Another police murder in North Carolina

Justice for Andrew Brown Jr.

By Peter Gilbert
Elizabeth City, N.C.

May 1 — Seven deputies from the Pasquotank County Sheriff's Department killed unarmed Andrew Brown Jr. in his car next to his home here April 21. The deputies jumped out of a pickup truck with weapons drawn and rushed forward. Fearing for his life, Brown tried to drive forward out of his driveway and away. Deputy sheriffs fired into his car from behind, killing him.

An autopsy commissioned by Brown’s family confirms he was killed by a bullet to the back of the head. At least three of the deputies fired their weapons; none of them have been charged. Four have been returned to active duty.

Protests have continued each night for ten nights since the police execution of Andrew Brown Jr., as the community mourns. His funeral is scheduled for May 3.

Family members remember Andrew as a kind man who provided for his family despite the lack of jobs or opportunities in Elizabeth City. He lived in a quiet neighborhood south of downtown, across the Charles Creek where he had been raised by his grandparents and aunts after the death of his parents. As one close friend Jamaul Riddick told WW, “He’s never been a violent person in his life. He’s never had a gun, never carried a gun, and he’s just not violent.”

Enslavement, forced labor, militarism

Elizabeth City is a majority Black town of fewer than 20,000 people. It was the most important trading hub of the region starting in the late 1700s, when enslaved persons were bought and brought in by plantation owners to labor on the land, and agricultural products were then shipped out.

The nearby Great Dismal Swamp was a source of timber that drove the shipbuilding industry in the town, which lasted until the end of World War II. After the end of that war, shipping and industry left, and the town declined in prosperity.

The swamp was once a haven for enslaved Africans, as "the security provided by the swamp’s isolation allowed them to create self-organized communities that spanned generations." (tinyurl.com/2tskar7b)

More recently the Great Dismal Swamp area has been flipped from a haven from enslavement to a base for global oppression. The area is now home to a 7,000 acre "United States Training Center" — the Blackwater/Xe/Academi headquarters.

Continued on page 3
New York union protest racism austerity

By G. Dunkel

New York City

A New York State budget that underfunds education was denounced as racist austerity by union members and allies at an April 27 rally and march in Manhattan.

Attending were over 150 members of the Professional Staff Congress of City University of New York, members of DC37 working at CUNY and members of NYC for Change. DC37, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), is New York City’s largest public employee union.

The PSC of CUNY is American Federation of Teachers Local 2343 and represents 25,000 teachers, both full and adjunct, along with professional staff like CUNY librarians. CUNY’s budget is mainly supported by New York State.

In the opinion of Barbara Bowen, president of the PSC — as well as the people who attended this protest — the 2021-2022 austerity budget developed by Governor Cuomo and fully endorsed by CUNY’s administration is out-and-out racism, since 70% of CUNY students are Black or Latinx.

PSC members and their allies fought in the state legislature for a bill that rejected all cuts proposed by Cuomo and increased funding for CUNY colleges through reforms to close the TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) Gap and expand opportunity programs.

They won! The CUNY budget has been stabilized. The CUNY administration has no more excuses for maintaining austerity measures forced on teachers and staff in 2020.

CUNY colleges have been allocated $1.5 billion in federal stimulus funds, $891 million of which is available for institutional use. Another $654 million has been allocated to CUNY for direct student aid. Yet while CUNY has distributed $181 million in student aid, the three recent quarters reports on the CUNY Budget and Finance website disclose a total of only $851 million of stimulus funds spent so far on institutional expenses.

It’s past time to #FreeTheFunds and use the stimulus money as intended to protect the quality of a CUNY education and the livelihood and safety of CUNY workers.

PSC members are demanding CUNY use the federal money now: Speed up payment of the 3% raise for teachers and staff; rewrite all adjuncts laid off in 2020; unfreeze job searches; restore teachers’ right to class size; and invest in protecting the health and safety of the CUNY community on campus.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

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

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 immigrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+ 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.

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 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, multigendered 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 creators should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

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

If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact: 212.627.2994

Barbara Bowman on the bullhorn, New York City, April 27.
**Tell Biden and Bill Gates**

**End vaccine apartheid!**

By Jim McMahon

Seattle

Nearly 100 demonstrators rallied here April 30 in front of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation— the world’s richest “philanthropic” foundation—to demand “End vaccine apartheid!”

Gates, co-founder of the Microsoft Corporation and the Gates Foundation, is one of the multi-billionaires opposed to allowing intellectual property restrictions on U.S.-owned vaccines. This would allow all countries in the production of less expensive generic COVID-19 vaccines—and would save human lives.

The Seattle action was led by Councilperson Kshama Sawant and the Seattle Coalition of Indian Americans (SCIA). Sawant said Biden’s recent lifting of the ban on exporting vaccine materials to India dealt with only a tiny part of the problem.

Hassan Khan of the SCIA pointed out the terrible mounting deaths caused by the refusal of Big Pharma in the West to share the vaccine with India. He said, “What is happening to India will come back to the West.” This is a reference to the fact that continuing pandemic infections anywhere on earth can span the way to multiple virus variants that current vaccines may not be able to resist.

While over 480 million doses against COVID have been administered in the U.S., billions of people around the world do not have access to lifesaving vaccines. The World Health Organization reported April 9 that over 8% of the vaccines have gone to high-income or upper- and middle-income countries, while low-income countries have just received 0.2%.

Jeff Bezos of Amazon may be “step- ping down” from his position as CEO, intending to “stay engaged” behind the scenes, but he has his sights on grabbing infinitely more billions for himself in space.

If he should, Bezos is the founder of Blue Origin, whose stated goal is to build reusable rockets for transporting people and payloads into space—ultimately to be used to colonize the solar system.

(tinyurl.com/3syb2pxh) WHO Director General Tedros Ghebreyesus emphasized: “On average in high-income countries, almost one in four people has received a vaccine. In low-income countries, it’s one in over 500. Let me repeat that: one in four versus one in 500.”

As protesters at the rally chanted, “Where’s the vaccine? Where’s the vaccine?” Hillary Hayden of the Washington Free Trade Coalition said that “133 countries have yet to receive a single dose of the vaccine due to Big Pharma’s genocidal priorities. Hayden noted that waivers of intellectual property restrictions have been blocked by hundreds of organizations, such as Doctors Without Borders, and emphasized more of this need needs to happen. She said people were demonstrating for the vaccine waiver in Atlanta at a recent speech by Biden.

