

Palestine will be free!

U.S. imperialism: 'the head of the snake'

PFLP statement

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine issued the following statement on Dec. 9, 2023, published on Revolutionary News Network.

The United States's repeated use of the veto power against a United Nations Security Council resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in the Gaza Strip was expected; this major colony, with a history filled with crimes of cleansing, massacres, and genocide against the Indigenous population of Native Americans, is actually and relentlessly leading a genocide war against our people in Gaza.

This veto gives more green light for the occupation to continue its aggression, massacres, and genocide and destruction of everything Palestinian, revealing again that the U.S. is the head of the snake and the most evil and criminal in the world.

This veto contradicts the position of the peoples, including public opinion in the United States, which once again exposes its ugly criminal face to the whole world and to U.S. generations that are beginning to realize more about the Zionist crimes committed in occupied Palestine in full partnership with successive administrations of the United States.

Striking U.S. bases and interests everywhere, and the expulsion of the occupation forces from the region, must remain a primary goal for our people, the resistance movements, and all the free people in the world, for this language is what this criminal imperialist colony, hostile to the peoples and specifically to our Palestinian people, understands.

This statement was lightly edited.



Hamas on 36th anniversary of Stone Intifada

This statement, from the Hamas Islamic Resistance Movement, was released by Resistance News Network on Dec. 8, 2023.

On the 36th anniversary of the Stone Intifada: The Al-Aqsa Flood is a continuation of the Stone Intifada, until the occupation ends and our people's aspirations for liberation and return are realized.

The 36th anniversary of the Stone Intifada came on Dec. 8, 2023, amidst a Nazi aggression waged by the Zionist occupation against our people in the Gaza Strip for over two months, failing to achieve any of its goals in the face of our people's steadfastness and the bravery of our resistance and the strikes of the men of the Izz El-Din Al-Qassam Brigades.

The Stone Intifada was an important milestone in the ongoing struggle of our people, ignited from the land of proud Gaza, its flames spreading to all arenas of the homeland, able to bring our national cause back to its Arab, Islamic, and international presence.

Today, the ongoing battle of Al-Aqsa Flood – from that steadfast land with its patient and enduring people, and the men of resistance, strong, brave, and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy – renews the spark of this Intifada and completes its blessed journey, at a time when enemies planned to erase



Palestinian youth in Nablus on the West Bank in 1988 during the first Intifada.

the features of our national cause and obscure our legitimate rights, monopolizing our Al-Quds and Al-Aqsa.

We in Hamas, on this blessed anniversary, pay tribute to the souls of the martyrs of our people's intifadas and heroic battles, and pray to Allah Almighty for a speedy recovery for the wounded and injured of our people due to Zionist criminality, affirm the following:

- **First:** The battle of Al-Aqsa Flood, this great historical epic written by the Izz El-Din Al-Qassam Brigades and the Palestinian resistance, embraced by our people across the homeland

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Which forces promote Israeli terrorism?

U.S.-armed Israel's mass murder of Palestinian civilians in Gaza has brought a new element to world history, a new horror. It is the first genocide splashed across TV screens and social media.

The horrors have forced a new generation of political activists around the world to come to terms with these truths: The leaders of U.S. imperialism and of the Israeli state have colluded in genocide, ethnic cleansing and mass murder. They have bombed and killed civilians who have no chance to seek shelter or escape.

They have bombed hospitals and destroyed healthcare for 2.3 million people. They have deprived the population of food and water.

Those who pay any attention see these horrors every day. Up close.

The result: A worldwide movement of millions of people has sprung up since Oct. 7 to fight against the U.S.-Israeli criminals. In some countries of the Global South, millions came out in protest. And in the imperialist NATO countries, despite some European governments forbidding protest and enormous social pressure in the United States, this movement has stayed in the streets.

This movement is growing and developing day by day. Its activists learn how the Israeli regime lies and Joe Biden repeats these lies. They understand how not only

WORKERS WORLD editorial

the Israeli regime but all G7 governments are criminal, with Washington at the head.

Many of the demonstration leaders have roots in Palestine and know the history of that struggle inside out. They can teach their peers and expose the lies manufactured by the most powerful media machine in human history.

So far those who have been in the streets for more than 70 days are continuing the fight to stop the bombing, to stop the horror, to stop the unspeakable. The mostly youthful demonstrators show courage when they defy

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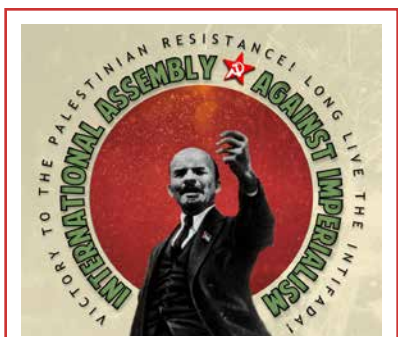
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TEAR DOWN THE WALLS

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Workers World message for 2024: ‘Free Palestine’

A slogan is circulating throughout social media: “They wanted to erase Palestine from the world; now the whole world is Palestine!” So true. Hundreds of millions of people from every corner of the globe look on in horror at Israel’s deliberate genocidal campaign against Gaza’s people — and they respond by continual, strong demonstrations in solidarity with the Palestinian people and opposing the Zionist state’s murderous siege and U.S.-imperialist collusion.

Workers World newspaper critically reports on the catastrophic bombing of Gaza, the destruction everywhere and the horrific number of deaths. Our staff and writers are joining the huge protests opposing Israel’s devastation and Washington’s lock-step support and provision of high-tech weapons.

A major difference between our newspaper and the big business media: WW is partisan — wholly on the side of the Palestinian people and their resistance organizations. The paper has always sided with the Palestinians against U.S.-backed Zionist aggression.

Our articles explode the corporate media’s “Big Lie” about the Zionist state’s founding and tell the truth: Israel was created in 1948 by U.S./British-backed Zionist expulsion at gunpoint of 750,000 Indigenous Palestinians from their homes, farms and villages, to live in refugee camps in Gaza or elsewhere.

WW has adhered to our principles of supporting national liberation movements by reprinting and posting at workers.org statements published by anti-Zionist parties and resistance forces, especially since Oct. 7. Our staff vows to keep publishing the declarations issued by Palestinian resistance forces and their global allies, as well as those of other movements fighting imperialist domination and war.



Workers World delegation at Nov. 4 demonstration in Washington, D.C., against Israel’s bombing of Gaza.

Our newspaper calls for solidarity with the Palestinian people — and all exploited and oppressed peoples worldwide.

WW needs your help!

Workers World newspaper relies on our readers’ backing. The WW Supporter Program was founded 46 years ago to help build this socialist newspaper, which prints one issue a month. Since the early 1990s, this fund has supported the website workers.org, where new articles are posted daily and the PDF of the weekly paper is displayed.

Workers.org contains news and analyses of global and U.S. struggles — and as quickly as possible, posts bulletins by anti-imperialist and resistance forces. Our writer-organizers report on anti-capitalist struggles and movements that oppose war, imperialism, racism — and tell of campaigns for the rights of workers, immigrants and other oppressed communities, women, youth, seniors, LGBTQ2S+ and disabled people.

While WW’s staff is voluntary, the printed issue and the website incur expenses. Although many online publications require payment to read their articles, WW does not. **Our articles are free to all readers.**

Join the WW Supporter Program!

Can you donate \$50, \$100, \$200 or more per year? Contributing \$50 or more will entitle you to receive 12 print issues a year, an emailed PDF of every weekly issue and, upon request, a copy of the book “What road to socialism?”

By donating to this fund, you can help get class truth to more readers. Write monthly or annual checks to Workers World. Mail them with your name, address and email to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001.

We appreciate your support. □

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 neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

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

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people’s movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and

worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. □

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On the centennial of Lenin's passing

International Assembly Against Imperialism in Solidarity with the Palestinian Resistance

Workers World Party invites you to an International Assembly Against Imperialism in Solidarity with the Palestinian Resistance on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, the 100th anniversary of the death of V.I. Lenin. The Assembly will be held in person at the Malcolm X and Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center, 3940 Broadway, at West 165th Street, Washington Heights, New York City.

Join us with representatives of the Palestinian resistance and of many liberation and workers' struggles.

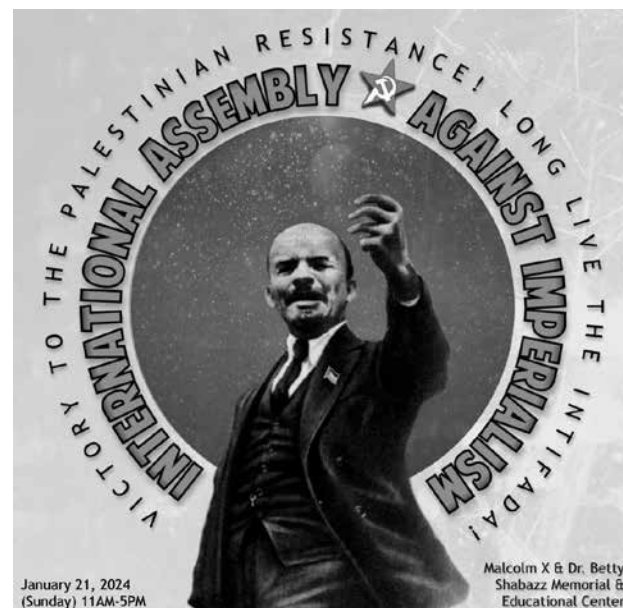
At this moment, with millions of people in every corner of the world taking to the streets to protest the genocidal war against Gaza, we will commemorate the centennial of Lenin's death by devoting this occasion to showing solidarity with Palestine and all movements for liberation from imperialist domination. We can no longer allow any issue to separate and atomize workers fighting on the many fronts in the global working-class struggle.

The Assembly will address the urgent question of how to raise the level of solidarity with Palestine within the working class and the workers' movement. A number of U.S. labor unions have issued statements calling for a cease-fire. That's a good start, but much more can be done and must be done.

One of Lenin's many contributions to revolutionary struggle was his tireless effort to lead the international working-class movement toward maximizing concrete solidarity with all of the anti-colonial liberation struggles. This direction exemplifies the essence of Leninism — it has never been more relevant and necessary.

Please join us on January 21. If you can't attend in person, register to attend the assembly virtually at wvp.pub/lenin. Send a solidarity statement to lenincentennial2024@gmail.com.

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF THE WORLD UNITE! ☐



V.I. Lenin and Clara Zetkin

Revolutionary fighters aimed to abolish capitalism and win gender liberation

By Marie Kelly

"She who is a Communist belongs as a member to the Party, just as he who is a Communist. They have the same rights and duties. There can be no difference of opinion on that score." V.I. Lenin

German Marxist Clara Zetkin was a contemporary of Vladimir Lenin. She had organized among women workers and for 25 years (1892-1917) published a socialist women's newspaper titled "Die Gleichheit" ("Equality"). In 1910 at the Second International Socialist Women's Conference, Zetkin and others proposed that an International Working Women's Day should be held annually; it passed unanimously.

Over 1 million people joined the first IWWD demonstrations, held throughout Europe in March 1911. Zetkin represented the Communist Party of Germany in the Reichstag (parliament) from 1920 until the party was banned in 1932.

Zetkin met with Lenin in the autumn of 1920 and recorded their discussion. Lenin's remarks show that he respected Zetkin and treated her as a comrade and not an inferior. He spoke with the familiarity of a friend and mentor. It is clear that he valued her efforts regarding women's place in society while offering his opinion on how that work should proceed and her role in that work.

