RESISTANCE BROADENS

By Joshua Hanks
Portland, Ore.

Thousands of anti-racist, anti-fascist protesters continue to come out night after night into the streets of Portland, Ore., to protest against police brutality, racism and the iron-fisted federal occupation of the city. After two months of continuous protests in the wake of the murder of George Floyd, the protests swelled yet again after the Trump administration sent federal officers to crush the movement.

The escalation of repression has only invigorated the protesters, with thousands gathering nightly in the epicenter of the protests near two government buildings in the core of downtown Portland. Large protests have occurred in North Portland as well, outside the office of the “union.”

Two downtown parks, encompassing the blocks directly west of the Mark O. Hatfield Federal Courthouse, which houses the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) headquarters and the Multnomah County Jail, are being occupied. Protesters have built an area resembling Seattle’s Capitol Hill Organized Protest (CHOP). Authorities declared the two parks off-limits and fenced them off, but on the night of July 17 protesters tore the fences down and have occupied the area ever since. Federal and city police have not attempted to enforce the parks’ closure or arrest control from the massive crowds.

Tents have been set up where free food is distributed. One called Riot Ribs gives away barbecue and other hot foods to protesters. Donated medical supplies, water, clothing and other gear are distributed freely to anyone who needs it. Like CHOP, the area feels almost like a summer block party with disc jockeys, drummers and dancing in the streets — broken up periodically by tear gas canisters tossed into the crowds. Teams of protesters armed with leaf blowers and hockey sticks quickly clear the tear gas from the area and the dancing starts back up. Soap bubbles float through the air, creating a surreal effect.

Large groups of local moms, dads, union workers, veterans and nurses, many wearing matching colors (the moms wear yellow, for example), are now a regular fixture at the protests, their arrival greeted with thunderous applause and cheers. Some groups march for miles across the city’s heavily populated east side and over the Willamette River into downtown.

While corporate media and the government paint the protesters as only violent — “anarchists” and “terrorists” — the reality on the ground is completely different. A broad section of Portland’s population makes up the crowds, with Black, Indigenous and people of color leading most of the chants and giving most of the speeches.

Trump has stated that the situation in Portland is now under control. Yet the protests are larger and more organized than ever, with federal officers usually hiding behind a hastily welded fence engracing the perimeter of the courthouse. On July 26, that fence was partially torn down.

Trump has offered more federal officers to Portland and to other larger cities such as Seattle and Chicago. A large plane with the Department of Homeland Security logo was spotted at Seattle’s SeaTac Airport recently, carrying federal officers to Portland and to other larger cities such as Seattle and Chicago.

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Fighting fascism, white supremacy, capitalism

By Larry Holmes

This is a slightly edited talk given by Workers World Party First Secretary Larry Holmes at the July 23 WWP webinar.

I hope those of you who can will participate in the several days of actions, starting tomorrow, July 24, in solidarity with the people of Portland against the police state. It’s very important that when an area, be it Seattle, Portland or New York, is under attack, those of us who can should come out in the streets and show this is more than an attack on some singular geographical area.

We respond as if it’s an attack on our class on a worldwide level. This is regarding the danger of fascism. We are going to be talking about this a lot in the coming months through the election season and perhaps beyond. It’s the tendency of sections of the bourgeois ruling class who disagree with Trump to think that the threat of fascism is tied to a particular leader who is dangerous, who is erratic, who is a white supremacist — and the solution is getting rid of that leader and then you get rid of the problem.

I think that large sections of the progressive and anti-fascist movement also think along those lines. It’s not their fault. It has to do with political education, and perhaps a lack of historical perspective on the question of fascism. They approach it from a moral point of view. Just get rid of the terrible leader, and we’ll be able to defend democracy — as if there ever really was democracy for the working class, and
By Monica Moorehead

The intersection between sports culture and politics can happen at any given time. And at this particular juncture, the Black Lives Matter struggle is leaving its imprint on many issues, even international ones.

For instance, on July 10 the ultra-right-wing Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., released a press release on Twitter attacking the National Basketball Association — whose players are 80% African American — for “Kowtowing to China and refusing to support U.S. military and law enforcement.” His statement was sent to NBA Commissioner Adam Silver.

Hawley was countering the many NBA players who are active and vocal supporters of the Black Lives Matter movement, especially in the aftermath of the legal lynching of George Floyd, but who are also raising police killings of Breonna Taylor and others. Players have voted to wear t-shirts that reflect their solidarity in a dynamic movement for social change when the NBA season resumes the end of July.

Hawley saw the opportunity to push forward his Trump-like, racist attitude toward BLM with an anti-communist agenda: demanding that the players wear “Free Hong Kong” jerseys and other slogans with a pro-cop and pro-military message. Adrian Wojnarowski, a senior writer for ESPN — arguably the most well-respected commentator when it comes to NBA developments — wrote what he thought was a private, face-to-face response on his Twitter feed to Hawley’s reactionary press release: “F--k you.” Of course, this response from Woj (as he is affectionately called) went viral. The ESPN owners — not known for being politically reactionary— sent the following one-two-word response on his Twitter feed to Hawley’s response: #FreeWoj.

The suspension ends July 24.

#FreeWoj

Woj sent an apology for his response, but in the meantime, NBA players came to his defense. A group of NBA players, led by Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James, set up a Twitter hashtag #FreeWoj to protest the ESPN suspension.

remains 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. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No socialist solutions can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are ganged down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

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, multigendered and multiracial working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1939, 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 organizer.

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If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact: 212.627.2994
New USPS work rules threaten postal jobs and services

By Joe Piette

As if pandemic challenges, a deep financial crisis and an openly hostile president were not bad enough, over 600,000 postal workers now face new work rules which impose speedups, while delaying the delivery of first-class mail and parcels.

Louis DeJoy, newly appointed Postmaster General, a Trump ally and big Republican Party donor, has an anti-labor history. He issued a directive on July 10 which puts a torch to a centuries-old culture of the postal system on the sanctity of first-class mail. It says: “Carriers must begin on time, leave for the street on time, and return on time. One aspect of these changes that may be difficult for employees is that — temporarily — we may see mail left behind or mail on the workroom floor or docks, which is not typical.” (tinyurl.com/y6qydh8h)

For decades, postal management threatened workers with suspensions and terminations for delaying the mail, a violation of service standards. On the other side of the divide, union stewards filed grievances defending workers by pointing out management policies were causing the delay of first-class mail.

