By Sam Ordóñez

June 3 — A national strike began in Honduras on May 30 protesting a series of reforms announced by the government. The strike was called in response to a series of decrees signed by the president on May 28 aimed at restructuring the healthcare and education sectors.

The demonstrations, which continued into the next day, suffered brutal police repression. It is a scenario repeatedly seen during the administration of President Juan Orlando Hernandez (JOH).

According to the teachers and doctors who called the strike, the restructuring would lead to massive layoffs and privatize these essential sectors.

In 2010, central government spending on education was 32.9 percent of the total budget; today it is only 19.9 percent. In public health, the figures were 14.3 percent in 2010 and are 9.7 percent today. (Prensa Latina, May 31)

Despite strong police repression of demonstrators, the president was forced to declare that there would be neither mass layoffs nor privatization, and the presidential decrees were not ratified by the National Congress of the Republic. However, organizers of the actions have indicated they will continue protesting until the reforms are completely discarded.

In addition to demonstrators injured by Honduran police, several government and police buildings are reported burned. It is also reported that a group burned tires at the entrance of the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa.

It is not known who initiated this fire, and reactions of progressive groups have been varied. Some claim that the action is justified, due to the recent interference of U.S. imperialism in the country. For his part, former President Manuel Zelaya described the facts as false positives.

The teachers’ and doctors’ organizations have said the strike will continue with demonstrations planned for June 3 and 4.

From the 2009 coup d’état to JOH’s dictatorship

Manuel Zelaya was president from 2006 to 2009 when he was the victim of a coup d'état after proposing a referendum to measure public interest in a constitutional reform.

Although the army, which kidnapped Zelaya and sent him to Costa Rica on June 28, 2009, argued that Zelaya was unconstitutionally seeking a second term, the real reason for the coup was the progressive foreign policy of the Zelaya government.

In 2008, Zelaya had expressed a desire to join the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA), a regional organization promoted by the governments of Venezuela and Cuba to combat the influence of U.S. imperialism.

This represented an unacceptable step for the Honduran oligarchy, which had already opposed the progressive government. When they found the opportunity, these sectors used their control of the media to fabricate a constitutional crisis and carry out a coup.

Continued on page 9

Massive protests against privatization in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, including burning tires in front of the U.S. Embassy in late May.

LGBTQ solidarity at Queens, N.Y., Pride with Roxana Hernandez, a Honduran trans migrant, murdered by ICE.

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Solidarity with Palestine on Al-Quds

Hundreds rallied in New York City’s Times Square May 31 to mark International Day of Al-Quds, Assembly for Jerusalem. Launched in 1979 as one of the first official acts of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Quds Day is held internationally on the last Friday of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan to support Palestinians resisting Israeli occupation. This year millions joined demonstrations throughout Iran, across Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen and around the world. Government forces attacked protesters in Bahrain and Nigeria, while Israeli soldiers fired on thousands of Palestinians gathered for the Great March of Return at Israel’s border barrier around the besieged Gaza Strip. “We have no doubt that the ultimate victory will be for the righteous and Palestine and that the land of Palestine will be a safe place for Muslims, Christians and Jews,” Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said at a Tehran rally.

— Report by Joe Catron

Palestine and the U.S.: Two sides of the same struggle

This slightly edited greeting was given by Siddikah Degoia, an organizer with the NYC Peoples Power Assembly, at the Al-Quds rally in New York on May 31.

From Brooklyn to Palestine, killing people is a crime.

The constant killing of Black and Brown bodies by cops in the U.S. and the occupation of Palestine are not two separate issues. They are in fact one issue perpetrated by the U.S. war machine. From the constant selling of military weapons to Israel by the U.S. to the renowned counterterrorism exchange program provided by Israel to U.S. cops, the issue here is one of imperialism and the control of Black and Brown bodies.

The renowned counterterrorism exchange program is one where pro-Israel organizations like the American Israel Public Affairs Committee send cops to Israel where the cops learn the benefits of tear gas to break up protesters and learn about the surveillance of neighborhoods. All tactics are used here in the U.S., like the famous New York Police Department’s Muslim Surveillance Program. In return, the Israeli military learns about drug war tactics cops use here in Black and Brown communities.

What both the U.S. and Israel forget is that people in both Palestine and the U.S. will keep rising up and will continue standing in solidarity with each other because, as we all know, the people united will never be defeated.

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! It is time to point the blame at—and challenge—the capitalist system. WWF fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

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

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By: Jana Pierre

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Janet and Janine Africa:

"We won’t celebrate until our MOVE 9 brothers are released"  

By Betsy Piette  
Philadelphia

MOVE 9 members Janet Holloway Africa and Janine Phillips Africa, who were recently released after spending nearly 41 years in prison, held a historic press conference in Philadelphia on May 30. They were joined by MOVE members Debbie Sims Africa and Michael Davis Africa Sr., released in 2018, who were unable to attend because of arbitrary parole restrictions that prevent them from being with other MOVE members.

The event was held at the storefront office of the Philadelphia Student Union. The director, Julien Terrell, welcomed the elder freedom fighters as important examples for students currently involved in education and social justice struggles. Janine Africa and Janet Africa opened the press conference by urging people to continue the fight to release the three remaining MOVE 9 members. Edward Goodman Africa was granted parole on April 1, but has yet to be released. Chuck Sims Africa and Delbert Orr Africa are still being denied parole.

Janine Africa stated: "Delbert has always been singled out since police badly beat him following the 1978 confronta-
tion. His most recent appeal for parole was to be heard after six months, but it’s now eight months with no response. If this government had its way, we would still be in jail. They planned for us to die there. But we won’t celebrate until we bring our brothers home." MOVE members Merle Austin Africa and Phil Africa died in prison.

Both women stressed how important their MOVE family is to them. In her writings of MOVE founder John Africa were in helping them survive decades of imprisonment, including three years of solitary confinement. Ramona Africa — imprisoned for seven years following the deadly Philadelphia police bombing of the MOVE house on May 13, 1985 — echoed these sentiments. "This system has worked hard to break us up," Ramona said. "They tried to get me, Consuelia, Ramona, Sue and Sue to agree to the stipulation that if we did not associate with MOVE we could come out earlier, but none of us agreed to compromise."

Resistance to brutal prison conditions

The women described the brutal condi-
tions they were subjected to in SCI Muncy women’s prison following their arrests in 1978. They were initially put into "the hole" — solitary confinement — and told by a guard that they would remain there for the duration of their 30- to 100-year sentences.

"A large guard punched me in the chest and knocked me across the cell," Janet Africa said, describing conditions. "They took our clothes, didn’t feed us, kept the lights on 24/7 and kept us in the hole for three years."

"They thought they could break us. They didn’t see women as strong, but they were wrong," said Sue Levine Africa. "We did 50 days of a hunger strike, exercising throughout and going without even water the last few days. They even sent me to a men’s prison to try to stop us, but we ended up breaking Ed Bennett’s back."