Of the conversations, Zetkin wrote: "Comrade Lenin repeatedly discussed with me the problem of women's rights. He obviously attached great importance to the women's movement, which was to him an essential component of the mass movement that in certain circumstances might become decisive. Needless to say he saw full social equality of women as a principle which no Communist could dispute."

Lenin said to Zetkin: "We must by all means set up a powerful international women's movement on a clear-cut theoretical basis. It is clear that without Marxist theory we cannot have proper practice. A committee is still in charge of the matter. It is to draft a resolution, theses and directives but has made little progress so far. You must help it."

Zetkin and Lenin agreed that women could only achieve full emancipation in a socialist society and that the middle-class suffrage movement would fail to free the women of the working class. Bourgeois feminism was a reformist movement that would keep the class structure intact.

Zetkin praised what Lenin and the Bolshevik Revolution had achieved for proletarian women, which he described: "In Petrograd, here in Moscow, and in other cities and industrial centers, proletarian women showed up splendidly during the revolution. We would not have won without them, or hardly. That is my opinion."

Working women: 'Magnificent' class fighters

Lenin continued: "What courage they showed and how courageous they still are! Imagine the suffering and privation they are enduring. But they are holding out, because they want to defend the Soviets, because they want freedom and communism. Yes, our working women are magnificent class fighters. They are worthy of admiration and love."

A Marxist analysis of any aspect of bourgeois society must acknowledge that private property is the foundational component at the core of the struggle between the ruling class and the worker, man or woman. This can not be stressed enough.

Lenin offered Zetkin advice on how to proceed in discussions among women, that they should critique bourgeois feminism using a Marxist framework to insure that individual relational problems do not supersede the class struggle. He said that class consciousness needed to be raised among working women and that relationship issues should be "dealt with from the point of view of mature, vital historical materialism [which] presupposes wide-ranging, profound knowledge and the fullest Marxist mastery of a vast amount of material."

Zetkin shared her vision for a congress of women workers: "In my opinion, the congress ought first to discuss the women's right to engage in trades and professions. In doing so it should deal with the questions of unemployment, equal pay for equal work, legislation on the 8-hour day and labor protection for women,

organization of trade unions, social care of mother and child, social measures to relieve housewives and mothers, etc. Furthermore, the agenda should deal with the status of women in marriage and family legislation and in public and political law."

Lenin was fully supportive of Zetkin's vision, although the congress never materialized.

Again and again throughout the interview, Lenin stressed the vital part women play in the new society under communism. In fact, he was clear that he believed the revolution would be imperiled if women were not equal partners. He counseled Zetkin that the emancipation of women can only come when private property is abolished. It was her belief too, but she must have welcomed the straightforward words from Lenin.

Need mass women's movement of all exploited, oppressed

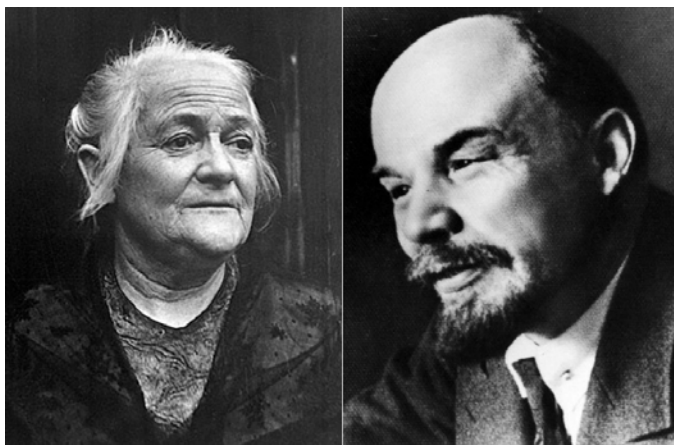
Lenin told Zetkin: "The communist women's movement itself must be a mass movement, a part of the general mass movements; and not only of the proletarians, but of all the exploited and oppressed, of all victims of capitalism or of the dominant class. Therein, too, lies the significance of the women's movement for the class struggle of the proletariat and its historic mission, the creation of a communist society."

"We can be legitimately proud that we have the flower of revolutionary womanhood in our Party, in the Comintern. But this is not decisive, we have to win over the millions of working women in town and country for our struggle and, particularly, for the communist reconstruction of society."

Lenin said that when speaking at a Party conference, women should be encouraged to "speak out loudly and clearly like fighters should. ... A congress is a battlefield in which we fight for the knowledge we need for revolutionary action. Show that you can fight. In the first place, of course, against our enemies, but also within the Party, should the need arise. After all, the broad masses of women are at stake."

Zetkin and Lenin were comrades in the vanguard who shared ideas, critiqued each other's arguments and offered their solicited and sometimes unsolicited opinions. Their warm kinship comes through in Zetkin's account as well as their unguarded ease with each other. Most importantly, it is a true testament that Lenin's understanding of the "women question" is just as profoundly relevant today.

To read Zetkin's account of her conversations with Lenin in full, go to: libcom.org/article/clara-zetkin-interviews-lenin-womens-question



Clara Zetkin and Vladimir Lenin

Mumia solidarity actions denounce 42 years of unjust incarceration



By **Betsey Piette**
Philadelphia

December 9 marked 42 years of political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal’s unjust imprisonment. The occasion was observed with street actions in several cities in the U.S. and elsewhere. In Philadelphia, activists held a well received “Honk for Mumia” action in Center City on Dec. 8.

A webinar titled “Free Mumia, Free Palestine, Free all Political Prisoners” took place Dec. 9. Gabe Bryant and Sophia Williams, organizers with Love Not Phear and Mobilization4Mumia, co-chaired the program which featured Palestinian activist Nancy Monsour, Dr. Ricardo Alvarez on Mumia’s medical condition and Johanna Fernandez on legal

developments in the case. Julia Wright read a poem by Palestinian poet Refaat Alareer, who was killed by the Israeli Occupation Forces in Gaza this week. A pre-recorded message from Mumia was aired.

Speakers raised cases of other political prisoners, including Kamau Sadiki, Rev. Joy Powell, Leonard Peltier, Veronza Bowers, Kevin Rasheed Johnson, Imam Jamil Al-Amin and Ed Poindexter, who suddenly died in prison Dec. 8. Brother Kwame Shakur spoke from within the walls on the work of Prison Lives Matter. Preparation to celebrate Mumia’s 70th birthday on April 24, 2024, was announced.

The three hour program can be viewed on YouTube at tinyurl.com/4yjrpdwk. □



Demonstrators stage Honk for Mumia outside Municipal Services Building, Philadelphia, Dec. 8, 2023.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

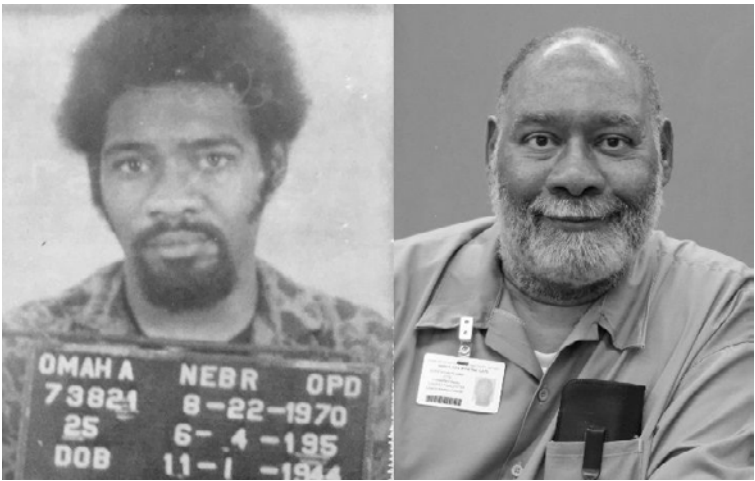
Ed Poindexter, political prisoner, ¡presente!



Ed Poindexter, framed for the murder of a police officer under J. Edgar Hoover’s COINTELPRO, died in Nebraska State Penitentiary Dec. 7 at age 79. He spent 53 years in prison for an act he did not commit. He and his co-defendant, David Rice,

aka Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa, were leaders of the National Committee to Combat Fascism. Mondo died in the same prison in 2016.

More info to follow on workers.org.



Activists protest jail deaths, demand ‘care not cages’

By **Martha Grevatt**
Cleveland

Four people have died inside Cleveland’s Cuyahoga County Jail in 2023 — Nathan Myers in July, Elving Lopez in September, Freddie Tackett in October and most recently Rogelio Cubano on Nov. 16. Myers and Cubano were still in their mid-20s. Lopez was supporting a two-year-old daughter and Tackett had five children and three grandchildren.

Myers reportedly suffered a drug overdose, and the other three supposedly died after experiencing a “medical emergency.” However, the Cuyahoga County Jail Coalition issued a statement after Tackett’s death raising the possibility of foul play, calling for an investigation.

News reporters were unable to find out why Cubano was in the jail to begin with. They could not find him in jail records, and his death was reported with a different last name, Latorre. Apparently Cubano was not charged

with anything but was jailed after a positive drug test. In other words, he should not have even been jailed, and now another young man is dead!

The Jail Coalition held a press conference Nov. 27 to “condemn the jail management and staff’s neglect and misconduct that is responsible for the rising number of deaths and overdoses in the county jail.” The group stated, “We need more care, not more cages.” (Cuyahoga County Jail Coalition Facebook)

Coalition members braved the bitter winds off Lake Erie as speakers demanded justice, including Josiah Quarles of Responding with Empathy, Access and Community Healing (REACH) and Kareem Hinton of Black Lives Matter Cleveland.

Speakers denounced County plans to construct a new jail in the suburb of Garfield Heights. This jail could cost as much as \$1 billion to build, with billions more going to bondholders as interest on a 40-year loan. Costs will be covered by extending a sales tax, now set to expire in

2027, for another 40 years. Cuyahoga County residents pay the highest sales tax in Ohio. □



Clevelanders protest deaths in county jail, Nov. 27, 2023.

WW PHOTO: MARTHA GREVATT

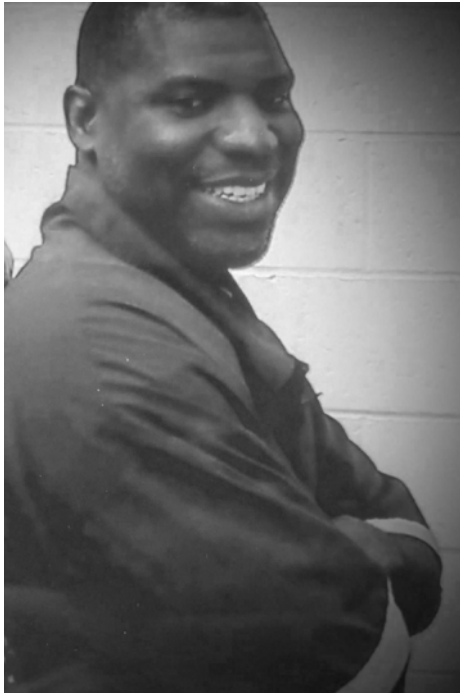


Photo of Jerome Coffey taken during a visit to a Pennsylvania prison.

A visit to a Pennsylvania prison

By **Cindy Lou**

This writer and a friend made plans for a visit to a State Correctional Institution to see a loved one. Unlike the pre-pandemic days, visitors do not call the facility’s assistant superintendent or the incarcerated’s counselor to arrange a visit but must use the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections’ (PA DOC) scheduling website.

Things did not go smoothly. In all, I spent about six hours on the website and on the phone. I was arrogantly bounced from phone number to number.

