U.S. election

Detroit smashes racist plot

By Martha Grevatt

The voters of Michigan dealt President Donald Trump a crushing defeat on Nov. 3. He lost to President-elect Joe Biden by over 154,000 votes. Black-majority cities, including Flint, Benton Harbor and especially Detroit, were decisive in a state the blatant white supremacist had narrowly won in 2016. In other “battleground” states, the pattern was replicated, with Atlanta, Milwaukee and Philadelphia playing a decisive role in Trump’s loss.

Rather than accept the numbers — which show him trailing in the popular vote tally by over 6 million — Trump and his cohorts, led by racist ex-mayor of New York City Rudy Giuliani, have launched a vicious campaign to disenfranchise Black voters. With the dozens of court challenges all failing to bolster Trump’s bogus case, political maneuvers are being employed to subvert the voters’ will.

On Nov. 17, a city with a proud history in the labor and Black liberation movements — Detroit — pushed back. In Michigan the County Boards of Canvassers, with two Republicans and two Democratic members appointed by the elected County Board of Commissioners, certify the election results in each of the state’s 83 counties. The results are then sent to the State Board of Canvassers for approval. This is normally a routine, non-controversial procedure.

Wayne County, whose largest city is Detroit, proved to be the exception. The two Republicans on the Board refused to approve the results, which by law are considered not certified in the case of a tie. But the county had rejected Trump by over 323,000 votes. The excuse given was that there were discrepancies in some precincts between the number of votes tallied and the number of voters registered. None of the counts were off by more than half a dozen, hardly enough to impact the election’s outcome.

Crimes against humanity

We charge genocide!

On Friday, Nov. 20, over 200,000 new cases of the COVID-19 were diagnosed in the U.S. — on that one day! Since the virus began to travel through the country in late January — at first undetected — over 265,000 people have died, and nearly 13 million people have contracted the disease. (worldometer.com)

Accounts are spreading of city morgues overwhelmed with bodies and hospitals running out of treatment space, as infection rates spike in almost every state.

We are in the middle of carnage far, far more deadly than that suffered by U.S. soldiers during 20th century wars. In 11 months, over four times more people have died from COVID in the U.S. than U.S. troops died in an 11-year war in Vietnam. And the country’s coronavirus deaths will soon exceed the 290,000 deaths of U.S. soldiers in battle during the four-year WWII conflict. (U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, “America’s Wars”)

These numbers are a damning indictment of the so-called U.S. “democracy” that those wars were supposedly waged to defend. The numbers reveal the continued crimes of a government set up to rule, from its beginning, through colonialism, capitalism and imperialism.

Now, in the middle of a worldwide health crisis, we see that this U.S.-for-profit has no organized, effective, timely help — or mercy — for the people who live here. No plan for millions of people out of work, facing eviction or foreclosure, hungry and even starving.

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Transgender liberation: A movement whose time is now!

One month after Leslie released this work—which liberates the history of trans and gender non-conforming people from behind the lock and key of capitalist oppression—revolutionary Black transgender advocate Marsha P. Johnson was found dead in the Hudson River in New York City. What a hopeless time it must have felt for so many to have a vision of revolutionary hope dashed out in such a cruel fate.

But in the same way that our comrade Leslie Feinberg’s legacy of fighting spirit live on, so does the legacy of fighting spirit of Marsha P. Johnson, and that of Latinx transgender heroes Sylvia Rivera, and all the others who had it the way by which we now march.

A trans revolutionary struggle

Our time of liberation has arrived. It is here. On this Transgender Day of Remembrance, we must take our time to mourn and grieve those we lost and celebrate their lives—and also celebrate our lives as trans and gender non-conforming people still living.

Then we must continue to wage a revolutionary struggle against capitalism—both its imperialism and its continuation of colonialism in the 21st century. This is the exploitative, oppressive system that unleash transgender oppression around the globe.

In his 1995 book, “Transgender Warriors”—the first extended Marxist analysis of transgender oppression—Leslie Feinberg traced the roots of hatred and discrimination against trans people to their origin in the formation of class society.

The struggle for transgender liberation is part of the class struggle. Trans people are part of the working class and trans people are gunned 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, multigender and multigenerational 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 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.

Trans and gender non-conforming people

“Transgender liberation” is a phrase that may seem like a distant dream right now. Oppressed people might very well respond: “We are a million miles away from that!” The odds for survival are still stacked very high against trans and gender non-conforming people.

But trans liberation also seemed far away almost 30 years ago, in 1990 when Leslie Feinberg released her groundbreaking pamphlet, “Transgender Liberation: A Movement Whose Time Has Come.” (Free download at tinyurl.com/3v5g24t3)

Continued on page 3

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

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

Capitalist war on trans and gender non-conforming people

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The article below was originally published on Dec. 9, 2014, at bgdblog.org. It has been slightly edited. Since that time, according to the Philadelphia Police Department, police lost the records of Nizah’s case. In 2018, transgender activist and lawyer Julie Chovanes argued in front of Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner that Nizah’s case should be reopened so that his office could review the decision of the District Attorney’s Office of Open Records—which denied access to the records.

By Princess Harmony Rodriguez

At 207 Juniper Street, in the City of Brotherly Love, stood a bar called the Key West Bar and Grille. It had its own rich history, having been Philadelphia’s only integrated gay bar for 12 years. Decades ago, lives were irreversibly changed. On any given night, there are thousands of drunk people in bars in that city. We are often stopped, harassed, assaulted and often find ourselves the targets of increased police violence. Trans women of color are sex workers and/or drug addicts, often find themselves the targets of increased police violence. And some - may have as individuals save us from the system that profiles us. It doesn’t matter whether or not you’re actually doing something illegal, though, because being transgender (resisting patriarchy’s desire for our lives) is essentially illegal. Transgender people who dare to wage the struggle against this bigotry have the antidote and the cure: revolutionary socialism.

To win revolutionary socialism means to struggle for solidarity between and among oppressed people and workers. So it is mandatory that the transgender liberation struggle within the U.S. — and the LGBTQ2s+ struggle as a whole — unite with other struggles: with the Black Lives Matter movement against police terror, with the Palestinian struggle against Israeli apartheid, with the struggle to abolish police and prisons, with the struggle to decolonize this land for Indigenous people to have it once again, for the struggle for reparations for Black and Indigenous people — and with the struggle against low wages, high-tech capitalism, homelessness, and the chaotic, unplanned capitalist economy that keeps us poor and starving. For there to be transgender liberation, there must be socialism.