Directive violates federal laws, postal rules

DeJoy is instructing postal management to violate decades of postal regulations and federal law as everyday policy. Federal law 18 U.S. Code Section 1703 (a) headed “Delay or destruction of mail or newspapers,” says: “[A] Postal Service officer or employee [who] unlawfully secretes, destroys, delays, destroys, or opens any mail... mail entrusted to [them] ... or makes it into [their] possession, which was intended to be conveyed by carrier, or carrier or delivered by any...any employee of the Postal Service, or forwarded through or delivered from any post office or station... shall be fined...” (FEDERAL NEWS Network, July 16)

Postal workers have been working 10 to 12 hours a day six days a week because of the huge increase in parcel deliveries, understaffing due to coronavirus-caused absences, frequent turnover of part-time workers, over-worked routes and management’s refusal to hire enough workers.

Over 4,000 postal workers have been diagnosed with COVID-19, and 64 postal employees have died from the disease. Thousands of exposed workers have had to self-quarantine for two weeks or more. Hundreds of grievances are bound to be filed as workers fight back against these unfair, counterproductive management decisions. Time and again, DeJoy has said he wants to privatize the postal service. More militant actions may be required if it takes weeks or months to resolve the contentious issues caused by DeJoy’s directive, and the public gets tired of undependable service and looks to competitors for postal delivery.

Defend universal postal service!

At the same time as they fight back within the post office, postal workers and their unions are organizing support for the right of all people in all communities to universal postal services.

The USPS provides universal mail delivery at the lowest standardized prices in the world. Only the USPS makes regular deliveries to remote islands and secluded areas that would not be profitable for a private business. In rural and low-income regions where broadband isn’t commonly available, the postal service provides a much-needed line of communication. The USPS also plays an important role in ensuring that voters can cast their ballots by mail. DeJoy’s work rule changes could also decrease people’s confidence in the post office’s ability to deliver their ballots accurately and on time.

#SaveTheUSPS

The USPS is normally self-sufficient, financing operations with its own revenues without taxpayer money. Congress passed a law in 2006 that required the postal service to fund retiree health benefits for an incredible 75 years into the future! That’s an enormous $5 billion annual financial burden not imposed on any other government agency or private corporation. Combined with the unprecedented financial effects of the pandemic, the USPS may run out of funds later this year.

As a result, the Postal Board of Governors has asked for direct emergency financial assistance, similar to the huge amounts of aid given to large corporations in earlier stimulus bills approved by Congress this spring.

The Senate is scheduled to vote on a new stimulus bill in August that would include a $25 billion rescue plan for the USPS. The APWU asks everyone to call their senators on July 23 or thereafter to save the postal service. (apwu.org/savepostoffice)

If postal workers and communities work together, we can save the people’s post office.

For more on DeJoy’s anti-labor history, read Piette’s article entitled “Racist, sexist, job-killing, union-busting barber Former head appointed to head USPS,” posted May 25 at workers.org. Piette is a retired letter carrier and member of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

With no plan for safety

Billionaires push to reopen schools

By G. Dunkel

Schools in the U.S. provide students with much more than just a free education – they provide child care, meals (for 14 million students), medical services (mostly for students with disabilities), psychological counseling, supervised physical activity and social connections.

There are more than 135,000 educational institutions and 56.6 million students in grades K through 12. Since 2014 the majority of all public school students have been children of color. (National Center for Education Statistics)

While all parents want their children to be able to return to school, more than two-thirds polled want schools physically reopened only if safe. That feeling is ripe with divisions, the Economic Policy Institute reported.

“Initial actions include reducing hours in retail units including Saturday closings, delaying mail, slowing down service, further removal of mail processing equipment, arbitrarily reducing work hours and eliminating overtime. With an already understaffed operation, reducing hours and overtime can only lead to severely delayed mail and packages.” (tinyurl.com/ydhkhbrw)

Union reaction to Trump/DeJoy ‘plan’

Almost three-quarters of all teachers in the United States are in unions affiliated with either the American Federation of Teachers or the National Education Association. In some states, like New York, the AFT and NEA are merged.

On July 17, Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, told the Guardian: “It’s as if Trump and DeJoy want to create chaos and want to jeopardize reopening. There’s no other reason why they would be this reckless, this callous, this cruel.”

NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia wrote a column for the July 7 USA Today slamming President Trump’s suggestion that schools reopen this fall: “The White House pressure campaign presents a false choice between the health of our students and the health of our economy. It’s an appalling recklessness.”

Garcia added: “No one wants to welcome students back to classrooms more than America’s educators. We know that nothing can replace the magic of a student’s curiosity when they are able to learn alongside their peers from a teacher who has dedicated her life to the success of other people’s children.”

Garcia went on to examine the recent loss of funding for education. While billionaires like DeJoy, Trump and Jeff Bezos, owner of Amazon, have seen their wealth blossom during the COVID-19 crisis, workers in education and elsewhere have had to confront sickness and unemployment.

PHOTO: LAURA GÓMEZ/ ARIZONA MIRROR

Teachers and parents rally July 14 at the Arizona Capitol to oppose the state’s school reopening plan.

PHOTO: MILO TONAPAR/ THE MESA RECORD

With no plan for safety
Behind the walls

By Mirinda Crissman

Voting rights for the incarcerated in Florida

The Supreme Court upheld a ruling of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals allowing a modern-day poll tax to remain in effect for formerly incarcerated people trying to vote in the state of Florida. This directly contradicts nearly two-thirds of the Florida electorate, who voted in 2018 to amend their state constitution to allow these convicts of felony to vote. (NPR, July 17)

The most recent ruling specifically says that this group of formerly incarcerated folks cannot vote if they have any fees or fines owed to the state. “This court’s order prevents thousands of otherwise eligible voters from participating in Florida’s primary election simply because they are poor,” explained Justice Sonia Sotomayor in her dissent. (LA Times, July 16) This is the fourth time this election year alone where SCOTUS has declined to protect voting rights. The U.S. has not ever been known to hold free and fair elections anywhere in the world, much less for folks deemed “criminal.”