The incarcerated I planned to visit put in a special request to his counselor.

But the message was always the same: Humans have been removed from the

equation, and everything has to be done online on the website. At the last minute — when all hope was lost, and the visit was about to be canceled — some unknown PA DOC operative reached into the scheduled visit page and corrected the error.

A five-hour ride from Philadelphia to this institution in Western Pennsylvania costs \$57 in gas and \$70 in tolls. Then the visitors need to buy a special card and load it with funds in order to get snacks for their loved one from the vending machines (which in this case were mainly empty) or take pictures. So that was another \$25. It costs \$3 for four shots, but you only get to keep one, and you have no choice as to which one that is.

Our friend pointed out that there were only eight visitor groups — or about 25

people — in a visiting room that once held 100. Many family members and friends cannot visit their loved ones anymore.

A number of the incarcerated people are from Philadelphia and are shipped to prisons far away in Western Pennsylvania. Scheduling a visit takes too long, is too expensive and is too complicated (impossible if you don’t have a computer).

Most of these Western Pennsylvania communities are extremely right-wing and racist and know nothing of the culture of the cities where a lot of the incarcerated come from — but all that is for another story.

The bureaucratic practices the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections employs are used to deprive incarcerated people of the most basic right to a visit from a loved one. □

Stop the torture! Free Dr. Aafia Siddiqui!

The report below is excerpted from Pakistan Aaj TV, followed by excerpts from The News.

Incarcerated Pakistani neuroscientist Aafia Siddiqui met with her sister Dr. Fowzia for the second time in two years at a prison hospital in Fort Worth, Texas, on Monday.

In one of her earlier videos, Dr. Fowzia claimed that she could not meet her sister on Sunday as the jail staff had “misplaced” the prison key.

But on Monday, she added that the room where she met with her sister was better cleaned as compared to the last time; however, they were separated by a window.

Jail authorities did not allow her to have social

interaction with her sister, Dr. Fowzia said and added that the FMC Carswell needed to be “shut down or a whole overhaul. It’s inhuman, cruel and ruthless.”

“We were in separate rooms. The size of the table was less than before, and I felt she was in worse condition than before,” she said as she started crying.

“We were just crying during the meeting. We cried for almost half an hour.”

Aafia’s lawyer Clive Stafford Smith also wrote on X about the development.

“The Siddiqui sisters met today; FMC Carswell finally worked out how to open the door to the cell. But they would not let sisters hug or even touch. For much of their four-hour visit, Aafia was weeping at the suffering she is enduring,” he said.

Siddiqui was sentenced to 86 years of imprisonment by a U.S. federal court in 2010 after being convicted of firing at U.S. troops in Afghanistan while in their custody and six other charges against her.

Earlier this year, Dr. Fowzia and Smith claimed that Pakistan’s government did not do enough to bring Dr. Aafia back to Pakistan.

From The News

Islamabad: Human rights lawyer Clive Stafford Smith [Dec. 5] said Dr. Aafia Siddiqui — a Pakistani neuroscientist jailed in the United States for over a decade — has been sexually assaulted at least twice during her incarceration, in addition to the ill-treatment she was meted out at the Bagram jail in Afghanistan.

Speaking with Geo News, Smith, who represents Dr. Aafia, said his client has been



abused and tortured more often and that she informed him about the sexual assaults in a meeting. The counsel also mentioned that the Pakistani government was also aware of the two instances of sexual assault.

Smith’s comment pointed towards a report prepared by Aisha Farooqui, Pakistan’s former consul general in Houston, in 2018, citing the physical and sexual abuse that Dr. Aafia was subjected to during her detention. The report also recommended diplomatic authorities take her case to the highest level and find a way to repatriate Dr. Aafia.

Smith revealed that a sexual assault complaint was, therefore, filed on her behalf. “Dr. Aafia was also sexually assaulted in Bagram jail,” he added. He further shared the details about the reason behind the assaults endured by his client at the United States-run prison in Afghanistan when the American military was based in the country and operating its bases on Afghan soil.

The excerpts have been slightly edited.



WW PHOTO: ALEX COLWELL

Protest to free Dr. Aafia Siddiqui behind the Federal Medical Center Carswell in Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 18, 2021.

Peruvians resist U.S.-backed coup

By Richie Merino

This talk was given at the “One Year of Resistance against the U.S.-backed Coup to Peruvian President Pedro Castillo” event, organized by PEX Semillas de Libertad and held Dec. 6 at People’s Forum in New York City and by Zoom.

Pedro Castillo, a former school teacher and farmer from an Andean backwater, was elected as the president of Peru in June 2021, with support from workers, campesinos and Indigenous people. He rose to power on a wave of popular anger at Peru’s hyper-corrupt establishment parties and promised radical change, particularly giving voice to Indigenous communities. Castillo recognized the importance of Indigenous communities in Peru — which include the Quechua, Aymara, Awajún, Conibo and Shipibo peoples, who had long been marginalized and unheard.

However, Castillo faced significant opposition from Peru’s political and business elite based in Lima. They could not accept that someone from a humble background could become the president. Despite being democratically elected, Castillo was overthrown in a U.S.-backed coup on December 7, 2022. The Peruvian Congress, under the influence of multinational corporations, carried out this coup against the legitimate president.

The de facto coup government led by Dina Boluarte responded to protests against the coup with brutal repression. More than 80 Peruvians have been killed, and thousands have been injured, detained or disappeared under the coup regime. Indigenous communities have been particularly targeted, facing physical attacks and extrajudicial executions.

The Boluarte government and Congress are widely despised by the Peruvian people. According to a March 2023 poll by the Institute of Peruvian Studies, Boluarte’s

presidency has a disapproval rate of 78%, while the Congress has a disapproval rate of 91%. The government continues to block general elections, further fueling public discontent.

Today we mark one year of resistance to U.S. imperialism in Peru. Peruvians from all backgrounds, but especially Indigenous Peruvians, have been regularly marching against the unelected president, Boluarte, in support of Castillo, who they elected. They have participated in strikes and roadblocks to pressure the coup government to step down. However, they have been met with state-sanctioned violence. The protesters’ demands include the release of imprisoned Pedro Castillo, new general elections, a national referendum on forming a Constitutional Assembly and justice for the victims of the repression.

U.S. imperialism behind coup

Pedro Castillo has condemned the U.S. Embassy in Peru for ordering the military to suppress anti-coup protesters. The U.S. ambassador to Peru at the time of the coup, Lisa Kenna, a veteran of both the CIA and U.S. State Department in Iraq, was an adviser to the coup plotters. It is likely that the U.S. played a direct role in removing President Castillo from power and installing Boluarte in his place to do the bidding of U.S. corporations.

The U.S. government’s interference in Peruvian democracy and self-determination is deeply troubling. The U.S. has sent over 1,200 uniformed troops with planes, ships, ammunition and communication equipment to support the unconstitutional coup government and to take control of Peru’s valuable resources, including lithium reserves. This militarization of Peru reflects U.S. imperialism’s global military domination, posing a threat to Peru’s national sovereignty.

The U.S. military collaboration with the Peruvian coup government constitutes

endorsement of the repression and violence exercised by the Boluarte dictatorship against peaceful protesters. It sends a message of intimidation to social and political organizations in Peru that are calling for the restoration of democracy and the fairly elected government of Pedro Castillo.

Peru’s significant resources, including oil, gold, fresh water and lithium, have drawn the attention of the U.S. government. The U.S. is protecting its claims to these resources and views itself threatened by Peru’s growing relationship with China, its largest trading partner. Peru’s strategic position as a producer of lithium, copper, zinc and silver, crucial for renewable energy technologies, further amplifies the U.S. government’s interest in controlling the country.

The U.S. government’s actions in Peru reflect its intent to maintain economic and geopolitical dominance in the region.

The former president of Bolivia, Evo Morales, who experienced a U.S.-backed coup in 2019, has warned about the consolidation of a repressive state and the impact on sovereignty and regional peace in Latin America.

It is evident that the U.S. government is not interested in building friendly bonds with the peoples of the American continents. Instead, it seeks to upgrade the Monroe Doctrine for the 21st century, with China and Russia as its strategic rivals. The situation in Peru highlights the need to support the Peruvian people in their struggle for self-determination, sovereignty and the protection of their natural resources.

Free President Pedro Castillo NOW!

U.S. troops OUT of Peru!

¡Boluarte, asesina, el pueblo no se inclina! (“Boluarte, murderer, the people won’t bow down!”)



PHOTO: PEX SEMILLAS DE LIBERTAD

‘One Year of Resistance’ against coup in Peru, People’s Forum, New York City, Dec. 6, 2023.



Statewide Pennsylvania protest for Palestine

By Betsey Piette

Hundreds of activists braved heavy rains to rally and march in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for Pennsylvania’s first statewide action in solidarity with Palestine. Demonstrators, coming from multiple cities around the state, gathered outside the Pennsylvania Capitol where they placed over 300 infant-size, mock body bags, produced by Spiral Q Art Build, on the stairs. A mile-long march brought the protest to Governor Josh Shapiro’s mansion, where speakers denounced Shapiro for his outspoken support for Israel and his refusal to speak against the genocide being carried out against Palestinians in Gaza. □



Over 500 people attended a protest memorial at City Park in Denver on Dec. 10, where thousands of white flags were planted by the lake in memory of the Palestinian adults and children who have been killed by Israeli bombs demolishing most of Gaza. Speakers from Muslim, Jewish and Christian faiths spoke in support of a permanent cease-fire and land and freedom for the Palestinian people. Stop the genocidal war now!

— Caption and photo by Viviana Weinstein

Protesters say, ‘We won’t pay for Israel’s slaughter’

Three demonstrations for Palestine took place on Dec. 7, 8 and 9 in Portland. Protesters called for an end to Israeli occupation, an end to U.S. funding of Israel and the release of all Palestinian political prisoners.

The demonstration on Dec. 9, titled “We’re Taking the Streets for Palestine,” was sponsored by Free People of Oregon (@freepeoplepdx), a group of Palestinian youth organizers, and supported by Zaytuna College, a Muslim liberal arts college in Berkeley, California. About 1,000 protesters took to the streets in the rain, chanting, “Not another penny, not another dollar, we won’t pay for Israel’s slaughter,” and “Colonizers, we don’t need ‘em! What we want is total freedom!”

— Caption and photo by Lyn Neeley



U.N. cease-fire vote humiliates U.S. imperialism

By Sara Flounders

December 11, 2023—The United Nations Security Council vote on December 8, calling for an immediate cease-fire in Palestine, was a public humiliation of the United States. When explaining their vote, numerous countries denounced the U.S. — Israel’s number one supporter — as the accomplice, the enabler and the real force behind the Zionist destruction in Gaza.

The U.S. vetoed the resolution, making the resounding vote by every other member of the current Security Council unenforceable. Britain, the only remaining U.S. ally, acted like a loyal lap dog and abstained. Yet the vote was unprecedented; 100 member countries of the U.N. signed on to the resolution with less than 24 hours’ notice.

It is politically significant that the U.S. effort to amend the resolution, by inserting a condemnation of the Oct. 7 actions by the united Palestinian resistance, was refused. The vote was an assertion of the Palestinian right to resist occupation — a right that has long been recognized in international law but is usually ignored.

U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield attempted to label Hamas as a terrorist force. This also went down in public defeat, which was a global victory for the Palestinian resistance.