Preston, a member of the 6,000-strong United Auto Workers Local 4121 at the University of Washington, spoke on how he and his co-workers— who were teachers, health care workers and researchers— had helped create COVID vaccines. He stressed the vaccines had been funded by the public, but big pharmaceutical companies have now blocked off those public funds while denying vac-

Preston and Sawant demanded free health care for all. The action was also supported by the Community Alliance for Global Justice/AGRA Watch and Socialist Alternative.

In addition, Blue Origin is targeting the Moon and Mars— adventures in outer space exploration and colonization. (clubforfuture.org/curriculum) Its website links to NASA’s Project Ianos, whose mission is “to engage and educate students with the wonders of space and to inspire them to become explorers of it.” (www.projectionanos.org)

This is the next generation of escaped and endangered workers.

As Amazon workers struggle to unionize here on Earth, we must not forget that the capitalist Bezos and other multi-billionaires have never had enough. Not satisfied with having built the biggest monopoly on Earth, Bezos aims to expand his astronomic reach, as Star Trek’s captains boast, “to boldly go where no one has gone before.”

Janet Mayes, an amateur astronomer, authored a science fiction novel about U.S. hegemony in space, “Beyond the Horse’s Eye, a Fantasy Out of Time,” under the pen name-Janet Rose. A review can be found at tinyurl.com/y6fzefun.

**Amazon workers fight for a union, Bezos sends exploitation to outer space**

By Janet Mayes

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Bashing China, U.S. commits crimes against humanity
By Monica Moorehead

It was announced April 7 that the Biden administration is being pressured by right-wing Republicans to either fully or par- tially boycott the 2022 Winter Olympic Games in Beijing, China, which will take place for two weeks that February. As part of the ongoing anti-China tirade that accelerated with the COVID-19 pandemic during the Trump administration, these politicians are accusing China of human rights violations, specifically in the area of police action and the “forced labor” on Uyghur Muslims in cotton production.

As of now, Biden officials have stated that a boycott is not conceivable by U.S. athletes, mainly due to multibillion-dollar corporate sponsorships involved in broadcasting the Games, especially by Comcast. Another consideration is the potential medal-winning Chinese athletes who have recently competed. A U.S. boycott would not allow them to showcase their talents—or be exploited by U.S. for-profit athletic teams and sponsors.

Zhao Lijian, a Foreign Ministry spokes- person from China, rejected the accusa- tions of abuses, saying, “The politicization of sports will damage the spirit of the Olympic Charter and the interests of ath- letes from all countries. The international community including the U.S. Olympic Committee will not accept it.” (ESPN, April 7)

The largest imperialist countries like the U.S., Germany, France and Britain continue to seek bragging rights when it comes to winning as many gold medals as possible, compared to countries like China, People’s Korea (DPRK), Russia or other countries that once belonged to the pro-Soviet Union eastern bloc.

Whether the Biden administration cavi es into the Republican demand, the boycott or no boycott debate will con- tinue to be heavily argued, command- ing worldwide attention. The boycott threat is intensified by the delay in hold- ing the 2021 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, postponed last summer due to the pandemic.

The biggest human rights violator
To be clear, the Biden administra- tion is in complete agreement with the Republicans in their view on China. Their decision on how to proceed on China is based on tactics, not principles. Every U.S. administration, Democrat- or Republican-led, has sought to under- mine, if not outright overthrow, the People’s Republic of China because of its compromised but still socialist economy.

This is the economic basis upon which the anti-communist political attacks are being spewed by both right-wing and bourgeois liberal mouthpieces, with the right wing being the most aggressive.

The protests in Hong Kong against China are not independently led but are backed by imperialist forces, especially in the U.S. and Great Britain. This is made very obvious with the flying of the pro-colonialist Union Jack and U.S. flags at every protest.

As the statement, “U.S. role in Hong Kong protests,” signed by the International Action Center June 30, 2019, explains in part: “Hong Kong is a center of world finance capital. It is deeply hostile to the social measures that have lifted hundreds of millions of people in mainland China out of extreme poverty and provided high standards of health care, education and modern infrastructure.

“The forces of finance capital in Hong Kong and their allies in the U.S. and Europe want to pull Hong Kong away from China, so it can function as an eco- nomic and political outpost in the region.” This means limiting legal and polit- ical integration with China as much as possible. To this end the U.S. has provided extensive political, financial, and media support for the protests.” (workers.org/2020/06/42820)

Compare these pro-imperialist pro- tests with the protests in the U.S. that are demanding justice and social change—and which are confronted with militarized police repression and brutal mass arrests. How could any progressive person—or anyone with any knowledge of U.S. history, both past and present—take seriously the claims of human rights violations in any country when the U.S. is truly the biggest human rights violator in the world?

U.S. society riddled with class violence
Ever since the 9/11 attacks almost 20 years ago, Muslims have been legally persecuted by the U.S. government and racially targeted, including mass murders in their places of worship and even on the job. Only recently, on April 15 four Sikh workers were killed by a 60-year-old white, former worker at a FedEx facil- ity in Indianapolis, Ind. When have the powers-that-be in the U.S. ever cared about the rights of the peaceful Christian reli- gions unless it suits their interests, like now with China bashing?

Asian Americans, especially if they are women, have been targeted in the U.S. by misogynistic white male supremacists. For instance, on March 16, six Asian women working in spas near Atlanta, Ga., were fatally shot. Is this not a human rights violation?

And with the “forced labor”? The U.S. has the largest incarcerated popula- tion in the world, with 2.3 million people, according to the Prison Policy Initiative. (March 24, 2020) Many of these work- ers are modern-day slaves, whose labor is superexploited for pennies an hour, or no wages at all, to make profits for state- run or private-run corporations.

The deaths in these concentration camps, when poor people and people of color are incarcerated in disproportionate amounts, have increased dramatically, as prison guards are not required to get the COVID-19 vaccine or to socially distance in these overcrowded facilities with poor ventilation. Is this not a human rights violation?

There are the issues of human rights violations, based on the fact that Black people are only 13% of the U.S. population.

