U.S.-instigated conflict threatens humanity

By Joe Piette

Tens of thousands of essential workers lost their lives during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many were exposed when they were put in harm’s way to do the work providing the goods and services, so that corporate owners could continue to gather their billions of dollars in profits.

A crowd of hundreds gathered in front of a stage built by local International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) members. A banner with the Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees delivered a message of solidarity: “I come from Argentina, and I speak on behalf of my brothers and sisters from around Latin America. I can tell you now, every one knows where Bessemer, Alabama, is because of @BAmazonUnion workers.”

Most electrifying were the messages from Bessemer workers themselves, rousing applause and loud cheers from the crowd.

While a number of unions had good representation, the largest presence came from United Mine Workers retirees and active strikers from Brookwood, Alabama. For the last 11 months, these miners have been in a hard fight against the Warrior Met Coal company and megafinance corporation BlackRock.

The miners have shown in practice that union solidarity really means in on-the-ground struggle, as they continue to “hold the line.”

Bessemer Amazon workers have until March 25 to turn in their ballots and reject Amazon’s ongoing union-busting tactics.

The closing chant “Vote Union Yes!” was led by the red RWDSU T-shirt-wearing Bessemer workers. 😙

Unions rally for Alabama Amazon workers

By Dianne Mathiowetz
Bessemer, Alabama

The weather was cool in Alabama on Feb. 26, but the Amazon workers' spirits were hot! A crowd of hundreds gathered in front of a stage built by local International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) members. A banner with the faces of scores and scores of Amazon workers who had voted no in the first 2021 Bessemer election but now are voting “YES!” formed the stage backdrop.

Troops in harm’s way

U.S. troops are inculcated with propaganda and given training in arms and combat, but the most effective way in which a group of recruits is made into a fighting unit is by creating esprit de corps. Once they have that, they can be sent anywhere, and they will fight to defend themselves as they follow deployment orders.

The Pentagon depends on strict discipline to follow orders and that common loyalty to each other as comrades, so that when U.S. troops are dropped into harm’s way anywhere in the world, they have no choice but to defend themselves against the people trying to remove the U.S. invading force.

Just like the nurses during the pandemic, the corporate press praises those soldiers willing to be put in harm’s way to supposedly protect “our way of life.” In reality, U.S./NATO soldiers, sailors and Air Force members are the shock troops—the imperialist enforcers—for corporate exploitation of natural and labor resources around the world.

Ukraine put in harm’s way

Over a trillion dollars in NATO arms and facilities have been thrust into Eastern European border nations next to Russia. For eight years, since the U.S.-backed coup in Kiev, Washington has supported the neo-fascist-backed regime in Ukraine with billions of dollars in weapons and other resources, while the Ukrainian regime’s army relentlessly shelled the Peoples’ Republics of Lugansk and Donetsk, killing thousands of people in the Russian-speaking Donbas region.

U.S. imperialism has now succeeded in drawing Russian President Vladimir Putin into committing its military forces into defending Russia’s interests by sending troops into Ukraine.

One could say that U.S. strategists, war planners, corporate media and politicians

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‘Ahmaud rests in power!’
Haiti Action Committee protest

By Dave Welsh  San Francisco

To the beat of the educated fingers of Tacuma King on conga, the Haiti Action Committee led a protest at the Federal Building in San Francisco Feb. 26, to denounce the last 18 years of neocolonial occupation of Haiti. Armed forces from the U.S., France and Canada invaded the island and overthrew Haiti’s overwhelm-
ingly elected popular government on Feb. 29, 2004. They kidnapped President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and flew him and First Lady Mildred Trouillot Aristide to Africa on a U.S. military plane, beginning seven years of exile. Three months later the invading soldiers were replaced by United Nations troops, to continue the U.S.-led occupa-
tion of Haiti by other means.

Death squads still terrorize Haitian towns

Since then the U.S. has backed a series of corrupt and brutal regimes, which have brought Haiti nothing but misery, death-squad violence and further impoverishment. Tens of thousands of workers took to the streets of Haiti late February to demand a tripling of the paltry minimum wage, in an effort to keep up with the cost of living.

“Across Haiti, popular organiza-
tions are calling for the end of the U.S.-backed regime and the instal-
lation of a transitional government,” said the Haiti Action Committee.

“Yet the U.S. government con-
tinues to insist on its choice for prime minister, Ariel Henry, who has no mandate and no legitimacy.”

Speedy mass deportations back to Haiti

Meanwhile President Joe Biden has deported more than 20,000 refugees back to Haiti, in one of the speediest mass deportations in US history. “Having fled from condi-
tions produced by U.S. policy in Haiti,” said the committee, “they are now being sent back into the U.S.-created nightmare they fled.”

U.S. authorities did not follow the written procedures they are supposed to follow in dealing with political and other refugees, taking into account the real dangers they undoubtedly would face on their return. They simply rounded them up and flew them back to Haiti, in a care-
less and unfeeling manner.

The Haiti Action Committee is marking its 30th year in support of the fighting popular movement in Haiti, said co-founder Pierre Labossiere. Others participating in the rally included Students for Haiti Solidarity and Justice Vangurd, as well as Global Women’s Strike, Workers World Party, Black Alliance for Peace, Answer Coalition, Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines and the Coast for Temporary Protected Status.

Bilal Ali, speaking for Black Alliance for Peace, said U.S. corporate brands like Old Navy continue to exploit the workers in Haiti’s sweatshops for poverty wages. A speaker from CHRP said the Philippines, like Haiti, has a long history of rising up against their oppressors, and in both countries the fighting people face U.S.-backed terror squads, with their unapologetic killings and massacres in the popular neighborhoods.

Haitianos exigen: ‘¡Triplicar el salario mínimo!’

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In the U.S.

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist- Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinationals, 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 neverending quest for ever-greater profit. If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact:

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**Racist murderer goes on shooting rampage**

By Madison Johnson

Portland, Oregon

June Knightly, known as “T-Rex,” was a dedicated anti-racist activist. Then she wasn’t assisting with progressive demonstrations, she was providing aid to many unhoused people of Portland, even while requiring the use of a cane to walk. She had a son, and she was beloved by those around her as a motherly figure. And now she is dead. Not from the cancer she was battling at the age of 60, but at the hands of a right-wing murderer.

More than 50 people showed up to Normandale Park Feb. 15. This activist was one of them. We gathered there to march for justice for Amir Locke and Daunte Wright, two young Black men gunned down in Minnesota by the state’s notoriously trigger-happy and racist police.

A video taken by Dajah Beck, a volunteer with a group called Justice for Patrick Kimmons, named for another young Black man who was fatally shot nine times by the Portland Police Bureau in 2018. His mother, Letha Winston, has been leading anti-racist demonstrations twice a week for three years to demand justice for her son.

We were less than a minute into the march when a series of gunshots rang out more than a block away. As we moved to the scene of the attack, we ran ahead before reporting back that someone had been shot. Although none of us knew the nature of the shooting, Winston wisely chose to end the march rather than lead us into danger.

June Knightly, whose life was tragically ended by the gunshots, was not part of our protest. She and several other women, wearing dresses and high-visibility gear, were safety volunteers helping to redirect nearby traffic. They had been there for several other gunshots.

