become more visible since 2002, and their realities increasingly inform the political rhetoric/agenda of the Bolivarian Revolution, making Blackness synonymous with the people, socialism and Chavismo—whiteness is synonymous with capitalist exploitation, anti-Blackness and the anti-people counterrevolution led by the opposition.”

Brown-Vincent called opposition leader Juan Guaidó a white supremacist who is part of the U.S.-led drive to maintain racial capitalism across the globe.

Backed by the U.S., Guaidó attempted to declare himself president of Venezuela in January.

New power outage in Caracas

By Marco Teruggi
Caracas


The people of Caracas woke up on July 23 with the uncertainty that power outages bring. The electrical system in most areas of the capital had already been restored, but the morning was marked by the loss of power for a few hours in different sectors. The government declared it a no-work day. The metro [transportation] service was disabled due to electrical instability, and the people were busy, as always after outages, buying food and refueling with gasoline.

At 2 p.m., Minister of Electric Power Freddy Brito provided information about the restoration of “100 percent power in most of the states of the country.” The power outage had occurred at 4:45 p.m. on the previous day, July 22, so it continued for less than 24 hours in Caracas and elsewhere in the country. The reality in the capital contrasts with that in many states. In Caracas, there have been four outages since the beginning of the year, while in the states of Zulia, Lara and Táchira power outages occur daily.

Sabotage hits Guayana, main power provider

Minister of Communication Jorge Rodríguez charged that the outage occurred as an attack. “The first indications received from the investigation point to the existence of an electro-magnetic attack that sought to affect the hydroelectric generation system of Guayana, the main provider of this service in the country.”

According to Rodríguez, this was a new attack on the national electrical system, [unlike] those which had been condemned by the national government on previous occasions—particularly the biggest power cut which began on March 7 and lasted for several days. He announced that the recovery would be rapid because “protection and security protocols” had been implemented in the face of the apparent attacks.

Returning to opposition forces blamed the [Venezuelan] government for what happened. The same message came from the United States, where Republican Sen. Marco Rubio, a leader in the strategy against the Nicolás Maduro government, affirmed that the cause of the outage was “the regime.”

There was tension in the streets due to the breadth of the outage and particularly its timing. It hit as people were heading home and as night gradually arrived. This meant it directly impacted transportation and caused uncertainties for workers and their families. However, along with this, in the corners of working-class neighborhoods, there was calmness and resignation, as conversations went on.

Caracas displayed the usual attitude in the face of outages. The government activated emergency transport services, and cars lined up at points in the city where residents knew there was a telephone signal when power cuts occur.

In that context, [opposition leader] Juan Guaidó completed six months since his self-proclamation [to replace President Maduro] on July 23. He called for a public session of the National Assembly at one of the usual concentration points of anti-Chavismo in Caracas. Attendance at the activity was small; it was representative of the traditional sectors of the Venezuelan right wing. Popular groups were absent.

At that event Guaidó announced the [National Assembly’s] approval for Venezuela to join the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, the pact for inter-American mutual defense [the so-called “Rio Treaty” of 1947] from which Venezuela withdrew in 2012 along with Bolivia, Nicaragua and Ecuador. IATRA opens the door to the request for the formation of a coalition of inter-American forces to carry out military intervention. (Telesur.net, July 24)

There are elements in the government’s opposition who say an action by foreign military forces is the only way [for them] to get out of the crisis. They have been demanding the National Assembly’s approval for several weeks. Guaidó has gone back and forth in his arguments regarding the implications of IATRA, pos- ing it as a possible tool for military inter- vention, yet claiming it’s a tool used only for diplomatic and economic purposes.

This approval for IATRA by a public body [the National Assembly] that’s controlled by the opposition is a clear attempt to carry out a coup d’état took place within the context of ongoing negotia- tions. The government and the opposi- tion forces have held four public meetings since May, two in Oslo, Norway, and two on the Caribbean island of Barbados. The Norwegian government has been mediating these talks and has repeatedly insisted on the need for discretion regard- ing what’s discussed.