In addition, 58% of all killings by police in the U.S. were traffic stops, police responses to mental health cri- ses or situations where the person was reportedly not threatening anyone with a gun. More human rights violations! (policedeathreport.org)

No society is a utopia but with these examples alone, the U.S. occupies the top spot in the world for human rights viola- tions, hands down. ☐

Black Workers for Justice on the police murder of Andrew Brown

The following statement was issued on April 7 by Black Workers for Justice, an organization of Black workers founded in 1981 to build the African American workers’ movement as a central force in 1981 to build the African American organization of Black workers founded April 30 by Black Workers for Justice on the Blackworkersforjustice.com, Bwfj@earthlink.net or write to BWFJ, P.O. Box 1863, Rocky Mount, N.C. 27802.

The demands from the community are: 1) Remove police from the body cam footage; 2) Immediate arrest of the three officers; and 3) An end of the curfew.

Police have been brought in from cities across the state of North Carolina as an act of intimidation in the form of a mili- tary assault on the peaceful protests.

Rooftop snipers, nightly arrests and pressuring of Elizabeth City State and pressuring of Elizabeth City State dormitories to accommodate law enforce- ment officials from outside of the county are part of the repression.

These protests have historically, and recently, been subject to police brutality on campus like their brothers and sisters in the South and the rest of the U.S.

Grassroots leadership, a set of prin- ciples to keep folks accountable to each other and strategy to win the demands are the building blocks needed to make change and shift the power. Communities across the country are fighting for Community Control and Review Boards to deal with police behavior. They are calling for resources to be used building up the community, instead of building up resources of the police. Elizabeth City can do this too.

The Black Workers for Justice supports your fight for the right to self-defense and power for the people. We are willing to help.

Continue to stand up, and others will stand with you. You are the leaders you have been waiting for!” ☐
Philadelphia rally demands
MOVE children deserve to rest in peace

By Betsy Piette
Philadelphia

YahNé Ndgo opened the rally out- side the Penn Museum in Philadelphia April 28 by denouncing the University of Pennsylvania’s complicity in the horrors of the remains of two young Black MOVE family members. Ndgo, representing Black Lives Matter Philadelphia, stated: “We can never forget the humanity of Black peo- ple, and we should never have to remind people of the value of our lives. Black and Brown bodies are not subjects for you to study. We are human beings, and our lives matter!”

Nearly 400 people attended the rally, including UPenn students and faculty. It followed a press conference with the MOVE family April 26, after news sur- faced that anthropology professors at the school and Princeton University had kept the remains of Tree Africa, 44, and Delisha Africa, 12, who were killed May 13, 1985, when the police dropped an incendiary bomb on MOVE’s house.

City officials let the resulting fire burn as police fired tens of thousands of bul- lets at the burning house, preventing anyone from leaving it. The resulting conflagration killed 11 people, including five children, and destroyed 46 homes in a residential Black neighborhood.

Murd er and then more inhumanity

At the rally, Mike Africa Jr., son of MOVE 9 members Debbie Africa and Mike Africa, recalled having played with the children killed in the fire. He said: “The medical examiner was paid to find out how our people died. They took the bodies to a lab, left them unrefrigerated and let the bodies decompose. This was so egregious they were fired. The people from Penn Museum who took over were supposed to be ethical, but they are the monsters we are talking about today.”

Africa read from a quote located below the graphic of a helicopter dropping a bomb on a popular orange-on- black “Welcome to Philadelphia” T-shirt. The quote reads: “This was not an accident. This was deliberate murder. The circum- stances surrounding it were horrible, and even more horrible to me was the fact that the perpetrators basically were never in any way punished.” That was said by the forensic anthropologist Dr. Alan Mann, who was hired by the Philadelphia Medical Examiner’s Office to analyze the remains of those killed in the fire.

Africa said: “Alan Mann is the same monster who has done these horrible things to my sisters. The other mon- ster, Janet Monge, is on a video describ- ing how my sister suffered a bone fracture ‘because something heavy prob- ably landed on her.’

Mann worked at the Penn Museum where he reportedly subjected the bones to detailed analysis, but later used the children’s remains as science specimens in anthropology classes. The bones were kept in cardboard boxes in non-cli- mate-controlled storage. When Mann transferred to Princeton in 2001, he took the remains with him.

The children’s remains were purport- edly bounced back and forth between the two Ivy League institutions over the decades. Their parents, still alive, were never informed.

In 2019, the remains were held at Penn Museum where Monge, Mann’s former student, used them in instructional online videos offered by Princeton and UPenn. Once again, this was done without con- sent of the children’s relatives.

Monge’s course was titled: “Real Bones: Adventures in Forensic Anthropology”—and MOVE is referred to as a “case study!” The videos, which were available for viewing in classes that began the week of April 19, have been taken down due to protests.

We are outraged by the stunning ethical burden. All anthropology museums and depart- ments throughout the country. These include, but are not limited to, the numer- ous remains of peoples of African descent.

Finally, toward this end we also call for a national audit of all human remains in museums and departments of anthropology across the United States. We believe it is imperative that this information become public record, allowing descendants communities to reclaim sov- ereignty of the remains of their ancestors.

We also support the demands of Mike Africa Jr. — a MOVE family member who was six years old at the time when the Philadelphia police dropped the bomb on MOVE — currently circulated in this online petition: tinyurl.com/36hhev6j.

For the full statement and demands of the groups visit: aba.americananthro.org.

Banner honoring Tree and Delisha Africa leads march in Philadelphia, April 28.

The following excerpts are from an April 28 statement regarding the unethical, possessive and callous racist use of the remains of the children of MOVE who died in the 1985 state bombing of their home in Philadelphia.

The Association of Black Anthropologists, the American Anthropological Association and the Black in Bioanthropology Collective are painfully aware of the barbaric history of anthropology, especially when it comes to populations of peoples of African descent.

We know that our discipline has been mobilized to rationalize eugenics and colonialism. … Eugenics and colonialism. … Ethnographic muse- ums, like Penn’s Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (which houses the collection of the notorious racist Samuel Morton), have supported the academic rationale for the institutionalization of racism in anthropology textbooks, courses and curricula. —tinyurl.com/582gy4od

It is because of this history of racism in anthropology, and because of the mis- sions of ABA, SBA and BiBA to counter it, that we as organizations condemn in the strongest possible language the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, Columbia University, along with Professors Alan Mann and Janet Monge, for their hor- rific treatment of the remains of Tree and Delisha Africa, and for the unfaithful- able heartlessness and disrespect shown towards the Africa family.