A video taken by Dajah Beck, a volunteer with a group called Justice for Patrick Kimmons, named for another young Black man who was fatally shot nine times by the Portland Police Bureau in 2018. His mother, Letha Winston, has been leading anti-racist demonstrations twice a week for three years to demand justice for her son.

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Smith's, a white supremacist, was known for frequent threats of violence against marginalized people and leftists. He had been reported to the police multiple times for his violent behavior. His roommate, Kristine Christenson, told reporters that he liked to yell racial slurs and express his hatred for Antifa and Black Lives Matter and “those damn liberals all the time, how much he hated Antifa and Black Lives Matter, as well as a community that loved them. People would come out of their houses to clap and dance as we marched by. But that spirit was deeply wounded after the shooting. In a heartbreaking livestream two days later, Letha Winston pleaded, “I want justice; that’s all we’re trying to do. We’re not out here breaking windows; we’re not out here causing carnage. We’re not out here shooting. My son was murdered! My son was shot nine times in the back! Now T-Rex is dead! No more; enough is enough! Enough is enough!”

The facts have been so obscured that some have confused the victims for the perpetrators. After reading the headlines, they’re convinced that go-fascists committed a mass shooting! This is how Ngo has torpedoed the media and the both reinforce ideological hegemony.

The fact is that Portland, seemingly progressive on its surface, is institutionally rotten to the core. The especially bloodthirsty police have been proven to work with far-right street gangs. The city helps cover up their crimes. Local media are unconcerned with speaking truth to power, and their voices compound the whole miserable, biased structure.

If Portland is to find a path toward dignity, it’s a path that must be forged by the people, not by those who benefit from the legacy of struggle and resistance.

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**Federal jury finds**

**Ahmaud Arbery’s killers ‘guilty of hate crimes’**

By Dianne Mathiews

Atlanta

February 23: Today is Ahmaud Arbery Day, as declared by the Georgia General Assembly earlier this month. In their resolution, lawmakers noted that the enslavement-era “citizens arrest” law was repealed and hate crimes legislation was passed. The laws are in response to some of the circumstances of his racist murder on this date in 2020.

In Metro Atlanta, Brunswick and other cities in Georgia, events honored Arbery and his mother, Krishanty. Jones, Arbery’s mother, has kept up demonstrations for his killer, and international attention. The latest was his jury to arrive at the unanimous verdict: Ahmaud Arbery, 25, of Satilla, was one of three white supremacists in a Brunswick courtroom. This jury was composed of three white supremacists in a Brunswick courtroom. This jury was composed of three white supremacists in a Brunswick courtroom. This jury was composed of three white supremacists in a Brunswick courtroom. This jury was composed of three white supremacists in a Brunswick courtroom.

This second anniversary of Arbery’s killing came a day after a federal jury delivered hate crimes convictions for three white supremacists in a Brunswick courthouse. This jury was composed of three Black people, one Latinx person and eight white people. The three killers, now faces national legal sentences on top of the state sentences.

After hearing 20 witnesses describe the racist attitudes and vile language in emails, texts and in-person conversations going back years, it only took four hours of deliberations for the jury to arrive at the unanimous verdict. Ahmaud Arbery was pursued and gunned down solely because he was a Black man. While many people may feel some satisfaction with these legal convictions, it must be noted that these three white vigilantes went free for months after they committed their crimes. It was not until May 3, 2020, that the authorities arrested the three killers.

It should be stressed that an important factor in gaining the arrests and then convictions of the killers has been the dedicated and persistent efforts of Wanda Cooper-Jones, Arbery’s mother, and other family members who brought local, national and international attention to this modern-day lynching. Members of the Black community and their allies kept up demonstrations for months, calling for “Justice for Ahmaud!” outside the courthouse.

When asked about the significance of the court decisions, Cooper-Jones replied “Ahmaud rests in power!” As she has repeatedly said, nothing will bring her son back, and she wants to keep a legacy of struggle and resistance.

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**In Portland**

Letha Wilson, mother of Patrick Kimmons, at Portland rally demanding justice for her son, June 25, 2020.

June Knightly was murdered while protecting an anti-racist protest.
Historic International Working Women’s Day march to House of Detention

March 7, 1970

By Naomi Cohen


The occasion was March 7, the first International Working Women’s Day rally in this country in many years. In this city and around the country, women took this day to revive the revolutionary traditions of a day that is truly for women in struggle.

1,000 rally in New York City

The day was marked here by over 1,000 women marching in a rally in Union Square and a militant march to New York’s Bastille — the Women’s House of Detention. The action was organized by the Women’s Caucus Against War and Fascism and included representatives from many women’s organizations. So that women with children could attend, men from YAWF staffed a childcare center at a nearby church during the rally.

When the rally ended, women poured out of Union Square Park and began a spirited march to the infamous Women’s House of Detention. They carried banners demanding equal pay for equal work, free and legal abortions, no job discrimination, and freedom for Geraldine Robinson, a Black mother of five from Buffalo, who was framed up along with Martin Sostre for running a revolutionary bookstore in the Black community.

Marching along the crowded streets, the women chanted: “Women, let’s unite and fight,” “Out of the house, out of the jails, out from under, women unite,” and “Free four sisters. One ourselves. Free Joan Bird; free Ericka Huggins.”

Speaking with jailed sisters

The march grew as it went; so that when it reached the prison, the demonstrators completely circled the building. Women protesters waved and shouted out of the windows: “Free us,” “Power to the people” and “We want food.”

The demonstrators at the back of the prison were the prison women, and best shouted up to their imprisoned sisters. “Hey, hoh, ho, ha! The House of D has got to go!” was picked up by the crowd. “Free Joan Bird” was raised again and again to demand freedom for the Panther woman now imprisoned there for almost a year on $100,000 ransom as a result of the frame-up of the New York Panther 21.

The cops were ominously moving in, harassing the demonstrators, but no one was moving. The women stood with fists raised and shouted up to the prisoners. It was finally suggested that the demonstrators demand their right to see prison authorities with a list of demands. As the march began to leave the prison, police moved in to block their way.

The women refused to give way and stood at the entrance of the prison chanting: “No to our sisters in prison, free ourselves.” A handful of cops were nervously backed up against the prison wall, confronted by an angry crowd of determined women.

Finally a squad of cops charged the demonstrators, pushing them away from the prison. Clubs started swinging, and the people were brutally assaulted. In the process three women and three male supporters were arrested. The three women are Sharon Eolis, a leader in YAWF; and Rita Fried and Pam Kirkland, longtime activists in YAWF and well-known to New York’s secret police. Three men, Mike Friedman, Steve Cagan and Jamie Fryer were also arrested.

Framed-up women and supporters

It took the cops two hours to decide to frame-up the demonstrators on very heavy charges. Sharon Eolis, Pam Kirkland and Steve Cagan are being charged with felonious assault on a cop in addition to first-degree riot, a felony. The defendants are also being charged with resisting arrest, harassment, obstruction of government administration and disorderly conduct.