Of course, the U.N. has been a mere talk shop for decades. Its Secretariat and even

its “humanitarian organizations” have been largely controlled through heavy-handed U.S. dictates. But the fact that more than 100 U.N. personnel have been killed by Israeli bombs in Gaza is fueling enormous anger at the U.S. within the body. The deaths of its workers are challenging toothless and usually complicit U.N. agencies to publicly denounce the killing of over 17,000 Palestinians.

Pressure on Guterres led to vote being called

Pressure from within the United Nations is what led the usually compliant U.N. Secretary General António Guterres to convene the emergency meeting. For the first time in his tenure as Secretary-General, Guterres invoked Article 99 of the U.N. Charter, under which he “may bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter which in his opinion may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security.”

On X, Guterres posted: “Facing a severe risk of collapse of the humanitarian system in Gaza, I urge the Council to help avert a humanitarian catastrophe and appeal for a humanitarian cease-fire to be declared.”

Growing U.S. isolation and its waning ability to enforce its domination through any political forum was confirmed in a stark new way. Only its military firepower remains. This overwhelming firepower is

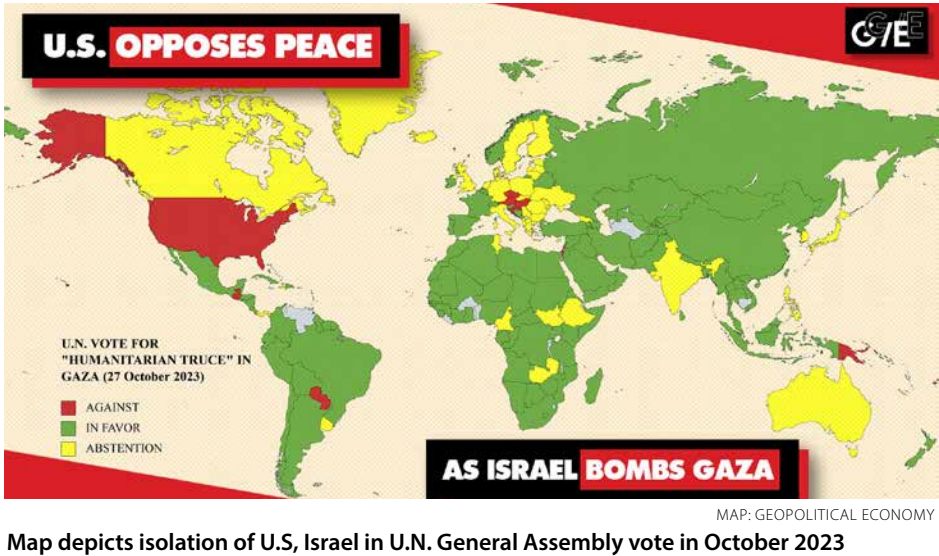
being challenged by a small armed resistance in a totally occupied Gaza.

The resistance in the West Bank is defending Palestinians from armed settler lynch mobs who operate with the Israeli Occupation Forces. In the past, these enforcers of apartheid acted with impunity. In addition to the armed resistance, a call for a Global General Strike has resonated in the West Bank and the surrounding countries, bringing about a total shutdown on Dec. 11.

Israel is being challenged by revolutionary forces in Yemen, who through several drone and missile attacks and then by daringly boarding Israeli-owned freighters, have forced all other Israeli chartered ships to avoid the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. They must navigate around Africa and into the Mediterranean Sea, causing the cost of supplies to skyrocket.

The U.N. vote is mirrored in hundreds of votes by unions and student assemblies, city council resolutions and actions by grassroots organizations globally. This can’t be shut down by U.S. demands.

The vote in the U.N. Security Council has now moved to the United Nations General Assembly. This vote, scheduled for Dec. 12, will lead to a further U.S. humiliation and a resounding defense of Palestine’s right to resist occupation. □



Map depicts isolation of U.S, Israel in U.N. General Assembly vote in October 2023

Hamas on the anniversary of the Stone Intifada

Continued from page 1

and abroad, is a legitimate right of our people to defend themselves, their land, and their sanctities, and a natural continuation of our people's intifadas to confront the aggression of the Nazi occupation, thwarting all its settlement and Judaization plans.

- **Second:** We will confront and thwart the plans of the Nazi occupation and its supporters to displace our people from their land, imposing solutions that rob them of their right to freedom and dignified life on their land. We renew our

rejection of all settlement and normalization projects with the Zionist occupation, which poses a real danger to the security and stability of the nation and the world due to its dangerous colonial project.

- **Third:** We stand today with pride and honor before the steadfastness, patience, and sacrifices of our people in the Gaza Strip — men, children, women, elders, and families — as they set the finest examples of heroism and sacrifice in solidarity, cooperation, challenge, sharing bread and water, despite the killing and horrific massacres, loss of family and loved ones,

hunger and thirst, amidst an aggressive war and barbaric bombing that affected all aspects of human life.

- **Fourth:** We call upon our Palestinian people in the occupied interior and the entire West Bank to travel and station in Al-Aqsa Mosque, challenging the occupation's prevention of access. We call on our revolutionary youth in the cities, villages, and camps of the occupied West Bank to clash with the enemy and inflict heavy losses on its soldiers and settler hordes by all means, in solidarity with the Al-Aqsa Flood battle in defense of our land and Al-Quds.

- **Fifth:** We call on our Arab and Islamic nations and the free people of the world to continue their solidarity movements with the Gaza Strip, and to take to the streets in marches and demonstrations in all cities, capitals, and squares, rejecting aggression and supporting the justice of the Palestinian cause and our people's right to freedom and self-determination in establishing the Palestinian state with Al-Quds as its capital.

This statement was lightly edited.

54th National Day of Mourning demands:

'Land Back, from Turtle Island to Palestine!'

By Workers World Boston bureau
Plymouth, Massachusetts

Over 2,000 Indigenous people and their supporters — with thousands more in attendance via live stream — shut down business as usual in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on Nov. 23 to commemorate the 54th National Day of Mourning (NDOM). Here — where millions of tourist dollars depend on the origin myth of the Pilgrims seeking religious freedom, landing on an apocryphal rock as advertisement for the U.S.'s most sanctified of holidays — protesters filled the blockaded Main Street business district with demands to “Free Leonard Peltier!” and “Free Palestine!”

Following an opening ceremony at noon on Cole's Hill, leaders of United American Indians of New England (UAINE) rallied the swelling crowd overlooking Plymouth Harbor. Kisha James (Aquinnah Wampanoag and Oglala Lakota), UAINE co-leader, opened by recounting the history and significance of NDOM, founded in 1970 by her grandfather Wamsutta Frank James.

James exploded the racist “thanksgiving” legend at the center of U.S. settler-colonial mythology. Far from seeking refuge from “religious persecution,” the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay colonists were participating in a commercial and military venture — spelled out in their “Mayflower Compact” — which resulted in the genocide of the Indigenous peoples of the land, including the Wampanoag, and theft of their lands.

Nor did the first “thanksgiving” take place in 1621, as bourgeois historians and mass media continue to falsely claim. Rather, it took place in 1637 when Governor John Winthrop proclaimed the first official “day of thanksgiving” to celebrate the massacre of over 700 Pequot children, women and men on the banks of the Mystic River, nearly 100 miles from the Plimoth Plantation.

James said: “Our very presence on this land frees this land from the lies of the history books and the mythmakers. We will remember and honor all of our ancestors in the struggle who went before us. We will speak truth to power as we have been doing since the first National Day of Mourning in 1970.”

James vowed that the NDOM tradition will continue until all oppressed peoples win liberation from the racist, patriarchal, homophobic and transphobic system of capitalist settler colonialism that began with the Pilgrim invasion.

James declared: “We are not vanishing! We are not conquered! We are as strong as ever!”

Palestine: Struggle for Indigenous sovereignty

Mahtowin Munro (Oglala Lakota), co-leader of UAINE, called attention to the worsening climate catastrophe, which disproportionately affects Indigenous peoples, who protect over 80% of global biodiversity. As Munro stressed, neoliberal “green” energy plans are not genuine solutions to this crisis. “Eco-capitalist” projects — such as wind turbines built without consent on Aquinnah Wampanoag territory off the island of Noepe (Martha's Vineyard) and the Peehee Mu'Huh (Thacker Pass) lithium mine on sacred and unceded Northern Paiute and Western Shoshone



Plymouth, Massachusetts, Nov. 23, 2023.

WW PHOTO: RACHEL DUELL

land — continue to exploit and destroy Indigenous lands.

Munro proclaimed full solidarity with the Indigenous people of Palestine in their struggle against ongoing Zionist genocide: “Our organization (UAINE) has supported Palestinian resistance for decades, and we pledge to never let our relatives here or there down.

“When you see a genocide happening, whether in Congo, or Sudan, or Armenia or Palestine, you need to try to do something about it. If you are silent, that is supporting the genocide. And this is a basic principle that I think many of us as parents have taught to our children. Yet too many people are still standing by right now, afraid to speak up because of the repression that's being directed at those who stand up and defend Palestine.”

As Munro emphasized, the Zionist terror-bombing and massacres over the past six weeks have continued and intensified the genocide that the Palestinian people have been experiencing since the 1940s.

Munro said: “What we are witnessing is the resurgence of the ongoing, barbaric violence of settler colonialism there. Palestinians have been subject to being killed, imprisoned, assaulted, tortured, starved and denied access to water for years. Right now, a second Nakba, or catastrophe, has been happening. And if you believe Land Back is necessary here, then you need to understand that Land Back is also necessary for other colonized peoples of the land.

“We speak plainly and say that this is also apartheid. Our organization opposed apartheid in South Africa decades ago, and we oppose it in Palestine now.”

Munro also highlighted the struggle of the Kānaka Maoli people of U.S.-occupied Hawai'i as they continue to suffer from the devastation and displacement of the wildfires caused by settler mismanagement of their stolen lands. She demanded settler authorities stop the ongoing Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit People epidemic (MMIWG2S+); and stressed the need to strengthen protections for Native children, who, despite the successful Indigenous-led

campaign to uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act, remain at disproportionate risk of separation from their parents by racist settler authorities.

Harriet Prince (Sagkeeng First Nation), an 82-year-old residential school survivor, shared the horrific

experiences she and her sister endured in these “schools”: “They didn't get rid of the Indian in me. I'm still here!”

Power in solidarity with Palestinian resistance

Salma Abu Ayyash (Palestinian) — the first Palestinian speaker in NDOM's history — stressed the connections between the Palestinian people's decades-long battle for self-determination and all other Indigenous struggles for liberation.

Abu Ayyash said: “This gathering continues to be a place where we not only mourn and remember past and current genocides, but also a place where we unite in power, in our belief that a different world is possible. In our conviction that we, humans of all backgrounds, will not stand for supremacy, genocide and the continued extractive, destructive



Plymouth, Massachusetts, Nov. 23, 2023.

WW PHOTO: RACHEL DUELL

processes ... that colonialism, capitalism, imperialism and greed continue to employ to destroy our planet and humanity.

“This is our struggle, our children's struggle and that of our ancestors before us. And it will be a long one, it will be a hard one, but we will never, ever give up our fight for Indigenous rights of land stewardship and repatriation. We will never give up our right to fight for Black liberation and reparations. We will never give up fighting for all immigrants and oppressed people across the planet. And I hope you are all with me in our struggle to liberate Palestine.”

The crowd bolstered Abu Ayyash throughout with spontaneous chants of “Long Live Palestine!” and “Free, Free Palestine!”

As Abu Ayyash stressed, proposals for a temporary cease-fire or “humanitarian pause” in Gaza will not stop the Israeli genocide. Denouncing the essential U.S. financial and military support for the Zionist state, she urged continued protests in solidarity with Palestine in coordination with the international Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement.