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Transgender liberation

Continued from page 2

and for oppression. At various intersections, one will find Black transgender women, who face the highest amount of violence of any other demographic, as well as Brown, sex workers, people of color, and disabled trans people. People like Nizah Morris, who was murdered for what white cisgender people do every day in this country with nary a peep from the police, can’t fight for themselves. We must take up the fight for them, for our sisters who have been harassed, but survived, and ultimately for ourselves, because the next time it happens, it may be us.

Nizah Morris

On Dec. 22, 2002, a Black Trans woman named Nizah Morris was drunk at Key West. Officers Elizabeth Skala-DiDonato, Thomas Berry, and Kenneth Novak were dispatched to the scene after a 911 call was placed by concerned friends. Skal-DiDonato offered Ms. Morris a courtesy ride to her home, and Berry accommodated her request. Nizah sobered up and left the vehicle at 3:25 a.m.

Two minutes later, she was found bleeding and unconscious in the middle of the street. Berry was again dispatched to her location, where he declared a crime had not taken place, covering her face while she was still alive. Had she been taken to a hospital as soon as she was found, she more than likely would have lived. Instead, she was left on the scene for 40 minutes. She was taken to the hospital at 4:13 a.m. and died at 8:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve from a wound that could only have come from the butt of a gun. While police say they do not know who or what killed her, the answer is obvious. The officers involved in her final moments, Skala-DiDonato, Berry, and Novak — the third officer sent to Key West who never accounted for his whereabouts between 3:13 a.m. and 3:25 a.m. — could have more than likely been her murderers. Nizah Morris’s death highlighted the immeasurable social and emotional distance between the trans community and the Philadelphia Police Department.

Police target transgender people of color

All over the U.S., police and transgenders are often profiled as sex workers, drug addicts, or just plain criminals. Some of us are sex workers and/or drug addicts, the end result of being targeted for discrimination by the same oppressive system that profiles us. It doesn’t matter whether or not you’re actually doing something illegal, though, because being transgender (resisting patriarchy’s desire for our lives) is essentially illegal. There used to be a competition among the officers of the Philadelphia Police Department. Precincts and individual officers would compete to see how many transgender women they could arrest or stop in one night. Did they ever stop this cruelty? I don’t know, but they adopted new standards and policies that would on paper give the impression that transgender people are respected by the PPD. Those new policies came about as the result of a laundry list of complaints of gender, sexual violence, and unrelenting insults during arrests, which the trans community protested to the PPD.

Cops harass this writer

Sometimes when minority privileges we may have as individuals save us from the full depth of police violence. And sometimes they don’t. Despite being a trans woman of color from a lower economic class, I was able to attend a relatively inexpensive university in Philadelphia. I was standing at the corner of Broad and Diamond streets, walking home after visiting a friend, when two cops in an unmarked car and two more in a police cruiser pulled up and started cat-calling and mocking me. They were asking for sexual favors, proposing me, assuming I was a sex worker only because I’m transgender (I am, but they didn’t know that).

It wasn’t until they noticed that I had my school’s lanyard with my school ID card on it that they became silent and their demeanor changed. They sped off as soon as they got the chance. I didn’t think about it much when it happened, I was shaken up over it, but I realized that my school ID conferred upon me the illusion of class privilege. I still had the privilege that comes with being a college student and that was my saving grace that night. I had other run-ins with the police where I wasn’t so lucky, but that incident stood out to me.

What many people don’t realize is that the police brutality the trans community faces is directly tied to other forms of systemic oppression. Those new policies were tabled in 2004.

Therese G. Wright using Pennsylvania’s Right to Knowledge Act, a 1973 Act passed by the Pennsylvania legislature. The Act allows any person to request access to the records.

In February 2018, Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner said that the Morris case was not an open criminal investigation. Yet in 2019, a former District Attorney staffer claimed it was an open investigation. An important fact to remember is that Elizabeth Skala-DiDonato was with Nizah Morris when she was attacked, according to her own words. Chovanes has pursued the covering and continues to fight for Nizah.

Whose lives matter? Trans women of color and police violence

Transgender Solidarity in Defense of Cuba

By Leslie Feinberg, author of Stone Butch Blues

This book is an edited compilation of chapters 86 to 110 from the Lavender & Red series in Workers World Newspaper that began June 1, 2004. It is available free online at www.workers.org/book/rainbow-solidarity-in-defense-of-cuba/
San Francisco Bay Area protest, Nov. 22.

Justice for T.J.

San Francisco Bay Area protest, Nov. 22.

Justice for T.J.

Protest demands health care is a right—Treat Tyejaun or free him!

By Judy Greenspan

Martinez, Calif.

Family members, friends, social workers, teachers and prisoners’ rights advocates converged on the Martinez Detention Facility in Martinez, Calif., on Nov. 22, to demand immediate medical care for Tyejaun Shepherd, an 18-year-old Black youth who is awaiting trial. His relatives say he is experiencing stroke-like symptoms, and the Sheriff’s Department refuses to get him medical treatment. The angry group of supporters chanted, “Treat Tyejaun or release him now!”

Lavette Alexander, Shepherd’s mother, spoke outside the jail about her son’s deteriorating medical condition: “My son needs to be in an outside facility where he can be monitored, and people can really take care of him. The symptoms that he has are all consistent with a stroke. They are telling me it’s not a stroke, and that everything is fine. Everything is not fine.”

Shepherd was unable to call out to the protest, but his supporters were alarmed because he had a severe stutter, was confused and could not remember some friends and family. At the rally, Joey Villareal, a formerly imprisoned Chicano activist and radio host of Free Aralan, exposed the prison system for its virulent racism against oppressed nations in the U.S. He described the rampant spread of COVID inside jails, where prisoners have little or no access to personal protective equipment. “Being a prisoner in the U.S. today, all prisoners are on death row.” Pointing at the jail, he said, “All of these prisoners in this concentration camp are being held on death row, because they can die at any time. COVID is real.”

“T.J.,” as Shepherd is referred to by his friends and family, was supported at the protest by his relatives, high school vice principal and social worker. There, his 12-year-old nephew, Desandra Williams said it best, “Free my uncle! We love you Tyejaun.”

Lawsuits mount

Medical neglect is nothing new to the Contra Costa Sheriff’s Department, which is knee-deep in lawsuits, legal complaints and eyewitness reports of severe medical neglect and racist brutality against the Black and Latinx people incarcerated there.