We are outraged by the stunning ethical indifference shown by all parties involved ... but also by the fact that these entities effectively monetized the remains of Black children murdered in a state terrorist attack—a fact made all the more painful given the heightened public awareness of brutal murders of Black children and youth by the police over the past few years. This revelation represents a pain- ful reminder of anthropology’s history with the Black dead — of which the Penn Museum, as the physical manifestation of Morton’s legacy, provides a potent sym- bol. Even as UPenn earlier this year has tried to grapple with the legacy of Morton, we are faced with yet another affront to Black life and dignity.

Black anthropologists should not be alone in expressing this outrage and bearing this heavy ethical burden. All anthropologists need to do this. We condemn this barbaric and savage act by its own practitioners. And white anthropolo- gists, in particular, should not only hold themselves account- able to the ways that they continue to uphold normalized forms of anti-Blackness and harm through their research and theoriz- ing, but should also actively work to undo the centuries of violence and trauma done to nonwhite communities.

We realize that Penny and Princeton are not only the universities trafficking in the human remains of nonwhite peo- ple. And while both the Penn Museum and Princeton Anthropology have issued statements of contrition, we believe that they must do more. The Association of Black Anthropologists, Society of Black Archaeologists and the Black in Bioanthropology Collective therefore demand:

First, that the Penn Museum self-report this egregious Institutional Review Board violation. [An IRB is a formally designated group that monitors biomedical research involving human subjects for abuse.]

Second, that the American Anthropological Association (AAA) work with UPenn, emphasizing that Tree and Delisha Africa deserve to rest in peace. Pam Africa, Minister of Information for the MOVE family, said, “The bomb they dropped on our family is exploding 36 years later and exposing the intent of the cops to kill John Africa and all of our family.”

The rally was followed by a march to the campus home of UPenn President Amy Gutmann, where demonstra- tors blocked traffic on Walnut Street for over an hour. Speakers announced that the 36th anniversary observation of the MOVE bombing will be held in Philadelphia May 15.

The quote reads: “This was not an accident. This was deliberate murder. The circum- stances surrounding it were horrible, and even more horrible to me was the fact that the perpetrators basically were never in any way punished.”
Celebrating May Day 2021!

By Martha Grevatt

May Day began in the U.S. in 1884 after labor federations called for worker strikes and protests for the eighthour day. Some 400,000 workers answered the call countrywide on May 1, 1886. That year eight worker organizers, some immigrants, were arrested and framed for the May 4 bombing of a Haymarket Square rally in Chicago. Five were sentenced to death; four were executed and a fifth died in his cell. An 1889 international socialist conference declared May 1 International Workers Day, in part to honor the Haymarket Martyrs. The day was revitalized in the U.S. in 2005 by the Black-led Million Worker March, and in 2006 by the Latinx immigrant workers’ mass strike. In 2021 the day was commemorated around the world; Workers World Party helped organize a number of actions across the U.S.

May Day in New York City

returned to Union Square after a three-year absence from that historic location of worker struggle. More than 40 organizations of the working and oppressed people rallied before marching to the home of centibillionaire Jeff Bezos. The march was led by current and former Amazon workers from Amazon’s JFK8 fulfillment center in Staten Island, including Chris Smalls, fired last year after organizing a protest.

A spirited May Day march through Center City Philadelphia targeted the Comcast Center, the health care-for-profit industry at Independence Blue Cross and Wells Fargo Bank, where protesters stopped to demand public banking. Chants included calls to end Israeli apartheid in Palestine and to abolish Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and end detention of immigrant workers. Before returning to City Hall, where demonstrators called for defunding the police and funding community services, they stopped at Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner’s office to demand release of political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal. The march was followed by a community speak-out with entertainers and tabling. A broad coalition of community and activist groups organized the event.

Initiated by the Northeast Ohio Workers Center, Cleveland’s “May Day Workers Assembly and March” was jointly organized by a coalition of local political, worker-based and community organizations. The gathering heard from a range of speakers — education workers and grocery workers on the need for unionization, the attacks on the Black Liberation Struggle through the passing of HB1, the #BAmazon union struggle and the need for revolutionary optimism, written by a WWP candidate, was read, which included calls to end Israeli apartheid in Palestine and to abolish Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and end detention of immigrant workers.

The Central Gulf Coast branch of Workers World Party — encompassing parts of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi — called the action and was joined in organizing by the Pensacola Community Action Committee and Black Lives Matter Cleveland organizer and candidate for Cleveland City Council.

After the rally, marchers chanted: “Hey, hey, ho, ho, this union busting has got to go.” Other “has to go” subjects were the bosses, capitalism, Walmart, Amazon, Cleveland police, detention centers and white supremacy.

On a particularly hot day — almost 90 degrees — socialists and freedom fighters found a shady spot in a downtown Pensacola, Fla., park to celebrate May Day. The Central Gulf Coast branch of Workers World Party — encompassing parts of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi — called the action and was joined in organizing by the Pensacola Community Action Committee and Black Lives Matter.

Day demonstrators faced intimidation by police and Department of Homeland Security officers at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention center, where they convened following a May Day march and car caravan. With sirens blasting and lights flashing, 22 Portland police and DHS vehicles sped toward demonstrators. Riot gear-clad police, brandishing rifles and tear-gas launchers, advanced at the crowd yelling: “Get back, move off!”

A May Day rally began at the Eastbank Esplanade, where people delivered impassioned speeches. “International Workers’ Day is our people’s holiday,” said Adrian, an organizer with International Migrants Alliance. “We cannot talk about migrant workers without talking about the conditions that have led to forced migration,” said a Somali student representing the Hirruyaha Collective, an anti-imperialist Muslim group.

Workers World Party gave a salute to the Amazon workers in Bessemer: “They spread the word; Bayan and Migrantre, Portland, Ore.

Continued on page 7
Lucy Parsons was a militant and defiant anti-capitalist anarchist and a socialist, who wanted to empower the workers through revolution. Lucy and Mary Harris “Mother” Jones, a coal miner organizer, were the first two women to join the Industrial Workers of the World. The union welcomed all workers, regardless of nationality, religion, gender or skill, into its ranks. Lucy organized campaigns against hunger and for unemployed councils on behalf of the IWW.

Some of Lucy’s most notable quotes from speeches include:

- “Never be deceived that the rich will permit you to vote away their wealth.”
- “Let us sink such differences as nationality, religion, politics, and set our eyes eternally and forever toward the rising star of the industrial republic of labor.”
- “So many able writers have shown that the unjust institutions which work so much misery and suffering to the masses have their root in governments, and owe their whole existence to the power derived from government, that we cannot help but believe that every law, every title deed, every court and every police officer or soldier abolished tomorrow with one sweep, we would be better off than now.”

