Global South rejects U.S.-NATO aggression

By Betsey Piette

As the U.S. and NATO work to advance their war against Russia now breaking out in Ukraine, many countries which have experienced imperialist aggression — by the U.S., France, Britain and other NATO members — are speaking out. They are denouncing the impact of U.S. sanctions as acts of war and calling NATO the threat to global peace.

The Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America — ALBA — is an intergovernmental organization of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, based on social, political and economic integration. Many member states have been targets of U.S. intervention and economic sanctions intended to derail popularly elected, progressive governments. Collectively they are speaking out against the U.S./NATO aggression against Russia.

Bolivian Indigenous leader Evo Morales called NATO “a serious threat to international peace and security. Its record of invasions and aggression proves it. Now its expansionist attempt is one of the main reasons for the situation in Ukraine.” In 2019 the government led by Morales was overthrown by a right-wing coup directed by the U.S. A year later Morales’ Movement Towards Socialism party was restored to government in a popular election.

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela’s Ambassador Samuel Moncada, who addressed the March 2 U.N. General Assembly special session on Ukraine, echoed Morales’ sentiments. “We regret to note that the current escalation, with the painful and terrible loss of life it has entailed, originates from the breach of the Minsk Agreements under the encouragement of the United States of the permanent expansion of NATO toward Eastern Europe.

“Venezuela has always condemned the perverse tendency toward unilateral and hegemonic visions of the world, which

Int’l Working Women’s Day means solidarity

By Kathy Durkin

International Working Women’s Day is commemorated around the world on March 8. Two words signify its essence: solidarity and struggle.

Established in 1910 at an International Women’s Socialist Conference in Copenhagen, this special day was intended to broaden global solidarity and strengthen ties among women workers. IWWD’s socialist founders deplored the terrible working conditions faced by women workers, as they poured into factories in the U.S., Europe and elsewhere. They noted the strikes and massive demonstrations held by women immigrants in New York City.

The day’s first commemoration took place in Europe in 1911, as 1 million women marched for jobs and their rights. Then in 1913 and 1914, women on that continent demonstrated against the looming world war and to build solidarity among women in belligerent countries.

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SHERWIN WILLIAMS
STRIKE
By Martha Grevatt
Bedford Heights, Ohio

United Steelworkers (USW) Local 1499 has been on strike against the Sherwin Williams company since Feb. 5. The 55 union members hit the picket line in the Cleveland suburb of Bedford Heights with signs reading “Fair contract now!” The plant where they work manufactures a range of aerosolized chemical products, such as cleaners and deicers.

This Workers World reporter visited the picket line March 2. Other supporters who came to picket included members of Service Employees International Union Local 1 and Nina Turner, a progressive former state representative currently running for Congress.

Strikers want a contract that includes a decent pay increase and paid sick time and does not contain a new proposed attendance policy that would punish workers who stay home when they are sick. Sherwin Williams is only offering a 1.5% raise—an insulting 55 cents an hour that amounts to a pay cut after inflation.

In the middle of the pandemic—along with working around hazardous chemicals—workers have no paid sick leave. Designated essential workers, they have been putting in 12-hour days.

The company, best known for paint products and its iconic slogan “Cover the Earth,” was founded in Cleveland in 1866. A new downtown Cleveland headquarters and a research center in the suburb of Brecksville will be built for the combined cost of around $600 million. In 2020 the Cleveland City Council approved $1100 million in tax incentives to keep Sherwin Williams based in the city.

The workers are angry that the company says it can’t afford what they are asking for, while spending over half a billion dollars on new buildings. Most of those we met on the picket have been at the plant 10 to 20 or more years. Also picketing was a young worker with only a month in the workforce.

One picketer was a recent retiree who said that in 44 years, while Sherwin Williams talks as if workers were part of its “family,” he has never felt like he was treated as such by management. He has experienced racism as an African American worker. But a short distance from the picket, the company had a sign that read “Hiring Now! Join Our Team!”—a team we jokingly referred to as the Bedford Scabs.

Supporters in Northeast Ohio are being asked to visit the picket line and bring food and coffee. ☎

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, misogyyny, LGBTQ+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

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 education or anything else—unless they can pay for it.

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If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact: 216.627.2994

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**Workers Power Day**

Worker and tenant activists in Buffalo, New York, assembled March 5 for Workers Power Day, which had been scheduled for one week prior but pushed back due to inclement weather. A number of speakers delivered statements expressing solidarity with Starbucks workers across the U.S., taking care to note that the struggle for workers’ rights is ultimately inseparable from the struggle against racism and imperialism.

Special attention was given to Starbucks workers who have been illegally fired during the ongoing union struggle, including the Memphis 7 and Cassie Fleischer, a local organizer. Fleischer, who was terminated in February after nearly five years of service for the company, wrote a statement read at the event: “This termination is sadly a great example of exactly why we need a union in all stores across the nation. With the union in place, I can and will fight for reinstatement with back pay and have the ability to legally stand up to Starbucks. We will not be backing down from this fight.”

— Report and photo by Ryan Lockwood

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**‘Starbucks Workers United Zindabad!’**

By Padma

Padma gave this lightly edited talk at the Boston Workers Power Day demonstration Feb. 26.

I am a health care worker in the Boston area. At the outset let me express my solidarity and deep admiration for the brave workers of Starbucks and Starbucks Workers United. I heard it was a BREWTIFUL day yesterday, with a third unionized Starbucks store in Mesa, Arizona.

Data shows that workers covered by union contracts, on an average, make 11.2% more than nonunionized workers with similar backgrounds in the same industry.

Black union workers are paid 13.7% more than nonunion workers, and Latinx 20% more. Among unionized workers 86% can take paid sick days, compared to only 72% of nonunion workers.

During the pandemic low-wage workers, especially women and people of color, were forced to work without PPE and without access to health care. The school bus drivers union and dining hall workers union fought for the health and rights of their workers, and I am proud to be associated with them.

I am from India. You all must have heard about the historic farmers’ struggle for several months, which brought the government to its knees and repealed unjust farm laws. They succeeded because they were organized with several farmers unions and Dalit workers’ unions supporting the struggle.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., while speaking to striking sanitation workers in Memphis in 1968, said, “Let it be known everywhere that along with wages and all other securities that you are struggling for, you are also struggling for the right to organize and be recognized.” The seven brave Starbucks workers who were fired for their organizing efforts in Memphis must be rehired.

Workers united will never be defeated. Workers have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win. As we say in India, Starbucks Workers United Zindabad!

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**Opening games canceled**

**Baseball bosses wage economic warfare**

By Martha Grevatt

Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA) Executive Director Tony Clark hit the nail on the head when he said at a March 1 news conference, “a lockout is the ultimate economic weapon.”