Abu Ayyash said: “Our solidarity is everything. To our oppressors I say: You can

build your dreams on our bones. You can imagine your safety guaranteed through the violence you inflict on us. But we will not stand by. We will resist you to our last word and our last breath.”

Chal'Inaru Dones (Taino), a Massachusetts representative of the United Confederation of Taino People, read a message from American Indian Movement (AIM) activist Leonard Peltier (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians). Peltier has been a U.S. political prisoner for 48 years.

Peltier wrote: “I spent most of my life caged. But they cannot cage the soul of a sun dancer. My grandfather taught me a long time ago what I must be and do for my people. That can and never will be caged. We are changing the world; every one of us must grasp what is ours to change. History is not something that happens in a vacuum. History is forged, and forge we will, until victorious.”

From Main Street to Plymouth Rock: 'You are on Native land!'

From Cole's Hill, demonstrators, led by Indigenous elders, marched through the tourist district of Plymouth chanting “No Justice, No Peace!” and “Land Back Now!”

At the site of “Plymouth Rock” — in reality a discredited stone surrounded by a Chamber of Commerce-funded Roman Doric Order facade — further speakers buried this token of settler-colonial mythology.

Speaking on behalf of the Council of Mayan Elders, Rosalba Gonzalez (Maya) stressed the importance of international solidarity among workers, peasants, students and teachers of all nationalities with Indigenous nations in their existential struggles to “build a world where many worlds fit.”

Jamiann Hasselquist S'eiltin (Tlingit) described the struggle of Indigenous nations in Alaska to

reclaim sovereignty and self-determination on their traditional homelands despite genocidal U.S. colonization, which began in the 1860s with the bombardment of Native villages. She went on to lead the crowd in demands for “Land Back!”

The march ended at Post Office Square, where Massachusetts Bay colonists gruesomely displayed the head of Metacomb on a pike for over 20 years. Metacomb was a Wampanoag leader who led Native resistance to settler militias during “King Philip's War” (1675-1676). His spouse, children and untold numbers of his people were sold into enslavement on Caribbean plantations operated by the settlers' founding fathers.

In the shadow of the Church of the Pilgrimage, Jean-Luc Pierite (Tunica Biloxi), president of the North American Indian Center of Boston (NAICOB), closed the rally by reading a resolution submitted to the National Congress of American Indians. The resolution urges unconditional solidarity between the Indigenous Nations of Turtle Island and the Palestinian people in their common fight to defeat settler-colonial genocide worldwide and reclaim their stolen lands.

View the uncut 3.5 hour live stream of NDOM of hate5six.org — produced by Sunny Singh of hate5six.org — at youtube.com/watch?v=wR4wLyUYFss.



UAINE banner, Plymouth, Nov. 23, 2023.

WW PHOTO: MAUREEN SKEHAN

Palestinian struggle reflects strength and solidarity of women

WW COMMENTARY

By Monica Moorehead

Nov. 25 marks the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, proclaimed by the United Nations in 2000. And this year the U.N. is launching a “UNITE” campaign which will include 16 days of activism starting on Nov. 25 and ending on Dec. 10, International Human Rights Day.

What the U.N. is projecting and what these 16 days will look like is anyone’s guess. It’s doubtful that whatever activities the U.N. campaign organizes will make any real difference in the lives of women and girls, regardless of their age, gender identity or sexuality. The U.N. has proven itself to be a non-democratic body where any votes taken by the 193 members of the General Assembly can be overridden by the 15-member Security Council, with its five permanent members, including the United States, which can veto any decision.

There is no other world development today that more clearly highlights the need for the elimination of violence against women than what is happening in occupied Palestine, especially Gaza. Ever since the events of Oct. 7—truthfully since Israel was established in 1948—Palestinian women, along with children have borne the brunt of a genocidal war by the terrorist Zionist state of Israel.

According to the Government Media office on the Resistance News Network, over 20,000 Palestinian civilians have been slaughtered since Oct. 7, including over 4,000 women and 8,000 children. And there are more than 7,000 unaccounted for due to being buried under the rubble of bombed residential buildings, homes and other structures. These horrendous numbers do not include those murdered by the Israeli Occupation Forces in the occupied West Bank.

Since Nov. 24, when the temporary truce went into effect between the Palestinian resistance and Israel, many Palestinian prisoners released or scheduled to be released are women. Many of them were detained as teenagers and spent years in prison for the “crime” of being Palestinian.

They experienced beatings, physical and mental torture, sexual violence, lack of healthy food and hygiene



Maysoon Al-Jabali



Melissa Barrera

and much more. These heroic women include Fadwa Hamada, Israa Ja’abis, Nourhan Awad, Shorouq Diwayat, Maysoon Al-Jabali, Aisha Al-Afghani, Shorouq Salan Ibrahim, Yasmeeen Taysir, Abdulrah Shaaban, Nufuz Jad Aref Hammad and Itaf Yusuf Muhammad.

Al-Jabali, who was imprisoned for over eight years, states, “Resistance must continue: all forms of resistance. Of course, there will be a cost. We will be imprisoned and martyred on the path to liberation.

“As women prisoners, we always confront the prison administration. Our spirits are high and always return high even if we break. The occupation is happy when we are sad, so despite everything, we rejoice and stay strong.

“We want to thank all those who worked for the deal: the resistance, the Gazan people, all the Palestinian fighters and all the foreigners who protested and opposed their governments’ positions, especially those who defended the resistance.

“There is no occupation that lasts. ‘Israel’ will fall, and we will return as one people.” (Resistance News Network, Nov. 27)

Solidarity: another form of resistance

This particular phase of the Palestinian resistance has inspired an unprecedented level of global solidarity in the Global South and Global North. Massive protests have brought out millions of people into the streets. In the U.S., thousands have participated in protests at the White House, in malls during Black Friday, on college campuses and at high schools and more.

Every sector in U.S. society has been impacted to one degree or another by the genocide in Gaza. This includes the film industry.

While a growing number of celebrities have called for a cease-fire, two women actors took high-profile stances, actually putting their careers on the line. Those women are the well-established Oscar winner Susan Sarandon and a relative newcomer, Melissa Barrera.

Barrera, who is Mexicana, was recently fired from her leading role by producers of the popular franchise horror movie series “Scream” for

expressing her sympathy for the people of Gaza facing genocide. Her remarks were labeled “antisemitic.”

In her Nov. 21 Instagram post, Barrera wrote, “Gaza is currently being treated like a concentration camp. ... Cornering everyone together, with nowhere to go, no electricity, no water ... People have learnt nothing from our histories. And just like our histories, people are still silently watching it all happen. THIS IS GENOCIDE AND ETHNIC CLEANSING.”

Sarandon, who has a history of opposing imperialist wars and other forms of injustice for decades, was let go by United Talent Agency for outspoken pro-Palestinian remarks. She spoke at the 300,000-strong Free Palestine demonstration in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 4.

On X (formerly Twitter) Sarandon stated: “You don’t have to be Palestinian to care about what’s happening in Gaza. I stand with Palestine. No one is free until everyone is free.”

Whether on the front lines of a liberation struggle like the women of Palestine or expressing unwavering solidarity with Palestinian people as Barrera and Sarandon have done, an International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women should not be limited to just one day but should be a priority every single day.

Days of solidarity like Nov. 25 and Dec. 10 can be used by the world movement to help to move the class struggle forward in the interests of women and gender-oppressed people, an integral sector of the working class and oppressed peoples, until there is total liberation from the scourge of capitalism and imperialism. □

White supremacist, antisemitic Congress targets colleges over Palestine

By Betsey Piette

In response to the U.S. Congressional Committee hearing, “Holding Campus Leaders Accountable and Confronting Anti-Semitism,” held Dec. 5, seven campus organizations issued a joint statement on Instagram Dec. 10. The groups, representing students

at Harvard, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn), called out the U.S. Congress as an institution “built upon—and [that] has long upheld—values of white supremacy and antisemitism.”

The students raised that Congress, suddenly concerned about protecting Jewish students on college campuses where pro-Palestine protests are taking place, “refused to hold hearings on antisemitism following the August 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, when white supremacists marched through the streets chanting ‘Jews will not replace us’ in a flagrant display of antisemitism.”

In Charlottesville, a self-proclaimed neo-Nazi drove his car into a gathering of counter protesters, killing Heather Heyer and injuring 35 others. At the time, then President Donald Trump described anti-Jewish participants in the violent rally as “very fine people.”

The House education committee summoned the presidents of Harvard, UPenn and MIT to this recent hearing to grill them on their institutions’ response to

allegations of antisemitism. Its earlier Nov. 14 hearing blamed college diversity, equity, and inclusion programs for being at fault for “the scourge of antisemitism on campus.” Despite reports from Muslim students facing a rise in Islamophobia,

Congress has not held any hearings to address their concerns.

The three university presidents summoned before Congress were women, all with little time on their jobs. UPenn President Liz Magill started in July 2022 and has been the object of student protests ever since. The university recently threatened disciplinary action against progressive Jewish students from Penn Chavurah who defied an administrative ban against their screening the anti-Zionist documentary “Israelism.”

Claudine Gay, the first Black woman president at Harvard, took office this summer. Under pressure from alumni and billionaire donors, Harvard has targeted and attempted to silence students for speaking out against the ongoing genocide in Gaza. Sally Kornbluth became MIT’s 18th president in January 2023. MIT recently canceled a Palestine 101 teach-in.

Since the hearings concluded, Magill, and Scott Bok, chair of the UPenn board of trustees resigned. Kornbluth is under pressure to follow suit. The ink wasn’t dry on the UPenn resignation letters, when the university announced Dec. 9 that Julie Platt, currently chair of the Jewish Federation of North America, will step in as interim

UPenn board chair. In October, the Federation launched a \$500 million fundraising campaign for Israel.

None of the Congress members conducting the hearing were concerned about the actions these college presidents took to silence students’ dissent.

In a classic act of gaslighting, Magill chose to focus on a false claim circulating on Instagram that pro-Palestine activists at UPenn and UCLA were chanting, “We want Jewish genocide.” She went so far as to defend this alleged chant as something protected under the First Amendment. Magill was wrong on both counts.

Associated Press fact checker Philip Marcelo disputed Magill’s claim. (Oct. 31) The actual chant is, “Israel, Israel, you can’t hide, we charge you with genocide.” And no progressive should ever support calls for genocide against Jewish or any other people.

UPenn officials have also called for federal investigations into other slogans expressed by student activists, particularly, “From the river, to the sea, Palestine will be free.”

The moving force behind the attacks on pro-Palestine student activists and these congressional hearings are wealthy members of university boards of trustees and billionaire donors threatening to withdraw millions of dollars in endowments. At UPenn, one such donor is billionaire Ronald Lauder, an heir to the Estee Lauder cosmetics company, listed by the Boycott,



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Rally for Palestine at UPenn campus, Oct. 16, 2023.

Divestment, Sanctions movement as a company with extensive business and political relationships with Israel.

Members of the U.S. Congress, with the power over the government’s purse strings, can halt the genocidal slaughter of tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians in Gaza by refusing to fund weapons for Israel. But instead, they pass legislation conflating anti-Zionism with antisemitism and use hearings to criticize universities for the times they do allow free expression of divergent thoughts, including the voices of anti-Zionist Jewish students.