The stiff charges make it clear that the women’s liberation movement can now expect the same kind of repression that the government has brought down on the Black Liberation and antiwar movements.

Women’s liberation is spoken of as a joke in the capitalist press; but the women begin to struggle in militant actions, the repression comes down.

In the U.S.A.

International Women’s Alliance’s support for Workers Power Day

The International Women’s Alliance (IWA) is an anti-imperialist global alliance of militant grassroots-based women’s organizations, institutions, alliances, networks and individuals committed to advancing national and social liberation and gender equality. The following statement was posted to IWA’s website at tngurl.com/23433y9n. Go to facebook.com/IWA.grassrootswomenforliberation

The International Women’s Alliance extends its unwavering solidarity to Amazon and Starbucks workers around the U.S. on this Workers Power Day, Feb. 26, 2022.

In solidarity with workers waging unionizing campaigns around the world, we demand that workers carrying out this struggle not face harassment or unjust termination; that the Starbucks and Amazon corporations allow for fair and safe union campaigns and refrain from harassment and intimidation of workers; and that Amazon’s Black community there.

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The fight to unionize one of the country’s largest employers (Amazon as the twelfth) should not be taken for granted. This recent explosion of union organizing efforts and strikes across the U.S., led largely by women and people of color, follows the popular anti-racist mobilizations that emptied in response to the lynching of George Floyd by Minneapolis police in May 2020. The movement against white supremacy and the movement for workers rights has been accelerated. This is not unique to wage workers in the United States. In fact, workers around the world are experiencing increased exploitation while the bosses’ profits are prioritized over their livelihood. Workers have been brutally assaulted and long been organizing for their rights at increased rates during the last two years. We cannot give up the fight and must continue to grow our international solidarity in order to support the efforts of the working class everywhere for our rights and fair treatment.

Let’s continue to build this class-wide solidarity inside the U.S. and globally with International Working Women’s Day and May Day 2022.
Global supply chain
Rail industry prioritizes profits over safety

By Betsy Piette

The global supply chain crisis, fueled by the ongoing pandemic and a number of sys-
tematic problems within global capitalism —
when and where goods are produced to how
they are transported — has only grown dis-
pparity between the bosses’ wealth versus
the wages and benefits paid to millions of
workers throughout this process.

The latest crack in the capitalist infra-
structure — rail transport — surfaced when
17,000 conductors and engineers on
BNSF railroad called a strike for Feb. 1.
Their specific concerns was a new atten-
dance policy made effective Feb. 1, penal-
ing sure they had food and were in a safe
environment for the 62,000 public school stu-
dents.

By the time the strike was called, the
strike had stretched out over a year, with
BNSF refusing to use the “Just-in-Time” system of production,
about 2% of

On the picket line
by Karlie Kelly

Twin Cities teachers

This month could see more than 8,000
teachers in Minneapolis and St. Paul in
Minnesota leaving the classroom to walk
a strike line. Teachers in both cities voted
to authorize the strike after a year of
negotiations covering 155,000 U.S. rail workers at major Class 1
railroads — defined as carriers earning revenues over $900 million — are under-
way.

Like millions of “essential workers,”
railroad workers suffer from their bosses’
greed, escalated during the COVID-19 pan-
demic, and their suffering is exacerbated
by cost-cutting measures implemented
industriewide over the past decade.

Precision Scheduled Railroading: "Just-in-Time" for rail industry

Over decades of globalization, many
transnational corporations developed the “Just-in-Time” system of production,
emotional health services for students
struggling to catch up both academically
and socially. Teachers want guarantees of
classroom sizes that will allow for optimal
learning.

St. Paul Federation of Educators
President Leah VanDassor stated: “Just
this month, we had our largest transportation
strike as fifth-graders came back as
seventh-graders, seventh-graders came back
as ninth-graders; that’s a huge shift in the
workforce. We’re just not prepared to
people in the school who are trained to
recognize that and be able to even route
children to different classes. We need to
help them with whatever that happens to be.” (tinyurl.com/gmknxut)

Sherwin-Williams

At the Bedford Heights, Ohio, paint
plant, members of United Steelworkers (USW) Local 14919, went
out on an Unfair Labor Practice strike Feb. 5, after working without a contract since
October of last year. “Through our hard
work and the dedication of its Steelworker
member workforce, the Sherwin-
Williams Bedford Heights Plant has been
profitable and greatly contributed to the
success of the corporation,” said Local
14,919 President Terrell Williams. “All we
are asking for is a fair and just contract
that keeps up with inflation and provides
a living wage and job security for
our members.” (usw.org)

As USW points out, Sherwin Williams is spending hundreds of millions of dol-
ars on a bunch of new headquarters in
downtown Cleveland and a research cen-
ter in nearby Brecksville, Ohio. Therefore,
Terrell Williams insists: “Our members
want to invest in the employees [who] earned them the profits and enabled the company
to make those expenditures.” (usw.org)

Hershey is not sweet for workers

Workers at the Hershey Chocolate
plant in Stuarts Draft, Virginia, are in
the process of voting to join the Bakery,
Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and
Grain Millers International Union (BCTGM).
Ballots were mailed Feb. 24
to the 1,300 workers and will be counted
later this month. Worker grievances
include forced overtime and long hours;
some workers reported that they worked
over 70 hours without a day off.

Older workers in solidarity with younger workers are calling for dis-
mantling the unfair two-tier pay scale.
Hershey has experienced record profits,
and workers want more compensation for
the profits they are generating. Hershey had threatened to sue unionizers by
hiring the union-busting firm Labor
Relations Institute and forcing workers
to attend伪活动 through anti-union propaganda
meetings.

Hershey has a history of anti-union
tactics. In 1937, the Hershey company
brutally suppressed a sit-down strike at
its Pennsylvania plant. But two years later, Hershey Corporation signed
an agreement with the Bakery and
Confectionery International Union (now part of BCTGM), becoming one of the first
American candy companies to unionize.

Since July 2021, BCTGM has struck
Frito-Lay, Nabisco and Kelloggs.

To read more: https://iww.org/issue/2022-03-03

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Frito-Lay, Nabisco and Kelloggs.
Solidarity with Amazon, Starbucks workers

By Martha Grevatt

In solidarity with Starbucks, Amazon and all worker organizing, the Support Amazon Workers Network declared Feb. 26 a “Workers Power Day.” That day, the 10th anniversary of the racist murder of Trayvon Martin, was chosen to link the struggle for worker rights to the struggle against racism. Actions were held in multiple cities. Activists also opposed Washington’s push for war against Russia, some with the slogan: “Union contracts, not military contracts!”

Demonstrators protested the firings of seven Starbucks union organizers — most of them Black and Brown — in Memphis, Tennessee, and another organizer in Buffalo, New York, along with the racist arrest of three Black Amazon Labor Union organizers in Staten Island, New York. Starbucks sent a memo to U.S. employees denying that Cassie Fleischer had been fired from the Elmwood store in Buffalo — the first in the U.S. to unionize. But Fleischer recorded her own firing meeting and has exposed the company’s lies.

The Starbucks union drive continues to gain momentum with 100+ stores filing for representation elections and a big 25-3 vote for Starbucks Workers United at the Starbucks workers in Mesa, Arizona, wait for union election results, Feb. 25. Starbucks Workers United won 25-3.