Carlos Africa described how in December 1981, he and MOVE 9 men were attacked by prison guards who used water hoses, night sticks, ice picks and even baseball bats: "We survived the beatings. We fought because they had attacked our sisters at the women’s house of corrections."

Both women maintain their innocence in the death of Philadelphia Police Officer Mumia Abu-Jamal. He was shot in the back of the head by "friendly fire." Ramona Africa stated that when Ed Bennett saw her in the yard at Muncy before her release, he said, "We know you all didn’t kill that cop."

"All the MOVE speakers recounted the painful impact of learning about the brutal deaths of 11 family members, includ-
ing their own children, while in prison, when police bombed the MOVE house in May, 1985."

An audio statement from political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, welcoming the women’s release, was played. Janine Africa stated: "Mumia is impris-
one because of his stance in support of MOVE. He spoke the truth. One of the last things he did before police shot him was to call into a radio show to challenge Judge Edward McMahon who convicted us."

"Political climate worse today"

When asked to compare the political climate in the 1970s to today, both women responded that things are worse now than when they were imprisoned. Janine Africa noted: "Forty years ago there was no progress, no freedom of speech — unless you said what you wanted — but the system was more diplomatic and covered things up. They aren’t covering it up any more. Police shoot people in the streets and nothing is done."

Janine Africa added: "The system has degenerated, but there is a lot of technol-
ogy now so that we can see things happen in the open. Yet even with all these cam-
eras, all these pictures, all these situations with brothers and sisters being shot down in cold blood by cops, they still try to tell us that didn’t happen."

"The political climate is bad, but don’t be discouraged," concluded Janine Africa. "The power of the people is a mighty force. It’s what got Mumia off death row and it’s what got us here today."
In 2004, Ohio became notorious for the deliberate suppression of Black votes. The result, which was called “Ohio’s first poll tax,” may have given the state’s 20 electoral votes to George W. Bush — without which he would have lost to John Kerry. Not much has changed in 15 years. Only two of Ohio’s 16 Congresspeople are Black. The A. Philip Randolph Institute, a constituency group of the AFL-CIO that represents the interests of Black workers, is a plaintiff in a 2018 lawsuit filed over the way Ohio’s Congressional districts are constructed. 

Plaintiffs accused the Republican-dominated legislature of gerrymandering — by definition “to divide or arrange (a territorial unit) into election districts in a way that gives one political party an unfair advantage.” (Merriam-Webster)

The legislators redrew the Congressional district map in 2011, with the announced result giving Republicans 12 out of 16 possible seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. The lawsuit alleges that Democratic Party voters were either “packed” into a few Democratic strongholds or “cracked” into other districts where their voting strength was diluted. In drawing up the 9th District — nicknamed “snake on the lake” — legislators created a long, narrow district that runs 141 miles along Lake Erie and connects Toledo with part of Cleveland. This forced Marcy Kaptur of Toledo and Dennis Kucinich of Cleveland, both of whom have progressive reputations, to run against each other in the Democratic primary. Kaptur won.

On May 3, a panel of three federal judges ordered Ohio to redraw the map by June 14, stating it “dilutes the votes of Democratic voters by packing and cracking them into districts that are so skewed toward one party that the electoral outcome is predetermined.” (New York Times, May 7, 2018)

To subvert their political rivals, Republicans overlooked provisions of the Voting Rights Act. The pack-and-crack strategy negatively impacted Black voters, among the many who reject the more blatant bigotry of Trump’s party.

Another case in Michigan

The practice of gerrymandering is by no means unique to Ohio. A week before the Ohio court ruling, a three-judge panel (not the same federal judges who ruled in Ohio’s lawsuit) unanimously concluded that gerrymandering was “of historic proportions” in Michigan. The pre-dominant purpose … was to subordinate the interests of Democratic voters and entrench Republicans in power.” (Detroit News, April 25)

Michigan was ordered to redraw the 2011 map of U.S. Congressional and state legislative districts by Aug. 1 and to hold special elections before Nov. 3, 2020 for some state Senate positions.

As in Ohio, the lawsuit primarily focused on “political” gerrymandering—deliberate advantaging of Republican Party candidates.

However, racism is an undeniable factor in Michigan as well.

University of Florida Professor Michael McDonald notes: “If more minorities were shoved into that district than were needed in order to elect a minority candidate of choice, then the district becomes suspect. Then race was used as a predominant factor in the creation of that district.” (VWET, June 28, 2018) When this happens it is actually a violation of the Voting Rights Act, even though the act has been cited by Republicans as a reason for creating Black-majority districts.

The long 149 Congressional District contains parts of two counties, containing all the Black-majority communities in southeast Michigan from Pontiac to Detroit. The district bypasses adjoining communities that are predominantly white. Michigan’s only African-American Congressional district.

High court allows racist gerrymandering in Ohio, Michigan

By Martha Grevett

Cleveland

In June, 2019 workers.org

The Salt Lake Film Society shows independent and art films. Our film showings are a great way to support your local theater workers organizing fighting unions.

The union became official in April. A representative of IATSE Local 806 Ticket Sellers and Treasurers in Washington, D.C., called to congratulate the new unionists, showing them they’re not alone. Anti-worker laws like Utah’s “right-to-work” (for-less) will hold up efforts to organize workers.

Boots Riley to workers:

“Hey, what’s up, y’all. This is Boots Riley, writer and director of ‘Sorry to Bother You.’ I want to say congratulations to you theater workers who are coming together forming a union, joining a union, fighting for higher wages and benefits and all of that good stuff. And just seeing where your power lies. And, you know, so much of what you do is, as you know, about getting stronger together. And the thing about what happens when people come together and fight, when people, especially when they do that on the job, it starts to tell a story to other people. That’s where it exists in front of you, it’s about the story that is being told to millions of other people that will be finding out about what you’re doing. And just even in your local area that will inspire — not just theater workers, but fast food workers, you know, anyone, you know, retail workers — so what you’re doing is very important. And I’m inspired by you. Thank you so much.”

Boots Riley to workers: ‘I’m inspired by you’

By Joanna Straughn

Salt Lake City

The Salt Lake Film Society shows independent and art films. Our film showings are a great way to support your local theater workers organizing fighting unions.

Front-of-house staff sell tickets, serve concessions, operate projectors and clean up theater floors. At the Salt Lake City theater, workers organize a union.

By Workers World Boston bureau

Boston meeting ‘No Walls in the LGBTQ2S Struggle’

By Workers World Boston bureau

Workers’ Solidarity Day was marked by a May 31 meeting titled “No Walls in the LGBTQ2S Struggle,” sponsored by Stonewall Warriors, International Workers’ Solidarity Network and Workers World Party.