Student groups which issued the Instagram posts include the Harvard Undergraduate Palestine Solidarity Committee, Harvard African and African-American Resistance Organization, Harvard Jews for Palestine, MIT Coalition for Palestine, MIT Jews for Cease-fire, Penn Against the Occupation and Penn Chavurah. Their demands include the protection of free speech with regard to Palestine on college campuses and an end to the dangerous, disingenuous conflation of antisemitism with anti-Zionism.

Their joint statement ends: “We know that we are on the right side of history, and we will continue to build our strength and fight until Palestine is free.” □

Resistance to border blockades and massacres

Then and now, Israel targets Khan Younis, Rafah

By Sara Flounders

As Israel broke the seven-day cease-fire and resumed its intense bombing of Gaza, two Palestinian cities, Rafah and Khan Younis, were immediately targeted in the southern end of Gaza. These are the very cities that the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) had forcibly demanded that Palestinians move toward.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has charged that “The city of Khan Younis faces a Zionist holocaust with an American green light and direct planning.”

Over 1,000 Palestinians have been killed in the bombing since the cease-fire ended. (tinyurl.com/5dv7yjcw)

Refugees in Rafah and Khan Younis have experienced notorious and well-documented past Zionist massacres and massive displacements. This history of destruction and heroic resistance continues today.

Rafah is a densely populated border city. Claiming they are looking for tunnels which for years have been used to smuggle desperately needed supplies and resistance weapons into Gaza, the Israeli military have continually bombed and bulldozed whole sections of this small city. Densely packed areas have been flooded with sea water, poisoning the land, in an effort to flood the tunnels.

According to many international media sources, including the Wall Street Journal and Reuters, Israel is assembling a whole system of pumps at Rafah to once again flood Gaza’s tunnels with thousands of cubic meters of sea water per hour at Rafah, Khan Younis, Gaza City and other sites. (tinyurl.com/7v2pf287)

Khan Younis, just north of Rafah, now has a population of 426,000 and is the largest city in south Gaza. Most of Gaza’s population has been pushed into this tight area of Rafah and Khan Younis. Both cities are now being bombed.

Rafah — the choke point

Rafah is the site of the Rafah border crossing, the sole crossing point between Egypt and the State of Palestine. Even in the Oslo Accords, which supposedly recognized the right of a small, fractured Palestinian state to exist alongside a fully armed and expanding Israeli state, Israel secured total control of all of Palestine’s borders. Technically, Egypt controls the Rafah crossing, but all imports through the Rafah crossing require Israeli approval.

How is this possible?

In the 1967 Six-Day-War, Israel conquered and took control of both the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip from Egypt. It also seized the West Bank from Jordan and East Jerusalem from Jordan and the Golan Heights from Syria. Within Gaza, Israel seized land for 21 Israeli settlements, again displacing refugees from the 1948 Nakba.

Under terms of the 1978 U.S.-brokered Camp David Accords, Egypt recognized the State of Israel, established relations with Israel, broke with the Soviet Union and received billions of dollars in U.S. military aid. In return, Israel agreed to withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula. However, Israel maintained its occupation of Gaza.

The new border between Egypt and Israel cut through the Palestinian city of Rafah. The Gazan side and the Egyptian side of Rafah were separated by barbed wire fences, dividing families. The core of the city was destroyed, then bulldozed to create a wide buffer zone.

The U.S. orchestrated this deal and twice reinforced it, giving Israel full control of Egypt’s sole border crossing with Gaza.

The arduous border crossing system maintains the myth of Egyptian border control. But Israel painstakingly combs through all the trucks, which are thoroughly scanned and searched, checking every box and blocking many essential supplies. Any item deemed unfit to enter Gaza — even small kitchen knives, scissors and gas canisters for heat — is an excuse to turn back the whole truck. This “inspection” is now required for all United Nations Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) trucks and International Red Crescent and Red Cross trucks, plus all other humanitarian agencies’ supplies.



The destruction in Rafah, Oct. 15, 2023.

PHOTO: ELECTRONIC INTIFADA

The inspection process obligates drivers to take a round trip of more than 100 kilometers (62 miles) from Rafah to a crossing on Egypt’s border with Israel and then to an Israeli inspection site at Nitzana. This has caused complete bottlenecks lasting for days. The U.N. has lobbied Israel to open the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing near Rafah, which used to handle large quantities of goods before the war. But Israel has refused.

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U.N. officials have said that before Oct. 7, an average of 500 trucks used to enter the Strip daily. Then Israel closed all access, along with turning off electricity, internet service and access to fuel in Gaza. During the cease-fire, 200 trucks a day were to be allowed entry as agreed to in negotiations, but the grueling Israeli inspection process made that an impossible number.

Israel has built rings of steel, barbed wire and surveillance cameras around every inch of Gaza’s border. It has total control of the sea and air. The Zionists

use this border control at Rafah as a choke point to calculate daily the level of pain and deprivation imposed.

Hamas won election, U.S./Israel imposed sanctions

Based on 38 years of determined Palestinian resistance, in 2005 Israeli settlers were forced to withdraw from their captured land of 21 settlements in Gaza. They destroyed every tree on the roadsides, along with totally destroying orchards, vines, greenhouses, irrigation systems and all buildings — everything in the well-subsidized settlements they had seized on the richest land. Despite the settlers’ vengeful destruction, this withdrawal was a huge victory for Palestinian resistance.

The following year, Hamas overwhelmingly won elections in Gaza, sponsored and overseen by the U.N. In response, both Israel and the U.S. tightened the ring of steel around Gaza. All normal trade and transit through Gaza was cut off. U.S. sanctions threatened any country that dared trade with Gaza. Even U.N. shipments to refugees, who make up 80% of the population, were withheld for months by inspections that cut essential supplies.

In the 17 years of total lockdown since Hamas won the election, Zionist forces have launched four major military assaults on Gaza — in 2008-2009, 2012, 2014 and 2021 — attempting to destroy the spirit of resistance. Each assault sharpened the anger and strengthened the levels of coordinated resistance.

Khan Younis massacre

In 1948, Gaza was considered part of Egypt. More than 80% of its population were Palestinian refugees driven out of Palestine during the Nakba that created the State of Israel. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who lost their homes and livelihoods were housed in vast tent cities and totally dependent on humanitarian aid to survive. These vast refugee camps gradually became densely populated apartment buildings, shops, and markets, connected by narrow alleys.

One of the largest massacres of Palestinians took place over several weeks starting on Nov. 3, 1956, when Gaza was part of Egypt. That was eight years after the Nakba, when hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were forcibly driven from their homes in Palestine. It was part of the effort by Israel, France and Britain to take over the Suez Canal from Egypt. The Zionists were determined to destroy the Fedayeen, the Palestinian resistance movement dominant at that time.

After a heavy bombing campaign on the town, Israeli infantry and tanks entered Khan Younis to “root out” the Fedayeen. A researched article in Palestine Chronicle quotes from Salman Abu Sitta’s memoir “Mapping My Return.” He described how all the young men ages 16 to 50 were

ordered to the public square:

“They led them in single file and lined them up against the wall... in the town’s main square. As they gathered, the assembled teachers, the bank clerks, the shopkeepers, the tradesmen, and the farmers looked as ordinary as they would on any other day.

“An officer stood in his jeep as if to salute. He looked from one side to another. The officer raised his hand high, and lowered it down quickly like a chopping knife. Bursts of machine gun shattered the silence on and off, left and right. The machine guns rang out in unison, then separately.... Those who refused to go to the Town Square were killed at home, in front of their families.”

Abed El-Aziz El-Rantisi, the senior official of Hamas, assassinated by an Israeli missile in 2004, was nine years old that day when he witnessed the killing of his uncle in Khan Younis: “It left a wound in my heart that can never heal. ... They planted hatred in our hearts.”

UNRWA later assembled a list of the names of 275 people known killed. Then other mass graves were found. The indiscriminate killings continued until Nov. 12 as the Israeli occupation forces continued their massacres, estimated at over 1,000 deaths.

Another massacre took place in November 1956 in Rafah, where more than 100 Palestinians were executed after being ordered to appear in the town square.

The journalist and author Joe Sacco wrote a 2009 graphic novel, “Footnotes in Gaza,” which meticulously uncovered the horrific events that had taken place in Gaza in 1956 through eyewitness accounts. (tinyurl.com/454kczhp)

On the anniversary of the massacre in Khan Younis, the Jordan News recounted the event on Nov. 13. (tinyurl.com/wzjmm496)

The resistance is the whole people

An article in the Washington Post on Dec. 3 explained the problem facing the Zionists and U.S. imperialism. Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to destroy Hamas militarily and as a governing authority.

“But after more than 15 years in power in Gaza, Hamas and its supporters are deeply embedded in every sector of society — not only in the government ministries they run, but also in charities, courts, mosques, sport teams, jails, municipalities and youth groups.

“The de facto governing body in the Gaza Strip since 2007, when it ousted the Palestinian Authority from power, Hamas has overseen the economy, health care, water and electricity, trade and infrastructure. It runs the security forces in Gaza — not only the militant brigades, like Qassam, now fighting Israeli forces in the streets, but also the regular police force, including traffic cops.” (tinyurl.com/562763bb)

This is the crux of the problem. The Israeli forces can’t get rid of the resistance with bombs — although they can once again wreak great suffering and destruction. Israel is losing the war internally and internationally. It is losing equipment and personnel. There are pitched battles in the West Bank and daily rockets being fired from Lebanon.

The Zionists were incapable of destroying the resistance when in 1956 they executed all men over the age of 16 in Khan Younis and Rafah. The resistance arose in new forms. Now all the political currents are coming together. Hamas is one with a unified Palestinian resistance, fighting together in all of Palestine. □

Which forces promote Israeli terrorism?

Continued from page 1

the pressure of imperialist-manufactured public opinion and defy the authorities who order them to stop demonstrating, stop fighting to end the slaughter and stop supporting the Palestinian resistance.

And how can they stop demonstrating when the suffering continues in Gaza? When it’s impossible to forget that these mass murders are underway? No one can say, “I didn’t know.”

And despite the horrible destruction and mass murder in Gaza, resistance continues in the Strip. Guerrilla fighters battle Israeli tanks. The people of Gaza denounce Israel and the U.S. and the rest of the governments that fail to stop Israel, or even to try. But despite all their suffering, the Palestinians don’t denounce their own leaders.

On the other side, the criminal Israeli and U.S. leaders

exude fear of this powerful uprising, which has military allies in Yemen and Lebanon. Washington was so isolated that it had to veto a proposal to the United Nations Security Council to stop a simple demand for another humanitarian cease-fire.

Why does Washington back Israel?

How we Marxists and anti-imperialists have explained the connection between world imperialism and Israel, is that imperialism, first led by Britain, later by the U.S., implanted a dependent settler state in an oil-rich region to be used as a cat's-paw, a secure aircraft carrier, against any liberation movements in that part of the world. The people who identified as Israeli would be convenient cannon fodder.

U.S. imperialism has used the Zionist state to protect its interests in West Asia. Israel needs the Pentagon and the U.S. State Department behind its goals of expansion

and expulsion. The unspeakable crimes they’re both now committing are driven by this mutual need even though Washington is the world power.

Right now, waging a constant, determined struggle against the ongoing genocide is an urgent necessity.

Next, and it’s the best punishment for the Israeli regime’s crimes, is to mobilize solidarity with the Palestinian resistance fighting for self-determination against an apartheid settler state.

Behind the genocide, the mass murder, the cruelty that no one can now forget, is the unequal system of capitalism and imperialism that demands profits, control of natural resources, militarism and war.