On Oct. 1, Contra Costa County was forced to agree to spend $250 million to increase staffing and improve health care at its jail facilities, as a result of a class action lawsuit filed on behalf of some inmates by the Prison Law Office. It alleged inmates with physical and mental illnesses were being neglected. A separate lawsuit was filed June 26 by DeAndre Bolden, a formerly incarcerated person with mental health challenges who was brutally beaten by Contra Costa deputies.

No Justice Under Capitalism and Shepherd’s family organized the protest. For more information, www.facebook.com/NoJusticeUnderCapitalism.

Death behind jail walls

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

The following remarks were given at the Sept. 24 webinar “Women and Gender Oppressed Prisoners: Survival and Resistance,” hosted by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Workers World Party.

A struggle waged in the U.S. South gives a historic lesson in how imprisoned women and gender-oppressed people have fought back.

I was living in North Carolina, becoming active in struggle, when in August 1975, Joann Little, a 20-year-old African American woman, fled her jail cell in Beaufort—an isolated coastal town in the state—after killing a white deputy sheriff who attempted to rape her.

Joann used the jailer’s teargouge weapon against him in her desperate struggle to resist. When she surrendered to authorities, citing self-defense, she was arrested and put on trial for murder.

Little proved beyond execution or life in prison by the first U.S. struggle successful in asserting that African American women had the right to self-defense against white rapists.

In 1975—so now—white supremacy was intensifying to defend for the oppression and exploitation of Indigenous and African American people.

And in the fact that Joann Little defended herself, she was also fighting back against the triple oppression of African American women, in place since the time enslavers had first held African American women as property, exploited their labor as workers, and used their ability to reproduce as a source of profit.

In 1975 a “Free Joann Little” movement sprang up—a broad coalition of women’s liberation, Black Liberation, left and prisoner struggle groups. The Winston-Salem, N.C., branch of the Black Panthers Party staunchly defended Little, connecting her self-defense to international struggle. A moving support statement came from Prisoners Against Rape—current and formerly incarcerated people convicted of rape—and women active in feminist groups.

In the 1970s, people imprisoned in the U.S., including in the South, were rising up. In Alabama they organized as the Atmore-Holman Brothers to end racist killings in the prisons. In North Carolina, women at the state prison in Raleigh rebelled against club-wielding guards to protect slave-labor conditions in the sweatshop laundries.

A key organization within the Free Joann campaign was the Prisoner Solidarity Committee, an initiative of Workers World Party. Led by the Norfolk, Va., branch of WWP, the PSC organized rallies, marches, vigils, leafleting and petitions in Little’s defense in cities across the U.S.

At a Richmond, Va., march, the banner of the Gay Caucus of YAWF, another WW mass group, said: “Gay people demand: Free Joann Little! Free all political prisoners!”

Mass organizing forced a move of Little’s trial to Raleigh, the state capital. Of the trial, Little herself said, “My life is not in the hands of the court. My life is in the hands of the people.” On Aug. 22, the people prevailed as a jury declared Joann Little “Not guilty!”

Monica Moorehead, a leader of Norfolk’s PSC at the time, and now a leader in Workers World Party, said in 2006: “One of the most important lessons of the Joann Little case … is that expanding class solidarity to the most oppressed is not an act of charity but holds the key to building an effective fightback movement to liberate our entire class from all forms of bigotry and exploitation by the bosses.

“Every leaflet, every slogan and every demonstration in that earlier struggle not only demanded that the murder charges be dropped against our heroic sister Joann, but also that the walls of the prisons be torn down. This means that freedom struggles will remain concentration camps for the poor and oppressed.”

Death behind jail walls

From “Care Not Cages: A People’s Guide to Healing” — a 2018 zine and video series featuring incarcerated artists dreamt up by Decarcerate Alameda County and Prison Renaissance.

By Mirinda Crissman

The number of deaths in local jails as documented by Reuters, along with data collected by The Marshall Project and the New York Times on state and federal prisons, clearly illustrates that these various cages are concentration camps. People are dying prematurely and unnecessarily deaths there, in disproportionate numbers for people of color and for people with various conditions—nationality, gender, sexual orientation and disability. (Reuters, “Dying Inside,” The Marshall Project COVID-19, New York Times data COVID clusters.)

These deaths, particularly in U.S. jails, are being undercounted for many reasons. The prison-complex facilities transfer incarcerated workers to outside medical facilities before they die so their deaths won’t be counted as happening in custody. There are “compassionate releases” where folks who have been locked up and are terminally ill will die in their own communities rather than in the daunting custody of municipal, county, state and federal agencies. Data on deaths in local jails is also difficult to capture, due in part to the decentralization of incarceration within county and municipal structures. Jails are operated by county sheriff departments and other law enforcement agencies, such as city police departments.

People with longer sentences are generally transferred from local jails to prisons, which are complexes usually operated by state and federal departments. Legislation relating to prisoners is frequently put in place by the federal government and federal level with the intent to suppress data and maintain secrecy—for a state that serves the统治 class rather than the workers who produce its great wealth.

Overall, data is made hard to collect on the number of deaths in im/migrant detention centers, jails and prisons—in that order—to intentionally erase the criminalization of human beings from public life and public responsibility. This erasure happens to everyone’s detriment—except the rich.

An Oct. 16 article distributed by Reuters reveals the scandalous suppression of data on jail deaths: “The Justice Department’s Bureau of Justice Statistics has collected inmate mortality data for two decades—but statistics for individuals who are withheld from the public, government officials and oversight agencies under a 1984 law limiting the release of BJS data. … Local policy makers can’t learn if their jail’s death rates are higher than those in similar communities.… The Justice Department’s own lawyers, charged with taking legal action when necessary, fail to bring violations of constitutional standards, can’t readily identify jails where high death counts warrant federal investigation.”

How and why are people dying in jail? A Reuters analysis of deaths in 253 jails across the U.S. between 2008 and 2019 Continued on page 6
Marietta, Ga., demonstrators demand ‘Justice for Vincent Truitt!’

By Arielle Robinson

Marietta, Ga.

About 75 demonstrators rallied at Marietta Square on Nov. 14, demanding justice for 17-year-old Vincent Truitt, a Black teenager who was killed by Cobb County police on July 13. Truitt died from his injuries the next day. His family said he was shot and then hospitalized.

The protest was held by Truitt’s family and their attorney, Gerald Griggs, as well as District Attorney Joyette Holmes, her office staff, and law enforcement officials, who have not released any information about Truitt’s death. Griggs said that Truitt’s family still has not received sufficient answers from Cobb County in the four months since he was killed.

‘Release the tapes!’