Professional baseball players have been locked out since Dec. 2, 2021, making this the second-longest work stoppage in MLB history. On March 1, Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred announced that Opening Day games and subsequent games in the beginning of the regular season were canceled.

Clark explained that where progress has been made, it was on issues the union had offered to discuss as early as May 2021. They could have been resolved before the collective bargaining agreement expired, at which point the lockout was immediately imposed. Union executive board members Max Scherzer and Andrew Miller described union-busting actions by the league.

Key issues include fair compensation for new, young, talented players who are generating huge profits for the owners, as well as the playoff format and other economic and noneconomic issues. The union gave up concessions in the 2006 collective bargaining agreement and does not want to give up more this go-around.

Clark charged that players have been “commoditized,” affirming that "players are very much interested in protecting the game itself.”

It was the MLB bosses who decided to play hardball and lock out the players, a preemptive move to avert a strike. Even mainstream sports columnists and commentators have called out MLB for potentially threatening the whole season. Dayn Perry of CBS Sports denounced the “owners who lie about their finances with tidal regularity, manipulate service time, treat the game as little more than a line item in a portfolio, and in many instances show no interest in competing.” (cbssports.com)

The union is providing locked-out players, who are not being paid, with a stipend and will cover their health insurance if the lockout is not ended when benefits expire April 1.

While the canceled games represent loss of income for players and are a disappointment to fans, the ones hardest hit are stadium workers, many of whom lack union representation. The MLBPA has set up a million dollar fund to assist these workers. “The funds will be distributed to stadium workers and staff, including concession crews, electricians, janitors, ushers, security and transportation staff in addition to its broadcast crews.” (npr.org) This is real worker-to-worker solidarity.
By Ted Kelly

People who knew about this world anniversary in the history of the United States empire marked it Feb. 19. On that infamous day in 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which resulted in the internment of nearly 120,000 Japanese ancestry who resided within the United States—over 120,000 people.

Four months later, the U.S. launched a military campaign to invade the Aleutian Islands, the homeland of the Unangax people and a part of Alaska, then a U.S. territory, closest in North America to Japan. At least 880 Unangax were forcibly removed from their land and "relocated" in concentration camps. According to the World War II Alaska Project, "10% of the Unangax" died at these camps due to the deplorable housing conditions, rampant epidemics, medical neglect and a lack of potable water.

The website of the current state government of Alaska admits: "These Alaska Natives were relocated to six areas in Southeast Alaska, as far away as 1,500 miles from their homelands. Many were housed in cold and drafty cannery buildings. Lack of proper food, housing and medical care resulted in deaths and trauma for those relocated as well as future generations." (alaska.gov)

The decision to forcibly incarcerate over a hundred thousand Indigenous and Asian American people, both citizen and noncitizen, coincided with a tidal wave of pro-war propaganda. In the wake of the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese Navy, the U.S. ruling class used every tool at its disposal to prosecute a bloody conflict between U.S. and Japanese imperialism for control of the Pacific.

This interimperialist conflict claimed the lives of tens of millions of Native people, Pacific Islanders, Southeast Asians, Chinese and Koreans, along with U.S. and Japanese troops and Japanese civilians.

Roots of racism

While we reflect on this grim anniversary, we must understand the massive propaganda campaign that preceded it and made these atrocities possible.

Racism and xenophobia have proved to be grimly effective tools that incited the working class into a reactionary frenzy. As Workers World has previously reported, "Mass assaults by white mobs on Chinese communities were common in the 19th century, including a Los Angeles attack in 1871 when at least 20 Chinese immigrants were lynched. ... Legislators, capitalist bosses, whites-only conservative unions and 'liberal' white women suffragists used this accusation to pass the infamous 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act banning Chinese workers from coming to the U.S. "Division incited by targeted oppressed peoples and workers by this racism resulted in the 1982 murder of young Chinese American Vincent Chin, beaten to death by a Chrysler supervisor and his stepson." (workers.org, March 23, 2020)

Whether sanctioned by the state or merely tolerated, this xenophobic violence has only continued to rise, as U.S. politicians become increasingly bellicose toward the People's Republic of China and its growing influence. Over 10,000 hate incidents have been reported to Stop AAPI Hate, an organization dedicated to tracking and reporting anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander hate crimes.

The targets of verbal harassment and physical assault are disproportionately Asian American and Pacific Islander women; they are victims of 61.8% of all reported attacks. In particular, AAPI women and men report these hate incidents 2.2 times as often as AAPI men; and AAPI nonbinary people have also reported experiencing heightened incidents of hate. (StopAAPIhate.org)

In just the last year, there have been multiple racist mass murders, notably the shootings in March and April that targeted Asian women spa workers in Atlanta and Sikh worshippers in Indianapolis, respectively. The Sikh Coalition said at the time: "It was no accident that the shooter targeted this particular FedEx facility where he had worked and knew was overwhelmingly staffed by Sikhs. This was not a crime of convenience or a spur of the moment attack; it was one of methodical planning and selection which echoes the targeting of Asian American spa parlors in Atlanta exactly one month ago. The people that were shot and killed were not random targets." (workers.org, April 19, 2021)

Workers must strike back at white supremacy

It is not enough to condemn this racist violence. It is the responsibility of workers in the United States to strike back at the source of all: U.S. imperialism. The capitalizing class feels truly threatened by the massive success and growing power of the socialist project being carried out by the Chinese working class, particularly their comparative success in combating the COVID-19 pandemic. Whipping up racist and xenophobic fervor against Asian people in general and Chinese people in particular has shown to be the first step toward bloody conflict.

Workers must likewise keep our ear to the ground and not ignore the seismic tremors of the war drums currently beating. In 2018, the Wall Street Journal published an essay entitled “Russia’s turn to its Asian past,” complete with a caricature depicting President Vladimir Putin dressed in the armor of Genghis Khan charging toward the reader. (WSJ, July 6, 2018)

Since the U.S.-NATO-caused catastrophe in Ukraine, social media users have shared stories of being harassed and xenophobic violence against Chinese people in particular. We know that as abolitionists, we must tear down the walls that incarcerate 2.5 million of our brothers, sisters and siblings, disproportionately Black and Brown workers who are there for no reason other than they are poor and workers of color. We must fight against the racist propaganda that manipulates our fellow workers into accepting this brutal state of affairs. We have but one enemy, the ruling-class enemy. We have but one war to wage, the class war against capitalism, white supremacy and imperialism.

Georgia rally demands: ‘No prisons for profit!’

By Dianne Mathiowetz
Atlanta

March 5 – Immigrant rights groups and other social justice organizations responded to a call from the Detention Watch Network to hold demonstrations at Immigration and Customs Enforcement facilities across the U.S. today.

In Georgia, the Coalition to Shut Down ICE was forecast to include dozens of organizations from all parts of the state.