The best punishment for Washington’s crimes in the long term is that a whole new generation of activists devote their lives to overturning the oppressive world system that made these horrors happen. □

The origins of Zionism and antisemitism

Workers World has a history of distinguishing Zionism from antisemitism in relation to defending the Palestinians’ right to return and especially their right to armed resistance. The following excerpts are from articles written by Monica Moorehead in April 2022 and Shelley Ettinger in December 2018. These articles are published online at workers.org/2022/04/63580/ and workers.org/2022/12/68083/.

The roots of Zionism

The U.S. ruling class has always been united in its support for Israel. That military garrison state defends lucrative profits for capitalist interests in this oil-rich region — under the guise of being a safe haven for Jewish people. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Consider the fact that Theodor Herzl, known as the founder of Zionism, was an imperialist who greatly admired the despicable British colonizer of Africa, Cecil Rhodes. Herzl strived to become a member of the ruling class rather than identifying with poor Jewish people. Herzl was, in essence, a class collaborationist and a vehement racist.

Herzl’s “dream” of a Jewish homeland was elaborated on by Chaim Weizmann and backed by British imperialists, including “Christian Zionist” A. J. Balfour, who wanted a permanent European wedge in the region of Islamic nations. The 1917 Balfour Declaration, signed by British imperialists, declared Palestine a “national homeland” for Jewish people. This was a cover to bring

in Zionist settlers to set up an armed state and forcibly displace hundreds of thousands of Palestinians.

The U.S. ruling class has always been one of the biggest promoters of antisemitism. Many, like Henry Ford, were not-so-secret supporters of Adolph Hitler. As Jewish people were attempting to escape the horrors of Nazism during World War II, the U.S. issued a strict quota on how many Jewish people would be allowed to come into the U.S., turning thousands away.

In 1975, the United Nations General Assembly approved Resolution 3379 that stated: “Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination.” With the collapse of the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc countries, the U.N. voted to repeal this resolution in 1991.

Real source of antisemitism

Antisemitism is a very old, very effective strategy to direct the working class’s rage away from the true source of its problems: the ruling class, which is overwhelmingly made up of white, Anglo-Saxon Protestants. It instead portrays Jewish people, a tiny group — only 0.2% of the world’s population — as somehow owning and controlling the world’s wealth by being devious, evil schemers bent on driving workers and the poor into poverty and misery.

While its roots are deep and wide and go back millennia, antisemitism flourished during the rise of capitalism in Europe. From 19th-century czarism in Russia through the Nazi genocide, it was skillfully crafted as a tactic to

break up revolutionary movements.

To this day, with resurgent fascist organizing again casting caricatured Jewish bankers as the culprit behind workers’ worsening standard of living in Germany, France and other countries, the capitalists wield antisemitism as a favored tool.

In this context, the absurdity of portraying oppressed communities as purveyors of antisemitism should be clear. Who has the motive and the power to foment attacks against Jewish people? Who poses an actual threat to Jewish people?

Of course it is not, and can never be, the oppressed. Of course it is only, and will always be, the bosses.

The threat is real, as evidenced by the Oct. 27 [2018] massacre at a synagogue in Pittsburgh. Emboldened under Trump, previously suppressed elements, the worst violent, antisemitic scum, are surfacing and acting in a way that has not been seen in this country for decades. At the same time, racist attacks, already epidemic, are on the rise, whether against Latinx migrants, Black youth or other oppressed people.

The only effective response is unity, first and foremost against racism and against all forms of bias and division, from antisemitism to sexism to LGBTQ2S+ oppression. It’s this unity, rejecting the bosses’ attempts to divert anger away from themselves, that will move the struggle of the workers and oppressed forward against capitalism itself. □

UAW joins labor call for cease-fire in Palestine

By Martha Grevatt

On Dec. 1, the last day of a five-day hunger strike calling for a cease-fire in Palestine, unions that have supported that call held a press conference outside the White House. Among those speaking there were United Auto Workers Region 9A Director Brandon Mancilla, who announced that the UAW was joining the United Electrical Workers (UE), the American Postal Workers Union (APWU), and many local and regional labor bodies in raising that demand. The UAW, with 400,000 members, is the largest U.S. union to demand a cease-fire.

“We opposed fascism in World War II,” said Mancilla. “We ended up opposing the Vietnam War. We opposed apartheid South Africa and we mobilized union resources and the entire labor movement to join us in that fight. We opposed the contra war in Central America and Nicaragua that the Reagan administration with our tax dollars, with our resources, was mobilizing. We opposed the killing of Mexican trade unionists down South where so much of our work has been outsourced ...

“The UAW International is calling for an immediate permanent cease-fire in Israel and Palestine so that we can get to the work of building a lasting peace, building social justice and building a community, a global community, of solidarity. That is what we’ve committed ourselves to and that is as important as anything else that we’re doing in this country in order to ensure that workers and oppressed people and poor people across

the world are on the path to winning the justice they so deserve.” (UAW Facebook)

The UAW International Executive Board voted to form “a Divestment and Just Transition working group to study the history of Israel and Palestine, our union’s economic ties to the conflict, and explore how we can have a just transition for U.S. workers from war to peace.”

Big first step, more needed

Unfortunately, UAW President Shawn Fain, in an interview with the Detroit News after the IEB vote, said, “We’re not picking a side between Israel and Palestine.” Yet if ever there was a “Which Side Are You On?” moment for U.S. labor, that moment is now. The best thing for unions in the “belly of the beast” to do is to heed the call of unions in Palestine “to end all forms of complicity with Israel’s crimes.” (workers.org/2023/10/74027/)

Nevertheless, for any union to move away from the pro-Zionist stance of organized labor, including the AFL-CIO, is extremely significant. Not only does it help the cause of Palestine, it represents a break with the Democratic Party. When Mancilla spoke in Washington, it was behind a sign reading “Biden, you are starving Gaza.”



UAW Region 9A Director Brandon Mancilla, at press conference outside the White House Dec. 1, announces the UAW is calling for an immediate, permanent cease-fire in Palestine.

Hopefully, the UAW’s new working group will do its homework and convince the union to divest companies that are bolstering Zionist apartheid. Hopefully, the “just transition” will be one that enables UAW members employed by war profiteers to stop building weapons for Israel and U.S. imperialism and instead produce for human needs.

Global working-class solidarity has to include solidarity with Palestine. □

Land Back, not greenwashing

Indigenous protesters denounce COP28

By Will Hodgkinson

This past week, bourgeois politicians have been gathering in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), for the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28). The choice of venue is apt. Dubai is a luxury playground for billionaires, maintained by the superexploited labor of migrant workers, many of whom helped build the facilities where the conference is taking place.

Although the corporate media has celebrated the COP28 as a major environmental breakthrough, the world leaders attending the conference have done nothing to address the climate catastrophe caused by the forces of capital, and the genocidal settler colonialism and imperialism these forces have unleashed.

The only “solutions” offered at COP28 are nonbinding promises of “net zero emissions by 2050,” “carbon capture” and “credit” schemes that benefit the same multinational corporations responsible for the climate crises in the first place.

At COP28, Indigenous activists detailed the ways in which the worsening climate catastrophe has affected their nations and communities. Worldwide, Indigenous peoples defend at least 80% of Earth’s remaining biodiversity.

John Ruben, a resident of Vanuatu, an archipelago in the South Pacific, described the devastation and trauma he and his one-year-old daughter suffered during a vicious series of tropical cyclones this past year: “These tropical cyclones are some of the events that are becoming severe at the moment in the past 10-20 years. We have experienced three severe tropical cyclones in just a span of eight months this year, so it’s something that confirms that our climate conditions now are totally different to what we have had in the past.” (Al Arabiya, Dec. 5)

However, the bourgeois officials and technocrats who run the conference have largely ignored the testimonies of Ruben and other Indigenous activists. Although COP28 attendees agreed to set up a fund to offset the damage climate disasters are inflicting on Indigenous nations and the Global South, the initial amount pledged is only \$429 million, which would cover only a vanishingly small fraction of the



Pro-Palestine demonstrators outside COP28, December 2023.

PHOTO: RAFIQ MAQBOOL

destruction these communities have already experienced.

As Libyan activist Nissa Bek explained in a Dec. 4 Democracy Now! interview, “The loss and damage fund will only be a Band-Aid if fossil fuels continue to be produced. Loss and damage from climate change cost \$1.5 trillion last year alone.”

Palestinians challenge Zionism and imperialism

The failure of COP28 to address the capitalist climate disaster is by design. The president of the conference, Sultan Al Jaber, who has extensive ties to Western investors, also heads the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, UAE’s state oil company. At a press conference on Dec. 4, Al Jaber denounced efforts to “phase out” fossil fuels, insisting that “no science” supports such a proposal. (The Guardian, Dec. 3)

Most accounts of Jaber’s gaffe in the international bourgeois press single out the UAE and other Gulf States for blame, ignoring the capitalist world system in which these states operate, and distancing COP28 itself from the controversy. Yet far from being “out of step” with the conference he is facilitating, Al Jaber merely revealed its true commitments.

Advising COP28 is McKinsey, a consulting firm whose clients include Exxon, Chevron and British Petroleum (BP). Larry Fink, chairperson and CEO of

investment giant BlackRock, which has tens of billions of dollars invested in fossil fuel industries, sits on the Conference’s “Advisory Board.”

According to a Dec. 5 BBC report, a record 2,400 representatives of fossil fuel industries are attending this year’s COP conference, far outnumbering the delegates from the 10 nations in the Global South at greatest risk of climate change. (tinyurl.com/mu94xndu)

Solidarity with Palestine

Outside COP28’s Dubai venue, demonstrators gathered to denounce this exercise in “greenwashing,” the cynical corporate-backed campaign to rebrand capitalism as “environmentally conscious.”

Many activists stressed solidarity with the Palestinian people and their struggle against the ongoing genocidal Zionist assault on Gaza, which has inflicted unfathomable ecological and human devastation. Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, Zionist settlers have stolen and destroyed Palestinian lands and water reserves. The latest Zionist terror campaign has only escalated this devastation.

Aerial photos posted by Human Rights Watch on Dec. 4 on X (formerly Twitter), show that Israeli Occupation Forces have systematically destroyed orchards and

farmland in the Gaza Strip, increasing the already acute risk of mass starvation for the 2 million Palestinians imprisoned in Gaza. Zionist authorities threatened to flood parts of Gaza with seawater, poisoning aquifers and ruining the soil. (tinyurl.com/396pxu85)

“What good is a world that is green if the roots are soaked in blood?” asked Tariq Luthun, a Palestinian activist at the COP28 protest. “What good is a world that is green if there’s nobody left to live in it? The precedent set on people’s lives and the calculations we make as to who is expendable, that is the precedent we set for who’s expendable anywhere.”

Chebon Kernell (Seminole/Muscogee Creek) emphasized the common struggle of Indigenous nations against genocidal settler colonialism, from Palestine to Turtle Island. “For many years now, we have lived in an occupied state,” Kernell said in the Muscogee language.

“We were dispossessed of our lands. We were forced upon reservations, where we were confined to one area. The water and the resources that we have known for thousands upon thousands of years were taken from us and commodified and exploited and stolen from our peoples. Today we come here, and I stand in solidarity with each one of our relatives here.”(tinyurl.com/bde7z52j)

As the COP28 protesters stressed, the future of “green” capitalism promised by the conference will only continue the settler-colonial destruction and exploitation. Corporate wind farms and lithium mines continue to displace Indigenous people and ravage their lands.

By endorsing these “solutions,” the capitalist governments overrepresented at COP28 show that they remain committed to the systems of genocide and exploitation that have caused the climate catastrophe in the first place.