At the rally, people held signs reading “Release the tapes!” and “Justice for Vincent Truitt?” Cobb County police killed kids!” Rally goers chanted “Vincent Truitt!” and “Two shots to the back. You got to just work for it!”

Griggs told reporters: “For far too long in Cobb County, Black lives have not mattered. So today, on this square, we’re sending a message. This is a message to all of the residents of Cobb County. It’s time for y’all to realize that your Brown and Black brothers and sisters matter, too. We’re sending a message to Tim Cox: Release the tapes!”

Truitt’s parents also spoke at the rally. His father, Andre Truitt, said that he saw the video of his son’s killing while walking away, being shot twice in the back by Cobb County police. He asked, “In what world is that humane?”

Yenetha Cook-Lewis, Truitt’s mother, tearfully said she never imagined she would be in this situation: “It’s not fair we have to go through this pain while [the officer] lives his life. He should not be working on this force.”

“Truitt full of life and love”

Washington explained the rally’s purpose was to paint a bigger picture of Truitt’s life, as the picture the Cobb police have put out is inadequate for a young man who was full of life and love. Classmates described Truitt as a teenager who loved to play basketball, and emphasized they wanted Truitt’s case to be recognized nationally.

Jondré Pryor, principal of KAC, said that at their first meeting Truitt had questioned who Pryor was. As time went by, Truitt smiled and hugged Pryor. “I am just sick of this adultification of our Black and Brown babies. Media makes them out to be grown adults. We have to make sure we find justice for this warrior. "

The widespread problem of MST was spotlighted Aug. 1 at a protest in Radcliffe, Ky., near the U.S. Army base Fort Knox. It was organized by Our Sister’s Keeper, a national group of veterans united by their suffering from sexual assault while in the U.S. military. This protest was one of many held across the U.S. that day in response to the sexual assault and brutal murder of Vanessa Guillen, a Latinx soldier at Fort Hood in Texas. She was killed by a higher ranking soldier in her own unit.

“We did not sign up to be raped”

Women veterans fight back against military sexual trauma

By Johnnie Lewis

The crisis is a U.S. Army veteran and was an organizer of the American Servicewomen’s Union, 1968-69.

This month two veterans, represented by the Yale Law School Veterans Legal Service Clinic, won a lawsuit against the U.S. military establishment for its blatant refusal to provide mental health services to female soldiers. (tinyurl.com/y36t34kn)

According to a just-published U.S. Dept. of Defense report, 60% of all sexual assaults reported to the military occur against women. Women deployed on female-only ships have not been given access to proper mental health services, despite the fact that they are at risk of both sexual assault and PTSD.

The plaintiffs include Juniper Simonis, “a non-binary transgender woman and a plant manager at Fort Knox. It was organized by Our Sister’s Keeper, a national group of veterans united by their suffering from sexual assault while in the U.S. military. This protest was one of many held across the U.S. that day in response to the sexual assault and brutal murder of Vanessa Guillen, a Latinx soldier at Fort Hood in Texas. She was killed by a higher ranking soldier in her own unit. “We did not sign up to be raped”

Women veterans fight back against military sexual trauma

August protest

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This month two veterans, represented by the Yale Law School Veterans Legal Service Clinic, won a lawsuit against the U.S. Army for giving “bad paper” discharges to veterans with mental health diagnoses. The discharges were based on charges of sexual assault, abuse and harassment, known collectively as Military Sexual Trauma (MST). Additionally, the lawsuit supported all veterans with diagnoses of traumatic brain injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder who were given bad paper discharges. (tinyurl.com/8y9evwce)

The lawsuit settlement allows fast-tracking of applications for upgrades of bad paper discharges related to these and other mental health diagnoses. Workers.org    Nov. 26, 2020    Page 5
Scores of public housing residents and their supporters gathered outside the San Antonio Housing Authority’s so-called “housing assistance office” Nov. 21 to protest SAHA’s plan to demolish the historic Alazán Courts. Alazán is the city’s oldest and biggest public housing project, located in the historic central thoroughfare of Látinxs, mostly Chicanxs/Mexicanxs, community.

Even though more than 1,200 people live in Alazán, SAHA is moving to demolish the historic Alazán Courts.

Nov. 21 to protest SAHA’s plan to maintain basic, safe standards within jails and prisons.

A majority of these workers are women. Service sector job losses and remote schooling have had a major impact on Black and Latinx women; at least 824,000 Latinx women have left the labor force since February, (NYT, Nov. 3).

It’s hard to get a true picture of what is happening in the job market and the overall economy because conditions and policies are changing so rapidly. It is not clear how many long-term (over 26 weeks) unemployed there are, because the labor force participation rate—the percentage of the working-age population working or actively seeking employment—is so low, even lower than it was in the 2008 Great Recession.

Federal judges forced him to pause before Nov. 3. Even further cuts in services are possible.

Postal workers and allies handed out an APWU flier to passersby asking them to call their U.S. senator at (844) 402-1001 to demand Congress provide the USPS with $25 billion in funding and permanently reverse DeJoy’s policies.

Postal workers also handed out a fact sheet entitled “The Postal Service: What Now?” comparing DeJoy’s vision of privatization to a parody of what the Postal Service could be.

For a link to the fact sheet visit bit.ly/postaldivision.

Women veterans fight back against military sexual trauma

Continued from page 5

A 2013 study showed 40% of all women veterans experience MST, compared to only 3.3% of men. Veterans presenting with MST demonstrate “a significantly higher likelihood of almost all mental health diagnoses examined, as compared to other home- less women and men, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, other anxiety disorders, substance use disorders, bipolar disorder, personality disorders, suicide, and among men only, schizophrenia and psychotic disorders.” However, veterans with bad paper discharges, among those most in need, were not counted in this study. (Journal of General Internal Medicine, July 2013).

The lawsuit win, of course, is victory for women veterans with MST-related PTSD and all veterans presenting with mental health diagnoses. However, they still must file claims to upgrade their discharge papers, although representation through various veterans service organizations, such as Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and others, is free to all veterans. (www.va.gov/vso/)

There are still many hurdles to overcome in the struggle against the patriarchal abuse that permeates the imperialist military and all of capitalist society.

### San Antonio: ‘Save public housing!’

By G. Dunkel

In March and April, over 22 million workers in the United States lost their jobs. So far, the stumbling economic recovery has brought 12 million back, but 10 million workers—90% of them in the low-paid service sector—still do not have a job.

A myriad of deplorable factors continue to contribute to premature death imposed on already vulnerable people. Many jails are not responsible to any agency to maintain basic, safe standards for operation or health care. Mandatory bail requirements trap poorer people in pre-trial detention for long periods.