Mesa, Arizona, store. A spirited crowd filled Boston’s snow-packed City Hall Plaza, bringing song and solidarity to a powerful delegation of union-minded Starbucks baristas. Workers World Party youth leader Kristen Turgeon kicked off the rally with a rousing antiwar version of “Union Maid.”

By Martha Grevatt

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Biden wants us for his wars … Oh, you can’t scare me. I’m sticking with the Union!” dedicated to the fired Memphis 7 and Cassie Fleischer.

Jean-Luc Pierite, of the United American Indians of New England, placed this blossoming struggle against corporate greed squarely on Indigenous lands. Dr. Padma Balasubramanian of Boston’s South Asian Coalition stressed the global struggle for workers’ rights at Amazon. John Buonopane of United Steelworkers of Steelworkers Union Local 1000 at Amazon, John Buonopane of United Steelworkers Union Local 1000 at Amazon.

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Over 50 people rallied outside Whole Foods at 10th and South streets in Philadelphia. Participants included members and speakers from Temple University, Philadelphia Boricua, National Nurses United, Industrial Workers of the World, Workers World Party, Black Alliance for Peace (BAP), Socialist Resistance and DSA-Philadelphia. Chairing the event, Teddie Kelly of the New York City Chapter of the New York City Chapter of CBTU, chaired the rally.

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Oakland community fights school closures and cutbacks

By Judy Greenspan
Oakland, California

Teachers, parents, students, education workers and community activists are launching a multifaceted campaign to stop the school closures that have been mandated by the Oakland School Board and the Oakland Unified School District. All last-minute attempts to stall or postpone the closure actions of the school board have failed, leaving mass organizing, recall efforts and a possibly doomsday lawsuit in their wake.

While the two education workers at Westlake Elementary School have stopped their hunger strike, other community members are discussing the possibility of starting a new one. A major demonstration is planned for March 5 under the slogan: “No School Closures! Shut Down the Town!”

Community activists are petitioning for signatures to recall two school board members who voted for the school closures. District 1 School Board Director Sam Harris has been targeted by educators in the Oakland Education Association and community members for recall. Davis ran as a “progressive” in the last school board election and had been endorsed by the OEA.

Community rally against school closures

There have been several protests outside Parker Elementary School, a predominantly Black public school scheduled to be closed at the end of this school year. On Feb. 21, a school holiday, a large crowd of parents, students and teachers rallied at a busy Oakland intersection a block away from Parker Elementary. The rally was led by students and parents, who have been the impetus behind most of the activism there.

Rochelle Jenkins, a Parker parent and community member, called out the school board for pushing the closure of the school. She said the community was determined to keep fighting until they win. She ended her statement saying, “We believe that we will win!” Holding a sign that read “Reparations for Black students,” Jenkins led the crowd in the chant: “No school closures! No school closures!”

“I will not let them shut down my school, because this is where I grew up. This is where I found my voice,” said Jayvien Bolden, a high school student who went to Parker and has siblings currently enrolled there. Referring to the school board’s decision to close Parker, Bolden told WW, “I feel like they know what they are doing, because they are making sure of seeing them as getting their education.”

Oakland teachers have been holding weekly site meetings at their schools to discuss their campaigns and assess support for a teacher strike. A recent virtual special meeting of elected union representatives, who serve on the OEA Representative Council, was held to discuss strike readiness and possible community support.

Several parents from La Escuelita, a K-8 school slated to lose its middle school grades, and two schools that are on this year’s closure list, Parker Elementary and Community Day Elementary, were invited to speak at the Representative Council. All expressed strong support for a teacher strike to stop the school closures.

School closures, Port of Oakland privatization linked

A surprise guest at this meeting was Trent Willis, former president of Local 10 of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union. Willis expressed the support of ILWU Local 10 for the community effort to stop the privatization of the Oakland public schools. “We have demonstrated many times in the past to stand by the workers down to the contract minimum. UPS posted record profits two years in a row, with workers producing more wealth for the company than ever before. Profits over the last year are up 22.6%, yet UPS executives want Teamsters members to take up a 27% pay cut. Union officials, stewards and rank-and-file planners be at the plant gates in the coming weeks circulating petitions as they continue the fight against wage cuts.”

‘Say no to UPS pay cuts!’

By Joe Piette
Philadelphia

On a cold morning Feb. 24, dozens of Teamsters union members and supporters rallied across the street from the Oregon Avenue United Parcel Service facility in Philadelphia to “Say no to UPS pay cuts!”

During the pandemic, UPS posted profits and raised bottom-level wages to $19 an hour, because entry wages were too low to keep workers from leaving. Now UPS wants to cut pay across the board and drop workers down to the contract minimum. UPS posted record profits two years in a row, with workers producing more wealth for the company than ever before. Profits over the last year are up 22.6%, yet UPS executives want Teamsters members to take up a 27% pay cut.

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Mark International Working Women’s Day! Support Workers World!:

In the spirit of International Working Women’s Day, March 8, Workers World mails free worker-oriented books and express people around the world, as well as in the U.S. In 1910, the International Socialist Women’s Conference in Copenhagen declared March 8 International Working Women’s Day. People of all genders commemorate this special day worldwide.

But this newspaper doesn’t show this solidarity only on that date or in March, Women’s History Month, as proclaimed by Congress in 1980. Its pages are filled with the news and show whose side we’re on: the multiracial, multigender working class and those most oppressed by capitalism.

WW promotes the view that “every struggle is a women’s struggle,” including the fight for affordable housing, a livable wage, unionization, free medical care for all with full reproductive health services, voting rights, a clean environment and an end to imperialism wars.

We embrace the mothers whose children have been killed by racist police and vigilantes, from Sybrina Fulton, Trayvon Martin’s mother, to Wanda Cooper-Jones, Ahmaud Arbery’s mother.

Our paper deciphers the superexploitation of African American, Latinx, Indigenous and immigrant women who earn the lowest wages. WW expresses solidarity with these women workers and those subjected to racism, misogyny, bigotry, xenophobia, homophobia and transphobia.

WW coverage supports the Starbucks workers, mostly young women and LGBTQ+ workers, fighting to unionize stores owned by this global corporation. We applaud the Memphis 7, mainly Black and Brown workers, who were fired for daring to organize their Teamsters union.

This newspaper extensively covers the struggles of Amazon workers for safer, better paying jobs and a union. While the corporation’s multi-billionaire CEO, Jeff Bezos, got even richer during the pandemic, women still comprise one-half of the lowest-paid workers, while two-thirds of them are Black and Latinx.

Socialists have long recognized the only way to improve women’s lives is the struggle to overturn capitalism. WW newspaper espouses this view and boldly states that socialism is the only system that can ensure equal pay for equal work, women’s rights and oppressed people.

Your help is needed!

If you appreciate our coverage, it’s time to join the Workers World Supporter Program or renew your membership. The program was established 45 years ago—10 readers could help WW publish anti-racist, working class truth and build campaigns needed to fight for revolutionary change leading to socialism.