The spirit of Lucy Parsons continues to live in every revolutionary who abhors all forms of exploitation, oppression and inequality, who fights to abolish every type of capitalism and who fights for a socialist future for the liberation of all humanity. Lucy Parsons, [presente!](#)
Supreme Court rules kids can be thrown away

By Gloria Rubac

The Supreme Court of the United States ruled April 22 that children under 18 years of age — the vast majority of whom are poor and of color — can be incarcerated in prison for the rest of their lives with no possibility of release from behind the razor wire.

Since 2005, when SCOTUS ruled in Roper v. Simmons that it would not be sentenced to death, the highest court has been limiting harsher penalties for juveniles. Their rulings accepted that, because children’s minds are still developing, they are less culpable and deserve special consideration when they are sentenced for serious crimes, including murder. The court issued a string of decisions based on the science of adolescent brain development.

In 2012, the court ruled in Miller v. Alabama and Louisiana that judges must consider the unique circumstances of each juvenile offender, banning sentences of life without parole (LWOP) as the only exception being those determined to be “permanently incorrigible.” In 2016 this decision was retroactive for those sentenced prior to 2012. But in 2019, the Supreme Court allowed what Krasner has fallen into lockstep with abilities for overturning his conviction.

By Judy Greenspan

On April 20, more than 50 people picketed in front of the KQED public television studios in San Francisco’s Grant Plaz, renamed by the community after Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) police assasinated Grant, a young Black man, in 2009. More than 100 people were serving those terms for crimes committed as minors.

The case Jones v. Mississippi involves Brett Jones, who was 15 years old when he killed his grandfather in self-defense.

At a resentencing hearing in 2014, Jones told the court, “I’m not the same person I was when I was 15. ... I’ve become a pretty decent person in life. And I’ve pretty much taken every avenue that I could possibly take in prison to rehabilitate myself. “Minors do have the ability to change,” he reflected. He is in doubt. “If you decide to send me back without the possibility of parole, I will still do exactly what I’ve been doing for 10 years. But all I can do is ask you ... please give me just one chance to show the world, man, like, I can be someone. I’ve done everything I could over the past 10 years to be somebody ... I can’t change what was already done. I can just try to show ... I’ve become a grown man.”

Judge Kavanaugh, credibly accused of illegal behavior in his confirmation hearings for the Supreme Court, argued that his childhood “indiscretions” of sexual assaults, disgusting yearbook statements and wild drinking parties shouldn’t be considered because he was young. Yet this Brett has ruled that the other Brett, Brett Jones, should spend the rest of his life in prison — for a crime he was convicted of at age 15.

Today, Jones is 31. He has spent more years in prison than out of it. A ‘very significant rollback’

Brooklyn Law School professor and former juvenile defender Cynthia Godsoe said of the Jones ruling: “It’s a very significant rollback of what had been a very promising line of jurisprudence.”

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Unite to free Mumia!

By Judy Greenspan

Mumia Abu-Jamal’s 67th birthday was commemorated with three well-attended actions in San Francisco and the East Bay from April 20-24. Over 50 people picketed in front of KQED public television studios in San Francisco’s Financial District to protest the airing of Independent Lens “Philly DA” about the career of District Attorney Larry Krasner. Although he campaigned as a “progressive” who would rectify decades of white-supremacist rulings against Black defendants, Krasner has since refused to even review new evidence for Mumia — or open possibilities for overturning his conviction.

Mumia, a world-renowned revolutionary, writer and political prisoner, has served over 40 years for a crime he did not commit. Krasner has fallen into lockstep with the Fraternal Order of Police which has stood in the way of Mumia’s release.

A broad coalition of activists and organizations is determined to bring Mumia home. The time has come to present Mumia’s case. The coalition organizing the KQED protest included the Labor Action Committee to Free Mumia, No Justice Under Capitalism, Free Mumia SF and the Prisoners’ Solidarity Committee of Workers World Party.

A day of international solidarity with Mumia on his birthday began April 24 in Fruitvale with a rally at Oscar Grant Plaza — renamed by the community after Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) police assasinated Grant, a young Black man, in 2009. More than 100 people marched from there to rally outside the Oakland Police Department. Speakers from the Oakland Education Association, the SF Bay View National Black Newspaper and the Black Panther Party spoke at Mumia demanding Mumia be set free immediately.

The demonstrators stayed in the streets and marched to the Alameda County Courthouse. District Attorney Nancy O’Malley has consistently refused to charge and prosecute Oakland police and sheriffs for killing Black and Brown people. A broad array of people spoke, including young activists on how Mumia’s writings had politicized their generation. A taped recording in support of Mumia from Kevin Cooper, a prisoner on death row in California, was played. Pam Africa, Minister of Confrontation of the MOVE organization and head of International Concerned Friends and Family of Mumia, called in from Philadelphia, as did Mumia’s grandson, Jamal Jr., to thank everyone for their solidarity and organizing.

Later in West Oakland, a ceremony was held for Mumia on the street where Huey P. Newton, a leader of the Oakland Black Panther Party, was shot and killed by Breyer and Elena Kagan, criticized the new justices’ changes of course in key criminal justice cases.

Sotomayor recounted the story of the defendant in this case, Brett Jones, to show how “many aspects of Jones’ case seem to epitomize unfortunate yet transient immaturity. Jones was the victim of violence and neglect that he was too young to escape. His biological father was an alcoholic, who physically abused his mother, who had severe mental health problems. His stepfather abused him, too, using belts, switches and a paddle. He openly expressed his hate for Jones.”

When Jones moved to Mississippi to live with his grandparents, he abruptly lost access to medication he took for mental health issues, including hallucinations and self-harm. His grandfather beat him. One day in 2004 when Jones’ grandfather tried to hit him, Jones stabbed him repeatedly, killing him. He had turned 15 just 23 days earlier. Jones tried to save his grandfather with CPR but failed. After making minimal efforts to conceal the crime, he confessed to police.

Nanon Williams, a Texas prison activist sent to death row at age 17, spoke to Workers World from prison in Rosharon, Texas: “If you say a kid can’t change, then who can? Even a kid convicted of a bad crime can change. If you’re not going to give a child a second chance, then you are ignoring the truth. Rich kids’ parents can buy justice. But for the rest of us, we are victims of a system that doesn’t value us.”