A main local focus was the news that the Folkston Detention Center, operated by the for-profit GEO Group, was going to be expanded to a 1,200-bed facility. The prison is located near the Florida border in Charlton County, the fourth poorest county in Georgia and 11th poorest in the U.S. The economic benefits in jobs and economic growth from Folkston that was previously promised to the town have been proven false.

GEO Group reap an estimated $1.9 million a month at present from the 780-bed facility. The expansion would almost quadruple that amount. Opponents of the Folkston Detention Center traveled from major cities and smaller towns and stood across the street from the multibuilding complex with signs and banners. Speakers using a powerful sound system addressed the criminal treatment of detainees and denounced a system that cages human beings for profit.

In Atlanta, a5m/num crowd gathered at ICE Field Office, which is in charge of arrests and detentions in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. People held up banners and signs, some targeting President Joe Biden for breaking his promise that his administration would end all contracts with private prison corporations. Another demonstration at Folkston is planned for March 19.
**Student-community-labor coalition grows**

By G. Dunkel  
**New York City**

A growing student-community-labor coalition held a large rally March 6 on demands related to New York City educational institutions. After gathering at Brooklyn Borough Hall, participants marched over the Brooklyn Bridge to Foley Square in Manhattan.

Key organizers of the rally and the coalition were the Professional Staff Congress-City University of New York (American Federation of Teachers Local 2334), United University Professions (AFT Local 2190) and CUNY Rising Alliance, a coalition of 30-plus student, worker and community organizations “fighting for free and high-quality CUNY.”

About 600 people heard James Davis, president of PSC-CUNY, and Fred Kowal, president of UUT, explain the needs of students and workers they represent at various institutions and how the pending New York state budget should recognize these needs. A number of unions sent solidarity delegations, including Teamsters Local 237, representing workers at New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, and AFSCME District Council 37, the city’s largest public sector employee union.

**The struggle to free Mumia continues**

By Joe Piette  
**Philadelphia**

March 2 — Dozens of supporters of Mumia Abu-Jamal — the imprisoned, internationally renowned journalist, community activist and Pennsylvania political prisoner — gathered March 2 outside the city’s Common Pleas Court. At an earlier brief court hearing on Mumia’s current appeals of his unjust sentence, Judge Lecretia Clemons postponed the hearing at the request of the prosecutor’s office, for 120 days, until June 29.

In anticipation of today’s hearing, anti-death-penalty activists in France sent hundreds of letters to Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner and Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf calling for Mumia’s release after 40 years in prison. (tinyurl.com/y9uusj5b)

On Jan. 4, Judith Ritter and Sam Spital, attorneys for veteran Black Panther Abu-Jamal, had filed a petition for a Post-Conviction Relief Appeal, based on evidence contained in six file boxes they had not been able to review until January 2019. Abu-Jamal was prosecuted and sentenced to death in 1982.

The boxes were found in a remote storage room in the Philadelphia District Attorney’s office in late December 2018. The uncovered evidence reveals a pattern of misconduct and abuse of authority by the prosecution, including bribery of the state’s two key witnesses — a violation of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Brady v. Maryland — and racist exclusion in jury selection — a violation of the landmark SCOTUS ruling in Batson v. Kentucky.

After the adjourned court hearing, #LoveNotPhear activists gathered at the nearby Harriet Tubman statue before dispersing back to their homes in Philadelphia and New York City.

The nine-foot-tall Tubman statue will be featured in front of City Hall’s North Apron through the end of March to celebrate the abolitionist’s 200th birthday, as well as Black History and Women’s History Months. Tubman had a strong connection to Philadelphia, making her way to the city in 1849 after escaping slavery in Maryland and speaking at the city’s Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church.

The sculpture of Tubman by Wesley Wofford is entitled “The Journey to Freedom” — emblematic of the determined 40-year struggle to free Mumia Abu-Jamal.

**Breonna’s deathbed**

By Mumia Abu-Jamal

Since this audio column was posted Sept. 23, 2020, on prisonradio.org., no felony charges were ever brought against the three white police officers who caused Breonna Taylor’s murder during a “no-knock” search warrant in March 2020. One of the officers, Brett Hankison was acquitted on March 3, 2022, on three charges of wanton endangerment when he shot into the apartments of Taylor’s three neighbors.

Her name, Breonna Taylor, has become a chanted and shouted call in protests, along with those of many other Black people killed by the state with absolute impunity.

In a recent decision, a grand jury* in the state of Kentucky did not issue a single indictment of murder against the police officers who broke into her apartment, shooting more than a dozen times.

At least six shots hit Breonna as she lay in her bed. The policemen were ostensibly carrying out a raid against drug trafficking, but, note that they did not find any drugs.

Only one cop, who had been fired before, now faces charges. He is accused of endangering neighbors by shooting at their apartments.

Philosophers sometimes conduct thought experiments to see all sides of a controversy. Imagine, if you can, that a 26-year-old white woman named Breonna Brezinsky, who worked as a technician in medical emergencies, is shot in her bed by half a dozen police officers in a misguided raid.

What do you think would happen to those police officers? The case of the Black woman, Breonna, reminds me of Black Panther Party leader Fred Hampton, a 21-year-old Black man, shot in his bed after being drugged in the early morning hours of Dec. 4, 1969, in Chicago. Fifty years later, and the lives of Black people still matter.

From the imprisoned nation, I am Mumia Abu-Jamal.

*A grand jury does not determine a person’s innocence or guilt as a jury in a criminal case, but investigates a possible crime, accuses one or more persons and establishes the charges against them.
World says ‘No NATO war!’

By WW New York City bureau

Over 80 actions — in the U.S., around the world and in cyberspace — have been held or will be held in March to oppose U.S.-NATO aggression in Ukraine and Russia. (unacpeace.org)

These actions are taking place amid an overwhelming barrage of pro-U.S.-NATO and anti-Russian propaganda. The role of the U.S. media and politicians is to overwhelm and drown out any opposition. Under these conditions even a small force standing up to the barrage becomes a magnet to attract that opposition.

In New York City on Times Square, a group of anti-NATO protesters found themselves surrounded by thousands of Ukrainians carrying printed signs calling on the U.N. to declare Ukraine a “No Fly Zone.”

The antiwar activists, representing a broad range of peace, social justice and anti-imperialist organizations, held their signs and held their ground.

Among the messages receiving the strongest applause and cheers at the demonstration were those from Margaret Kimberley of Black Agenda Report, Larry Holmes of Workers World Party and Sara Flounders of the International Action Center. They underlined the need to resist this U.S.-NATO war that could be ended right now if the U.S. would stop pumping in the weapons.

“I am a veteran,” said Holmes, “and I learned when the U.S. invaded countries, it wasn’t to liberate them. It was to dominate them.”