Capitalist destruction of world ecology began with the ongoing settler-colonial genocide of Indigenous nations, and the theft, enclosure and exploitation of their lands. Therefore, an end to this destruction can only come through full solidarity with Indigenous nations as they and their allies fight to dismantle these systems of exploitation and win ultimate liberation. □

Los peruanos se resisten al golpe apoyado por Estados Unidos

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más el descontento de la población.

Hoy se cumple un año de resistencia al imperialismo estadounidense en Perú. Peruanos de todos los orígenes, pero especialmente indígenas, han marchado regularmente contra el presidente no electo, Boluarte, y en apoyo de Castillo, a quien eligieron. Han participado en huelgas y bloqueos de carreteras para presionar al gobierno golpista para que dimita.

Sin embargo, estas manifestaciones se han enfrentado a la violencia autorizada por el Estado. Las reivindicaciones de los manifestantes incluyen la liberación del encarcelado Pedro Castillo, nuevas elecciones generales, un referéndum nacional sobre la formación de una Asamblea Constituyente y justicia para las víctimas de la represión.

El imperialismo estadounidense está detrás del golpe

Pedro Castillo ha condenado a la embajada de Estados Unidos en Perú por ordenar a los militares que reprimieran a los manifestantes antigolpistas. La embajadora de Estados Unidos en Perú en el momento del golpe, Lisa Kenna, veterana de la CIA y del Departamento de Estado estadounidense en Irak, fue asesora de los golpistas. Es probable que Estados Unidos desempeñara un papel

directo en la destitución del presidente Castillo y la instalación de Boluarte en su lugar para que cumpliera las órdenes de las empresas estadounidenses.

La interferencia del gobierno estadounidense en la democracia y la autodeterminación peruanas es muy preocupante. Los EE.UU. han enviado más de 1.200 soldados uniformados con aviones, barcos, municiones y equipos de comunicación para apoyar al gobierno golpista inconstitucional y para tomar el control de los valiosos recursos de Perú, incluidas las reservas de litio. Esta militarización de Perú refleja la dominación militar global del imperialismo estadounidense y supone una amenaza para la soberanía nacional de Perú.

La colaboración militar estadounidense con el gobierno golpista peruano constituye un respaldo a la represión y la violencia ejercidas por la dictadura de Boluarte contra manifestantes pacíficos. Envía un mensaje de intimidación a las organizaciones sociales y políticas de Perú que reclaman la restauración de la democracia y el gobierno justamente elegido de Pedro Castillo.

Los importantes recursos de Perú, como petróleo, oro, agua dulce y litio, han llamado la atención del gobierno estadounidense. Estados Unidos protege sus pretensiones sobre estos recursos y se ve amenazado por la creciente relación de Perú con China, su mayor socio

comercial. La posición estratégica de Perú como productor de litio, cobre, zinc y plata, cruciales para las tecnologías de energías renovables, amplifica aún más el interés del gobierno estadounidense por controlar el país.

Las acciones del gobierno estadounidense en Perú reflejan su intención de mantener el dominio económico y geopolítico en la región. El ex presidente de Bolivia, Evo Morales, quien sufrió un golpe de Estado apoyado por Estados Unidos en 2019, ha advertido sobre la consolidación de un Estado represivo y el impacto sobre la soberanía y la paz regional en América Latina.

Es evidente que al gobierno de Estados Unidos no le interesa construir lazos de amistad con los pueblos de los continentes americanos. Por el contrario, busca actualizar la Doctrina Monroe para el siglo XXI, con China y Rusia como sus rivales estratégicos. La situación en Perú pone de manifiesto la necesidad de apoyar al pueblo peruano en su lucha por la autodeterminación, la soberanía y la protección de sus recursos naturales.

**Libertad para el Presidente Pedro Castillo ¡YA!
¡Fuera las tropas estadounidenses de Perú!
¡Boluarte, asesina, el pueblo no se inclina!** □



La gran comunidad palestina de Chile marcha el 19 de octubre de 2023.

Más allá del ‘alto el fuego ya’

Por Richie Merino y Sara Flounders

Publicado el 23 de noviembre de 2023 antes del alto el fuego, que ya ha finalizado. El análisis sigue siendo actual.

El 21 de noviembre, los medios de comunicación mundiales anunciaron un alto el fuego de cuatro días en Gaza, una pausa en el asalto genocida israelí contra la población de Gaza. El movimiento de abrumadora solidaridad mundial con Palestina y de apoyo a este pueblo, incluso dentro de Estados Unidos, debe ajustar su postura a un nuevo período más allá de la exigencia de alto el fuego ahora.

Según una declaración de Hamás del 21 de noviembre, el acuerdo incluye la entrada de convoyes de cientos de camiones bloqueados que transportan ayuda humanitaria, suministros de socorro, asistencia médica y combustible a todas

las regiones de Gaza. También incluye un intercambio de prisioneros. La resistencia liberará a 50 mujeres y niños retenidos en Gaza desde el 7 de octubre. A cambio, el Estado israelí liberará a 150 palestinos, todos ellos menores de 19 años y mujeres, de entre los 9.000 prisioneros que llevan mucho tiempo retenidos en cárceles israelíes, muchos de ellos sin cargos.

Las fuerzas de la resistencia expresaron demandas, tanto antes como después de la Operación Inundación Al-Aqsa del 7 de octubre, similares a las del acuerdo. Así pues, Hamás y sus aliados de la resistencia palestina y el valeroso pueblo de Gaza ya han logrado una victoria. A pesar de los despiadados bombardeos, la resistencia ha avanzado hacia sus objetivos declarados, con su apoyo masivo mundial, mientras que el sionismo y el imperialismo estadounidense se enfrentan a la condena del mundo.

cida contra los palestinos de Gaza.

La propaganda de Israel ha fracasado. Sus objetivos militares siguen sin alcanzarse, a pesar del coste en vidas civiles en Gaza. El hecho de que la resistencia armada de Gaza haya sobrevivido e incluso prevalecido con sus batallas de guerrillas y emboscadas en el norte de Gaza ha hecho añicos la imagen de invencibilidad del ejército israelí.

Un avance para Palestina

La pausa de cuatro días supone un avance para la causa palestina. Puede salvar muchas vidas pero, en sí misma, no garantiza el fin del genocidio israelí. Anteriormente, el gobierno sionista había anunciado planes para expulsar a los palestinos al desierto del Sinaí, rechazado los intercambios de prisioneros y declarado la intención de continuar su campaña de bombardeos hasta que todos los israelíes capturados el 7 de octubre fueran devueltos. La destreza y valentía de la resistencia armada palestina y su continuo apoyo por parte de la asediada población de Gaza han forzado un acuerdo.

¡Aumenta la solidaridad mundial con Palestina!

La victoria está en una batalla. La guerra de Israel contra Palestina continúa. Se puede seguir asesinando a palestinos en Cisjordania ocupada y dentro de las fronteras de Israel de 1948 durante el alto el fuego, e Israel ha intensificado sus ataques contra Líbano. Recuerde que la destrucción de Gaza tuvo y tiene pleno apoyo político y diplomático de Estados Unidos, suministrado por armas estadounidenses, respaldado por portaaviones y dólares de los contribuyentes.

Más allá del alto el fuego ahora: Liberación total

Una reciente manifestación de la Coalición Anti Guerra del Bronx en las

Naciones Unidas trató de poner de relieve la posición histórica palestina de plena liberación, desde el río Jordán hasta el mar Mediterráneo. La delegación internacional que acudió a El Cairo del 12 al 16 de noviembre para pedir la liberación de los suministros a través de Rafah fue una de las muchas acciones que van más allá de las demandas de alto el fuego.

Instamos al movimiento a que actúe con total solidaridad y salude este logro de la firme resistencia palestina y aborde la causa fundamental del conflicto: El colonialismo sionista. Los partidarios de la liberación palestina deben unirse a la Resistencia Palestina en la defensa de un Estado palestino único con Al-Quds (Jerusalén) como capital. La lucha por el desmantelamiento del Estado sionista de Israel, la liberación de todos los presos políticos recluidos en cárceles de ocupación y la liberación total de Palestina deben seguir estando en la vanguardia del movimiento.

Aunque la tregua de cuatro días proporciona un respiro temporal, el asesinato de civiles palestinos continúa, a pesar del alto el fuego declarado. Un alto el fuego permanente no hace sino congelar la continuidad del régimen de apartheid.

Instamos al movimiento de solidaridad a hacer suyo el llamamiento popular por una “Palestina libre — del río al mar”. Debemos intensificar nuestras protestas y nuestra solidaridad. Es esencial incluir siempre la demanda: Poner fin a toda la ayuda estadounidense a Israel. Sólo cuando la ocupación israelí termine, todos los prisioneros palestinos sean liberados, toda la tierra palestina sea devuelta a sus legítimos propietarios -y cuando Palestina y el mundo sean liberados del fascismo sionista- podremos desistir.

Instamos al movimiento a que actúe en total solidaridad con este logro de la firme resistencia palestina y lo salude, y a que aborde la causa fundamental del conflicto. □



Manifestación de la Coalición Anti Guerra del Bronx fuera de las Naciones Unidas, Nueva York, 20 de noviembre de 2023.

Los peruanos se resisten al golpe apoyado por Estados Unidos

Por Richie Merino y Sara Flounders

Esta charla se ofreció en el evento “Un año de resistencia contra el golpe de Estado respaldado por Estados Unidos al presidente peruano Pedro Castillo”, organizado por PEX Semillas de Libertad y celebrado el 6 de diciembre en el Foro del Pueblo/Peoples Forum de Nueva York y por Zoom.

Pedro Castillo, un ex maestro de escuela y agricultor de un remanso andino, fue elegido presidente de Perú en junio de 2021, con el apoyo de trabajadores, campesinos y pueblos indígenas. Llegó al poder en medio de una ola de ira popular contra los partidos establecidos hipercorruptos de Perú y prometió un cambio radical, en particular dando voz a las comunidades indígenas.

Castillo reconoció la importancia de las comunidades indígenas de Perú, como los pueblos quechua, aymara, awajún, conibo y shipibo, que durante mucho tiempo habían

sido marginados y desoídos.

Sin embargo, Castillo se enfrentó a la oposición de la élite política y empresarial de Lima. No podían aceptar que alguien de origen humilde llegara a la presidencia. A pesar de haber sido elegido democráticamente, Castillo fue

derrocado en un golpe de Estado respaldado por Estados Unidos el 7 de diciembre de 2022. El Congreso peruano, bajo la influencia de corporaciones multinacionales, llevó a cabo este golpe contra el presidente legítimo.

El gobierno golpista de facto dirigido por Dina Boluarte respondió a las protestas contra el golpe con una represión brutal. Más de 80 peruanos han muerto y miles han resultado heridos, detenidos o desaparecidos bajo el régimen golpista. Las comunidades indígenas han sido especialmente perseguidas, sufriendo agresiones físicas y ejecuciones extrajudiciales.

El gobierno de Boluarte y el Congreso son ampliamente despreciados por el pueblo peruano. Según una encuesta realizada en marzo de 2023 por el Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, la presidencia de Boluarte tiene un índice de desaprobación del 78%, mientras que el Congreso tiene un índice de desaprobación del 91%. El gobierno sigue bloqueando las elecciones generales, exacerbando aún

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‘Un año de resistencia’ contra el golpe en Perú, Foro del Pueblo/Peoples Forum, Nueva York, 6 de diciembre de 2023.

FOTO: PEX SEMILLAS DE LIBERTAD