Williams said that psychologists and criminologists studied juveniles, and the science told them how brains develop much later than age 18, that kids are more susceptible to peer pressure and that teens are impulsive and do not consider long-term consequences of their actions.

“In Texas they studied me, Napoleon Brzezly and Shaka Sankofa. But when Shaka used these findings to stop his execution in 2000, it failed — and he was executed. Napoleon was executed in 2002, and his crime involved extreme peer pressure. We were three Black men, two of us innocent. Then a white kid named Roper files a case about juveniles on death row, and they rule in his favor. I only survived because of the 2005 Roper decision. I’m still trying to prove my innocence, but now I’m off death row.”

Consider these facts: 2,365 children are arrested each day in the U.S. — one every 37 seconds. About 76,000 children are placed in the adult criminal justice system each year.

The criminal injustice system in the U.S. favors the rich and powerful and destroys working-class and oppressed people enmassed in its clutches. It cannot be reformed. The whole system must be overturned for the majority to receive justice. We must create a society where children are treated as precious, with all the love and dignity they deserve. ☐

Gerald Smith of the Labor Action Committee to Free Mumia speaks at the Alameda County Courthouse, April 24.

Unite to free Mumia! A call to supporters and prisoners’ rights activists in the Bay Area, the campaign will continue until Mumia is returned home to his family. ☐
Global movement demands freedom for Mumia

By Joe Piette

Mumia Abu-Jamal has fought for international solidarity since he wrote for The Black Panther newspaper as a 14-year-old in 1968. Today, from State Correctional Institution Mahanoy, he continues to encourage all revolutionaries to support each other’s struggles regardless of where in the world they may be.

Solidarity is a reciprocal relationship. People around the world have signed petitions, written letters and called Pennsylvania officials demanding Mumia’s release from prison, because he is a political prisoner, because he’s innocent, because ailing and elderly people should not be incarcerated.

On April 24, Abu-Jamal’s 67th birthday, activists around the world came out into the streets – dans les rues, a las calles, and auf die Straße – to demand Mumia’s freedom.

Libérons aka Free Mumia

In Paris, where the Mumia Abu-Jamal Collective has demonstrated every first Wednesday for 20 years at the U.S. Consulate, over 200 people attended a rally April 24.

The next day almost 400 people from the Black Diaspora gathered in Paris. The Anti-Negrophobia Collective, the “Trop Violets” Collective from French Guiana, and others from Africa, Martinique, Mayotte, Guadeloupe, Kanaky (New Caledonia), Polynesia, and Guiana spoke against French imperialism and for Mumia’s freedom. (Video with English subtitles: ytoutu.be/rVciXeosqCj)

Mady Etike, the mother of Kehial who was tortured by Paris police as he protested French policies in Martinique in July 2020, spoke. (tinyurl.com/eydmpaw8) Mumia had recorded a message called “Environments of Racism for Kehial on March 26. (tinyurl.com/jqezzakz)

Abu-Jamal supporters gathered at the U.S. Consulate in Amsterdam April 19, calling for Mumia’s release. Several bands played live music from a trailer truck. During the rally, the Vice Consul came out to accept a letter of demands.

Gerechtigkeit für aka Justice for Mumia Abu Jamal

In Germany, where a movement to free Mumia has existed for several years, several protests occurred, including April 8 in Hamburg by the Black Community Coalition for Justice & Self-defense in front of the U.S. Consulate. Another protest happened April 17 in Frankfurt am Main outside the U.S. Consulate led by supporters of Leonard Petiterr, Abu-Jamal and members of the Cuban Solidarity Network.

In Berlin, 200 people protested April 24 to free Mumia and other prisoners, organized by Death in Custody, Migrant Action and Network for political prisoners, Gemeinschaftlicher Widerstand, Criminals For Freedom, Sabot, 01129 and the Red Aid.

Protesters also met with some of the young leaders of the International Coalition to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal April 23.

In the United States, several protests occurred, including March 24, 2021, the International Coalition to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal, the Coalition to Abolish Death by Incarceration, the Coalition to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal, the Coalition to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Protest for incarcerated loved ones

Our incarcerated loved ones are being treated inhumanely, and their voices are not being heard. Over 4,700 people are locked in Philadelphia’s jails, more than when COVID-19 began. The majority of people incarcerated fighting inside to be heard, to change conditions, rather than turn inward and allow prison culture to set examples of how we should live our lives.

MAJ: What gave y’all hope?

AW: I had a wonderful family, wonderful comrades who made up the International Coalition to Free the Angola Three, a wonderful legal team. But more than anything, what gave me hope was the guys I lived around. The social struggle that was being waged, sacrifices that were being made, the indomitable spirit that refused to be broken.

Now, those are some of the things that inspire me. One thing in particular was the development of Black Lives Matter, which I think is a tremendous move of the people and the continual struggle that was going on in society. Mumia, my brother, given the preponderance of evidence exonerating you and lack of evidence against you, how does it feel to still be in prison?

Albert Woodfox

Albert Woodfox: Mumia Abu-Jamal has proven him to be right.

MAJ: And since I’ve been fighting to maintain our big identity, pride, self-respect and a sense of self worth. They felt it was a threat to what they considered to be the only function of a prison. That was the justification here. The war that was there that, that attitude has proven him to be right.

MAJ: How did y’all endure 40 years in the hole?

AW: That’s a more difficult question to ask. I guess having political consciousness that was inspired by being members of the Black Panther Party. You know that knowledge is power. We had a sense of what solitary confinement was designed for, so over the decades I would guess strength, determination, values or principles. We stayed active, and we looked to society for inspiration. The men and women, in some cases children, and a sense of self worth. They felt it was a threat to what they considered to be the only function of a prison. That was the justification here. The war that was there that, that attitude has proven him to be right.

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The Joe Biden administration’s first 100 days had put a lot of publicity for its $2 trillion for COVID-19 relief and another proposed $2 trillion for infrastructure. The infrastructure bill — supposedly bipartisan, but not in the 1% — has yet to be passed. Some call it the most extensive social program since Lyndon Baines Johnson’s Great Society.

LBJ, we recall here, wrote his history less with his Great Society than with his escalation of the U.S. war on Vietnam. This escalation created misery in Indochina, led to Johnson’s early retirement and eventually to an ignominious defeat for U.S. imperialism.

Biden, too, proposes infrastructure but provokes conflict around the world. Right now — spring 2021 — major military maneuvers are targeting Russia and China.