San Antonio: ‘Save public housing!’

By Joe Piette

Postal workers and supporters of a vibrant postal service held rallies in dozens of cities on Nov. 17 that highlighted the work postal workers did during the election. They also raised the continued need for COVID-19 financial relief for the U.S. Postal Service.

The rallies took place at a time when the numbers of pandemic exposures, hospitalizations and deaths are reaching new highs. This is causing more mail delays as postal facilities experience severe understaffing levels from the being unable to hire anyone at any time for the most

There is a strong possibility that a tsunami of evictions will begin in January 2021. The CARES Act, the pandemic relief bill that Congress passed in March, prohibited evictions in buildings with a federally guaranteed mortgage—about half of the market for renters was covered.

There was a lot of confusion about these restrictions. Landlords and tenants had trouble finding information; complex paperwork was required to prove that inability to pay was COVID-related. Some landlords resorted to “private” evictions—changing locks, taking away the front door, stopping maintenance, hiring thugs—most of which are illegal because they lead to state convictions for violence.

The Centers for Disease Control stepped in and restricted evictions on the grounds that they would contribute to the current health emergency. Various states and even some cities passed similar restorations.

Even in states like Arizona and Arkansas, where tenant protections are scarce, court-supervised evictions fell sharply, and “private” evictions were sometimes reversed.

Princeton’s Eviction Lab has counted over 100,000 eviction filings during the pandemic in the 25 cities it tracks. However, these prohibitions against evictions are scheduled to sunset Dec. 31. There are predictions that as many as 4.1 million eviction cases will be filed in the first month of 2021.

The eviction moratorium was passed during the election. They also raised the continued need for COVID-19 financial relief for the U.S. Postal Service.

Postal workers also handed out a fact sheet entitled “The Postal Service: What Now?” comparing DeJoy’s vision of privatization to a parody of what the Postal Service could be.

For a link to the fact sheet visit bit.ly/postaldivision.

Women veterans fight back against military sexual trauma

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A 2013 study showed 40% of all women veterans experience MST, compared to only 3.3% of men. Veterans presenting with MST demonstrate “a significantly higher likelihood of almost all mental health diagnoses examined, as compared to other home- less women and men, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, other anxiety disorders, substance use disorders, bipolar disorder, personality disorders, suicide, and among men only, schizophrenia and psychotic disorders.” However, veterans with bad paper discharges, among those most in need, were not counted in this study. (Journal of General Internal Medicine, July 2013).

The lawsuit win, of course, is victory for women veterans with MST-related PTSD and all veterans presenting with mental health diagnoses. However, they still must file claims to upgrade their discharge papers, although representation through various veterans service organizations, such as Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and others, is free to all veterans. (www.va.gov/vso/)

There are still many hurdles to overcome in the struggle against the patriarchal abuse that permeates the imperialist military and all of capitalist society.

Death behind jail walls

Continued from page 4

found 7,571 reported deaths. Of the people who died in these cases, 4,998—or about two thirds—were killed by conditions they were in custody or saw their day in court.

Of the total number of reported deaths, 2,000 were due to suicide. About 1,500 of those suicides were by people not yet convicted of anything. There are essentially no figures available on the number of deaths resulting from guard or police assault on incarcerated people within jails and prisons.

A deplorable share of deplorable factors continue to contribute to premature death imposed on already vulnerable people. Many jails are not responsible to any agency to maintain basic, safe standards for operation or health care. Mandatory bail requirements trap poorer people in pre-trial detention for long periods.

Since the end of the Reuters study, the death rate for incarcer- ate drug and alcohol abusers has increased by 72%. This has occurred amid an opioid epidemic developed and exploited by a pharmaceutical industry that has spent years reaping mega-profits and by complicit government entities.

Incarceration should not be a death sentence

Im/migrant detention centers, jails and prisons are consistently used as weapons against members of the working class and against oppressed people. Arrest and incarceration can be used against anyone at any time for the most

Wanted to flip the script?

For more on this story, see the weekly print edition of workers.org.
Active forces decide political struggles—battling #45

**Active forces decide political struggles—battling #45**

**Bulletin:** After this article was written, on Nov. 23 pressure from business executives forced the administration to cooperate with the transition to Biden/Harris. #45, however, has yet to concede the election and continues filing lawsuits to reverse vote counts.

By John Catalinotto

If the political struggle were determined simply by additional political forces, #45 would be meeting now with Joe Biden, and the two would be preparing the next capitalist administration of the U.S. government. Have no illusions. Both Republicans and Democrats share a common imperialist foreign policy. They both defend the interests of Wall Street. They both feed the Pentagon.

For more than the past century, the two big political parties, despite bitter competition to get control of a two-trillion-dollar budget, have cooperated in the transition. This year Biden can’t even get his hands on government funds to prepare to take office.

Judging by statements of CEOs and former government officials, the ruling class backs Biden. Each day another Republican politician or two go on record of advising #45 to concede, to cooperate with the transition team. Each day, another European imperialist head of state calls Biden to congratulate him.

If you believed that political struggles or class struggles—or for that matter, wars—were decided by count—number of boots on each side, you might conclude that this battle is over.

Yet as of Nov. 23, so many transition meetings are taking place. The grotesque Rudy Giuliani sours another state; #45 refuses to give in.

To enter the following questions for the working class—considered in its broadest definition—employed, unemployed, gig and permanent, in/migrants, youth and retired, and including all nationalities, genders and people with special oppressions: Should the working class get involved in this struggle and how?

The workers have a side

The answer should be obvious. Allowing #45 to overtake the elections would be a blow to democratic rights, a blow to the workers and a surrender to his attack on the voting rights of workers, especially of the Black community.

We have no illusions. Big money, big media and decades of anti-socialist indoctrination determine U.S. elections. Neither major party represents the working class. But we can’t let the Trumpites throw votes from Black and other people of color in the trash can.

The working class should intervene and has the opportunity to do so as an active force. It should make its own demands, not simply as an appendage to the Biden/Harris administration and its ruling class backers.

Voters rejected #45 by a head of nearly 7 million votes. Judging by the cheers on Nov. 7 when the media declared Biden/Harris, millions of people felt great. More quotes from those celebrating reflected relief at rejecting Trump than elation at electing Biden.

The voters said no to #45, despite the Republican effort to suppress Black and—except in Florida with a large number of right-wing Cubans and Venezuelans—Latinx voters. In both his following and his attacks, he showed the reactionary what they’re up against. And as they do this, the workers can make their own demands on Biden.