The meeting was dedicated to Roxanna Hernandez, a Honduran trans woman who died in detention at the border. Speaking about the heinous deaths of children in ICE detention centers, Sam Ordóñez of Fight for Im/migrants and Communities explained. Speaking about the heinous deaths of children in ICE detention centers, Sam Ordóñez of Fight for Im/migrants and Communities explained. Speaking about the heinous deaths of children in ICE detention centers, Sam Ordóñez of Fight for Im/migrants and Communities explained.

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The next day she was on the front line fighting against a fascist, misogynist, anti-choice gathering in downtown Boston. Remarkably the meeting raised consciousness about the discrimination trans people face in accessing reproductive health care, including the violence of neglect, forced sterilization, unwanted procedures or being turned down for needed procedures, racism and lack of funds. Trans people are demanding the medical measures necessary to be able to make an uncoerced, safe choice on whether or not to have children and the destruction of the health-care system.

A Boston Google worker, who asked to remain anonymous, is trying to unionize their workplace where much of the workforce is precarious. “The company purports to be against bigotry and sexism, but it is just the opposite …”

The practice of gerrymandering is by no means unique to Ohio. A week before the Ohio court ruling, a three-judge panel (not the same federal judges who ruled in Ohio’s lawsuit) unanimously concluded that gerrymandering was “of historic proportions” in Michigan. The pre-dominant purpose … was to subordinate the interests of Democratic voters and entrench Republicans in power.” (Detroit News, April 25)
In 2003, during the genocidal and criminal U.S. war against Iraq, the term ‘shock and awe’ has come to the people of Iraq. The Trump war against migrants— as well as the historic war against incarceration— is nothing but the will of the voters and appealed the act and contain this significant trend. Socialists, are being elected to office. Voter rights and community activist groups who merely want to survive—and to live their lives. It is time to open up the jails and lock up the Trumps of the world.

The AP stated: “At 6:19 hearing, Harith Augustus picked up to this significant trend. Activists close down Atlanta Detention Center

By Dianne Mathiowitz Atlanta

The multiunit Atlanta City Detention Center was built prior to the 1996 Olympics to house the hundreds of poor and homeless people that the image-conscious corporation elite were determined to banish from the sight of a global audience. At that time the City Council passed a series of “quality of life” laws guaranteed to ensnare poor people, and Black youth and the incarcerated— must be defended.
The detention center sits on a large piece of valuable land in an area of Atlanta undergoing gentrification. Undoubtedly, profi- mitated-invoices will be pushing their own agenda. But the determined activists, especially those who have personal experi- ences with the crime which incarceration is designed to prevent, will be going into the next battle confident that “When We Fight, We Win!”

Organizing to stop cop killing continues

The same day the city announced the ACDC closing, the city also announced that Atlanta police would no longer par- ticipate in certain federal task forces. The recent killing of Jimmy Atchison and, prior to that, the killing of Jamarion Robinson by FBI-led squads, saw family members and Black Lives Matter activists challenge the “official” stories. No body-camera video is allowed on federally organized task forces. Moreover, federal agents involved have not been made available for questioning by the Fulton County District Attorney.

Atchison was unarmed and hiding in a closet when he was killed and found dead in an FBL-led squad. Seventy-six bullets fired at Robinson tore his body apart.

Women on the Rise is one of many prisoner rights and community activist groups who “fought to win” in closing the Atlanta jail.

Gerrymandering in Ohio, Michigan

Continued from page 4

2018 primary election, with a stunning 75 percent voting in favor. The initiative creates new terms for the next remapping of the 16 House districts, during the minority party a greater voice in the process. Ohio and Michigan Republicans who believe the vote is not occurring in a vacuum. Right now a record number of progressive voters, most of whom identify as socialists, are being elected to office. Voter suppression is a political tool to counter-act and contain this significant trend. This movement for democratic rights is taking place within the narrow context of bourgeois electoral politics—Democrats vs. Republicans. But while the form is repressive, its content is wholly progressive—a still unfinished struggle against outright disenfranchisement. All genuine anti-racists need to pay attention.
**Stonewall Rebellion: Crowd rage ignites**


By Leslie Feinberg

A number of accounts of the confrontations between cops and the crowd outside the Stonewall Bar mark the prolonged struggle between police and a cross-dressed butch lesbian as a qualitative turning point. According to Village Voice journalist Howard Smith, “It was at that moment that the scene became organized.” Smith wrote that the crowd exploded: “Police brutality! Pig!”

Gino, a Puerto Rican construction worker, joining in the shouts of “Let her go! Leave her alone!” reportedly dislodged a loose cobblestone and heaved it across Christopher Street. Eyewitness Steve Yates remembered, “It landed on the trunk of a police car with a terrible screech, ‘scaring the shit’ out of a policeman who was standing next to the car.”

According to Stonewall employee Harvey Weinstein, “It seems more or fewer people in the crowd were able to throw all four tires on the police cruiser with the butch lesbian prisoner inside.”

Raymond “Ray” Castro, a Puerto Rican baker, recalled how he fought his own arrest. “At that point I started pushing back and wound up with two plainclothes police pushing me. The next thing I know, there’s a plainclothes cop and two uniformed cops pushing me. The next thing I know, there’s a Seventh Avenue South construction site and the ground was by one of their billy clubs.”

Tom, a participant, remembered Ray battling against arrest. “A couple more cops were thrown into the van. We joined in with some who wanted to storm the van, free those inside, then turn over the van. But nobody was yet prepared for that kind of action. Then a scuffle at the door. One guy refused to be put into the van. Five or six cops jumped the van to subdue him with little success. Several guys tried to help free him. Unguarded, three or four of those in the van appeared then quickly disappeared into the crowd. This was all anyone needed.”

As police hurriedly tried to load other prisoners into the police wagon, one six-year-old participant said, “I got in, went down to the bottom and sporting a high heel shoe out of the back of the [police] wagon into the chest of a cop, throwing him backward. Another cop grabbed the door on the side of the wagon and jumped out. The cops chased and caught her, but Blond Frankie [who worked the door at the Stonewall] quickly managed to engineer another escape from the car; several queens successfully made their way out with him and were swallowed up in the crowd.”

Michael Fader reported seeing the cops “leave the van unattended—the doors were open, so they left. That raised the emotional level, the excitement of them getting away.”

The multinational crowd of hundreds massed around the police wagon was made up of a crowd of people: the raw energy and anger enough at oppression to be drawn to a confrontation with the police.

**Buffalo dyke march**

By Marge Maloney and Ellie Dorritie

Buffalo, N.Y.

On Saturday, June 1, about 200 women and gender-oppressed people marched up one of Buffalo’s busiest streets, the 4th annual Dyke March. Led by Black and Brown women, the march had chants, banners and signs condemning the war on the LGBTQ community. There was a demand on women and on all oppressed people: the war on color and on all oppressed people. The strongest message was for the need to unite the struggles of all the oppressed and to be in the streets demanding change.