“Let’s take courage,” Flounders said. “Let’s continue to say no NATO war; no NATO war; no NATO war!”

The West has lost all credibility

By Susan Abulhawa

Last year, an elementary school in Birmingham, Alabama, forbade its students’ study of the history of Palestine, due to the political nature of the topic. They said it was not appropriate to mix education with politics. Last week, the school’s superintendency held a fund-raiser for Ukrainian refugees.

FIFA and UEFA have routinely fined football fans for flying Palestinian flags during matches against Israeli teams. They have likewise punished players who expressed solidarity with Palestinians. In 2020, UEFA committed to a 25-country killing and rampant murder of Palestinians in Gaza, and as Palestinian footballer Mahmoud Sarsak was wasting away on a hunger strike in an Israeli prison, Seville striker Frédéric Kanouté was slapped with a fine for exposing a T-shirt reading “Palestina” under his jersey.

Colin Kaepernick was booted from the NFL for kneeling in protest for unremitting police brutality against Black America. Repeatedly we were told it was not appropriate to mix sports with politics. But within days of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, FIFA and UEFA announced they were banning Russia’s national and European soccer teams from all international football competitions, including the upcoming 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

Many musicians and other cultural workers rebuffed the Palestinian call to boycott Israel told us that culture should not mix with politics. Some of those same celebrities, like Nick Cave, are now cancelling their performances in Russia. Venues around the United States and Europe are cancelling Russian ballets, orchestras and other performances. Even the International Cat Federation — who knew there was such a thing? — banned Russian cats from competing.

Palestinians, who have gone from constant bombardments, apartheid, murder, theft, harassment and unseizable terror from the Israeli military and their paramilitary settlers, have been calling on the world for over a decade to boycott Israeli goods as a minimal act of solidarity with a besieged and occupied civilian population with no way to defend itself. But we were told that boycotts are “unhelpful,” and we should instead “negotiate” with our colonizers for our freedom. In fact, nearly every state has since passed so-called “anti-BDS laws” meant to literally criminalize boycotts of Israel. But within days of Russia’s invasion military action in Ukraine against increasing NATO threats on its borders, stores around the world are removing Russian products from the shelves.

When the U.S. was carpet-bombing Iraq, one of the oldest civilizations in the world, the media called it “Shock and Awe.” They showed us explosions, as if fireworks. That same media has referred to the attack in Ukraine as a “Nazi-style blitzkrieg,” even though what Russia did does not compare in severity, death toll or duration to what the U.S. or Israel did in any of their imperial wars throughout the Middle East.

We always knew — even if we hoped otherwise — that the West was irredeemably racist and territorially corrupt. But whatever doubts we may have had before have been put to rest. The West hates us. They have nothing but contempt or occasional pity for our lives. They have never been our friends, nor can they ever be. I don’t know what it will take for the Global South to finally understand this.

Palestinian activist Susan Abulhawa, a member of Workers World, is a globally acclaimed novelist. Her latest novel is “Against the Loveless World,” Atira, 2020.

Global South rejects U.S.-NATO aggression

Continued from page 1

disregard the principles of diplomacy, organize invasions with total impunity in countries such as Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan, and promote media shields that limit the freedom of expression and manipulate opinions and emotions to increase xenophobia and hate speech.”

Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro called for talks between Russia and Ukraine and repudiated economic sanctions against Russia. Maduro denounced mainstream media campaigns targeting Russian millionaires as “oli-garchs,” asking what U.S. millionaires are called. Maduro repudiated censorship against Russian media, citing a new geopolitical age taking shape. “Despite the empire’s attempt to impose itself with the blackmail of the dollar and the financial and commercial system to impose a bipolarity — a bipolar world of new poles of power has been born.” (tinyurl.com/yckwmt8f)

“I had a telephone conversation with President Vladimir Putin of Russia earlier this week,” Abraham said. “I confirmed President Putin’s condemnation of NATO’s destabilizing actions. I reiterated a firm position in favor of understanding and dialogue as a way to preserve peace.” Maduro stressed the importance of the U.S. and Russia maintaining a delicate diplomatic balance in the U.S.-NATO relations, the U.S.-Russia and U.S.-Latin America relations. He added that this is more important than ever when considering the military and political transformations in the United States, which have been part of a geopolitical change.

Francois Hollande, a former French foreign minister, called for an immediate ceasefire and said that the situation could lead to a “second world war.”

David Cameron, the former British prime minister, said that the situation in Ukraine was “serious” and that the EU should be prepared to impose more sanctions against Russia.

African residents wait at the Lviv railway station, west Ukraine, Feb. 27.

Cuban resistance to U.S.-NATO aggression

Addressing the emergency session on Ukraine, Ambassador Pedro Luis Pedroso Cuesta, Cuba’s Permanent Representative to the U.N., stated: “U.S. sanctions and other NATO’s aggressive expansion toward the Russian Federation borders has brought about a scenario with implications of unpredictable scope, which could have been avoided. The United States and NATO’s military moves in recent months toward regions adjacent to the Russian Federation, preceded by the delivery of modern weapons to Ukraine, which altogether adds up to a military siege, are well-known.

‘Ignoring for decades the well-founded claims of the Russian Federation for security guarantees and assuming that Russia would remain defenseless in the face of a direct threat to its national security was a mistake. Peace cannot be achieved by sieging or cornering States. History will hold the U.S. accountable for the consequences of an increasingly offensive military doctrine outside NATO’s borders, which threatens international peace, security and stability.” (tinyurl.com/g6hqw6wq)

Nicaragua’s representative to the U.N. Orlando José Tardencilla laid the blame on the backers of the 2014 coup d’etat in Ukraine and the attacks and bombings against the populations of Donetsk and Lugansk.

The ALBA countries were not alone in opposing the U.N. vote condemning Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. The U.S.-backed resolution passed with 141 votes in favor, but there were five no votes and 35 abstentions. Abstainers included China, India, Iran, Iraq, Mozambique, Pakistan, Senegal, South Africa, Uganda, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. Half of the states that abstained or did not vote at all were African. Belarus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Syria and Zimbabwe voted with Russia to reject the motion.

“Let’s continue to analyze the vote,” David McNair, Executive Director of Global Policy, noted. “Of the 7.7 billion people represented by governments taking part in the vote, only 42% were from countries approving the motion.” Many of these states are African countries who have suffered under U.S.-backed economic sanctions — another act of war.

The Ukrainian authorities’ racist treatment of African students studying in Ukraine when they sought to leave the country speaks volumes. African countries will certainly face U.S. pressure for refusing to condemn Russia. But that didn’t stop a demonstration in the Central African Republic’s capital Bangui, where hundreds of participants called for the end of NATO and the end of U.S. hegemony and imperialism. □
U.S. sanctions: an act of war against workers

By G. Dunkel

Mass media in the United States and throughout the countries of Western Europe are exhaustively and intensely depicting the suffering of the Ukrainian people as Ukraine confronts the Russian army. It is the U.S. and its NATO proxy who have now broadened the war being fought in Ukraine. What the media is not covering is the impact of this war on the working and poor people inside Russia.