Since the early 1990s, the fund has helped sponsor the workers.org website. Throughout the pandemic when fewer print issues have been published due to staff health concerns, new articles have been posted daily, and the PDF of the weekly newspaper has been posted at workers.org. Not one online issue has been skipped throughout this two-year health crisis.

For a donation of $60 a year, or $120 or $300, you receive a subscription to WW newspaper and one, two or three free subscriptions for friends, depending on donation, and updates. A free download of “The Road to Socialism” book, published in 2020, is available at workers.org/books. Or notify us if you want a paperback book.

Write checks (either monthly or annually) to Workers World and mail them, with your name and address, to Workers World, 147 W 24th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011. Put “Supporter Program” in the memo line. Or donate online at workers.org/donate.

We are grateful for your help in building Workers World!
Reflections on the crisis in Ukraine

By Sergio Rodríguez Gelfeinstein

During a recent interview, journalist Carlos Arellano surprised me by asking me if the historical account given by Russian President Vladimir Putin was accurate. Arellano's recent appearance explaining the decision to recognize the independence of Lugansk and Donetsk was necessary. Arellano was right to clearly explain that the decision and the intricacies of the matter. With much respect and evidence of his painstaking work with his opinions blaming the Bolshevics and Vladimir Lenin for what is happening in Ukraine.

When the Bolshevics came to power, they not only had to form a government to rule Russia, but for the entire tsarist empire, which included around one hundred nationalities, most of them incorporated by force. The creation of the Soviet Union, which eventually had 15 socialist republics, 21 autonomous oblasts, seven autonomous oblasts, 10 autonomous districts and seven krais, was an attempt to solve the national question and give each nationality the representa tion it deserved.

If this project became distorted, it was not the fault of the Bolshevics, much less of Lenin. We must remember that all this was done in the midst of a siege by world capitalism that sought to destroy the nascent workers’ and peasants’ power as soon as it was born, within the framework of a generalized fam ine of the peoples.

“Peace, Land and Bread” was the Bolshevics’ main slogan at the time. The Bolsheviks were not a monolithic party. They practiced different policies according to the nationalities allowed the Ukrainians for the first time to have their own national state. Whether that was a mistake, as President Putin put it, is quite debatable or at least necessary to debate, but it is understandable that there are differences between Lenin and Putin. The founder of the Soviet Union was a communist and internationalist revolutionary, while Putin is an instrumentalist. This same opinion is expressed today by President Putin, the most important instrument that the United States feels for its “allies.” Faced with an observation by Ambassador United States has for its partners on the Old Continent: “Fuck the European Union.”

This same opinion is expressed today by European Affairs Victoria Nuland, of the State Department, in less bold forms. “The Eurasian Union is made up of five countries − according to Belgian journalist Marc Vandepitte in a Feb. 11 article. Putin came to power at the beginning of this century to recover the honor and dignity of Russia, which from the moment of the disappearance of the Soviet Union has been vilified and marginalized, instead of acquiring importance as a power within the international system.

The main argument of the West regarding implementing sanctions against Russia was that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine were violated after the decision Putin made on Feb. 21; however, other world powers take this kind of decision. Russia is one of those decrying Russia’s actions never made a fuss about the eight military invasions of the neighboring states − most of them more than 20 countries sanctioned by the United States since the disappearance of the Soviet Union through the use of force, resulting in millions of victims all over the planet in violation of international law.

President Putin put forth Russia’s strongest argument to explain his decision when he reported that the measures taken were in order to prevent the continuation of massive violence or the carrying out of genocide. It must be remembered that the still valid and misnamed “Universal” Declaration of Human Rights of the UN established in Article 3 that “Every individual has the right to life, liberty and the security of his person.” Russia acted in defense of the life and safety of a million citizens who have been in danger every day for eight years.

Ukrainian government born through fascist coup d’état

The current government of Ukraine was born through a fascist coup d’état in which, under the leadership of the West, NATO and especially the United States, in the figure of Under Secretary of State for European Affairs Victoria Nuland, pro moted the vandalismo by neo-Nazi groups that burned synagogues under the comp letest gaze of the United States and the explicit silence of Israel, which tempo rarily and conveniently forgot about the dangers of anti-Semitism.

In the background, what is at stake are Russian minority inhabiting those territories − according to Belgian journalist Marc Vandepitte in a Feb. 11 article. The great danger for the United States and Europe is that it was a small, underdeveloped country. The United States has for its “solving” the problem posed by international law.

The great Eurasian space

Over the last five centuries (since Western hegemony over the globe began), world power has been based on control of the seas. This basis has begun to change, generating a quintessentially transformation in which the United States is being replaced by other world powers.

In recent years, the Russian-Chinese alliance, which reached the height of its strength after the joint declaration signed by the presidents of both countries in Beijing on Feb. 4, shows the completion of the first steps in the creation of a new world order. This agreement was signed by China, Russia and Pakistan, the latter having been approved by Russia’s membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), which has begun to crowd the newsrooms and studio windows of television channels since yesterday. It should also be remembered that the United States has for “solving” the problem posed by international law.

The Eurasian alliance is supported by Russia’s membership in the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), a political and economic union with members including Kazakhstan, Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, and Moldova. China participates, with the aim of cooperating in political, economic and security matters. It is worth mentioning that India and Pakistan also belong to this organization, while Iran, Belarus, Mongolia and Afghanistan are awaiting approval for their entry.

The Eurasian Union is made up of five countries and constitutes the successful extension of economic and commercial ties in the widest land space on the planet. Meanwhile, China has created the largest economic alliance in the world, which unites the ASEAN economic community and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), which includes 30 percent of the world’s population. But the area with the greatest scope in the region and the world is the Silk Road proj ect developed by China. It has already distributed some $900 billion to 72 countries inhabited by some 5 billion people − about one-eighth of the world’s population − according to Belgian journalist Marc Vandepitte in a Feb. 11 article.

Incorporation of Europe into global system

The great danger for the United States and its system of world dominance is the incorporation of Europe and in particular

Continued on page 9
What workers should know about Ukraine/Washington’s warmongering and provocation

By Danny O'Brien

The U.S.-commanded NATO military alliance has spent 8 years funneling tons of advanced weapons and fascist armies into eastern Ukraine along the 1,200 mile border with Russia. The constant U.S./NATO backed attacks have resulted in over 14,000 deaths of civilians in Ukraine. These facts on the U.S./NATO military alliance’s crisis and provocative role in Ukraine must be exposed.

What is NATO? The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is a military alliance under U.S. command.

NATO expansion: In 1999, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker promised leaders of the still-existing Soviet Union that NATO would not expand “one inch eastward” of a German state that included the former German Democratic Republic. NATO had 16 members in 1990; now NATO’s 30 member states include former allies of the Soviet Union that are now allied in NATO against the Russian Federation.