Negotiations in Sudan

By Lyn Neeley

Continued from page 8

to withdraw from agreements with AFRICOM (the U.S. Africa Command, which is responsible for military relations with 53 African nations) or to prevent the CIA from operating in Sudan. Further, the TMC has withdrawn from agreements that would empower civilian bodies to investigate allegations against members of the Rapid Support Forces. The people have the right to demand a security force that acts on behalf of the people and not for their opportunistic purposes nor for the defense of imper- ialist interests.

Members of the SCP also express con- cern that the transitional government will refuse to provide measures to ensure that the people have access to bread. They say this government will fail to build organ- izations capable of responding to new waves of economic crises that further worsened when some areas of Sudan recently experienced worsening food shortages and extensive flooding.
**workers.org**

**Make the country hate again—yet again**

*“Make America great again”—the catchphrase of the current president and the fascist movement he represents—has really always meant “hate again.” No oppressed group has been spared from the vile acts and statements emanating from the White House.*

**Outspoken**

The issue of occupied Palestine once again came into focus in the world press when two women members of the congressional Squad—Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.), and Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.)—were initially denied the right to enter Israel by its fascist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Aug. 15, at the urging of white supremacist U.S. President Donald Trump.

*Just last month at a xenophobic rally in North Carolina, Trump called for these two congresspeople, along with Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, to be “sent back” to their countries in response to their criticism of Trump’s racism toward migrants.*

Netanyahu explained the denial in a statement: “As a free and vibrant democracy, Israel is open to critics and criticism, with one exception: Israeli law prohibits the entry into Israel of those who call for, and work to impose, boycotts on Israel, as do other democracies that prevent the entry of people believed to be damaging to the country.” (New York Times, Aug. 15)

Omar, who is Somali, and Tlaib, who is Palestinian, have especially been outspoken against the inhumane treatment of Palestinian people, who have been systematically denied the right to their homeland since the Zionist state of Israel was established in 1947. The two women are also strong supporters of the U.S.-based Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel.

In describing their trip to “Palestine,” not “Israel,” the two said they had hoped to meet with an Arab representative in the Israeli-majority Parliament and to pay visits to the occupied territories of Hebron, Ramallah, the West Bank and the Al Aqsa Mosque in East Jerusalem. Tlaib was also planning to visit her 90-year-old grandmother, Muftiyah Tlaib, who lives in the West Bank.

The denial of entry created opposition within both big business parties, with every Republican who support Trump saying that the decision would set an unwelcome precedent for other elected officials and undermine the figures present to support the extreme right-wing, pro-Zionist American Israel Public Affairs Committee denounced the decision.

Tlaib then emphatically stated that she would not go due to Netanyahu’s oppressive restrictions.

The statement read in part: “The Israeli government used my love and desire to see my grandmother to silence me and made my ability to do so contingent upon my signing a letter—reflecting just how undemocratic and afraid they are of the truth my trip would reveal about what is happening in the State of Israel and to Palestinians living under occupation with American support.” (Washington Post, Aug. 16)

Israelis are now facing the decision to give up on the right-wing, which relies on divide-and-conquer tactics to maintain the status quo. Groups such as Jewish Voice for Peace have taken principled stances to defend both Tlaib and Omar. Comparing the detention of refugees in the U.S., to the internment of Jewish people in concentration camps during World War II, the groups have been organizing protests inside the U.S.

**In defense of Palestine**

By Martha Grevatt

About 60 members of Metro Detroit’s Jewish community held a rally and Shabbat service Aug. 16 to support their congressperson, Rashida Tlaib.

Israel recently denied Tlaib permission to meet with Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank, along with Rep. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota. Tlaib had also planned to visit her 90-year-old grandmother.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu granted Rashida permission to visit her family on the condition she refrain from voicing support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israeli apartheid. Tlaib refused to abide by these terms, which she called “oppressive.”

Tlaib’s trip today is a day for rest and rejuvenation in community,” JVP Action, an arm of Jewish Voice for Peace, explained. “We invite Rashida to come restore, and to feel our love and support as we gear up for the road ahead. We stand with Rashida as her proud constituents, community and neighbors, together continuing the struggle for freedom, equality, and freedom for all people, from Detroit to Palestine.”

