Buffalo ‘bomb cyclone’ exposes capitalism’s failure

By Ryan Lockwood
Buffalo, New York

Buffalo is reeling from its worst snowstorm in a generation. From Dec. 23-25, Western New York state was ravaged by a “bomb cyclone,” which brought hurricane-force winds, subzero wind chills and over 50 inches of snowfall to the region. But Winter Storm Elliot is as much a social disaster as it is a weather one.

At the time of this writing, at least 40 people in the Buffalo area have died due to the storm, a majority of them people of color. This surpasses the death toll of the infamous “Blizzard of ’77,” which killed 28 people across New York state.

This storm was not a surprise; as early as Monday, Dec. 19, the National Weather Service in Buffalo announced that a powerful storm was on the way for the holiday weekend. By Dec. 21, they called for “a once-in-a-generation storm” to arrive in the region Thursday night into Friday morning. Yet when a travel ban was finally issued at 9:30 a.m., Friday, Dec. 23, many workers were already at their jobs. So despite days of warning, many people became stranded in their vehicles on impassable roads, leading to at least four deaths.

Others succumbed to the brutal cold and hurricane-force winds. The bodies of 17 people have been discovered in snow drifts. Thousands of families have been left without heat and electricity, as falling trees brought power lines down. Nine of the people who died were in homes with no heat. Snow drifts up to 12 feet have severely limited access in and out of some houses, blocking residents inside.

The city failed to make adequate emergency housing provisions. And now, days after the storm, racial disparities are evident. In Kenmore, with a majority white population, snow plows have been up and down streets for days. In predominantly Black parts of Buffalo, like the East Side, many residents still can’t leave their homes, and 12-foot snow drifts still cover windows. (Washington Post, Dec. 29)

In the middle of such human catastrophe and the utter failure of the physical and political infrastructure, Mayor Byron Brown found his footing in grandiose moral indignation over an uptick in so-called “looting,” calling those who reappropriated resources in their own communities, “the lowest of the low.” To the ruling class, there is nothing more contemptible than a neglected community taking care of itself as the system ceases to function. But as soon as the snow is cleared, we can expect the political elite to continue to steal from the workers of the city and subordinate their best interests to the whims of capital, to siphon money and resources from the workers straight into the pockets of real estate developers and investors.

We are facing a future in which a volatile climate will make storms like this one much more common. We have seen again and again how the capitalist social order is unable to cope with the increasingly violent weather. Each crisis of this kind leads to an acute, local intensification of the contradiction between labor and capital, and eventually the strain on the system will become critical.

This gives our commitment to build worker power even more urgency. It is our duty as the class-conscious, revolutionary proletariat to build a movement that is capable of fulfilling our historic task.

STOP U.S. WARS
MLK WEEK OF ACTION JAN 13-22
STOP ENDLESS WARS, IRAQ, SYRIA, SOMALIA, PALESTINE, EVERYWHERE
STOP WASHINGTON’S WAR MOVES AGAINST RUSSIA & CHINA
MONEY FOR HUMAN NEEDS, NOT WAR
USBAND NATO NOW

¡PERMITID LA ENTRADA EN EE.UU.!

British strike wave expands
Bay area nurses, Pittsburgh newspaper workers strike
Editorial
The $1.7 trillion war crime
Haiti: No more sanctions!

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

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits. Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on immigrants, minorities, LGBTQ2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means homelessness, increasing impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

Capitalism and imperialism produce poverty, discrimination and violence. They cause war and suffering around the world. They create conditions that allow for the exploitation of those who are weak and powerless. They create a world where only the rich can live in comfort and security, while the rest suffer and die.

It is time to point the blame at—and challenge—the capitalist system. It is time to organize against it and to build a movement that can break through the media propaganda and censorship that end the U.S. military aggression around the world.

Each of our actions is based on building local connections among various solidarity organizations. A variety of actions are encouraged, from demonstrations, teach-ins and banner drops to chalk-ins and street meetings. Actions linking all the continuing U.S. wars and sanctions are a unifying focus and help break through the propaganda that saturates each war.