In an alliance with the most economically powerful capitalist governments and their central banks, the U.S. has managed to cut the Russian economy off from many of the world's financial arteries. According to the conservative weekly The Economist, “No major economy in the modern world has ever been hit so hard by such weapons.” (March 5)

Hundreds of billions of dollars in Russia’s central bank reserves were frozen by this capitalist consortium of banks. This has meant that Russia could not defend the value of its currency by buying rubles. Russia’s ruble lost 30% of its value over the weekend of Feb. 26-27.

Currently, the U.S. has imposed sanctions on over 10,000 people or firms, affecting over 50 countries making up 27% of the world’s GDP.

To say that the sanctions on Russia have had an unprecedented impact is clearly to define a catastrophic situation.

War’s impact on workers

Big business Western media have spent a lot of time, screen minutes and ink asserting travel bans against Russia are only disrupting the luxurious vacations of the Russian ultrarich — the people they call oligarchs. The capitalist media spend no time talking about ordinary working people who have had their lives disrupted catastrophically.

Since Russia imports substantial supplies of food, chemicals and machinery, the prices that workers in Russia now face — and have to pay to meet their daily needs — are going to spike. The world’s two largest shipping companies — Maersk and MSC — have suspended operations to and from Russia.

Google Pay, Apple Pay, Mastercard, Visa, Discover and Amex have all announced that they are suspending or restricting operations in Russia. Tens of thousands of workers living in Russia — who use these cards to pay their bus and subway fares to get to work, school, pharmacies or supermarkets — could not do so starting Feb. 25, because the card companies were sanctioning Russia.

The tens of thousands of workers in Russia employed by foreign companies have put themselves up for sale, and others are abandoning their investments. Canceling credit/debit cards, closing air spaces and imposing travel bans have meant that the 150,000 people who domicile in Russia but who were outside the country were likely without funds, unable even to pay their bills, at the time of sanctions. The 27,000 people in countries covered by air travel bans have an additional major worry — simply getting home. (NPR, March 2)

Inside Russia, even people from the U.S. and other countries who support the sanctions face being stranded and unable to leave. Given legal restrictions on financial transactions, whether they can pay their bills is questionable. The U.S. Embassy is advising U.S. citizens to leave immediately.

Class war

Sanctions cut both ways. The current sanctions against Russia have one big exception: Russia will be allowed payment for supplying Western Europe with 40% of its oil and gas. If this flow were sanctioned, oil prices, which have been volatile but trending higher due to war uncertainty, might go through the roof.

Russia then might do better selling less oil at higher prices on the spot market. Then again it might not. There’s a fog of war here.

Either way, workers in the U.S. and Europe involved in producing goods or services for Russia will lose. This loss won’t be tracked, because the governments involved want to pretend that the only cost of sanctions is on the nation that is sanctioned.

The tens of thousands of sanctions imposed by the U.S. cost many thousands of workers their jobs. In Russia, a cratering currency, short supplies and skyrocketing inflation point to life becoming much harder for ordinary working people.

For analysis of how U.S. sanctions further an imperialist agenda, see “Stop U.S. sanctions!” Workers World, April 25, 2019.

Serbian activist speaks out

Stop the war on Russia

By Milos Raickovich

The author is a Serbian composer living in the U.S. who actively opposed the U.S.-NATO war against Yugoslavia in 1999.

On March 24, 1999, NATO crossed its own redline, when it bombed Serbia and Montenegro, the last two republics still remaining at that time in a union of the South-Slavic peoples called Yugoslavia. The 78-day bombing campaign was a criminal act against a sovereign and truly independent nation, unprovoked and justified by lies and demonization of the country’s leader and its people.

As a result of that war, NATO carved out of Serbia the province of Kosovo and Metohija, a territory that is still not recognized as an independent country by the U.N. Even some NATO countries won’t recognize it. It is an absolutely lawless territory today, dominated by criminal gangs and their masters based in the U.S. military’s Camp Bondsteel.

From a so-called defensive alliance, NATO has become the largest criminal enterprise on Earth. After Yugoslavia, NATO went on to destroy Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Syria; and now it is waging a proxy war, with the help of the corrupt Ukrainian right-wing elites, against Russia.

For years, the U.S. has bribed Ukrainian politicians with billions of dollars. A right-wing coup was orchestrated, the elected president removed and the new regime introduced blatantly discriminatory policies toward Russian-speaking citizens of Ukraine. The Ukrainian government’s war against the Russian-speaking population in the Donbas region started seven years ago; 14,000 people have been killed. The war started then, in 2014, not last week.

This massacre has to stop. The only way to achieve a permanent peace between the two neighborly peoples, Ukrainians and Russians, is to stop the U.S. and NATO in their frenzied drive to impose their domination in a unipolar world. The U.S. and NATO could stop the war with a single phone call to the Ukrainian president, with a demand to respect the already signed Minsk agreement of 2015.

The existence of NATO and its current proxy war against Russia is costing dearly. It’s the ordinary people around the world, including here in the U.S., who will suffer in the years to come from the cost of the wars and sanctions. People must organize to stop the military spending and demand their tax money goes to improve their own lives.

Disband NATO, money for free health care, education and housing! Russians are not the enemy, capitalism and militarism are. ☺
By Manuel Raposo

Raposo is the editor of the Portuguese Marxist website jornalmarx덕하다.net and was a key organizer of the 2022 Portuguese session of the People’s Tribunal on the crimes of imperialism during the invasion and occupation of Iraq. Translation: John Catalinotto.

March 4 — In the deluge of propaganda regarding Russia’s military intervention in Ukraine, the people of the U.S. and the European Union have the opportunity to see, in a mirror, the actions of their governments during the last few decades. The same goes for the Portuguese authorities and each of the European governments, which have never raised any objection to the military interventions, sanctions and threats of all kinds, originating in the U.S. or the EU itself against countries such as Yugoslavia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Iran or Cuba — all of which are as sovereign as Ukraine.

At the point events have reached, moral judgments that justify Russian self-defense or condemn Russian aggression of little importance; what matters is to understand the reasons that led to such an outcome and why it was not avoided. If this is ignored, national and world public opinion will be corralled by a deluge of irrational propaganda with no idea what it is leading to.

If the Western imperialist powers really wanted to avoid war, the measures were there: Aside from the Minsk agreements, NATO’s refusal to recognize Ukrainian sovereignty and declare that Ukraine would never join NATO. It was this path that the U.S. and E.U. refused.