(Jewish Voice for Peace, Detroit Facebook page)

Thank you for lifting up peace, love and justice,” the congressperson told supporters. “I’m proud of my Palestinian roots, and I’m also strong because I grew up in the most beautiful, Blackest city in the country, in the city of Detroit.”

“I can’t wait to show my grandmother how I was supported by all of you— it would bring her so much joy. One day we’re going to be able to hear the voices of people like my grandmother, who have really always meant ‘hate again.’”

(Jewish Voice for Peace)
Over 100 people packed the gymnasium July 26 at the Fricker Community Center downtown Pensacola, a Black-majority area. The first Pensacola People’s Assembly was put on by Pensacola Dream Defenders and began with a march to the community center from the home of Tymar Crawford, a Black man killed by Pensacola police. The march was brief but effective in temporarily shutting down several streets. Once inside, speakers from the community spoke about their experiences as Black people in a police state. The event also provided child care, exemplifying revolutionary self-determination and community-based organizing.

On August 10, the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Black people to this country, but this is an event which was once meant to commemorate the Stonewall Uprising that doubless now have [Stonewall Uprising leader] Sylvia Rivera back up in arms.”

Did you know the month of August holds special meaning for the Black Liberation struggle? This August marks the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first ship of Africans brought in chains to the shores of the British colony of Virginia in 1619. That makes it the 400th anniversary of slavery— with its countless injustices, brutality and institutionalized racism across human societies. These atrocities continue, in this white supremacist, capitalist society, to this day.

But August is also a time to celebrate the Black Resistance Struggle: From the Haitian Revolution of 1791-1804 to the Nat Turner Rebellion in 1831 from the Underground Railroad of 1800-1865 to the Fugitive Slave Law Convention in 1850 from the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1925 to the March on Washington in 1963, the Watts Uprising in 1965 and last year’s National Prison Strike from Aug. 21-28.

A number of freedom fighters were born in August, including Marcus Garvey, Fred Hampton and Russell Maroon Shoatz, while a number died: W.E.B du Bois; Huey P. Newton and Jonathan Jackson, killed Aug. 7, 1970 while attempting to free the imprisoned Soledad Brothers, who included his brother George, both born in August.

The WW Supporter Program was founded 42 years ago to help build the only revolutionary socialist paper in the U.S. That’s now printed weekly as well as on the web. For a donation of $7.50 to $100 a year or more, readers receive a year’s subscription, a monthly letter about timely issues and five free subscriptions to give to friends. Write checks, either monthly or once a year, to Workers World— sign up today! www.workers.org/books. At workers.org/books, find out how to support the heroic Attica Prison Rebellion in 1971.

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de guerra convencional con tácticas no gerante, netamente militar. Un estado venezolanas haría estallar el conflicto entren y salgan del país”.

Los analistas de Misión Verdad apun- tan que “el bloque naval a las costas venezolanas haría estallar el conflicto actual y darle un marir violento, belli- gerente, en el escenario de guerra convencional con tácticas no convencionales, donde los recursos del Pentágono quizá no darían abasto”, pero, con el apoyo de dictadoras parasilitas militantes y “aprovechando el estatismo de Colombia en capital y despliegue, podría ser una opción” considerada desde Estados Unidos.

La Casa Blanca ha apostado por una estrategia de sanciones a Caracas que no han arrojado los resultados esperados, aunque han arreciado las dificultades económicas para el país sudamericano, no han sido suficientes para deponer al gobierno encabezado por el presidente Nicolás Maduro Moros.

A simple vista, la evaluación de un blo- queo podría ser una de las opciones que el gobierno de Estados Unidos, el llamado “Consell de la Guaidó”, al cual ha apoyado desde el inicio el Gobierno estadounidense y que los ha hecho quedar en ridículo debido, entre otras cosas, a los “intereses finan- cieros nacionales y transnacionales” que atraviesan a sus integrantes.

¿De verdad se atreverá la Administración Trump a darle tiempo político (con elecciones presidenciales en 2020), militar (con varios frentes abiertos en otras latitudes), financiero (compra de armas, financiamiento a contratistas, etc.) para iniciar una opera- ción de ese calibre?”, se pregunta Misión Verdad.