It’s obvious such demands are needed. Already, it seems that the Democratic leaders are yielding to pressure from the Republican resistance in the Senate. A report in the Nov. 22 New York Times says, “Advisers to President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr. are pushing for Democratic leaders in Congress to reach a quick stimulus deal with Senate Republicans, even if it falls short of the larger package Democrats have been seeking.”

That’s early notice of a rotten compromise with the Republicans. A massive mobilization can stop this.

Such a mobilization can stop the Democratic leadership from cutting down the left wing of their own party. The center-right leaders have already blamed the left for “down-ticket” losses, that is, where those running for lesser offices fared worse than Biden/Harris.

That argument contradicts the success of the furthest left Democratic representatives, for example, the women in the “Squad,” who all won reelection, most by large majorities. These candidates raised issues the working class is concerned about, like health care and the climate crisis, and aroused enthusiasm support. It was one of the Squad, Rep. Rashida Tlaib, who with the results of November 2020.

Stop #45’s fight to stay in office. Don’t even let him leave with his head up.

Detroit smashes racist plot in U.S. election

Continued from page 1

Right Movement

“You are certainly showing that you are a racist,” State Representative Abraham Aiyash said. “You may claim that you are not, but let’s be very clear. Your words today and your actions today made it clear that you are OK with silencing the voices of people of color in the trash can.”

As soon as I saw it, I thought of the oxysms of purest joy.

People felt like they could breathe again. As soon as I saw it, I thought of the oxysms of purest joy. What could it mean?

I think it reflected the heaviness of state repression, the aura of threat and intimidation being lifted, and the psyche sought expression.

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Trump pushes ANWR drilling — what will Biden do?

By Betsye Piette

Since Nov. 7, corporate media has focused on President Donald Trump’s refusal to accept his election defeat, labeling his actions “damaging to [the myth of bourgeois] democracy.” Yet one of Trump’s few concrete actions since the election — speeding up contested oil and gas drilling in Alaska’s Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) — has received scant media attention even though it is more dangerous.

Right after the election, the Trump administration increased harmful seismic testing in the ANWR. Now the president is rushing to auction off drilling rights to fossil fuel companies before President-elect Joe Biden takes office, despite strong opposition from environmentalists and Indigenous communities in the region.

Since taking office in 2017, the White House occupant has reversed or removed over 100 environmental protections and regulations designed to limit climate change and protect air and water. One of his first priorities was establishing the ANWR as a new national wilderness area, the Pentagon is the largest producer of greenhouse gases in the world.

Environmental activists are raising concern over Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy in President Barack Obama’s administration from 2013 to 2017 and potentially a top contender to lead Biden’s Department of Energy. Moniz, who supports fracking, launched the liquefied natural gas export regime under Obama. He is currently a director of Southern Company, the second-highest carbon-polluting utility in the U.S. (Readashape, Nov. 19).

Another potential candidate for Energy Secretary is Alana Stelle, senior advisor to Biden. Moniz’s ties to fracking will likely be an issue for Biden, like Moniz, is opposed to stopping fossil fuel extraction. On Nov. 17, Biden named fossil fuel industry activist Cedric Richmond to a White House liaison position between the business community and climate change activists.

Concern over Biden’s “climate advisors” led Indigenous, racial justice and climate activists to stage an intervention outside Southern Company’s headquarters in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 19, calling for a corporate-free Cabinet. Protesters, including Ta Sina Sapa Win of the Cheyenne River Grassroots Collective, Monday, Montezuma and Congressperson Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, also called for Biden to take immediate climate action and approve the Green New Deal. (tinyurl.com/y3rehu8l)

In the countrywide COVID-19 epidemic, it is easy to forget that the most vulnerable among us include those with opioid addictions who use the medications methadone (Diskets, Methadose) and buprenorphine (Suboxone, Subutex, Sublocade, Zubsolv, Bunavail). These people, who are reliant on constant and steady dosing of their medications to stave off the horrors of opioid addiction, cannot be separated from their medications. That’s why COVID-19 presents such a problem: places that dose methadone or prescribe buprenorphine are very busy with large amounts of people in an often small space.

This massive change in lifestyle, in how we live in a COVID-19 infected world, impacts us in a different way from other people because we have to put ourselves at risk for the coronavirus just to get the medicine we need to survive. Studies have found that people with opioid use disorder and mental health disorders are at a higher risk for contracting COVID-19 than the average non-user. This shows that going to a crowded clinic is a risk for those of us with those disorders.

Before the coronavirus crisis started, states had the limited power of deciding how many take-home doses patients could have. The reason the power was limited was because in the federal level, a patient can only have a maximum of 30 take-home doses after two years. These restrictions, which served as an insult to the community, were said to prevent overdoses and reduce diversion. Even people with opioid addictions are at risk for the coronavirus just to get the medicine we need.

To limit the spread of COVID-19, states that have established methadone treatment centers to distribute 28 doses to patients who are stabilized, regardless of how long they’ve been in treatment, and 14 doses to patients who are not yet stabilized.

This serves to make access to important recovery resources much easier than it had been in the past. Patients seeking help can finally overcome the barrier that was daily visits to the methadone clinic. This may strip the clinic of structure, but that’s a sacrifice that’s ultimately worth making.
Class struggle in China
How to deal with multibillionaires?

By Sara Flounders

“The Sorcerer’s Apprentice” is an old story repeated in many variations, from Greek myth to a 19th-century poem by Goethe in 1797 to an Alfred Hitchcock film and several Disney versions. All variations deal with summoning or unleashing powerful forces that can’t be controlled.

In “The Communist Manifesto,” Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels compared modern capitalism’s wild, reckless overproduction that leads to uncontrollable crashes to “the sorcerer who is no longer able to control the powerful demon whom he has called up by his spells.”

That is China’s concern today: how to deal with multibillionaire Jack Ma and his Ant Group, the world’s biggest fintech (financial technology) enterprise and a modern-day sorcerer’s apprentice.

Ant had been set to sell shares worth a record-breaking $344 billion, but on Nov. 3, just two days before they were to begin trading, regulators announced they would hold the largest initial public offering (IPO) in the world, the Chinese government and top state banks suddenly moved to suspend the sale. This unprecedented action was the most dramatic example to date of a continuing effort to rein in Chinese capitalists and restrict some of their most dangerous schemes.

Jack Ma is a strong proponent of an open and market-driven economy. His often expressed view is that government regulation stifles innovation. He is also a long-time member of the Chinese Communist Party. Allowing Chinese capitalists into the party began as an effort to secure the loyalty of these emerging capitalists into the party. It is a way to control them, and it is a way to control control over them. It is clearly a contradiction, however, because they use their influence and party status to promote their own wealth.