Sites of resistance

In the face of inhumane conditions, heightened by the COVID crisis, many locked-up people are fighting back against injustice. According to journalist Keri Blakinger and several sources, the Briscoe Unit in South Texas saw 90 prisoners rise up and take a 21-year-old guard hostage on July 18. This move was reported—especially in responds continued COVID restrictions limiting phone and out-of-cell visits. A member of the group (a TXINPR.com, ymhp72) being able to talk on the phone and move a bit more free continued “prisoners’” only connections to others outside their cramped cages.

Dozens of massive prison rebellions that took place across Italy at the beginning of this pandemic were in response to lack of visitation. (Workers World, April 3)

The Mesa Verde Detention Center in Colorado announced a work stoppage on July 23. As reported by Workers World, the coordinated hunger strike was in response to the murder of George Floyd, who was killed by police. The center explained, “Mesa Verde runs off of our labor. We are the ones who prepare and serve the food, who clean the bathrooms and the dorms. We are paid $5 per week for our official jobs, and the rest we do for free. We will not work and we will not collaborate with GEOGroup. We resist this because it makes it easier for you to continue unnecessarily caging and murdering us.” (tinyurl.com/yz3t7ym)

The Mesa Verde actions were coordinated in solidarity with a hunger strike going on in the immigration pod near the Yuba County Jail. Folks locked up at both facilities released united sets of demands. The first set targeted Gov. Gavin Newsom and Attorney General Xavier Becerra: “1. Stop transferring people who are released from California custody into [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] detention centers. 2. Halt the expansion of immigration detention facilities in the state. 3. Immediately inspect all ICE facilities and determine their ability to care in these facilities and independently investigate the deaths that have occurred there during the pandemic.”

The second set of demands addressed the ICE, GEOGroup and the Yuba County Sheriff’s Department about conditions on the inside. These brave detained leaders are moving forward to take what they need in the only way those who cage them will understand: Work stoppage!

No one ‘blooms’ in detention

A Michigan family court judge, Mary Ellen Brennan, denied the release of a 15-year-old from detention in the middle of a deadly pandemic. The Black child was caged simply because she did not turn in her online schoolwork, which the court considered a violation of her probation. The judge said at the July 13 hearing: “I think you are exactly where you are supposed to be. You are blooming this week. This is work to be done.” (ProPublica, July 20)

Nothing exemplifies the callousness of the state’s brutality and policing of prisoners more than this decision to punish a Black child with the full weight of the state for not completing homework. While the young girl has shown exemplary behavior inside, that is no reason to continue to detain her during a pandemic. No one “blooms” in detention. Tear down the walls! (?)

Racist guards attack Soledad prisoners

By Judy Greenspan

Oakland, Calif.

In a 3 a.m. raid July 20, approximately 200 Black prisoners at California’s Soledad state prison were violently taken from their cells with nothing on but their boxer shorts.

The men were herded into the chow hall, handcuffed with zip ties and forced to sit shoulder-to-shoulder without masks for hours, while their cells were ransacked. With zip ties and handcuffs, letters and legal papers were confiscated or destroyed.

Guards brutalized and beat many prisoners, including Talib Williams, who has written several extensive articles about this racist cell extraction for a national Black newspaper, the San Francisco Bay View. (tinyurl.com/y3f7l08) He told his spouse Tasha Williams that prison guards were shouting, “Black Lives Don’t Matter” and calling the prisoners the N-word. An elderly prisoner was tossed down a flight of stairs.

Talib Williams, in prison for 18 years (since he was 17 years old), has spent the last six years at Soledad and has published four books. His most recent was on the racist and violent beatings of a young black prisoner as his way to investigate the guard’s roles in prison— notorious for violence against Black prisoners.

Tasha Williams, the guards seized much of his library, including works of Jackson and other Black revolutionaries and a list he compiled of Black prisoners.

George Jackson’s legacy

On Jan. 13, 1970, a group of Black and white Soledad prisoners were released to the exercise yard, which was virtually empty. A white guard marksman shot and killed three Black prisoners. Black prisoners started a hunger strike in protest; a grand jury exonerated the guard.

One week later, a white prison guard was killed and three prisoner leaders — George Jackson, Fleeta Drumgo and John Wesley-John Wesley Cluchette — were charged with murder andHipstamatic. (ProPublica, July 20)

Nothing exemplifies the callousness of the state’s brutality and policing of prisoners more than this decision to punish a Black child with the full weight of the state for not completing homework. While the young girl has shown exemplary behavior inside, that is no reason to continue to detain her during a pandemic. No one “blooms” in detention. Tear down the walls! (?)
The state’s use of technology: An issue for the movement

By Ben Carroll

Data are everywhere. In 2020, technology is a ubiquitous part of everyday life for many workers in this country and around the world. We use social media and email to keep in touch with family and friends. We watch livestreams of events and activities that take place across the globe. We text and stream music on our commutes to work. The list goes on.

In the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, technology has played an even greater role in our everyday lives as a means to maintain social contact in an era of social distancing.

The incredible development of technology in the last 20 to 30 years has ushered in a number of changes to global capitalism, largely to the advantage of capital. (Read “High Tech, Low Pay” at workers.org/books. In the book, published in 1986, Workers World Party Chairperson Sam Marcy showed how these developments affected workers and globalized the economy.)

Technology has increased capital’s ability to put workers into direct competition with one another, driving down wages by increasing the supply of labor. The combination of increased automation and increased immigration has led to a decrease in wages of 18.4 percent since the last three years. (tinyurl.com/zywzdltb) This has occurred while the value of the stock market during the same period has more or less stayed the same. In turn, these five corporations wield an incredible amount of political power and influence, which are woven into many facets of our lives in more ways than we may realize.

Along with the militarization of police departments, the state’s use of technology has been their increasing reliance on and use of high-tech tools for surveillance and repression. They are employed in large part against working-class and communities of color, as well as against the political movement. The federal forces now being mobilized by Trump to put down the righteous rebellion against white supremacy across the U.S. have a battery of these tools at their disposal.