¿Acaso el Comando Sur puede hacerse cargo del plan? ¿Colombia, Brasil y Guyana se unirían al embargo transfron- terizo, totalmente ilegal a la luz de los tratados internacionales? ¿Washington cree que los países que no forman parte del Grupo de Lima y bajo la dirección de Luis Almagro se quedarán callados? ¿Pero qué pasa, ¿no, que ni se haría la medida y apoyaría activamente a su aliado venezolano?“

Béla Lugosi: Deactor a activista y anti fascista

Por Mike Kuhlenbeck

Lugosi nació como Béla Ferenc Dezső Blaskó el 21 de octubre de 1882, en Lugos, Reino de Hungría, Austria-Hungría (ahora Lugoj, Rumania), a 25 millas del castillo de Vlad III (Vlad Drácula). El joven Lugosi se sentía atraído por las artes. Manifestó sus inquietudes teatra- les a su padre, un banquero conservador, quien rechazó la decisión profesional de su hijo. Siendo ya un espíritu rebelde, Lugosi escapó de su casa a los 12 años para seguir sus sueños.

Después de trabajar como minero y maquinista, Lugosi hizo su debut en el escenario a los 20 años en 1902, adop- tando el nombre artístico de Béla Lugosi el año siguiente. Los críticos lo llama- ron “el Laurence Olivier de Hungría”, y fue invitado a formar parte del Teatro Nacional de Budapest.

Durante la Primera Guerra Mundial, Lugosi se enajentó el estilo austro- húngaro y obtuvo el rango de capitán en la 43ª División de la Patrulla de Esquí. Fue herido en combate. Una vez que terminó el conflicto, Lugosi fue el orador principal en un mitin de la Organización Libre de Trabajadores Teatrales, que más tarde se convirtió en el primer sindicato de actuores de cine en el mundo, el Sindicato Nacional de Actores. Don Rhodes escribió en Lugosi: Su vida en el cine, en el escenario y en los corazones de los amantes del horror que “Lugosi ayudó a concertar la unión de los actores de cine en el set de "The Raven", un servicio gremial que se consolidó en el Sindicato Nacional de Actores de Cine (SAG, por sus siglas en inglés) y actuó como su secre- tario general”.

El Primer congreso estatutario del Sindicato Nacional de Actores (NTUA inició el 17 de abril de 1919. El dis- curso de Lugosi duró 15 minutos. Lugosi declaró: “La falta de ingresos combinado con una adicción a la morfina inducida por dolen- ces físicas lo dejaron casi en la miseria. Lugosi murió en su casa de Los Ángeles el 28 de agosto de 1944 en Los Ángeles. "Exigió a Washington rescatar a los refu- giados húngaros-judíos, presionar al régimen nazi de Horthy y flexibilizar las restricciones de inmigración."

El Dr. Rafael Medoff y J. David Spurlock escribieron: “Pudo haber repre- sentado a los millones de vándalos en la pantalla de plata, pero en la vida real Béla Lugosi alzó su voz en protesta por la persecución brutal de los judíos en su Hungría natal" (Libro mayor judío, 3 de enero de 2011).

Béla Lugosi: De actor a activista y anti fascista

¿Es posible un bloqueo naval de EE.UU. contra Venezuela?

Autor: Redacción Internacional, gramana.cc

19 de agosto — El magnate presidente Donald Trump ha insistido en el bloqueo naval a las costas del país, en una aparente tentativa para tomar control de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela y, de acuerdo con el portal estadounidense Mundo Obrero, "Para que los Estados Unidos no sean el único que se sienta aterrorizado, netamente militar. Un estado venezolanas haría estallar el conflicto entren y salgan del país".

¿Piensa que Rusia, por ejemplo, no retiraría sus fuerzas si el gobierno de Estados Unidos decidiera proceder a la destrucción de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela y, de acuerdo con el portal estadounidense Mundo Obrero, "Para que los Estados Unidos no sean el único que se sienta aterrorizado, netamente militar. Un estado venezolanas haría estallar el conflicto entren y salgan del país".

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