On Sunday, June 2, the many throngs-larger, hand-sponsored Pride Parade took place. Workers World Party Buffalo marched in this year’s parade, supporting an Anti-Capitalist Leftist Solidarity Bloc and acting in unity to bring radical politics and the LGBTQ+ liberation struggle back to Buffalo’s Pride events and the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

The Solidarity Bloc declared its intent to “Make Buffalo Pride for the People, not for profit,” proclaiming:

- Pride for the People is accessible and inclusive.
- Pride for the People brings community together to celebrate milestones and organize for our futures.
- Pride for the People is united against a corporatized, white-washed, profit-driven Pride.
- Pride for the People remembers the open spaces that gave us the right to march.

The Solidarity Bloc encouraged participants to wear black, in direct contrast to the overpriced rainbow merchandise that surrounds the parade.

**Pride in the CLE Day**

Hundreds marched in the 4th annual “Pride in the CLE” Saturday, June 1, in Cleveland to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion. A tremendous turnout at the march and festival that followed demonstrated that the current right-wing attack on the community will not succeed in pushing back the struggle for full equality.

Pride in the CLE was organized by the LGBTQ Community Center of Greater Cleveland. Mallory McMaster, pride director at the center said, “Being visible in public and showing the community that LGBTQ people exist here and contribute to the community is a form of resistance and protest in a world where we’re so oppressed and silenced and unseen.” The International Workers Solidarity Network distributed signs stating, “No walls in the LGBTQ2S community” and “Solidarity with immigrants and refugees.”

**Queens, N.Y. Pride**

Domingo Queens Pride, Workers World Party members joined in the #TGN3ChileWalk commemorating the 40th anniversary of the 1973 coup in Chile. Led by Black, Latinx and LatinX-identified Queers, workers and community members, the group included Danny Garvin, president of the LGBTQ+ Center of Greater Cleveland. Mallory McMaster, pride director at the center said, “Being visible in public and showing the community that LGBTQ people exist here and contribute to the community is a form of resistance and protest in a world where we’re so oppressed and silenced and unseen.”

The contingent also honored Johana Medina Leon, trans asylum seeker from El Salvador, who died June 1 in Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody, and Roxana Hernandez, trans asylum seeker from Honduras, dead in ICE custody in 2018.

The contingent message was well received by the Queens community, with many joining in the chant, “Roxana Hernandez, PRESENTEE!” and “Fuck the police!”

The contingent, organized by the Latinx trans women, highlighted the fact that transphobia kills and sex work is work.

**Photo and report by Sofia Adams**

Carter: “The crowd, however, was beyond being intimidated by mere sirens and the cowans had to push slowly through the furious protesters, who, enraged, pounced on the police vehicles. Danny Garvin recalls the noise as ‘people would run over, grab the [police] wagon, and start shaking—ba-boom! ba-boom!’”

Martin Duberman reported, “One queen smashed an officer with her heel, knocked him down, grabbed his handcuff keys, freed herself, and passed the keys to another queen behind her.”

Inspector Fine was left with eight plainclothes detectives and one uniformed cop, all surrounded by an enraged crowd. Those among the hundreds who surrounded police threw their precious pocket change in a hard haul, shouting, “Dirty cop!” and “Here’s your payoff!”

They hurled bottles, cans, bricks, a dammed fire hydrant and dog excrement at police. A youth named Timmy reportedly heaved a wire-mesh garbage can, which shattered the Stonewall’s plate-glass window, which was reinforced with plywood.

Cries of “Gay power!” and “Let’s get ‘em!” articulated the detonation of mass rage.

There was nowhere for the police to retreat except back into the Stonewall — the very bar they had raided.

**Stonewall combatant Sylvia Rivera shared a very important point about the rebellion that ensued. Rivera was a Venezuelan and Puerto Rican transgender youth who had lived homeless on the streets of Manhattan since she was 10 years old. Before her death, she stressed the role in the rebellion of the homeless gay/trans street youth — Black, Latix, white and gender-variant — who could not afford the Stonewall door admission charge or the overpriced, watered-down drinks and were outside the park across the street from the bar was their home. (Personal interview, 1997).**

Rivera emphasized that at the moment of breakthrough of the rebellion, “It was gay people from the Village out front — homeless people who lived in the park in the Washington Square outside the bar — and then drag queens behind them and everybody behind us.” (Feinberg, “Trans Liberation: Beyond Pink or Blue”)

Danny Garvin described how police tried to push back those gathered around them. This allowed the crowd to make an important discovery: a big stack of new bricks at a Seventh Avenue South construction site.

Garvin explained, “They would come at us with nightsticks, and we would have to disperse onto Seventh Avenue, where the people were able to open the brick wall and throw the bricks.”

Deputy Inspector Seymour Pine, who led the raid, ordered police to drive off quickly with prisoners in the police wagon and three cop cruisers and “just drop them off at the Sixth Precinct and hurry back.”

People in the crowd around the police wagon began beating on its sides, demanding to know the names of those imprisoned inside. According to Voice reporter Lucian Treadway, “A cop went up to push the [police] wagon over, but it drove away before anything could happen.”

The slashed tires of one or more of the vehicles slowed down the escape. According to accounts compiled by David Carter, “The crowd, however, was beyond being intimidated by mere sirens and the cowans had to push slowly through the furious protesters, who, enraged, pounced on the police vehicles. Danny Garvin recalls the noise as ‘people would run over, grab the [police] wagon, and start shaking—ba-boom! ba-boom!’”

Martin Duberman reported, “One queen smashed an officer with her heel, knocked him down, grabbed his handcuff keys, freed herself, and passed the keys to another queen behind her.”

Inspector Fine was left with eight plainclothes detectives and one uniformed cop, all surrounded by an enraged crowd. Those among the hundreds who surrounded police threw their precious pocket change in a hard haul, shouting, “Dirty cop!” and “Here’s your payoff!”

They hurled bottles, cans, bricks, a dammed fire hydrant and dog excrement at police. A youth named Timmy reportedly heaved a wire-mesh garbage can, which shattered the Stonewall’s plate-glass window, which was reinforced with plywood.

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**Photo and report by Susan Schnur**
Why it’s necessary

Unite and fight against abortion bans

By Sue Davis

The criminal anti-abortion network in the U.S., praised and promoted by the racist, reactionary Don in the Oval Office, was hard at work the last two weeks of May.

A Missouri abortion ban was signed into law on May 24. The U.S. Supreme Court issued a split decision in an Indiana abortion case on May 27, affirming the need to bury or cremate fetal remains, but choosing not to rule on ending painful prenatal corrections.

A Louisiana abortion ban was signed into law on May 29. The last remaining clinic in Missouri stayed open due to a May 31 temporary restraining order.