Ukraine: Historically Ukraine existed as a buffer state between the Soviet Union and the West. The Donbas, the industrialized region known as Donbass, was identified with Russia culturally and linguistically. 2014: In 2014, the U.S. heavily armed and funded groups of ultranationalists, neo-Nazis and fascists to overthrow the government of Ukraine and help install one hostile to Russia and tied to the U.S. and European Union interests. The Donbass: Following the coup in 2014, the people of the provinces of Donetsk and Lugansk, in the Donbass region, in a struggle against fascism and privatization from the new coup regime, declared themselves as independent republics separated from Ukraine. Ukraine’s Fear: Every time NATO absorbs a former Soviet ally or republic, it threatens Russia economically and militarily. The U.S. funneled $5 billion over eight years into the attack on the Ukrainian regime on the Donbass and destabilize Russian trade.

U.S. military track record: The U.S. military has carried out scenarios for unpopular, prolonged wars that ruin the victim countries and their civilian populations and end in no resolution. European competition: Russia supplies oil and natural gas to the European Unionwe at low prices, along with many other resources. By using sanctions to corner the European market, Washington will force EU countries to import resources like natural gas from the United States. Prices will be much higher.

Nord Stream 2 pipeline: U.S. pressure disrupted plans to certify the completed liquefied natural gas pipeline from Russia’s northwestern border to Germany for distribution throughout Europe. U.S. corporations and strategists oppose a close economic relationship between Germany and Russia.

Material consequences for the working class: Ukraine’s workers and farmers will have their country torn apart further by imperialist pressures. Russian workers could face hunger, increased poverty rates and lose access to medicines because of economic sanctions. Workers in the EU will experience a rise in inflation and poverty. U.S. workers will face rising gas, potentially lower wages, higher inflation, and a cultural uptick in racism, xenophobia and irrational patriotism. The tensions have the potential to degenerate into a major war.

Haiti: misery breeds resistance

By G. Dunkel

Thousands of Haitian garment workers, mainly women, have hit the streets in February demanding that the government raise their minimum wage to 1,500 gourdes (about $14) for a 9-hour day. They currently make 500 gourdes (about $4.80) a day. These low wages, and a bourgeoisie more than willing to intensively exploit workers, are what has drawn big companies like Gap, Old Navy, H&M, JCPenney and Zara to hire Haitian companies in duty-free “assembly zones,” which let them produce clothes cheaply with high profits. A minimum-wage worker in the United States is guaranteed to make $7.25 an hour, which means that they make 50% more in an hour than a Haitian worker makes a day.

All the Haitian clothing subcontractors, whether they were in Caracol near Ouanaminthe in the northeast, or SONAPI on the airport road in Port-au-Prince, or at other factories scattered about most major Haitian cities, have encountered a series of one-day or three-day walkouts. On Feb. 22, the interim Prime Minister Ariel Henry responded to this strike wave by announcing that the minimum wages in a number of economic sectors — Haiti has diverse minimum wages depending on what kind of company you work for — were going to be raised by less than 40%. The wages for garment workers, the majority of the workers on the street, would still be less than $7.50 a day. The police, called in by the bosses, responded with clubs, tear gas and bullets. Ayibopost, an online news site, quotes Jephte Bazil, a Haitian journalist, who wrote behind the actions on February 22: “According to Bazil, one of the police officers said it is “journalists who are responsible if the demonstrators are still in the street. They are handing them their microphone.” Shots fired from a car carrying police license plates killed one Haitian journalist Feb. 24, and at least two more were seriously wounded.

The workers indeed stayed in the streets. Walking out in a country where only 30% of the people have a steady job is risky. The fact that so many women, waving the green beret of women’s liberation, are walking out in the street proclaims what they want their current situation, uprooted, up to the hungry anger they feel. Interim Prime Minister Henry’s raise offer wasn’t enough to keep up with Haiti’s high inflation. The workers want more money. The cost of living, including food, schooling and gasoline, is going up. And rising as well is the fear of what tomorrow will bring — more corruption, kidnappings and assassinations. The government lies. Public funds are wasted. There is institutionalized thievocracy — deprivation for the poor while the wealthy continue to enrich themselves. They are not turned over to hospitals. Everything is increasing except wages. Their low wages are behind the food insecurity that grips 40% of Haitians face. In 2021, Haiti ranked 104 out of the 107 countries on the Global Hunger Index. According to the World Food Program, 4.4 million Haitians regularly didn’t get enough to eat.

The union coalition led by Chay-Batay Ouvrier [May 1 Workers Struggle] issued the first call for a workers’ walkout Feb. 9. It is currently suing the prime minister’s office, according to its spokesperson, to postpone the official establishment of the minimum new wages and to get a list of all the police assigned to control the street protests. They want the rights of those injured by the cops protected. (tinyurl.com/j8b9jxx8b)

The textile workers in Haiti, mainly women, are taking the first steps in improving their lives. They deserve solidarity.

Reflections on the crisis in Ukraine

Continued from page 8

Germany into this system. If this were to happen, the entire hegemonic structure is built after World War II, which has its political support in Western-style representative democracy, the United Nations as its instrument, and its military support in NATO, would inevitably collapse.

NATO threats and the Breton Woods system, constituted from Western control of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, are the pillars used to sustain its global hegemony. The subordination and control of Europe has been essential to sustain this model ever since the Marshall Plan was put into practice after the end of World War II.

The fundamental objective of U.S. policy has been to prevent the initiation of energy integration agreements between Russia and Europe that could offer a viable and relatively cheap alternative for both parties and which would also link Europe with China, leaving the United States unable to maintain energy supremacy. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Whitney, the objective of the United States in unleashing the Ukrainian conflict is to prevent the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline from being built. Why do they have to pay three and four times more for fuel, just to satisfy America? The sanctions break a promise they have to tend to the dead and the destruction of their cities to please their political leaders, who have decided to subordinate themselves to Washington.

We hope that this does not happen and common sense prevails. It is not worth dying for some mega-billionaires who, foreseeing the disaster they are generating on Earth, are accelerating the space race, assuming they will be able to escape the disaster they themselves created in their quest for endless profit.

Sergio Rodríguez Gefenstein is a Venezuelan international relations expert. He was previously Director of International Relations of the Presidency of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, his country’s ambassador to Nicaragua, and an advisor on international politics and media for TELESUR. You can follow him on Twitter: @sergioro0701. This article was translated by United World International and edited by Workers World.
Misogyny again exposed in U.S. sports

Megan Rapinoe takes a knee in solidarity with Black quarterback Colin Kaepernick against police brutality.

On Ukraine

Attack on the right to tell the truth

Dear Editors,

Facebook banned me for a month. Why? Cause I posted two pictures of Ukraine Nazis, armed by the U.S. and NATO. (time and date are part of the photo). They have bombed and attacked the people of Donetsk and Lugansk, just like we have fascists in the U.S. military, police and national guard.

We know that Ukraine has lithium and titanium used to build batteries for electric cars and metal for jets. The U.S. and NATO want those resources, including Russian oil. This is what this war is about. If you try to post opposition to the big lie in the media you get blocked. So much for freedom of speech or thought.

Build workers’ solidarity all over the world. We need a war against poverty and racism not NATO World War III! Only the world working class of all races can end this violence with mass protests in the streets in the U.S. and Europe! Socialist solidarity! Build a workers’ world!

Signed Luis Lopez

Contrary to media claims, Ukraine’s sovereignty is not the main issue. These forces were not placed there over the last quarter century to protect Ukraine. The U.S. and European imperialists have a larger goal in mind.