Major tech corporations are not only making software and other products that are used by police agencies, but they are actively cooperating with many state agencies to develop sophisticated tools for their use. The list of such collaborations is extensive. They include Amazon’s sharing video and images captured by their Ring doorbell devices, Microsoft’s development of databases for use by police departments in major cities, and the development of racist facial recognition software and “predictive algorithms,” to name a few.

At the same time, workers at these giant tech corporations have engaged in a new wave of organizing in recent years— not only around their own working conditions, but also to get their corporate employers to play in society—from providing technology for the Pentagon to collaborating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the police, contributing to climate change and enabling workplace sexual harassment and violence faced by women and gender-nonconforming workers. Notably, major tech companies have objected to the company’s collaboration with ICE and the U.S. Border Patrol. Also, the company’s rewarding sexual abusers with ICE and the U.S. Border Patrol. Also, the company’s rewarding sexual abusers— designed to mitigate a pandemic.

What can organizers do?

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Black library workers force director's resignation

By Marie Kelly

The Free Library of Philadelphia is the latest city institution to succumb to the power of workers organized against oppression and unfair labor practices. On July 17, three library employees of the Concerned Black Workers of the Free Library, by July 23, their public revelations about a long-time culture of discrimination forced the resignation of Director Siobhan Reardon.

In an open letter to management, Black workers described a work environment that failed to address their safety and welfare during both the COVID-19 pandemic and the days of police violence that followed the murder of George Floyd. As libraries reopened during the pandemic, workers reported expired hand sanitizer, personal protective equipment of poor quality and in short supply.

The march was called by the Youth Librarians Organization. Library management showed an insincere commitment to the Black Lives Matter movement when they allowed the National Guard to house troops in the Northwest Philadelphia library branch, located in the predominantly Black community. But the letter suggested that the practice got no results. The troops had been deployed to the city to terrorize peaceful protesters who were calling for an end to state violence against Black people.

Now these workers are calling for the removal of library Board of Trustees chair Pamela Dembe. Both Director Reardon and Dembe failed to respond to repeated calls to address racial bias within the library, including pay inequality and poor representation of people of color in leadership positions and on the library board.

Dembe made a particularly offensive response to a march of people of color who were rich enough to be board members were hard to find. Dembe has a history of racial bias.

Prior to joining the library board, Dembe served as the presiding judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. In 2001 she refused a motion by political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal for an evidentiary hearing on new evidence of overt racial bias in his case.

Dembe deemed it irrelevant that a court stenographer overheard Judge Albert Saho tell a prosecutor, “Yes, I’m going to help them fry the n—.” In 2012, Dembe imposed a life sentence without parole on Abu-Jamal, a demonstration notifying him—a violation of constitutional and Pennsylvania statutory law.

Seattle protest in solidarity with Portland

by Jim McHahan

Seattle

On July 25, 2,000 youthful anti-racists marched here in solidarity with Portland resistance. As in Portland, Ore., federal repressive forces have been sent to Seattle.

On July 17, more than 240 non-Black library staff signed a letter to Reardon, the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors supporting the demands of their Black co-workers.

Chanting “Black Lives Matter,” the demonstrators blocked downtown streets, protesters who were calling for an end to state violence against Black people. They were set ablaze at the site.

The East Precinct was attacked by anti-racists during a June 25 demonstration and suffered serious damage. The cops then attacked the protesters, since in their role property is more valuable than working-class human beings. They used blast balls, sponge rounds and pepper spray in a wave of brutality. Forty-five demonstrators were arrested. (South Seattle Emerald)

The July 25 militant mass protest showed that the movement is prepared to answer the racist repression of Trump. The police response proved that Trump and his Democratic Party counterparts in the political establishment of Seattle and Portland are part of the same repressive state apparatus.

RESISTANCE BROADENS

Continued from page 1

unknown cargo.

The PFP’s liberal use of tear gas has been a cop out (though the mayor never banned it entirely), but now federal officers are using massive amounts again. Tear gas has gotten into the ventilation system of the Multnomah County Jail, as high up as the 8th floor, with inmates trapped in their cells while the building was filled with gas. As a result officials at the jail decided to close the ventilation system overnight, which raises concern about the spread of COVID-19.

Inmates are seniors or have pre-existing conditions, making them especially vulnerable to the deadly virus. Being on lockdown during lockdowns and a lethal virus while incarcerated represents a serious violation of human rights.

Portland’s mayor, Ted Wheeler, a Democrat, has not participated in blocks from the protests. Mayor Wheeler and many others, including this writer, were teargassed by federal officers. But while the mayor quickly left Portland and rode in a municipal office building a block away, the crowds regrouped and continued their protest late into the night.

The situation in Portland remains tense though fluid, with conditions changing rapidly. But for now, the protesters seem to have the upper hand, being able to withstand assaults from the authorities and hold their ground. Donations and people continue to pour in, and despite round-the-clock negative coverage in the corporate media, the protests still enjoy widespread popularity.

This writer, who lives in downtown Portland about two blocks from the protests, has spoken to many downtown residents who are all in solidarity with the movement. They realize that their current difficulties living downtown are the fault of the police and the feds, not protesters.
Athletes continue to build broad support for BLM

By Monica Moorehead

U.S. athletes continue to express their solidarity with Black Lives Matter protests around the country, as professional sports attempts to resume some kind of normalcy are totally shutting down in mid-March due to the COVID-19 crisis.

For instance, the Women’s National Basketball Association voted to dedicate its entire season to women of color who have lost their lives to police violence. All WNBA players will be wearing jerseys with messages of either #SayHerName or the names of women murdered by the police, most notably Breonna Taylor. The 26-year-old African-American emergency medical technician was murdered by a Louisville, Ky., police officer in March during a no-knock drug search warrant. Taylor was fatally shot eight times. None of the three white officers involved in the shooting were arrested or charged. Only the officer who did the shooting was fired.

From May 25 to July 24, over 100 unions in the United States called one-day coordinated “strike” actions brought signs to “Defund the Police,” for safer working conditions for essential workers during the pandemic and demands for hazard pay and fair wages. The Strike for Black Lives in Cleveland.

Unions call for ‘Strike for Black Lives’

By Betsy Piette

On July 20, unions led protests under the general banner “Strike for Black Lives” in over 160 U.S. cities, with tens of thousands participating. The call, initiated by Service Employees (SEIU), was endorsed by over 60 unions and social justice groups.