May 31 was the 30th anniversary of Dr. George Tiller’s murder in Wichita, Kan., who was called “St. George” by co-workers and other abortion providers because of his compassion and empathy for women.

While any one of these events could meet the threshold for their shared aspects is the current violent attack on the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.

The so-called “abortion wars” started even before Roe. The misnamed anti-abortion “National Right to Life Committee” was founded in 1967. Now the attacks that ramped up in the 1980s have gone nuclear.

Between Jan. 1 and May 20, some 378 abortion bans were introduced in the states. An unprecedented 40 percent were abortion bans, according to the Guttmacher Institute on May 30. Guttmacher noted that between Jan. 1, 2011, and May 31 of this year, 479 abortion restrictions became law.

None of the current bans have gone into effect, thanks to legal intervention by the Center for Reproductive Rights, which filed May 24 to stop the Mississippi abortion ban.

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evolution of capitalism.

It has been one of the immutable effects worldwide capitalist crisis, back in 1825, there has been no capitalist recovery

Unemployment ‘too high’?

In a recent interview, President George W. Bush permitted himself to say that he thinks unemployment is “too high” and believes the economy will soon spur upward. He didn’t bemoan unemployment itself, just that it is too high.

This is the acceptable political and the- oretical premise that underlines capital- ist ideology: There is and always will be an employment, if those that are thriving lower rates. As for the ones that don’t make it, the banks can establish themselves as the first and most important creditors in case of bankruptcy.

There has been such an avalanche of failures that it has overpowered some of the big banks. From that is part and parcel of the merits of the “free enter- prise” system.

The chair of the Federal Reserve Board historically plays the role of the head-

ted, tight-fisted guardian of the money supply. Usually the president and Greenspan say that interest rates should be lower. But the chair replies: “Not yet. It will endanger the credit standing of the government. If that goes, the whole uni- verse might collapse.”

Eventually, however, the chair gets around to lowering interest rates, and the game of interest rates

The Federal Reserve Board plus the directors of the 12 district banks are in charge of the central banking system. Their role in charge of the money sup- ply makes them more omnipotent than any ancient monarchy. This bank has a Federal Open Market Committee that deals with the financing of the govern- ment’s obligations. It buys and sells dol- lar loans, and conducts currency wars abroad.

The game of interest rates

Historically, there’s a neat game that goes on between the U.S. president and the chair of the Federal Reserve Board in times of economic crisis. Congress plays a role in it, too.

The president, whether Republican or Democrat, plays the point man as the advocate of low interest rates or “cheap money.” This is supposed to help the mortgaged farmer, the poor home owner, the little business person—borrow from the bank at low interest rates. About 6,000,000 small businesses have died so far in the past decade, leaving hardly a trace behind.

The lower interest rates are really for the industrialists. The big banks give the ones that are thriving lower rates. As for the ones that don’t make it, the banks can establish themselves as the first and most important creditors in case of bankruptcy.

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Economic crisis. Whatever criticism does must come out one way or another.

And continuing slump in Bush’s stand-

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Economic conditions may improve if,

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General strike hits gov’t reforms

By Marco Teruggi

Chavismo trains social movement leaders to defend Caracas

The leaders of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) are in the vanguard of the political leadership of the training plan.

“The 2007 election was characterized by blatant fraud from JOV’s National Electoral Party. The vote count was suspended several times, in one instance for three days, and when it resumed, the opposition advantage of almost 5 percent of the votes had mysteriously disappeared.

The manipulation of the count was so obvious that even the Organization of American States, which normally serves to seal U.S. imperial decrees, condemned in the strongest terms the conduct of the National Electoral Council. The opposition immediately recognized the result.

The Honduran people took to the streets to protest the theft of the presidency, which led to police repression with tear gas and a 10-day curfew. Since then, the intense struggle to restore democracy in the Central American country has not ceased.

JOV’s neoliberal offensive

When the right wing took power in Honduras in 2009, it immediately began to implement the neoliberal program.

The objective of these elites, in service of imperial interests, is to privatize and sell the country to private interests. This has been the demands of the transnationals.

The murder of Indigenous lands has not stopped since the Spanish conquerors arrived, but under JOV it has intensified. The murder of Indigenous environmental activists is the first test.

The right wing, following the U.S. plan, and depending on its financing, has already carried out violent actions during the days surrounding Guaidó’s self-proclamation [as president] at the end of January. The rightists attempted to forcefully enter from Colombia on Feb. 23, unleashed attacks on the electric power grid, and attempted a political-military coup at dawn on April 30.

What if they aren’t yet willing to agree on a process in Oslo that does not concede Maduro’s exit? Chavismo has to prepare for all possible scenarios.

Caracas is the epicenter of the Bolivarian Revolution’s power that the coup forces seek to overthrow. So Chavismo is consequently preparing on the front lines for any other attacks around and within the city.

By Marco Teruggi

Caracas

TERUGGI is an Argentine journalist living in Caracas. This article appeared June 1 in paginas12, Translated by Michael Otto.

HONDURAS

Continued from page 1

Publicly, the U.S. government under Barack Obama condemned the coup, but allowed the junta to overthrow the democratically elected president. In fact, emails from Hillary Clinton, then secretary of state, reveal that the U.S. government was negotiating with the coup leaders, most of whom were trained in the School of the Americas (in the U.S.) and had close ties to the Pentagon.

The U.S. then recognized the results of the presidential elections in November of that year, despite being held under a military junta. The new conservative president, Porfirio Lobo Sosa, received great support from imperialists, including people of every age group, took part in this training day.

This is the first time they have put their hands on a rifle or learned techniques for territorial reconnaissance. No one forced them to come; they are ordinary people from organized neighborhoods. They are learning the day-to-day struggle that has been transformed into a battle for gas, transportation and controlled prices.

The training has various stages: learning the geography of the neighborhood, mobilizing with weapons, doing physical exercises, and learning about self-defense, organization and service to the public.

The instructors are members of the Bolivarian Militia, the body made up of more than 2.5 million women and men, the backbone of the so-called Doctrine of Comprehensive Defense of the Nation.

The Honduran training exercises include several organizations: the PSUV, the allied parties (Communist Party of Venezuela (PCV) and the Free Homeland Party (PPL)), the social and communal movements, and the members of the Constituent National Assembly.

The exercises have three objectives.

First, organization of defense through the network of neighborhoods; second, to form a nucleus of combatants in each territory; and third, to carry out the exercises as such. Third, the productive effort, where the objective is that each of the 22 parishes will have a center for training and production.

Colonel Boris Iván Berrotrén de Jesús, commander of the Area of Comprehensive Defense 444 Caricuao, explains: “All Venezuelans have the responsibility in the defense of our homeland, as it is written in article 236 of the Constitution. It is not only a question of arms. We are going to create a very important logistical chain. There must be eight or nine people in the rear for each combatant here; the instruction must be continuous; and all components must be ready for the comprehensive defense in each territory.”