Powerful interests in the corporate world—the ones who U.S. presidents how to down to—have spent decades maneuvering NATO troops into strategic positions, where they now pose an immediate threat to Russia, a nation of vast natural resources. Corporate leaders have been frustrated since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991 because the dissolution of the world’s first workers’ state did not open up the world’s largest country, Russia, to their exploitation.

Wall Street CEOs are salivating at the thought of acquiring the profits possible from exploiting Russia’s large quantities of oil, natural gas, coal, chrome, copper, gold, lead, manganese, nickel, platinum, tungsten, vanadium and zinc, as well as profits from crop and livestock production and timber from the world’s largest forest reserves.

At a time of dire capitalist economic crisis, Russia’s resources beckon to the imperialists as the solution to their problems. They’ve created a massive propaganda campaign preparing the U.S. and indeed much of the world’s working class to back up their goal of replacing President Putin’s government with a puppet gov- ernment, subservient to global imperialist interests.

The risks extend far beyond Ukraine’s borders. Both Russia and the U.S. have nuclear weapons that can destroy the world. It must be noted that the U.S. is the only country in history that has dropped nuclear bombs on another country, on Japan in 1945. They’ve threatened to use nuclear weapons against Vietnam, North Korea and other nations since then.

The possibility of the current U.S.-instigated conflict with Russia in Ukraine escalate into a nuclear war is a fearful scenario.

It puts all the world’s people in harm’s way.

Capitalist leaders think Russia’s vast wealth makes it worth the risk. Those of us on the other side of humanity—we, workers, environmentalists, youth, oppressed nations, all gender identities, the vast majority of the world’s popul- ation—have an urgent responsibility to put an immediate halt to their mad prof- it-driven war that can destroy the world.

Joe Piette is a Vietnam War veteran and was a member of the American Servicemen’s Union.

Continued from page 1

have created a situation where the people of Ukraine are put in harm’s way to serve the interests of Pentagon-armed corpo- rate warmongers.

Contrary to media claims, Ukraine’s sovereignty is not the main issue. These forces were not placed there over the last quarter century to protect Ukraine. The U.S. and European imperialists have a larger goal in mind.

Powerful interests in the corporate world—the ones who U.S. presidents how to down to—have spent decades maneuvering NATO troops into strategic positions, where they now pose an immediate threat to Russia, a nation of vast natural resources. Corporate leaders have been frustrated since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991 because the dissolution of the world’s first workers’ state did not open up the world’s largest country, Russia, to their exploitation.

Wall Street CEOs are salivating at the thought of acquiring the profits possible from exploiting Russia’s large quantities of oil, natural gas, coal, chrome, copper, gold, lead, manganese, nickel, platinum, tungsten, vanadium and zinc, as well as profits from crop and livestock production and timber from the world’s largest forest reserves.

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On Ukraine

U.S.-instigated conflict threatens humanity
Camilo Cienfuegos: Celebrating the young revolutionary

By Devin Cole

Feb. 6, 2022, marked the 90th birthday of Cuban revolutionary Camilo Cienfuegos. One of the young- est of the leaders of the Revolution, Cienfuegos was first known to the people of Cuba through his fierce guerrilla warfare, becoming a leading comrade in the Fidel Castro’s forces. Following the Revolution Cienfuegos became a driving force behind agrarian reform in Cuba.

And then less than a year after vic- tory, Cienfuegos, hero of the Battle of Yaguajay, quite literally vanished into thin air. It was the night of Oct. 26, 1953; and Cienfuegos, who was also a pilot, was flying from Camagüey back to Havana. While flying over the Straits of Florida, between the Florida Keys and Cuba, his plane disappeared.

An immediate search was launched, lasting for several weeks, but there was no sign of either Cienfuegos or the plane. It is generally accepted that he experienced some sort of stress from the Revolution into the Straits, plunging his body and plane deep into the water. He was only 27 years old when he disappeared.

It is critical to study revolutionaries like Camilo Cienfuegos. To die, at a young age, may not receive as much attention as longer-lived comrades. But they too are veterans — and sometimes martyrs — of the monu- mental revolutions that bring about a better world. As Fidel Castro described of Camilo Cienfuegos: Cienfuegos influc- enced Castro. This brief look at Camilo Cienfuegos seeks to further reveal his significance.

‘Cuba had to be free’

Camilo Cienfuegos Gorriarán was born in Havana in 1926; and from a young age, he was influenced by the personal as well as the political. His father, a working- class tailor, held left-wing political views, which he taught to Cienfuegos. As he got older, Cienfuegos harnessed an artistic ability that gained him entrance into a fine arts school in Cuba, but he was forced to leave due to the financial pressures facing him and his family. Shortly after he followed his father’s path and became a tailor.

All this time, the struggle continued. Cienfuegos was slowly immersing himself in different struggles in Havana. His earliest political work was taking part in mass protests in the city against the rise of bus fares. This was in 1948; Cienfuegos was only 22 years old.

Early political action and education

Five years later he and a friend, Rafael Sierra, traveled to the U.S. on a 29-day visa in search of work. When the visa expired, Cienfuegos remained in the U.S., under- ground, living in Chicago, San Francisco and New York City. In 1952, Cienfuegos worked while in New York; he joined a group of left-wing Cuban political exiles, Cuban Civic Action, who published a newspaper, “La Voz de Cuba” (“The Voice of Cuba”). Cienfuegos participated in anti-imperialist student groups that discussed political theo- rists such as Cuban José Martí. Cuban Civic Action was in solidarity with the early actions of Fidel and the Cuban guerrillas, including their 1953 attack on the Moncada Barracks, which is generally accepted as the beginning of the Cuban Revolution. The group regu- larly participated in demonstra- tions against Fulgencio Batista, Anastasio Somoza, Rafael Trujillo and other U.S.-backed, right-wing dictators in Spanish- speaking Caribbean and Central American countries.

While in New York Cienfuegos participated in a picket against Dominican dictator Trujillo, who was then staying in a hotel in the city. Violence erupted at the demonstra- tion, and a crackdown on Latinx immigrants followed. Cienfuegos and Sierra fled briefly to Chicago and then moved on to San Francisco to find work. There Cienfuegos was arrested, this time by immigration officials, after risking his safety to help another undocumented friend being detained. He and Sierra were both deported to Mexico and then returned to Cuba.

There Cienfuegos became active in the uprisings and protests against Cuban dictator Batista, including a demonstration in memory of Antonio Maceo, General of the Cuban Army of Independence of 1898. Cienfuegos was shot by soldiers of Batista at the protest and taken to a student hospital sympathetic to the Revolution. Cienfuegos later recounted: “There I experienced one of the greatest emotions of my life, when more than a hundred people gathered in the entrance broke into cheers and applause when they carried me up. I felt such an emotion; I felt about to cry, and I yelled out, ‘Viva Cuba!’ I was most sure then that, whatever the cost, Cuba had to be free.” (todayinlatinamerica.com)

Cienfuegos joins the Revolution

After recovering from his wound, Cienfuegos resolved to join the July 26th Movement. Named after the date of the Moncada Barracks attack, the Movimiento 26 de Julio was the Cuban vanguard revolutionary organiza- tion (and later political party) led by Fidel Castro.