Washington’s European imperialist allies welcomed the Biden regime. The new U.S. president seemed more likely to give these NATO allies — Britain, France, Germany, Italy, etc. — a more reasonable share of the wealth left over from the rest of the world. And less smarmy criticism. In public, anyway.

Now NATO’s “Defender Europe” exercises has 28,000 troops from the U.S. and 29 NATO allies and partners under Pentagon leadership spreading COVID-19 through Europe as they menace Russia. (See WW article, tinyurl.com/yvvjt46k)

On the other side of the globe, the U.S. Navy will ply the waters of the South and East China Sea starting May 11 in alliance with its fellow exploiters in Australia, Japan and India — joined this year for the first time by the French Navy.

Because it has four members, they called this alliance “the Quad,” as in quadrilateral. Adding France, they now call it the Quad +1 — apparently French membership is still conditional.

A corporate media deluge demonizing China accompanies the warships’ show of force near Taiwan and the Spratly Islands, adding to the danger of a new Cold War — or even a hot one. They fault China for controlling its COVID-19 crisis and resuming economic growth. The media also charges China with autocratic ruling, human rights violations, etc.

The same media could easily expose the Quad — India’s pandemic disaster and its treatment of women and “lower castes,” Australia’s treatment of its Aboriginal population, U.S. police murders and mass incarceration, for example — as more crimes, and these with a strong basis in reality.

These war exercises may look only like warnings of danger. But they more likely are the symptoms of a capitalist, imperialist system in decline — but still capable of great damage. However mild Biden may appear at home, the working class and progressive movement here had better keep its guard up against a new imperialist war.

No to NATO and Quad

By G. Dunkel

May 2 — U.S. and French imperialism have competing interests in how an ongoing conflict is resolved. They also share common interests in keeping imperialism dominant. The crisis flows from the death of Chad’s president Idriss Déby in combat April 20 against the armed opposition front FACT.

Right now it appears that French imperialism has the advantage, while the U.S. government is taking steps to ensure its interests are protected.

FACT, the Front pour l’Alternance et la Concorde au Tchad, is an armed group, based in southern Libya, whose main occupation is to eliminate the political establishment. It appears to be well supplied with heavy weaponry. From where is unclear.

The headquarters of Operation Barkhane, France’s military intervention in the Sahel — the band of countries straddling across Africa on the edge of the Sahara desert — is in N’Djamena, the capital of Chad. AFRICOM, the U.S. Command for Africa, also has a base in N’Djamena.

Chad’s main value to French and U.S. imperialism appears to be strategic. It is in the center of Africa and has borders with Nigeria, around Lake Chad, Niger, Libya, the Sudan, the Central Africa Republic and Cameroon. It has a well-trained, well-equipped and well-led army that has been very useful in operations against Boko Haram in northern Nigeria and resisting Islamic groups in the triangle formed by Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.

Mahamat Idriss Déby, one of Idriss Déby’s sons, an army general, quickly set up a military council, dissolved the government and parliament, promised transparent, free and fair elections in 18 months. While Idriss Déby’s election to another term as president was due to be announced the day he was killed, this action of Mahamat Déby was still an illegitimate one.

Protests were organized in N’Djamena and Moundou, the second largest city in Chad in the south, where farming is the main occupation. The protests were quickly broken up by cops using tear gas and live rounds. According to Baldal Oyamta, the Chadian coordinator for human rights, at least nine people were killed and 50 people were seriously injured. Scores were arrested. (tinyurl.com/kmynpyjd)

Dponoung Vaïma is general secretary of the Union of Chadian Trade Unions (UST). He gave an interview to Tchadinfo, an Internet site covering news and events in Chad, on the eve of May Day. Vaïma said “At the current time, we are asking workers to not go in, because we don’t know what could happen. We don’t want to expose folks.” He went on to say “The aim of the UST is radical change.” (tinyurl.com/vysekzeb)

Chad

Resistance to the coup, opposition to France

May Day: Hail the workers of the world! Support Workers World!

May Day, Workers, Resistance. Solidarity. May 1 is International Workers’ Day, officially commemorated in over 80 countries, but not in the U.S., where it originated in 1886 in Chicago as part of the struggle for the eight-hour workday. Its militant legacy is marked by strong protests by the global working class. It’s a day of solidarity. The class struggle is alive, as shown by worker actions against corporate giants and governments, with many focused on the current pandemic crisis.

Workers World newspaper is part of this. Our coverage lauds struggles by the global working class against capitalist exploiters. Our newspaper sides with the multinational, multigender, multigenerational working class, organized and unorganized, those fighting for a livable wage, benefits and unionization.

We lauds the courageous workers and organizers who took on Amazon, the corporate behemoth, in Bessemer, Ala.

The Quad directs its energy and its warships against China, under the direction of U.S. imperialism. They all have extensive economic relations with China. While the Quad has not yet reached the level of an Asian NATO, French imperialism’s participation shows its potential.

French colonialism laid claim to Indochina a century ago. The French rulers’ ignominious defeat in 1954 in the battle at Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam. One has to wonder if the current French regime dreams of a return, this time subduing to Washington. It’s a dream that can quickly become a nightmare. The struggle of Japanese imperialism, which once occupied China, Korea, and for a shorter period the Philippines and other Indo-Pacific countries, should remember that too.

A corporate media deluge demonizing China accompanies the warships’ show of force near Taiwan and the Spratly Islands, adding to the danger of a new Cold War — or even a hot one. They fault China for controlling its COVID-19 crisis and resuming economic growth. The media also charges China with autocratic ruling, human rights violations, etc.

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Analysts debate why neoliberal banker won

By Michael Otto

Ecuador general strike, 2019.

Nonetheless, Moreno’s government survived the Great Uprising of October 2019. The worst president in Ecuador’s history, rejected by 90% of the population, reported 12% of the population and implemented even harsher austerity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Starting on May 24, with the inauguration of Guillermo Lasso as president of the Republic, the new government of Ecuador will be directly in the hands of the elite class of big businessmen, bankers and the corporate media, aligned with imperialism and the Latin American political right. Lasso will deepen the neoliberal business model.

Lasso’s right-wing CREO party and the Social Christian Party led the cabinet that has privatized the Central Bank following April’s election. Lasso aims to privatize Social Security next. Both steps violate the 2016 Constitution on the way to dismantling the social program of Correa’s Citizen Revolution.