The training is intended to respond to two principal possible scenarios of conflict.

The first is well known; it concerns the actions that the right wing may attempt to use against military reservations and attempts to stop the protests. This is the most famous of the scenarios that the exercises are geared toward.

The second scenario involves one that the government has condemned: the possibility that the right wing may attempt to use mercenary forces composed of various agents, such as paramilitaries, criminal gangs and private contractors.

In that situation, Caracas’ regions — whose populoplated hills look like labyrinths and much of the city is stairs and balconies — could be a battleground for the irregular forces. The organized people must be prepared to spot enemy movements and know how to act to stop them.

What is to come: Dialogue or combat?

The training plan in Caracas advances hand-in-hand with the central commitment Chavismo has made since January: to carry out dialogue with the opposition in the best democratic form of negotiation.

The first attempts at dialogue occurred secretly for months. During the past two weeks, talks in Oslo, Norway’s capital, have been public.

Chavismo has demonstrated unity around the search for dialogue and has affirmed that it will insist on reaching an agreement. The opposition, on the other hand, has been divided on the matter.

One sector is involved in the attempt at dialogue, like the representatives of Juan Guaidó acting under U.S. orders and joined by the Un Nuevo Tiempo [A New Time] party. But another sector has insisted there is no longer anything to talk about or negoti- ate. That group clings to the argument that they can only get rid of Chavismo through an act of international force. To this end, for example, they work publicly on the fictional [goal of] reinserting Venezuela into the Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance via the National Assembly.

The U.S. government, for its part, publicly maintains that any solution depends on the departure of [President Nicolás Maduro], but has returned to supporting Guaidó through Vice President Mike Pence. The question that has been around since the beginning of Guaidó’s self-proclamation is how far is the United States willing to go?

While those are the public debates, what is being prepared behind closed doors? The right wing, following the U.S. plan — and depending on its financing — has already carried out violent actions during the days surrounding Guaidó’s self-proclamation [as president] at the end of January. The rightists attempted to forcefully enter from Colombia on Feb. 23, unleashed attacks on the electric power grid, and attempted a political-military coup at dawn on April 30.

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The oligarchy in its own propaganda about these cities admits that they use Hong Kong, which was founded as a British colony to control China after the Opium Wars, as a model. (tinyurl.com/ ystfbgg0)

These ZEDEs imply a return to the direct colonialism of past centuries, as they are designed to serve as an entry point for transnational corporations and foreign capital. Their nominally “auton- omous” state would actually turn them into colonies of American and European companies that want to operate in Central America.

While Guaidó was in Colombia, he joined by the Un Nuevo Tiempo [A New Time] party. But another sector has insisted there is no longer anything to talk about or negotiate. That group clings to the argument that they can only get rid of Chavismo through an act of international force. To this end, for example, they work publicly on the fictional [goal of] reinserting Venezuela into the Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance via the National Assembly. The U.S. government, for its part, publicly maintains that any solution depends on the departure of [President Nicolás Maduro], but has returned to supporting Guaidó through Vice President Mike Pence. The question that has been around since the beginning of Guaidó’s self-proclamation is how far is the United States willing to go? While those are the public debates, what is being prepared behind closed doors? The right wing, following the U.S. plan — and depending on its financing — has already carried out violent actions during the days surrounding Guaidó’s self-proclamation [as president] at the end of January. The rightists attempted to forcefully enter from Colombia on Feb. 23, unleashed attacks on the electric power grid, and attempted a political-military coup at dawn on April 30. What if they aren’t yet willing to agree on a process in Oslo that does not concede Maduro’s exit? Chavismo has to prepare for all possible scenarios. Caracas is the epicenter of the Bolivarian Revolution’s power that the coup forces seek to overthrow. So Chavismo is consequently preparing on the front lines for any other attacks around and within the city.

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When a drink of water becomes a felony

By John Catalinotto

Many people hike for pleasure through the beauty of the Sonoran Desert near Ajo, Ariz., as you might visit a state park near where you live. While hiking in the desert, Scott Warren discovered the brutal reality facing migrants at the U.S. border as he began to run into people who had just walked through the 100+°F desert and were in desperate need of water.

Warren became a volunteer with Tucson-based No More Deaths (NMD). This and other humanitarian aid groups in southern Arizona leave water and food in the desert for migrant travelers. And in the desert for migrant travelers. And in southern Arizona leave water and food in the desert for migrant travelers. And in the southern Arizona leave water and food in the desert for migrant travelers. And in the desert for migrant travelers. And in the desert for migrant travelers. And in the desert for migrant travelers. And in the desert for migrant travelers.

This and other humanitarian aid groups were in desperate need of water. On May 20, Warren commented to Democracy Now! about the increasing mortality rate: "We went from finding human remains on every other month to finding five sets of human remains on a single trip hiking through the Growler Valley, and then going back a week later and finding two more sets in a remnant, and then, on a single day of searching, finding eight sets of remains and bodies of people who had died in identical areas.

Migrants coming into or already in the U.S. are suffering systematic racist demonization, medical neglect amounting to torture, andization and incarceration that includes assault and rape. Now, not only have attacks on migrants intensified, reprimals are ramping up against those who help migrants. Early in 2018, NMD released a video showing U.S. Border Patrol cops destroying more than 3,000 gallons of water NMD had put out for migrants in the desert. It was after the video was released that Warren was arrested at a site where migrants were receiving life-saving aid.

Syracuse University’s Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse reported that there has been a 30% increase in the nationwide since 2015 in the number of people arrested annually for allegedly harboring or assisting undocumented migrants. For many of the people who live along the border desert, it is not unusual to have someone knock on the door and ask for water or help. No More Deaths and other organizations try to broaden and deepen that neighborly help.

In the prosecution of Warren and attacks on these aid organizations, the U.S. government is attempting to criminally prosecute aid workers on humanitarian grounds.

Scott Warren has pointed out that Ajo was once a copper mining town where the company policed who crossed the border. Now, in this era of transnational financial exploitation, the U.S. government has made border policing into a big for-profit business built on dying bodies and incurring losses.

The brutal hand of capitalism tries over and over again to split up oppressed and working people — to try to make us turn against each other and betray each other — to intensify profit. Over and over, we affirm that we will suceed each other, support each other, fight for each other against this death-dealing system. We pledge: No Borders in Workers’ Struggles!

WV educators refuse to back down, once again

By Workers World West Virginia bureau

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May 31—The panorama in Venezuela has changed during the course of one month. At dawn on April 30, Juan Guaidó, the fugitive Leopoldo López, and several deputies of the National Assembly had publicly led an attempted military coup that, in the past several days, the scene has now shifted to Oslo, the capital of Norway, where Chavismo’s representatives and a sector of the opposition have been negotiating.