High interest, high debt
Ant Group was set up as a technical company, to get around stricter Chinese regulations on banks. But Ant Group actually is a bank — without one branch office, but making millions of microloans and extending credit at the tap of a phone app.

Because Ant Group is registered as a technical company, it charged interest on those loans that average set-up, China could be especially vulnerable to a capitalist crash and earlier ones.

With so many imperialist banks involved in Ant Group and its risky leveraged set-up, China could be especially vulnerable in a capitalist crisis, especially when there are growing U.S. threats to deliberately sabotage China’s growth.

Debt trap
The media in China have paid much attention to the risks involved. Similar speculative schemes involving financial leverage led to the 2008 global capitalist crash and earlier ones. In the U.S. today, almost all workers live on student loans and car loans. Loss of a job can quickly lead to debt traps for millions who have no experience with being in debt.

In the U.S., today, almost all workers live in debt. Some 41 percent are in medical debt. Millions are overwhelmed by student loans and car loans. Loss of a job can lead quickly to homelessness.

For three generations, since the 1949 Communist revolution, debt was almost unseen. Before the revolution, millions of people were born into debt, carrying the debt of their families, and were forced to sell themselves and their children to landlords to pay debts.

New regulations
Growing volumes of credit card debt are overwhelming some banks. Should a mass default occur, the Ant Group could well be the Chinese state’s main hit to the 2008 global capitalist crash. This is hardly new or innovative. The fintech companies have been repackaging and selling off millions of dollars’ worth of loans. About 2 percent of the loans Ant had facilitated as of the end of June were on its balance sheet in October, according to its IPO prospectus.

Ant Group partners with China’s state-owned banks. The group repays the initial fees and payments and then repackages those millions of microloans and sells them to the state banks. Now 98 percent of Ant Group’s debt is owned by state banks. This leaves the state banks taking on most of the credit risk.

In brief, Jack Ma was putting up $2 to do $100 worth of business, using state banks to finance the other $98. This repackaging of debt is called securitization. It is the conversion of an asset, especially mortgage-backed securities, typically for the purpose of raising cash by selling them to other investors.

Clearly, such capitalist schemes have not only increased in scale but also modernized, raising its productive capacity, or improving the lives of working people and debt that brings, in order to maintain online microlending force fintech companies such as Ant to fund close to a third of their loans. This could reduce the size of the company by half, to $30 billion.

The antitrust regulations are also aimed at preventing digital platforms such as Alibaba from using their dominance to bully sellers into exclusivity contracts.

Struggle against Chinese capitalists
The struggle against Chinese capitalists is protracted. Both the power and wealth of the capitalists has grown explosively. But so has the state’s increasing concentration of socialist planning. Over 70 years, the conditions for life of hundreds of millions have steadily improved.

The Economist, a British weekly business and finance magazine, described this growing tension, which is of great concern to the capitalist class as a whole. (“China takes aim at tech billionaires,” Nov. 14).

Over the last few years, several campaigns have tried to rein in big Chinese capitalists and the resulting corruption. But the government continues to allow China’s social and financial stability. This

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The war on oppressed and working people

We are in the middle of a war to the death on oppressed and working people in the U.S. To name this genocide is not an exaggeration — as the spotlight of these numbers exposes. The greatest weight of the pandemic in the U.S. is falling on Black, Latinx and Indigenous people. And those getting sick, dying and being affected disproportionately are also those who have trouble accessing medical care under any circumstances — disabled people, elderly, poor people, people in prison, queer and trans people.

APM Research Lab in its Nov. 12 report, “The Color of Coronavirus,” documented: “Black Americans continue to experience the highest actual COVID-19 mortality rates nationwide — about two or more times as high as the rate for whites — who have the lowest actual rates.” When APM adjusted the mortality rates for differences in age distribution of populations, it found “even larger documented mortality disparities — Black, Indigenous and Latinx people in the U.S. all have a COVID-19 death rate of triple or more than white Americans, who experience the lowest age-adjusted rates.” (tinyurl.com/yj4l9ovm)

In a Sept. 15 Workers World article, “COVID and people of color: Is it genocide yet?” Teresa Gutierrez connects the deadly assaults of capitalism: “Substitute ‘coronavirus’ with most diseases or other dire social conditions such as unemployment, gentrification, hunger or broader social calamities such as climate change — and there too, people of color will be the most impacted. In other words, people of color bear the brunt of every single damn capitalist calamity. COVID-19 has exposed the fact that the current global infrastructure of capitalism — which the majority of the people live under — is not only incapable of addressing the pandemic, it is aggravating it.”

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The war on oppressed and working people

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New stage of process’ opens in Bolivia

By Marco Teruggi
La Paz, Bolivia

Published in pagina2.com.ar on Nov. 19 following the Nov. 8 inauguration of the Movement Toward Socialism (MAS) president Luis Arce and vice president David Choquehuanca and the Nov. 9 resignation of former President Evo Morales. Translation by John Catalinotto.

Little by little the daily conversations stop reviewing the months spent under the coup regime and start discussing what happens next. The country is calm, no soldiers remain in the streets, daily life has resumed in La Paz overlooked by the snowy peaks of the Illimani — a world movement that is organizing in a new language — and the cable car that crosses the city reaches El Alto, from where the roads of the altiplano open now.

Far from all those who led the de facto [coup] government, Javier Issa, who led the Ministry of Interior, has joined the flight from the country with Arturo Murillo and Fernando López, ex-ministers of Government and Defense. According to the national director of Interpol, Issa flew on Nov. 9 from Bolivia to Miami.

New information has also appeared about the central actors who carried out the November 2019 coup: the National Police. Carlos Romero, a [MAS] government minister at the time of the overthrow, who was later arrested and imprisoned, declared that he had a list of “the police chiefs who organized and led the police mutiny,” particularly in the city of Cochabamba, one of the critical centers during the days of the siege.

According to Romero, 92 weapons disappeared in the Cochabamba riot, which, according to him, were from the “police’s,” ended up in the hands of snipers according to “hypotheses from police circles,” appeared in the Cochabamba riot, which, during the days of the siege.

Romero, also referred to 300 people, including businessmen and private individuals, who contributed money to the coup, some up to 2,000,000 each, reaching a sum of “several million dollars.” “This last interview was on Dec. 18 by [ Lagos president] Luis Fernando Camacho, who claimed to have fully financed the actions himself, in a statement with which he aimed to rejoin the main leader of the 2019 coup events. He did this as disputes within the rightwing are taking place in the city of Santa Cruz in the East, Camacho’s base.