Even the Public Defender of Ecuador condemned the Moreno regime’s repression of the plurinational October 2019 rebellion as a crime against humanity. The next year, during the terrible days of repression, the corporate mass media, aligned with imperialism, and the Latin American political right. Lasso will deepen the neoliberal business model.

The corporate media lies

The dominant discourse promoted by the media painted Arauz as a puppet of Correa and the Lasso government as a true representative of the people, with millions of dollars spent on social media.

Years of media lies have convinced many voters that Moreno’s right-wing regime was a continuation of Correa’s. The corporate mass media began viciously attacking Correa during the latter half of Correa’s presidency, demonizing him as a leftist, while the corporate media, aligned with imperialism, are the largest player in the country.

The Moreno regime consciously failed to enforce existing labor protections during the pandemic, and his new legislation allowed bosses to easily discharge workers.

The burning issue of access to abortion is one of the main reasons why women voted for Lasso, but this won’t change the fact that the social program of the Republic, the new government of Ecuador will be directly in the hands of the elite class of big businessmen, bankers and the corporate media, aligned with imperialism and the Latin American political right. Lasso will deepen the neoliberal business model.

Debate among Ecuador’s political analysts

Various Ecuadorian analysts are examining the lessons of the election from the viewpoints of the sectors of society they represent. We present some of them here.

Marxist thinker Alejandro Moreano in an interview with Luis de Fuego said, “Moreno will turn out to be the most vigilant threat of all of us, because he survived the fiercest criticism.” Dr. Moreno said that the revolution after the election, Moreno rubbed Lasso’s victory in the faces of the masses by raising the price of gasoline, which was a bitter reminder of the issues that triggered the October 2019 social explosion.

Moreano called the election “an abominable thing. … Many Indigenous sectors voted for Lasso. How do we explain that? After carrying out the gigantic strike that shocked all of Latin America? How do we explain that an Ecuadorian voted for neo-liberalism after striking in October?”

Moreano said, “All the Ecuadorian people supported the social movement led by Moreno responding using anti-Corrism … It’s not about Correa. No, no, no. It is a triumph of the Latin American extreme right.”

Moreno said, “The October 2019 uprising was never discussed in the general election by any of the parties. Yu Férez, the Indigenous candidate for PK, even supported the regime’s indictments against the leaders of PDGE. It was also that October 2019 uprising that catapulted the PK into the National Assembly as a force, with 27 deputies.

Corporate media lies

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Moreano said, “All the Ecuadorian people supported the social movement led by Moreno responding using anti-Corrism … It’s not about Correa. No, no, no. It is a triumph of the Latin American extreme right.”

Moreano said, “The October 2019 uprising was never discussed in the general election by any of the parties. Yu Férez, the Indigenous candidate for PK, even supported the regime’s indictments against the leaders of PDGE. It was also that October 2019 uprising that catapulted the PK into the National Assembly as a force, with 27 deputies.

Corporate media lies

The dominant discourse promoted by the media painted Arauz as a puppet of Correa and the Lasso government as a true representative of the people, with millions of dollars spent on social media.

Years of media lies have convinced many voters that Moreno’s right-wing regime was a continuation of Correa’s. The corporate mass media began viciously attacking Correa during the latter half of Correa’s presidency, demonizing him as a leftist, while the corporate media, aligned with imperialism, are the largest player in the country.

The Moreno regime consciously failed to enforce existing labor protections during the pandemic, and his new legislation allowed bosses to easily discharge workers.

The burning issue of access to abortion is one of the main reasons why women voted for Lasso, but this won’t change the fact that the social program of the Republic, the new government of Ecuador will be directly in the hands of the elite class of big businessmen, bankers and the corporate media, aligned with imperialism and the Latin American political right. Lasso will deepen the neoliberal business model.

Debate among Ecuador’s political analysts

Various Ecuadorian analysts are examining the lessons of the election from the viewpoints of the sectors of society they represent. We present some of them here.

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El Primero de Mayo es un recordatorio constante de que todo problema social es un problema de los trabajadores … El jefe de los trabajadores de Amazon, de mayo afroamericana, en Bessemer, Alabama, de organizar un sindicato en el segundo mayor empleador privado de Estados Unidos, tiene una importante lección: la solidaridad de toda la clase es decisiva para impulsar la lucha contra la explotación capitalista. Mientras la propiedad privada domine la producción mundial, ningún centro de trabajo, grande o pequeño, ya sea una fábrica o un restaurante, puede enfrentarse al capitalista por sí solo sin la solidaridad del resto de su clase. … La frase “todo problema es un problema de los trabajadores” es cierta en la lucha actual contra el terror policial.

El mismo trato recibió Kyle Rittenhouse, un vigilante blanco adolescente, que disparó fatalmente a dos activistas antirracistas que protestaban contra el tiroteo de Jacob Blake, de 26 años, herido por la policía en Kenosha, Wisconsin, el 27 de agosto de 2020. La policía permitió que Rittenhouse pasara por delante de ellos en sus vehículos blindados después del tiroteo antes de detenerlo horas más tarde. Antes de que se produjeran estos disparos, la policía fue grabada dando agua a otros vigilantes fascistas.

Miembros del Ku Klux Klan, padre e hijo, acusaron y asesinaron a Armaud Aberny, un corredor negro de 25 años, el 23 de febrero de 2020, en el condado de Glynn, Georgia, en una cinta de video. La violencia antisíxica va en aumento en Estados Unidos debido al frenesi suscitado por Trump con sus diárias contra China durante la pandemia. El 16 de marzo, el justiciero Robert Aaron Long mató a ocho personas, siete de ellas mujeres, incluidas cuatro de ascendencia coreana, en tres espas de masacre en las afueras de Atlanta (Georgia). Seis fedes siguió a muertos a un supracriminal blanco en agosto de 2022 en un templo de Oak Creek, Wisconsin. Y hace poco, otro trabajador de FedEx, cuatro de ellos niños, fueron asesinados a tiro en su lugar de trabajo en Indianápolis por un joven blanco de 19 años.

A todos los trabajadores les interesa comprender que la creciente crisis económica capitalista es la causa fundamental de cada vez más tiroteos masivos y ejecu- ciones policiales. El Primero de Mayo debe convertirse en un grito de guerra, no sólo para organizar a los no organizados y abolir la policía, sino para unir y liberar a nuestra clase de todas las formas de explotación capitalista y luchar por un futuro socialista, libre de la necesidad y la opresión. […]