There is a direct relationship between the two events. The collapse of the April 30 political-military coup attempt has forced the right wing to publicly recognize their adversary at an arena using dialogue.

Things didn’t quite go according to plan that morning in April. What was supposed to happen? The coup was going to liberate Lópe from house arrest via the main gate (the Altamira overpass in east Caracas) and place him next to Guaidó to lead an uprising, in which they would meet with soldiers from the military barracks, high commanders of the Bolivarian National Armed Forces (FANB) and sectors of government institutions. They sought to unleash a massive popular movement that would move in a massive wave towards the Miraflores Palace.

Few on streets with opposition

In fact, the only thing that happened was that Juan Guaidó, some assembly members and leaders, about 40 armed men and the chief of the intelligence service were joined on the streets by only 5,000 people. After that, López and many of the leaders fled to various embassies.

Speculation proliferated from that moment. Elliott Abrams, U.S. Special Envoy for Venezuela, said that everything had been set up by those who he alleged had made commitments. He claimed that the commander-in-chief of the army (FANB), the president of the Supreme Court of Justice, and the chief of the Presidential Honor Guard had been involved.

According to Abrams, there was a 15-point agreement. However, that agreement has never been disclosed or confirmed. Neither was the purported participation of the people he named. On the contrary, the three officials Abrams claimed to have been involved appeared with President Nicolás Maduro and carried out their respective assignments.

Even the media that supported the attempt to overthrow Maduro openly challenged this version of the April 30 operation. They called into question the Venezuelan right wing, as well as the actors in Donald Trump’s administration and internal tensions in the White House concerning strategy toward Venezuela. The U.S. president favored getting out of the crisis by resorting to dialogue, while the John Bolton-Mike Pompeo axis wanted to advance towards a military escalation.

Guaidó faced internal dissent

The still-existing speculations were modified by information about the first round of talks in Norway. These talks had taken place unofficially before May 17, when they became public. Guaidó faced accusations from his own ranks. Those who accused Guaidó pointed out that he went to Oslo without informing other sectors of the opposition. Consequently, he did not take into consideration the possibility of modifying the order of the three steps he had promised from day one: Put an end to “usurpation,” oversee the transition of government and hold “free elections.”

Opposition demands Maduro resign

On May 28, a second round of talks took place in Oslo. Guaidó, the self-proclaimed “president,” reiterated his rhetoric, adopting the “five arrows” of an artillery barrage. Guaidó was reinforced by men from his Popular Will party, including his envoy to the United States, Carlos Vecchio, a fugitive from justice in his home country who is an asset to Maduro’s departure.” There would be nothing to negotiate other than the form of Maduro’s exit and his destination.

On May 29, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs—which called for maximum caution regarding the confidentiality of the result—reported through a communiqué that the meeting addressed economic, political and electoral issues. Part of the resolution would require elections in order to be ratified. When and under what conditions would they happen? That is one aspect of the debate on which there is no agreement.

Bolton: U.S. strangling economy

The other core issue is economic: The Venezuelan economy is being strangled by a U.S. blockade that seeks to suffocate the people. U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton graphically explained: “It’s something you see in Star Wars when Darth Vader strangulates somebody, that’s what we are doing to the regime economically.” Bolton’s objective now is to strike at the heart of the government’s economic operation. To contend high food prices, by blocking food imported by Venezuela’s Local Supply and Production Committees (CLAP).

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The right wing—who went to Norway—subjected U.S. orders—abandoned the new dialogue, will they return to machine guns or to a pattern of escalating violence? Their discourse has bordered on the impossible. What’s the result of this game? The only thing they will accept is that Maduro leave. The sticking point is that to negotiate is to give in, among other things.

Venezuelan right wing negotiates in Oslo

The government’s political situation inside Venezuela puts it in a stronger position for dialogue, while its economic position is weaker. Data published by the Central Bank of Venezuela show the astonishing difficulties: The gross domestic product contracted by 52.3 percent between the third quarter of 2013 and September 2018. Inflation in 2015 was 80.6 percent, 274.4 percent in 2016, and 862.6 percent in 2017; it skyrocketed to 139,000,226.2 percent in 2018. The government has with such statistics in an economy subjected to an international economic and financial blockade—with an oil production that still shows no signs of a recovery?

Chavismo committed to dialogue

Guaidó announced that he had not reached an agreement in Norway and that U.S. Vice President Mike Pence called to support him. Venezuela’s government, through Minister of Communications Jorge Rodríguez, a participant at both meetings in Oslo, says it will continue with the search for dialogue and to reinforce the Cabinet and the defense of the Constitution,” following the Chavismo commitment to dialogue.

Maduro made that commitment clear when he said: “It has taken a lot to get to Norway, several months of secret conversations. The president added, “Tell people the truth about what happens in Venezuela. If the right-wing who went to Norway—subject to U.S. orders—abandoned the new dialogue, will they return to machine guns or to a pattern of escalating violence? Their discourse has bordered on the impossible. What’s the result of this game? The only thing they will accept is that Maduro leave. The sticking point is that to negotiate is to give in, among other things.

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Chavismo committed to dialogue

Guaidó announced that he had not reached an agreement in Norway and that U.S. Vice President Mike Pence called to support him. Venezuela’s government, through Minister of Communications Jorge Rodríguez, a participant at both meetings in Oslo, says it will continue with the search for dialogue and to reinforce the Cabinet and the defense of the Constitution,” following the Chavismo commitment to dialogue.

Maduro made that commitment clear when he said: “It has taken a lot to get to Norway, several months of secret conversations. The president added, “Tell people the truth about what happens in Venezuela. If the right-wing who went to Norway—subject to U.S. orders—abandoned the new dialogue, will they return to machine guns or to a pattern of escalating violence? Their discourse has bordered on the impossible. What’s the result of this game? The only thing they will accept is that Maduro leave. The sticking point is that to negotiate is to give in, among other things.
Inicia paro nacional contra reformas neoliberales

Por Sam Ordóñez

3 de junio – El 30 de mayo empezó en Honduras un paro nacional en protesta de una serie de reformas anunciadas por el gobierno en los sectores de salud y educación. Las manifestaciones, que siguieron las acusaciones, sufrieron represiones brutales por parte de la policía. Es un escenario que se ha visto repetidamente durante el gobierno del presidente Juan Orlando Hernández (JOH).

El paro nacional y las manifestaciones se han convocado en respuesta a una serie de decretos firmados por el presidente el día 28 de mayo para buscar reestructurar los sectores de salud y educación. Según los maestros y médicos que concurren, se planea una doble reestructuración resultaría en despidos masivos y la privatización de estos servicios esenciales. En 2009, el gasto del gobierno central en educación era 32,9 por ciento en 2010 y 9,7 por ciento hoy. (Prensa Latina, 31 mayo)

Pese a la fuerte represión policial de los manifestantes, el presidente fue obligado a declarar que no habían ningún despidos masivos ni privatización, y se logró que los decretos presidenciales no fueran ratificados por el Congreso Nacional de la República. Sin embargo, los organizadores de las acciones han indicado que seguirán en protesta hasta que las reformas se descarten completamente.