Many of those participating in the protests were essential workers — janitors, fast-food workers, nursing home and hospital workers, and gig-economy drivers — coming out in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement for racial justice in the aftermath of the police murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others.

In calling the one-day protest, organizers worked to have people participate for a full day to take a knee or walk off their jobs at noon for eight minutes and 46 seconds — the amount of time the white police officer held his knee on Floyd’s neck resulting in his death.

Key demands included that corporations disband private security and economic exploitation at work, as well as “unions for all.” However, the vaguely worded demand that “elected officials use their authority to rewrite rules,” so that Black people can thrive” fell short of calling for defunding or abolishing police. The SEIU has not dealt with the role of police unions in labor federations or an unions uniting such unions.

In many cities, workers participating in “strike” actions brought signs to “Defund the Police,” for safer working conditions for essential workers during the pandemic and demands for hazard pay and fair wages.

Opening Day: Change the name protest in Cleveland

Students demand: ‘Police-free schools!’

A crowd of about 150 students, teachers, parents and community members rallied on July 25 to get cops out of Philadelphia schools. A march led by the Philadelphia Student Union went from LOVE Park to Family Court and ended at the School District of Philadelphia headquarters on North Broad Street.

Philadelphia Student Union speakers demanded the Board of Education pass a Police-Free Schools resolution and repurpose its current Office of School Safety by removing school police officers and community members. They would be trained to provide the safety that comes from building peace and restorative justice, not police occupation and the school-to-prison pipeline.

— Report and photo by Joe Piette

For 28 consecutive years, the Campaign for the Future of f Dignity and Resistance has been protesting the use of the racist name and image of the Cleveland baseball team. In 2019, the team dropped the hated “masot,” after removing it from its apparel in 2018. This spring team owner Paul Dolan finally announced the team will change its name. Over 100 people rallied outside the Progressive Field stadium on opening day, July 24. Speaker Phil Yonyo, executive director of the American Indian Movement of Ohio, credited the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement for increasing the pace of changing racist imagery of sports teams at all levels.

— Report and photo by Susan Schnur
Days of Resistance for Palestine, Aug. 7-9

By Kathy Durkin and Betsy Piette

The Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network has called on “all Palestinians and those who stand for justice in Palestine to join together to organize the Days of Resistance for Palestine from August 7-9.” These actions are dedicated to the memory of writer and revolutionary Marxist Ghassan Kanafani. They mark the 48th anniversary of his assassination in Beirut, Lebanon, by car bomb planted by Mossad, Israel’s brutal intelligence agency, on July 8, 1972. He was 36 years old.

Recognized as a leading figure in Palestinian “resistance literature”—and the originator of the term—Kanafani stressed that Palestinian literature was deeply connected with global struggles against oppression. A true internationalist, he wrote: “Imperialism has laid its body over the whole world, the head in Eastern Asia, the heart in the Middle East, its arteries reaching Africa and Latin America. Wherever you strike it, you damage it, and you serve the world revolution. … The Palestinian cause is not a cause for Palestinians only, but a cause for every revolutionary, wherever he is, as a cause of the exploited and oppressed masses in our era.”

Stop Israel’s annexation plan!

Samidoun’s call explains that Israel’s dangerous program of annexation “continues to threaten Palestinian refugees in the West Bank, including the most fertile agricultural land of the Jordan Valley, which is still slated for Israel’s latest land grab. … This is simply the continuation of over 72 years of land theft, dispossession, apartheid and genocide—but it requires continued mobilization and action to confront, alongside the siege on Gaza, the mass imprisonment of Palestinians, the demolition of homes, the denial of Palestinian refugees’ right to return and further war crimes and crimes against humanity.”

Further, Samidoun stresses the strength of Palestinian resistance: “Annexation is a continuing threat—especially if the Israeli state thinks that it can pass unnoticed without continued resistance. The struggle is not over; in many ways, it has just begun. … It must inspire us to mobilize and organize—as Kanafani so clearly expressed—to confront imperialism, Zionism and the reactionary regimes that continue to collaborate with these forces of oppression, and to struggle for liberation. Every victory of the peoples in struggle against these forces is a victory for Palestine and for our collective victory.”

Mobilize!

The Samidoun Network urges “all Palestinians inside and outside Palestine, and all of the national forces, popular institutions, youth, student and women’s movements, social justice movements and solidarity organizations to participate actively in ‘banging on the walls of the tank’—to break down the walls of silence.”

Samidoun stresses: “Join in marches, popular activities, demonstrations and remind the world that the Palestinian people will continue to rise and confront all attempts of liquidation and destruction of the cause of Palestine and resist dispossession, exile and genocide—and that all people of conscience stand beside the Palestinian people in this critical moment.”

Over 70 organizations have joined the call, including National Students for Justice in Palestine in the United States, Within our Lifetime-United for Palestine, the Palestinian Youth Movement, Al-Awda, the Palestine Right to Return Coalition and Africa for Palestine. Workers World Party is an endorser.

Events will highlight the struggles of Palestinian prisoners and their role in all areas of revolutionary struggle. So far, activities are planned in Charleroi, Belgium; Manchester, England; New York City and Vancouver, and more will be announced as they unfold.

Samidoun salutes the martyrs of the Palestinian liberation struggle and calls for freedom for all Palestinian prisoners and the right of return for all refugees. The organization declares: “Victory, liberation and return will come for the struggling Palestinian people!”

For further information and to endorse, see samidoun.net. If there are questions, email samidoun@samidoun.net.

Fight COVID, not China!

By Workers World Houston bureau

Workers World Party and other local activists delivered a letter of solidarity to Consul General Cai Wei at the Chinese Consulate in Houston on July 23. They demonstrated outside to oppose the Trump administration’s order that the consulate be vacated by July 24. The consulate served eight states across the southern U.S., providing assistance to Chinese citizens.

Activist Caleb Granger stated: “The People’s Republic of China is increasingly scapegoated for the failures of the U.S. government. Since the Communist Party came to power in 1949 and the People’s Republic of China was established, a total of 800 million people have been lifted out of poverty. In the meantime, the U.S. has managed to reach #1 in the worst way.”