At that time the Movement was exiled to Mexico. Cienfuegos had to travel there through the U.S., going from Miami to San Francisco undetected. He remained in San Francisco for three months, working and collecting money; and then in May 1956, he traveled to Mexico to officially join Fidel Castro and the revolutionary struggle.

Cienfuegos was one of the 82 guerilla fighters who traveled aboard the ship, the Granma, to return to Cuba in November 1956, when the battle for the Revolution was on. He was one of two survivors of attacks on the July 26th Movement at Alegria de Pío by Batista forces in 1957. He and other surviving guerilla fighters wandered in the Sierra Maestra Mountains for 30 days, before finding Castro and rejoining the revolutionary forces.

In 1958, Cienfuegos, now a comandante, led a combined force of fighters alongside Che Guevara in the Battle of Yaguajay. In a decisive victory for Cuban revolutionaries over the soldiers of the Batista govern- ment, they forced that garrison to surrender on Dec. 30, 1958. A day later, Cienfuegos and Guevara, along with allied non-Castro forces, captured nearby Santa Clara. These actions were significant in causing Batista to flee Cuba on Dec. 31, leaving the communists and the Revolution victorious.

Remembering Camilo Cienfuegos

Cienfuegos became Chief of Staff of the Cuban Army, a close advisor to Fidel Castro and a close friend as well. Even after the Revolution, in the brief months leading up to Cienfuegos’ disappearance, Castro sought advice and criticism from him.

One of the earliest slogans of the Cuban Revolution was “Vas Bien, Fidel!” or “You’re doing fine, Fidel!” This saying began with Cienfuegos. At a rally a week after vic- tory, on Jan. 8, 1959, Castro interrupted his own speech, turned to Cienfuegos and said “Voy bien, Camilo?” or “I’m doing okay, Camilo?” and then replied, “Vas bien, Fidel!” (Georgie Anne Geyer, “The Untold Story of Fidel Castro,” p. 211)

Cienfuegos took up the struggle of agrarian reform in Cuba, which was an undertaker, as it involved completely restructuring productive forces in Cuba, previously colonized by capitalism, into a nationalized system that could meet the needs of the people. In his last public speech before his disappearance, Camilo declared, “Even if it brings the sky down on our heads, agrarian reform is on!” showing his full agreement with the Revolution. (historyofcuba.com)

Every year since Cienfuegos’ disappearance, a celebra- tion is held Oct. 26 in his memory. On that day the children of Cuba toss flowers into the sea as they say: “A flower for Camilo.” On the island, Cienfuegos is honored with many murals, art installations and schools named for him. He is not forgotten in Cuba.

When revolutionaries like Lenin and Mao are dis- cussed, it is often stressed (as it should be) that they fought for decades for their respective revolutions, and that is true. Lenin was 47 years old when the Bolshevik Revolution took place, and Mao was 56 years old at the time of the Chinese Revolution.

Other revolutionaries lived long lives of righteous struggle but died before their nations smashed the impe- rialist chains of oppression. Such was the case of Ho Chi Minh, who lived to be 79 but died six years before the defeat of the U.S. by the People’s Army of Vietnam at the decisive Liberation of Saigon in 1975.

Camilo Cienfuegos was only 26 years old when he helped lead a triumphant socialist revolution just 90 miles off the coast of the U.S., center of imperialism. But one thing is an incredible feat is an understatement. Yet Camilo Cienfuegos accomplished that; and despite being lost physically, his actions, words and legacy still live on in the Cuban masses.
¡Disuelve la OTAN! Paren a los EE.UU./OTAN: ¡Provocador de la guerra en Ucrania!

28 de febrero de 2022 — El Partido del Mundo Obrero se une a las muchas organizaciones anti-guerra y anti-imperialistas, aquí y en todo el mundo, urgiendo a exponer las provocaciones de guerra de la OTAN y de los Estados Unidos. Llama a movilizaciones nacionales de urgencia para acciones de los 1 al 7 de marzo en torno a este programa para DISOLVER LA OTAN.

La prensa corporativa ha hablado con una sola voz en el período previo a los llamativos titulares de hoy que acusan a Rusia de “invadir” a Ucrania. Durante meses, antes de este mes y acaba de imponer nuevas sanciones que alegan las exportaciones vitales de gas natural de Rusia. Las sanciones son un acto de guerra. Una guerra destructiva en Ucrania y Rusia podría ser el comienzo de una guerra mundial más amplia. Afirman la hegemonía total de Estados Unidos sobre el resto del mundo: Europa, Asia, América Latina y África, en particular China.

Las encuestas muestran que la mayoría de la clase trabajadora y la gente oprimida aquí en Estados Unidos no quiere una nueva guerra. No tienen nada que ganar. Solo las corporaciones y sus amigos políticos se beneficiarán.

Decimos NO! ¡Démosle a trabajadores, educación, salud y necesidades humanas, no para la guerra!

¡Disuelve la OTAN! Paren a los EE.UU./OTAN: ¿Provocador de la guerra en Ucrania?

Por G. Dunkel

Haití se enfrenta a una crisis de legitimidad gubernamental. Los partidarios de Moïse, presidente hasta el 7 de febrero, y sus opositores, bajo una coalición parlamentaria, no se dan un acuerdo para gobernar el país hasta que se puedan celebrar elecciones. Los activistas haitianos consideran que Estados Unidos ha tenido un papel decisivo.

“¿Crees que puedo tocar a Ariel (Henry) ahora?” dijo John James, presidente de CTU, a los participantes en la concentración en Washington, D.C., el 14 de febrero. ¿Acabarán con sufrir?”

Trabajadores deble ganancias exigen: ‘¡Triplicar el salario mínimo!’

Por G. Dunkel

Durante ocho años, desde el golpe de estado respaldado por Estados Unidos en Kiev, España ha apoyado al régimen neofascista en Ucrania con dólares y armas, mientras el ejército del régimen ucraniano bombardea a los miles de miles de héroes y heroínas en Lugansk y Donetsk, matando a miles de personas en Donbas una región de habla rusa.

Desde 1991, EE.UU. ha ampliado agresivamente la presencia de Rusia en el OTAN, y acentuando su presencia en las fronteras de Rusia y armando las bases aéreas de la OTAN con bombarderos supersónicos y cohetes que pueden matar ciudades rusas con armas nucleares en 30 minutos. La OTAN ha realizado más de 5.300 misiones de guerra cerca de las fronteras y costas de Rusia. Estados Unidos impuso múltiples sanciones a Rusia antes de este mes y acaba de imponer nuevas sanciones que alegan las exportaciones vitales de gas natural de Rusia. Las sanciones son un acto de guerra. Una guerra destructiva en Ucrania y Rusia podría ser el comienzo de una guerra mundial más amplia. Afirman la hegemonía total de Estados Unidos sobre el resto del mundo: Europa, Asia, América Latina y África, en particular China.

“Nos hemos querido en todo el mundo, pero hemos llegado a vivir en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gente y no estamos en Rusia, un país lleno de gent...