What really irritates the leaders of the imperialist West is that this time it is Russia that is ignoring international law in the name of its strategic interests. Law that the U.S. and the EU have trampled on at will — unpunished — since the end of the Cold War gave them unchallenged supremacy over the world.

In 30 years of free rein, the West has invaded at will the right to “preventively defend itself” against alleged threats to its own security. NATO, which is now asserting itself with the capacity to compete on the world stage. The glorification of Ukrainian patriotism is accompanied by a demonization of Saddam Hussein, of Russia and Putin — the West has put into play in international relations — Russia and China are its main targets.

Imposed by the West-East confrontation — starting with the U.S. — have been devastation, terror and annihilation by Yankee arrogance, with the collaboration of passivity of the EU. Instead of rules accepted by the community of countries, the imperialist triad U.S.-EU-Japan imposed on the world the law of the strongest, shielded by U.S. military power. And in recent years it has done its utmost to replace the formally democratic norms contained in the U.N. Charter by “rules” and “values” it dictated, which the rest of the world would have to obey.

In the case of Ukraine, therefore — considering the confrontational logic that the West has put into play in international relations — Russia has more right to resistance right to its security than the U.S. or the EU ever did.

Confronted with its own decadence, U.S. imperialism has set in motion a new Cold War; Russia and China are its main targets. It is in this framework that the Ukrainian question has to be evaluated.

Imposed on the pretext that they represent “Democracy” and “human rights,” imperialist U.S. and E.U. forces, the imperialist triad U.S.-EU-Japan have unleashed a deluge of irrational propaganda with no idea what it is leading to.

The voices bemoaning the lack of muscle in NATO and the West and making irresponsible calls to arms are the direct result of the same confrontational policy that pushed the Ukrainians to the front. They aim to create conditions for world public opinion to accept the escalation of the conflict with Russia — in a climate of a new Cold War — in a primary logic of either-us-or-them, of reasonableness versus madness.

The demonization campaigns of Saddam Hussein, of Moammar Gadhafi, of Islam, of the Arab world, the theories about the “dance of civilizations,” the lies set up by the secret services — and the role that all this played in preparing public opinion for the wars that followed — show the path that is being opened when insulting Putin, the Russian regime and Russia itself in the most unabashed way.

To see in the Ukrainian conflict a struggle between two world views, between autocracy and democracy, between tyranny and freedom, is a miscalculation. What is being disputed is the space that the loss of hegemony by the imperialist West leaves to the new powers that yesterday were the shadow and were therefore sidelined and that are now asserting themselves with the capacity to compete on the world stage.

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Despite U.S. blockade

Socialist Cuba combats COVID-19

By Kathy Durkin

Juan Antonio Quintanilla, permanent Cuban envoy to the United Nations, adamantly stated that this Caribbean nation will stay on its socialist path, despite continual U.S. aggression via the blockade. In a speech to the U.N. in Geneva March 3, he emphasized that this is the Cuban people’s will and that nothing would cause them to change course. They are resolute in defense of their revolution.

Decrying Washington’s intensified economic warfare, Quintanilla stated, “The blockade constitutes the most flagrant and massive violation of the human rights of an entire people and the main obstacle to its economic and social development.”

The ambassador criticized the U.S. government for taking advantage of the global COVID-19 pandemic to intensify the blockade and implement new destabilization plans against the socialist island. (Telesur, March 3)

The Trump administration from 2017-2021 enacted over 240 hostile measures against Cuba, many of them during the pandemic. Significantly, President Joe Biden’s administration has not overturned any of these hostile acts. This should be duly noted by all supporters of the Cuban Revolution.

There is bipartisan agreement on the part of the Democrats and Republicans, no matter who sits in the White House, to squeeze the Cuban people economically and politically. (Granma, Feb. 3)

But Cuba’s sovereignty is recognized by the overwhelming majority of the world’s countries, as shown every year when they vote against Washington’s blockade in the U.N. General Assembly.

China slams blockade

China’s State Council Information Office demanded cessation of the U.S. economic war against Cuba and punitive measures against Syria, Iran and Venezuela.

This statement called it a “massive, flagrant and unacceptable violation of the human rights of the Cuban people” and said, “just like the virus, the blockade asphyxiates and kills and must cease.” (Granma, March 1)

Despite Washington’s economic siege, the Cuban Revolution has made achievements not gained in the wealthiest capitalist governments. Cuban socialism ensures free, quality health care for its people. The priority is to meet people’s needs, not line corporate coffers.

Socialism’s superiority is shown in the government’s handling of the pandemic internationally and at home. Cuba’s Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade has sent medical teams to 27 countries to fight COVID-19.

At the National Assembly of People’s Power on Dec. 22, 2021, PCC Central Committee First Secretary Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez congratulated Cubans for joining the government’s anti-pandemic campaign. He emphasized the country’s achievements: producing three COVID-19 vaccines and two vaccine candidates and being one of the most advanced countries in vaccinating the population, especially children.

“Public health is not a commodity, it is a right of all and a responsibility of the State,” emphasized Díaz-Canel. (tinyurl.com/4zhmb62n) Could any wealthy capitalist country say that?

Cuba has vaccinated over 6 million children from two to 18 years of age were vaccinated. No pediatric deaths have occurred since that campaign ended. Cuba initiated a countrywide pediatric vaccination effort as soon as it could. Schools were not reopened until all children were vaccinated. Now, that is socialist planning! (Granma, Jan. 26).

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International Working Women’s Day

Despite U.S. blockade

Socialist Cuba combats COVID-19

By Kathy Durkin

It is essential to extend solidarity to workers super-exploited by global capitalism, including millions of women migrant workers, incarcerated workers, and all people demanding economic, social and political rights. We adumbrately support Indigenous women worldwide, leading the fight against corporate destruction of the planet.

WW supports struggles against racism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, ableism and physical and sexual abuse on and off the job. We call for reproductive justice everywhere.

On International Women’s Day, we applaud the fights for unionization, with workers of color, women and gender-nonconforming people in the forefront, including Starbucks and Amazon workers here in the U.S.

Capitalist governments give lip service to the significance of International Women’s Day, but do little to support those subjected to racism, homophobia, biphobia, xenophobia and transphobia.

The ambassador criticized the U.S. government for taking advantage of the global COVID-19 pandemic to intensify the blockade and implement new destabilization plans against the socialist island. (Telesur, March 3)

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

Our paper decries 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 struggling 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 Tennessee store.

This newspaper extensively covers the struggles of Amazon workers for safer, better-paying jobs and a union. While the corporation’s centibillionaire owner, Jeff Bezos, got even richer during the pandemic, Amazon workers still comprise one-half of all union filings.

We stand in solidarity with all those subjected to racism, homophobia, biphobia, xenophobia and transphobia. (Granma, March 3)

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 so readers could help WW publish anti-racist, working-class truth and build campaign

change leading to socialism.