Granger explained that the U.S. is now the #1 weapons exporter in the world, sending death to nearly 100 countries; the #1 possessor of weapons of mass destruction, including a mind-boggling 6,200 nuclear warheads; and #1 in military budget at $1 trillion a year and counting.

The U.S. is also #1 for mass shootings, with nearly one million occurring in the last 10 years; and #1 in caging human beings. With only 4% of the Earth’s population, the U.S. holds 25% of the incarcerated population.

Now the U.S. is #1 in COVID-19 cases and deaths in the world. While China warned the world of the impending pandemic in early January and shared medical expertise to stem its spread, the U.S. continues to use its military to squash the Chinese system.

Series of U.S. attacks on China

The U.S. attack on China’s consulate is the most recent U.S. aggression. The capitalists running the U.S. make unsubstantiated claims about China to provoke economic war, while failing to meet the basic needs of people in the U.S. during the global pandemic.

After over 150,000 U.S. deaths due to COVID—and more deaths related to the capitalist crisis—it’s clear the ruling class cannot be relied upon to even keep alive the working class who keep the system running.

As Joshua Hankers noted in Workers World on May 26, “The U.S., with its highly developed economy, marshals its strength—by force. … In contrast, the Pentagon, Wall Street bailouts, mass incarceration of Black and Brown people, and expensive border controls. States like Kerala [in India] and countries such as Laos and Vietnam do not have problems like the U.S. … They enjoy the prosperity that what they do have, and what appears to be the key factor in containing the virus, are proactive, people-centered leftist governments and mass organizations that can mobilize millions of party members and the masses to achieve common goals for the public good.”

U.S. ‘war games’ threaten COVID spread in Hawai‘i

By Quelli Nessuno

Despite the ongoing global pandemic, the U.S. military has no plans to cancel RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific Exercises), the largest international military exercise in the world.

Beginning in 1971, and held every two years in June and July off the coast of Hawai‘i, RIMPAC is a show of imperialist force, a demonstration of the military capability of the U.S. and its allies.

In spite of the threat posed by COVID-19, petitions against the exercises and even requests from Hawai‘i Gov. David Ige for participants not to disembark, the U.S. military has every intention of going through with the war games.

The islands of Hawai‘i, colonial subjects of the United States since their annexation in 1898, have reported more than 1,600 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 25 deaths. Beyond just the risk of infection to the islands’ inhabitants, the exercises have long been proven an environmental disaster. From brush fires caused by live fire demonstrations and disruption of local marine ecosystems by noise pollution to contamination of the waters themselves, the U.S. capitalist government has proven itself all too willing to desecrate lands which it originally stole to serve its business interests.

In this period of escalating tensions between the U.S. and China, these exercises cannot be seen as anything other than provocative. The Pentagon’s determination to conduct war games in the midst of a devastating pandemic should be seen as shocking and alarming, a sign of willingness to sacrifice untold lives to demonstrate might, like the Pentagon organizes.

These exercises need to be understood as a threat to China, and the world—showing that the U.S. imperial ruling class will do anything to cement its hegemony, no matter what cost to human or ecological life.

In these times, it is absolutely critical to join with Hawai‘i in opposing these exercises and demanding their cancellation. U.S. military out of Hawai‘i! Cancel RIMPAC! No war with China!”
The following slightly edited article is based on a talk at the July 16 Workers World Party webinar, “Why We Defend China.” A copy of the video was at tinyurl.com/gafesxmx and also at youtube.com/watch?v=86yJfZdATo4.

Whenever the U.S. ruling class targets a country, it immediately whip-ups up a campaign in the background to create an ugly climate of racism and fear with the most negative images and racist stereotypes. This is psychological warfare to silence opposition.

The workers administration is doing this today against China in the most overtly vicious way. It is the first to use this tac-tic. The U.S. was built on racism, slavery and genocide. Racism is the fabric of every political act and every war — racism against colored people and all people of color and against migrants. We can’t forget the vicious anti-Muslim attacks in the past decades. Last year U.S. military ended the 18-year war in Afghanistan. This was a war on the Palestinians. Muslims were labeled terrorists, rounded up, deported en masse, disappeared and jailed.

We can’t forget that about 120,000 Japanese Americans were forced into U.S. concentration camps during World War II. More recent wars were accompanied by the kidnapping of Japanese and Korean people.

What about today?
The COVID-19 pandemic has hit the U.S. hard due to the complete lack of any government preparation. We are also in the middle of a growing capitalist economic collapse. The U.S. government has failed to protect the population here or contain the COVID virus. As a result, the U.S. has the most cases in the world. China, where the outbreak began, has very successfully contained the virus. By the end of July 20, the U.S. had 433 cases per million people; China had 3.

Instead of learning from what China has done to protect its people, the authorities here are instead trying to divert popular opinion into an “Blame China” campaign.

Impact of the Chinese Revolution

From its earliest days, Workers World Party has been discussing the impact of the Chinese Revolution on the global class struggle. We evaluated it as one of the most thoroughly revolutionary upheavals in history. And it profoundly impacted the class struggle in the U.S.

The U.S. ruling class was shocked in 1949 by the victory of China’s Red Army. The revolution awakened a world movement across Asia and Africa against colonialism and Western domination.

It virtually ended imperialism’s plans after World War II.

A major question posed in the Cold War was: “Who Lost China?” The Korean War and the Vietnam War were efforts by Wall Street to turn back the nationalist liberation surge in Asia in the U.S. was “Who Lost China?”

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“Whereas, this dangerous policy has threatened and disarray of the system, the standard response to blame China and resort to raw anti-communism.

Only competition, never cooperation

The capitalist response is to take advantage of this crisis as leverage against any perceived competitor who may be smaller or weaker. What this has meant internationally is intensifying sanctions — a weapon of shortages and economic crisis — at a time when many developing countries are most vulnerable. So Washington has intensified threats against Venezuela, Iran, Syria, Cuba and throughout African countries. One-third of the world’s population is now under U.S. sanctions.

Rather than cooperating and sharing, the capitalist system cynically calculates how to capture markets and drive up prices — even for treatments, essential tests, possible cures or hoped-for vaccines. Everything must turn a profit. Meanwhile, much to the frustration of U.S. corporate power, China has established trade and aid with these targeted and sanctioned countries. This provides relief from the oppressive “world order” that U.S. imperialism has built.