Reorganization of the right wing

The Santa Cruz divisions occur within the lodges [secret societies of the wealthy], and in their political organizations, such as the Civic Committee and the Santa Cruz Youth Union. These divisions are part of a process of right-wing reorganization, to determine which sector will take the lead and what strategy will be developed for this new phase.

This reorganization of the right wing indicates something clear: With the defeat of the coup, one stage has ended. One of the questions still unanswered is how to redirect the whole country to the arena of dialogue, coexistence and democracy. This is a complex operation at each level in the police and the armed forces, as well as among the political actors of the right; in business circles, as well as in society; between regions and within the cities.

The coup, as well as the months of de facto government, escalated and exposed the deep roots of the historical divide in Bolivia. During that time there was aggression against women in pollera skirts (that is, for being Aymara, Quechua [Indigenous nations] and against people for being or appearing to be with the MAS. These were expressions of colonial contempt.

You saw also the situation of the middle and upper classes of La Paz, armed inside barricades, expressing their fears of a possible uprising in El Alto [or does it?]. This is an irremediably irreconcilable dimension! The process of change, the proposal of a plurinational state, had made progress, but the coup called this progress into question.

By Manlio Dinucci

Published Nov.17 in the Italian daily La Repubblica, this article by Manlio Dinucci analyzes military developments. Translation by John Catalinotto.

More than five years ago we published a headline in the June 9, 2015 issue of Il Manifesto: “Are the missiles coming back to Comiso? This hypothesis was ignored by all the political parties in parliament from left to right, and dismissed by self-styled experts as ‘alarmist.’ The alarm, unfortunately, was not unjustified. Comiso is a town in Sicily where the Italian anti-war movement waged a struggle against a cruise missile base in the early 1980s.

In 1981, the U.S. government under President Jimmy Carter signed a contract with the U.S. company Raytheon, a former arm of the General Electric Corporation (the same corporation that produces the F-35) signed an initial $340-million contract with the U.S. Army to produce F-35s) signed an initial $340-million contract with the U.S. Army to produce Tomahawk and a ballistic missile derived from Raytheon’s SM-6.

The INF Treaty, concluding nuclear warheads, designed to be used in Europe in two years.

The geographical factor must be taken into account: While a U.S. medium-range nuclear ballistic missile, launched from Europe, can hit Moscow within a few minutes, a similar missile launched from Russia can hit European capitals — but not Washington. Reversing the scenario, it is as if Russia were deploying medium-range nuclear missiles in Mexico.

According to Raytheon, the SM-6 performs the function of “three missiles in one”: anti-aircraft, anti-missile and attack. The missile nuclear derived from the SM-6 can therefore be used by both ships and ground installations of the U.S. “shield” in Europe, whose launch tubes, according to Lockheed Martin, can launch “missiles for all missions.”

The INF Treaty, signed in 1987 by Presidents Gorbachev and Reagan. The INF had eliminated the Pershing 2 nuclear ballistic missiles, deployed by the United States in West Germany, and the Tomahawk nuclear cruise missiles, deployed by the United States in Italy (in Comiso), Great Britain, West Germany, Belgium and Holland, and at the same time the SS-20 ballistic missiles deployed by the Soviet Union on its territory.

In 2014, without offering any proof, the Obama administration accused Russia of having tested a cruise missile (initially 09M729) of the category prohibited by the INF Treaty and, in 2015, announced that “Russia had deployed a new medium-range cruise missile system (initially 9M729) of the category prohibited by the INF Treaty” against the United States. The two parties then passed to the Trump administration, which in 2019 decided to withdraw the United States from the INF Treaty, accusing Russia of “deliberately violating” it. After several missile tests, the United States military produced a similar missile launched from Russia can hit European capitals — but not Washington. Reversing the scenario, it is as if Russia were deploying medium-range nuclear missiles in Mexico.

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According to the contract, the two missiles will be operational in 2023. This means they will be ready to be installed in Europe in two years.

The question is: Will anything change once Joe Biden takes office in the White House? Or, after Democrat Obama opened the new nuclear confrontation with Russia and Republican Trump has already seen what the INF Treaty, giving a green light to the installation of the SM-6, is able to do? In 2018, it rejected at the United Nations the resolution presented by Russia on “Preservation and Observation of the INF Treaty.” The INF Treaty has become the symbol of the confrontation of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe.

No voice has been raised by European governments and parliaments, even though Europe risks being at the frontline of a nuclear confrontation similar to or more dangerous than that of the Cold War. But this is not the threat of the INF Treaty and therefore no one is speaking about it.

The European Union, in which 21 of the 27 members are part of NATO, had already made its voice heard when, in 2018, it rejected at the United Nations the resolution presented by Russia on “Preservation and Observation of the INF Treaty.” The INF Treaty has become the symbol of the confrontation of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe.

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Las personas trans que se atreven a luchar contra este fanatismo tienen el antídoto: el socialismo revolucionario.

El socialismo es exactamente lo que necesitan los trabajadores de todo el mundo, y los EE.UU. no es una excepción. Con un sistema de salud socializado, los trabajadores ya no estarían a merced del complejo industrial médico con fines de lucro. No habría jefes de las grandes farmacéuticas, que solo ven signos de dólar en una vacuna contra el COVID y medicamentos de tratamiento de muy costosos. Habrían leyes para garantizar que se satisfagan las necesidades económicas básicas de todos.

Eso no ocurrirá de la noche a la mañana, por supuesto. Mientras tanto, los socialis- tas deben estar a la vanguardia de impulsar demandas que aborden las necesidades de supervivencia de la clase trabajadora. Estos incluyen trabajos bien pagados para quie- nes pueden trabajar e ingresos comparables para quienes no pueden; atención médica gratuita para todos; y condicio- nes de trabajo seguras, incluido el equipo de protección personal, la prestación por condiciones de vida peligrosas y no tomar represalias contra los trabajadores que se enferman, deben ser puestos en cuarentena o rehusarse a trabajar de manera insegura.

Eso incluiría, por ejemplo, la prohibición de privaciones en el acceso al agua potable o a la electricidad, medidas para garantizar que las necesidades de vivienda y educación de todos sean atendidas. Porque en el socialismo, los trabajadores son libres de luchar por la solidaridad entre los oprimidos y los trabajadores. Por lo tanto, este fanatismo tiene el antídoto y la cura: el socialismo revolucionario.