In the spirit of International Working Women’s Day, March 8, Workers World calls for solidarity with women and people of all genders living around the world, as well as in the U.S. In 1910, the International Socialists Women’s Conference in Copenhagen declared March 8 International Working Women’s Day. People of all genders commemorate this special day worldwide.

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change leading to socialism.
The U.S.- and NATO-instigated conflict in Ukraine is rooted in the quest to plunder and profit off Russia’s vast wealth in natural gas and oil. This has been a major pillar of U.S. imperialism’s quest to rebuild its global empire since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. The imperialists will do whatever it takes to gain new markets to make profits, even with their own people or Arab people with impunity. Ignored was that those who had carried out the 9/11 bombing were mainly from Saudi Arabia, a U.S. ally.

What about the recent war on Asian people, who have been victimized since the COVID-19 pandemic? Then-President Donald Trump spewed before rabid right-wing supporters that China was to blame for the virus. His racist tirade erupted in a tidal wave of assaults, especially if people of Chinese and Korean descent. In March 2021, six of the eight people shot to death in Atlanta-area spas in a mass killing were women of Asian descent, mainly Korean. Just this January a 40-year-old Chinese-American woman, Michelle Go, was killed when she was pushed onto the tracks of a New York subway train.

Xenophobia is one of the most vicious kinds of class division. It works in the interest of the superchick class to put the blame on another marginalized group or oppressed nation for all the ills of a white-supremacist, capitalist society that puts profits before meeting the needs of people. Xenophobia and the threat of imperialism go hand in hand. China under- stands that it is in the crosshairs of U.S. imperialism just as much, if not more so, than Russia. U.S. imperialism and NATO could care less about the people of Ukraine, Russia, China or any other country when it comes to their real geopolitical aim—to recol- onize the world by superexploiting the workers and their resources.

This is another reason why the move- ment must be visible in the streets to demand “Fight racism, not Russia!” and “Lift the ban on Russian athletes!”

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

Athene uncertainty and fear have been in the lives of the international community since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine. The conflict has resulted in displacement of families, destruction of homes, and loss of livelihoods.

The situation is particularly dire for women and girls, who are at increased risk of violence and exploitation. The lack of access to education and healthcare has also been a concern.

The international community must come together to support Ukraine and its people. This includes providing humanitarian aid, diplomatic and economic support, and political pressure on those responsible for the conflict.

It is essential to remember that the root cause of the conflict is the continued imperialism of the United States and its allies, who have been profiting off the turmoil and suffering of the people of Ukraine. The solution to the crisis must be rooted in a genuine peace process that prioritizes the needs of the Ukrainian people and ensures their sovereignty and self-determination.

We must not forget the lessons of history. The crimes of imperialism have been repeated time and time again, with catastrophic consequences for those whose lives are affected. The international community must act to prevent such atrocities from occurring in Ukraine and elsewhere.

In the meantime, we must continue to stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and demand an end to the war and its devastating impact on their lives.
The Ford Hunger March of 1932

By Martha Grevatt

This lightly edited article was first published in 2009 for the 77th anniversary of the Ford Hunger March in Michigan. Detroit is the cradle of the American automobile, and this year will commemorate the 90th anniversary on March 9, 2022, by retracing the steps of the marchers.

March 7 was the 97th anniversary of one of the bloodiest chapters in Detroit labor history: the Ford Hunger March of 1932.

The stock market crashed in October 1929. By 1930 millions were without work. Nowhere was the pain felt more deeply than in Detroit, where the auto industry’s promise of prosperity had turned into its opposite. When the Trade Union Unity League, the Communist Party, the Young Communist League and the newly formed United Employed Councils called a coast-to-coast demonstration in the US on March 5, 1932, several thousand members of participants were 100,000 at a rally in the Motor City. Detroit police broke up the protest, clubbing and arresting scores of marchers.

Two years later the crisis had deepened; one statistic showed four Detroiters dying of hunger every day. Unemployment compensation did not exist. With two-thirds of his employees laid off, Henry Ford, then the richest man in the world, said the unemployed created their own misery by not working hard enough.

Detroit’s network of Employed Unemployed Councils had grown into one of the strongest in the country, driving united food lines for the families of a life from the streets. A citywide meeting of the councils—there were nearly 100 neighborhood-based chapters in metropolitan Detroit—decided to march on the Ford Motor Co.’s River Rouge complex in Dearborn.

The march, called the United Employed Councils and the United Automobile, Aircraft and Vehicle Workers of America (which predated today’s United Auto Workers), had 14 demands: “Jobs for employed and unemployed Ford workers; immediate payment of 50% of full wages; seven-hour day without reduction in pay; slowing down of deadly speedups; two-15 minute rest periods; no discrimination against Negroes in jobs; relief [welfare], medical service; free medical aid in Ford hospital for employed and unemployed Ford workers and families; five tons of coal and coke for the winter; abolition of Service Men [Ford’s hated private army of spies and thugs, led by the notorious Harry Bennett]; no force-throwers on homes of Ford workers; immediate payment of lump sum of $50 for winter relief; full wages for part-time workers; abolition of the graft system of hiring; and the right to strike.”

A ‘rise, ye prisoners of starvation’

The protest brought out thousands of workers. Beyond the immediate 14 demands, signs connected issues affecting workers around the world. They called for freedom for the Scottsboro Nine, a group of Black youths falsely accused of raping two white women. They said “Hands off China,” a reference to the sale of scrap iron to Japan, which used it in attacking the great mass of workers who are compelled to live in a state of poverty, wretchedness and despair. “Arise, ye prisoners of starvation”. The march began and proceeded without incident in Detroit. Dearborn, however, was Ford’s personal fiefdom; his cousin Clyde Ford was the mayor. Marchers were attacked with tear gas at the city’s border but forced police to retreat with a barrage of stones and clumps of frozen mud. Police regrouped, only to have the scenario repeated.

At the entrance to Ford’s complex, Dearborn police were reinforced by the Dearborn Fire Department, Detroit police and Ford’s own “Service Department.” The firefighters threw their hoses on the unarmed marchers, while police fired a hail of bullets. Coleman (also spelled Kalman) Leny, Joe DiLassio and Joe York—the 19-year-old district leader of the YCL—were killed. Another 50 were wounded.

When Unemployed Council leader Alfred Goetz attempted to lead an orderly retreat, machine-gun fire, this time from Ford’s own goons, began anew. The auto magnate’s right-hand man, Harry Bennett, was immediately recognized and injured by stone-throwing workers. Bennett emptied his own gun and then a police officer’s revolver into the workers. He and his goons killed 16-year-old YCL member Joe Bussell and left many more injured. And 48 workers, some in their hoods, were arrested.