Our task is to tear down the racist myths and confront the propaganda. Organize others to take a stand in defense of China and against racist attacks and war threats. We need to explain to working people in crisis here in the U.S. that financing, training and organizing disruptions in Hong Kong is not to promote “democracy.” Voting for sanctions on China and 39 other targeted countries is not to “defend human rights.” Surrounding China with aircraft carriers and missile bases is not a “pursuit of freedom of navigation” or “freedom of trade.” It’s the same here at home. Deploying racist police is not to protect our communities.

We urgently need to help build unity among the forces challenging these U.S. corporate lies and military threats. We may not all agree on every point of China’s complex social development. But we all agree that U.S. imperialism is never a force for liberation or human progress.
Solidarity, the best antitoxin

As the coronavirus spreads around the globe, the United States continues to report by far the largest number of cases and deaths. As of July 27, the figures show nearly 4.5 million cases in this country and over 150,000 deaths. That comes to 434 deaths per million people. But even in the United States, as with other countries, too, even though it was the first country to discover the virus and had to start from scratch in figuring out how to deal with the problem, it then delayed its response. Vietnam has had no deaths. Cuba has had 8 deaths per million.

We’ve made this point before, but with each passing day the contrast between the two social systems — capitalism and socialism — becomes more glaring. Even the U.S. government admits that poverty and racism are factors determining who dies from COVID-19. A report released July 27 by the CDC shows that 3 deaths per million, even though it was the first country to discover the virus and had to start from scratch in figuring out how to deal with the problem, it then delayed its response. Vietnam has had no deaths. Cuba has had 8 deaths per million.

As COVID-19 spreads exponentially in the United States, the working class is the first to suffer. It is the working class who experience systemic racism — who face economic catastrophe. The virus has thrown a spotlight on the social inequalities and dynamics at the core of capitalism. Millions see that the capitalist system itself is responsible for their suffering. In the most blatant way, U.S. society under Trump exposes capitalism’s failures. CARES Act, the “stimulus package” that bailed out the biggest capitalist corporations and banks in March and kept some small businesses alive, while grudgingly feeding and sheltering tens of millions of workers — although not the unemployed or homeless or many gig workers — ends on Aug. 1.

For those tens of millions of people, the abyss looks deep. Weekly payments of $600 for all unemployed workers stop. Protection from evictions stops. The one-time $1,200 payment is long spent. And even the two largest capitalist parties — Republicans and Democrats — must come through with an emergency program, CARES 2, to avoid chaos. They must agree very soon. Right now, July 28, the Republicans have yet to announce their own program — but what they are discussing is so bad for the workers, it makes the Democratic Party program look good in comparison.

The Republicans want unemployment payments to be 70 percent of each worker’s salary and no more. The bigger the salaries, the bigger the unemployment payments. Essential workers with small salaries go hungry. The Democrats propose extending the flat $600 supplement until Jan. 1, 2021. This provides more benefits for more workers and reduces inequality. Republicans oppose the flat $600, calling it an incentive to stay unemployed. If that were the real reason, they should immediately decrease the federal minimum wage of $7.25 an hour — poverty wages, even when set in 2009 — to at least $15, support union drives, raise salaries across the board, where their bidding that bosses provide personal protective equipment and clothing. The truth is: They despise workers.

Another vital protection is the moratorium on evictions. For unemployed workers whose payments arrive late or not at all, a moratorium is absolutely necessary to stop them from being thrown out on the streets — in blatant contradiction to the fact that many have to stay home to stop the spread of the virus.

For testing and medical care for COVID-19 are also vital, as are subsidies for public schools to provide equal access to safe education for all — including students with disabilities, education workers and families — and food for all.

Much more is needed. Some of that will be argued about publicly in Congress — though mostly behind closed doors. The points raised here are the absolute minimum that the capitalist class and its representatives must ensure that Congress passes in CARES 2.

Let the Democrats also feel the fire of rebellion to stop them from trading away the most desperate needs of the workers. If the parties provide less than this minimum, they demonstrate that they and the ruling class they represent are incapable of running society.

The anthem of the labor movement in the 1930s was “Solidarity Forever.” Today we see courageous people in the streets demonstrating against racism and oppression of all kinds who are reviving the meaning of solidarity.

And solidarity is what is needed to get through this crisis. The lesson is clear: China, Cuba and Vietnam have stamped out the virus before it could spread. It takes the active trust of the population in the government to get through the crisis. Workers, neighbors and acquaintances to carry out an effective campaign against the virus.

On a governmental level in the U.S., there is certainly no solidarity. It is a snake pit of rivalry, backstabbing, lying and accusations. All of it is driven by the viciously competitive character of capitalism. The victor takes the spoils. Whoever takes over the terrorists of political power — Republican or Democrat — gets to distribute the lucrative government contracts.

But the struggle against this rotten, racist system is building solidarity in the grassroots. We are seeing it in the streets of Portland, Ore., and in all the places where workers come together and resist their lives each day.
The state’s use of technology: An issue for the movement

Continued from page 5

agencies alike? Or should we retreat into
only using the latest encrypted apps and
leave social media altogether? Or should we retreat into
just using the latest encrypted apps and
leave social media altogether? Or should we retreat into
huge technological tools?  The top attorney in this
country is a white supremacist crook with no respect
deserve that Barr and Trump refer to may or may not be real.
It may be serious or not. But the solution to any antisocial actions in the communi-
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El movimiento de Portland contraataca

Por Joshua Hanks
Portland, Oregon

22 de julio. Se desplegaron oficiales federales para “sofocar” las protestas que han tenido lugar durante más de 30 días consecutivos. En todo el país, este movimiento contra la violencia policial racista se ha encontrado con más violencia policíaca, asfixiando los centros urbanos de costa a costa con gases lacrimógenos y una gama de las llamadas armas menos letales. Utilizado incorrectamente, como lo ha hecho la policía en muchas ocasiones, estos armamentos han sido de hecho letales. El gas lacrimógeno en sí es un arma química prohibida en la guerra por el derecho internacional.