Además de los manifestantes heridos por la policía hondureña, se reporta una quema de varios edificios gubernamentales y policías. Y también se reporta que un grupo quemó neumáticos en la entrada de la embajada de los Estados Unidos en Tegucigalpa.

No se conoce quién provocó el incendio, y las reacciones de los grupos progresistas han sido varias. Algunos afirman que la acción es justificada, debido a las injerencias recientes del imperialismo norteamericano en el país. Por su parte el expresidente Manuel Zelaya calificó de falso positivo los hechos. Las organizaciones de maestros y médicos han afirmado que el paro continuará con manifestaciones planeadas para el lunes y martes.

Del golpe de estado en 2009 a la actualidad de JOH

Manuel Zelaya fue presidente de 2006 a 2009, cuando fue víctima de un golpe de estado después de proponer un referendo para medir el interés público en una reforma constitucional.

Aunque el ejercicio, que secuestró a Zelaya y lo mandó a Costa Rica, argumentaba que Zelaya buscaba un segundo término (que violaría la constitución), la verdadera razón por el golpe fue la política exterior progresista del gobierno de Zelaya.

En 2009, Zelaya expulsó el deseo de unirse a la Alianza Bolivariana para los Pueblos de Nuestra América (ALBA), una organización regional promovida por los gobiernos de Venezuela y Cuba para combatir la influencia del imperialismo norteamericano.

Esto representaba un paso importante para la oligarquía hondureña, que ya se oponía al gobierno progresista. Cuando encontraron la oportunidad, usaron el control que tenían sobre los medios de comunicación para fabricar una crisis constitucional y llevar a cabo el golpe.

El gobernador de la estadounidense de Barack Obama condenó el golpe, pero dejó que se llevara a cabo el golpe. Los correos electrónicos de Hillary Clinton, que en aquel momento era Secretaria de Estado, revelan que el gobierno norteamericano negociaba con los líderes del golpe, que muchos de los cuales estaban vinculados en la Escuela de las Américas y tenían relaciones personales con el Pentágono.

Apoyo sincero

Los Estados Unidos reconocen los resultados de las elecciones presidenciales en noviembre de ese año aunque se celebró bajo una junta militar. El nuevo presidente conservador, Porfirio Lobo Sosa, recibió grandes alabanzas del gobierno de Obama por sus esfuerzos hacia la “reconciilación” pese a que durante su mandato empezaron a desaparecer periodistas que apoyaban a Zelaya y se oponían al golpe. El actual presidente, que llegó al poder en 2014, ha sido criticado por su corrupción y el aumento de la represión estatal contra sus rivales. Aunque la derecha había acudido a Zelaya para buscar otro término presidencial como pretexto para el golpe de 2009, JOH se presentó a la reelección sin problemas judiciales.

La elección de 2017 fue caracterizada por un fraude desenfadado por parte del partido de JOH. La cuenta de votos se suspendió varias veces, en instancias durante tres días, y al reanudar había desaparecido misteriosamente la ventaja de casi 5 por ciento de los votos del candidato opositor.

La manipulación de la cuenta fue tan obvia que incluso la Organización de Estados Americanos, que normalmente sigue los decretos y constitucional, recogió la evidencia. Washington reconoció inmediatamente los resultados.

El pueblo hondureño tomó la calle para protestar el robo de la presidencia, cosa que provocó la represión policial con gases lacrimógenos y una toque de queda de diez días. Desde entonces no ha cesado la lucha intensa para restaurar la democracia en el país centroamericano.

La ofensiva neoliberal de JOH

Cuando la derecha asumió el poder en Honduras en 2009, inmediatamente empezó a implementar el típico programa neoliberal. El objetivo de estos, en servicio del imperialismo, es destruir los servicios sociales y abrir el país a los servicios extranjeros.

Estas ofensivas fueron seguidas por una serie de decretos de JOH como pretexto para el golpe. El gobierno de JOH ha intentado privatizar servicios como la salud, y la educación pública sería el golpe final contra estos servicios que llevan una década asestadas por la derecha.

Los salarios escolares fueron congelados de 2010 a 2016, y desde entonces solo han tenido incrementos pequeños. Se ha terminado casi por completo la inversión en infraestructura escolar.

En los hospitales faltan todo tipo de insumos, pero se sigue cortando el presupuesto, haciendo que suban los precios de las familias que necesitan los servicios médicos.

El robo de tierras indígenas no ha cesado desde que llegaron los conquistadores españoles, y el gobierno de JOH ha intensificado el asesinato de Béorones estatales entendidos para efectuar una crisis violenta para silenciar a los pueblos originarios de sus tierras ancestrales.

Si la desinversión en servicios públicos, el despojo de los territorios indígenas, y la represión estatal no fuera suficiente, el imperialismo ahora busca crear “Zonas de empleo y desarrollo económico,” (ZEEEs) estas “ciudades modelo” serán ciudades orientadas a la inversión extranjera, controladas por una comisión exogida directamente por el presidente. Estas ciudades tendrán su propio sistema judicial, económico, y administrativo.

La oligarquía en su propia propaganda sobre estas ciudades admite que usan como modelo a Hong Kong, que se fundó como colonia británica para controlar a Asia después de la Guerra del Océano, (tinyurl.com/yr3bg65)

Estas ZEEEs implican una vuelta al colonialismo directo de siglos pasados, ya que están diseñadas para servir como punto de entrada para transnacionales y capital extranjero. Su sistema nominalmente “autónomo” en realidad convertiría en colonias de las empresas norteamericanas y europeas que quieren operar en la América Central.

El capitalismo en un callejón sin salida

Fred Goldstein utiliza las leyes de la acumulación capitalista de Marx, y la tasa decreciente de ganancia, para demostrar por qué el capitalismo global ha llegado finalmente a un punto de inflexión.

Para mas informacion: Low Wage Capitalism

HONDURAS

‘Liberal’ – hasta a un punto

Los llamados medios de comunicación liberales en los Estados Unidos, especialmente el New York Times, el Washington Post y algunas fuentes de noticias de televisión, se sienten en el deber de informar, pero a su vez se atreven a ofender a sus dueños de clase liberal en los Estados Unidos, especialmente por la derecha.

No mencionan literalmente decenas de elecciones que han tenido lugar en Venezuela desde que el movimiento lidereado por Hugo Chávez tomó el poder en 1999. Pero hay que ser audaz para realizar esa “sensación” y “elecciones fraudulentas” en ese país? Estas frases se repiten una y otra vez, sin que, aunque introduzca en el large la derecha aquí, sino por aquellos que reclaman objetividad.

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