More repression followed, with hundreds fired if they possessed left-wing literature or donated to the martyrs’ fund. A year after the march, in March 1933, a Gestapo-type billiard room of the cheap farce of arrest.

At the March 12 funeral, Ben Bussell spoke loudly: “In the name of my murdered brother, I call upon you to organize and fight. Long live the world of the worker.” As a band played the International—the lyrics “Arise, ye prisoners of starvation” particularly fitting—some 80,000 joined the march to the cemetery.

In June a Black worker, Curtis Williams, died of wounds suffered during the march. Segregation policies kept him from burial in a white cemetery. On each is carved the words, “He gave his life for the union.”

As workers begin again to fight evictions, foreclosures and the layoffs that dog the lives of left-wing workers. Ford’s state was not an easy one to live in; the company had been blacklisted for mass firings and violence.

In 1941, after years of sacrifice and struggle, the Auto Workers union finally won the recognition Ford so feared. In 1952 UAW Local 600 retirees bought five headstones—including one for Curtis Williams—and placed them by the four four headstones. They said: “In the name of my murdered brother, I call upon you to organize and fight long live.”

The strike and its aftermath gave rise to a new generation of workers. Members of the Ford Hunger March are an inspiration.
Por Sara Flounders

Boletín: Desde el 22 de febrero, Rusia ha reconocido las dos repúblicas popula-

ares de Donetsk y Lugansk, en el este de Ucrania, la República Popular de Donetsk y la República Popular de Lugansk, establecidas en 2014. Rusia ha dicho que enmendará tropas para proteger a las dos repúblicas si son objeto de nuevos ataques de Ucrania/OTAN. Washington y algunos aliados europeos han anun-
ciado sanciones económicas contra las dos repúblicas y/o contra Rusia. Los trabajadores de todo el mundo deben oponerse a la agresión y expansión de Estados Unidos/OTAN, que están cre-

ando el peligro de una guerra masiva.

21 de febrero — Crear una estamp-
da es una táctica antigua. Los primeros ca-

zadores sabían que una manada entera podía ser enjaulada por un acantilado-

ado mediante el uso calculado de humo,

ruído y tambores implacables. 

La Unión Europea está siendo empu-

jada en un precipicio.

Los estrategas, los planificadores de

guerra, los medios de comunicación corporativos y los políticos estadoun-

des son unánimes en exigir que la Uni-

ón Europea se prepare para imponer las

sanciones económicas más extremas, especialmente la drástica medida de blo-

quear el nuevo gasoducto Nord Stream 2 de Rusia. 

¿Por qué los funcionarios estadoun-
deades son tan centrados en bloquear

el gasoducto Nord Stream 2 de Rusia a Alemania y otros países de la UE? ¿Por qué se amenaza también el comer-

cio de otros suministros esenciales?

Los anuncios diarios de Estados Unidos de la amenaza de sanciones contra Rusia

¡Proletarios y oprimidos de todos los países unios! workers.org Vol. 64 Núm. 10 10 de marzo 2022 $1 Zapopan, La España, 20 de octubre 2015

continuado en el Mar Negro, frente a la costa rusa.

Lein explica el impulso impetuoso hacia la guerra 

Para entender el impulso imperialista hacia la guerra con Rusia, es útil revisar “El imperialismo: la etapa superior del capitalismo” de Lenin, escrito hace más de 100 años y que sigue siendo tan relevante.

Lein explicó durante la Primera Guerra Mundial sobre la enorme presión económica de la necesidad del capitalismo monopolista de Ucrania para dominar el poder militar de su Estado de origen; esta presión conducía inevitablemente a la guerra. Ahora, en el capitalismo tardío, el enfrentamiento fundamental del imperialismo estadoun-
des y de la UE sigue siendo por los monopolios por acabar todas las venta-

jas económicas.

Detrás de la amenaza de guerra con Rusia está esta lucía de los mayores capi-

talistas monopolistas por el control de los mercados y recursos europeos.

Compitiendo con el imperialismo alemán

El imperialismo estadounidense, la potencia mundial dominante, se esfuerza por mantener su posición económica y su dominio del comercio y las finanzas mundiales.

Actualmente, Rusia es en gran medida un competidor de materias primas y tiene una economía más pequeña que la de Corea del Sur, Canadá o Brasil. Washington fabricó la crisis de Ucrania en un intento de aislarla, debilitar y dividir aún más a Rusia.

La crisis expone la intensificación de la competencia por el mercado del gas en Europa, especialmente Alemania, la mayor poten-

cia económica de Europa y la fuerza dominante en la Unión Europea. El impe-

rialismo alemán está en una posición para imponer sus intereses de Estados Unidos dentro de la OTAN y un competidor económico capitalista de Estados Unidos.

El hecho de que Rusia haya procedido a extraher el gas natural ruso bajo el Mar Báltico 

El capital financiero estadounidense, 

sus bancos y sus corporaciones petrol-

eras, gasísticas y militares consideran que el gasoducto Nord Stream 2 es una amenaza para el control estadounidense de Europa, por lo que Washington ha tratado de sabotear el proyecto en todo momento. 

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El gobierno de Biden ha dicho que will send troops to protect the gasoduct Nord Stream 2 y la producción de GNL.

El GNL debe ser transformado de su estado líquido a gas y luego transportado por tubos superenfriados. 

El reto para las empresas de combusti-

bles fósiles de Estados Unidos es ase-

guar el mercado en Alemania, donde el mercado para el gasoducto Nord Stream 3 es suficiente.

Las gigantes del petróleo y el gas de Estados Unidos, así como todos los políticos de ese país, han presionado a los países europeos para que aumenten su capaci-

dad de recibir GNL, enmarcando como una cuestión de seguridad energética. 

Trasladar las compras a Estados Unidos hará que todas las economías europeas dependan de los monopolios estadounidenses. 

Desde la reunión de 2018 de los presi-

dentes de la Comisión de Estados Unidos y la UE, las exportaciones de GNL de Estados Unidos a Alemania y la UE, los grandes países, han aumentado un 224%. (tinyurl.com/78h2yymt)

La mayoría de las noticias sobre el pro-

yecto Nord Stream 2 y la presión para ampliar la venta de gas de Estados Unidos están en las noticias de negocios. (tinyurl.com/97hy7ym)

Pero un artículo del New York Times del 15 de febrero de 2022: “How a Ukraine Conflict Could Reshape Energy Reliance and the World”. En el artículo, el conflictó con gráficos, mapas de vas-

tos gasoductos interconectados desde Rusia hasta las empresas europeas que exportan gas naturales.

En el capital financiero estadounidense, sus bancos y sus corporaciones petrol-\n
Con el nuevo oleoducto ya terminado.

la Unión Europea es más vulnerable. 

El capital financiero estadounidense, sus bancos y sus corporaciones petrol-

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