Ted Wheeler, el alcalde demócrata de Portland, ha protestado contra los oficiales federales de Trump, por lo que podría sorprender a la gente de todo el país que las multitudes de personas que la policía de Portland ha brutalizado todas las noches, lo detestan. Wheeler inicialmente acordó limitar el uso de gases lacrimógenos por parte de la Oficina de Policía de Portland, aunque no prohibió por completo, después de la indignación masiva por el uso desmesurado de la policía con el arma química.

Wheeler es al alcaldes y el comisionado de la Oficina Policial de Portland (PPB, siglas en inglés), y por lo tanto, tiene un poder unilateral dentro del Ayuntamiento para las asignaciones de la PPB. Portland es la última ciudad importante en los EE.UU. que utiliza la forma de gobierno, que se llama comisión. Esta forma combina la autoridad legislativa y ejecutiva al dar al alcalde y a los comisionados de la ciudad el control sobre oficinas individuales como la oficina de policía, la oficina de transporte, la oficina de parques, etc. El comisionado de la policía es el que tiene la autoridad para entregar el control de PPB a la comisión.

A Joan Hardesty y poner fin a su evidente accidente para impresionar. Elegida en 2018, Hardesty es la primera y única mujer negra elegida para el Concejo de la Ciudad de Portland y muchas personas la ven como la que más simpatiza con la comunidad activista a menudo estridente de la ciudad.

Pero las fuerzas represivas federales fueron incluso peores que el PPB. Oregon Public Broadcasting informó el 12 de julio que un oficial de los Alguaciles de EE.UU. le disparó en la cabeza al manifestante Donavan LaBella, de 26 años, con munición “menos que letal” en lo que los testigos describieron como un ataque no provocado, causando fracturas faciales y de la cráneo que requirieron cirugías restructurativas. La Bella permanece hospitalizada en estado crítico.

El jefe interino del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional, Chad Wolf, llegó a Portland el 16 de julio por orden de la Casa Blanca a presidir la represión federal. A los detenidos no se les informa sobre los delitos que se les imputan o solo se les dan razones vagas para su detención. Estos arrestos han despertado enojo y preocupación en Portland. Aquí, los para-militares fascistas vestidos con camuflaje y equipo similares aparecen regularmente en manifestaciones donde atacan a izquierdistas y ayudan a la policía.

Los oficiales federales están confundiendo las líneas entre ellos y los para-militares fascistas. Muchas personas sospechan que algunos oficiales de la Patrulla Fronteiza de los Estados Unidos están involucrados en estos secuestros. La Patrulla Fronteiza ha mejorado la su autoridad dentro de las 100 millas de cualquier costa o frontera, y por lo tanto abarca Portland y dos tercios de toda la población de los EE.UU.

El periódico local Willamette Week, después de identificar los números de matrícula en varias camionetas del video de los secuestradores, determinó que fueron alquiladas a EAH Holdings LLC, una subsidiaria operativa de Enterprise Holdings, propietaria de las marcas Enterprise, Alamo y National de alquiler de automóviles. Esto no debería sorprender a nadie que conozca las profundas relaciones entre las corporaciones y la policía.

Greyhound Bus Lines, por ejemplo, ha sido un blanco frecuente de manifes-tantes que denuncian su colaboración con agentes de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas que realizan incursiones en los pasajeros de Greyhound. La semana de Willamette informó el 20 de julio que durante el fin de semana, los videos virales y las fotos de la protesta del sábado por la noche mostraron a la policía federal golpeando a un veterinario de la Armada, Christopher David, con porras y gases lacrimógenos a una multitud que incluía al comisionado del condado de Multnomah, Sharon Meieran. Meieran tuiteó: “Anoche fue golpeada por una fuerza de ocupación federal que vi arrojar dos latas de veneno, sin previo aviso, a un multitud no violenta, incluidos los ancianos y los vulnerables”.

La represión que suscita resistencia

En semanas anteriores, las multitudes habían disminuido a cientos en las protestas nocturnas. Ahora, la llegada de oficiales y funcionarios federales ha revitalizado las protestas en Portland, incluidos muchos residentes mayores. Muchos de los que no suelen asistir a las manifestaciones están con-mocionados e indignados por lo que ven como una ocupación de su ciudad por parte de violencia fascista externos—los agentes federales.

El objetivo de Trump de sofocar las protestas en Portland ha incitado a las personas para que se queden en casa y se enfrentan al revés, un resultado predecible en una ciudad conocida por sus gran-des y regulares protestas.

Para justificar las tácticas extremas uti-lizadas por los oficiales federales, tácticas que se ajustan al Chile del ex dictador Pinochet, el jefe interino del DHS, Wolf, publicó una lista de las fechas y ubicaciones de los graffiti que los manifestan-tees habían pintado. Si el conflicto fuera menos grave, la respuesta fuerza de Wolf al graffiti sería ridícula. En cambio, subraya el motivo real del gobierno: apalastar un movimiento popular antirracista y anti-fascista que ha barrido el país como un incendio que no se ha mantenido durante más de dos meses.

El estado busca cualquier razón, por absurda o falsa que sea, para justificar sus violentos ataques contra los manifestantes. Etiqueta a cualquier como terrorista o anarquista violento por su participación en el movimiento, sin importar cuán pacífica o constitucional puedan ser las sus protestas.

Incluso la gobernadora de Oregon, Kate Brown, junto con muchos otros políticos locales y estatales, ha reprimido una “repre-sión como un caso de extralimitación federal” y pidió que los oficiales lo fueran. Históricamente, los oficiales federales han ayudado solo a perpetuar la represión estatales y locales. Nunca han sido impuestas por la Casa Blanca a los estados, como está sucediendo ahora en Oregon.

Es irónico que los oficiales y conserva-doress, que a menudo dicen que apoyan los derechos de los estados y se oponen a la extralimitación federal, han permane-cido en silencio.

El alcalde Wheeler, quien se unió al gobernador Brown para condenar la pre-sencia violenta de oficiales federales, in-icialmente aseguró al público que el PPB, bajo su control directo, no estaba coor-dinando con los oficiales federales y no habiendo sido enmascarado después de varias noches de protestas, ha quedado claro que los oficiales del PPB han avanzado sobre los manifestantes en coordinación con los agentes federales.

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