Fund human needs, not war! No to NATO!

This call to action was lightly edited.

Workers World
tear down the walls

Workers World
MLK Week of Actions Jan. 13-22

Workers World
this week

In the U.S.

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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette workers strike

Around the world

Ka Joma: honoring a Philippine revolutionary

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Workers World Party pays tribute to Ka Joma

British strike wave continues

Haiti: No UN occupation!

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Remembering Wadiya Jamal

Mumia: Wadiya Jamal, my beloved

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-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., April 4, 1967

The greatest purveyor of violence in the world: my own government; I cannot be silent.”

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 WW branch near you.

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

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Mundo Obrero

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Incarcerated lives endangered in freezing conditions

By Monica Moorhead

In analyzing the horror of 1992 Los Angeles Rebellion, Sam Marc, co-founder of Workers World Party, wrote in the pamphlet: “A Marxist Defense of the L.A. Rebellion” that “Marxism differs from all forms of bourgeois sociology in this most fundamental way: All bourgeois social sciences are noted for what they ... and worst of all, the most shameful way — the predatory class character of the state.”

When it comes to class antagonism, U.S. prisons under capitalism do not rehabilitate but are instruments of class domination. That means during a crisis of some sort, it is first the poor people who suffer.

One such crisis resulting from an outcry from incarcerated people and their outside supporters is the unprecedented below-freezing temperatures gripping much of the country — no matter the region — due to climate change. It is bad enough that incarcerated people face inhumane conditions, including being locked down in tiny cells 24 hours a day, poor sanitation and medical care, unhealthy food, verbal and physical assaults by guards, solitary confinement and more.

And in this time is the lack of heat. While people have died needlessly from the impact of winter storms, due to a lack of preparedness on the part of local governments, people incarcerated are facing even more dire conditions, with little to no attention paid to them. At the Clayton County Jail in Georgia, there was no power for at least three days, along with low water pressure and no working sinks. In late December, the wind finally got out about this situation, when a prisoner informed his mother during a phone call.

Protest in front of Metropolitan Detention Center, Brooklyn, New York, Feb. 2, 2019. PHOTO: JEFF BACHNER

Retaliation in response to complaints

At least 700 of over 2,400 migrants attempting to cross the Rio Grande at the El Paso, Texas, border were detained by the U.S. Border Patrol and left outside in freezing conditions in early December. Migrants were only provided with aluminum blankets by the Patrol. In early 2022, reports existed that any migrants who complained about lack of heat in detention camps in Texas and Louisiana faced retaliation by the guards. The processing centers are under the auspices of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, an arm of the federal government, but they are operated by private Wall Street prison firms notorious for being modern-day plantations, driven by profit.

In the Bergen County Jail in New Jersey, which holds ICE detainees, the Legal Aid Society, the Bronx Defenders and Brooklyn Defender Services wrote: “At least one detainee had been told the cold would kill the coronavirus, so we’re not turning it [the heat] on. We’re afraid of getting sick living in dangerously close quarters during the height of COVID.”

Wadiya Jamal, my beloved

By Mumia Abu-Jamal


Wadiya Jamal during visit with Mumia. PHOTO: JEFF BACHNER

She was a spring baby, born in the first week of April 1953—a West Philly girl, whose beauty made her shine in a crowd. She loved fiercely like a lion. This love blessed the lives of five beautiful children, and it blessed me. As mother and grandmother, she radiated like a sun over her planet; and when anyone was lost, her mighty love was cracked by such loss — her mother and father, her brother Jimmy, and perhaps deepest, the loss of the family’s baby, Samiya, was the deepest crack, the deepest past.

After that, every December was a trial through darkness. We were all waiting for the first light of spring, for this dark fog to break. But it was not to be. Just after the holidays, her heart, her mighty love, gave up. She loved like no one else ever.

I love you, I will always love you. All the children and grandchildren you will always love you. Your smile was the only sunshine we ever needed, and we need it now. We love you, Wa-Wa. We miss you.

With love, not fear, this is Mumia


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Alta Bates Summit nurses boldly strike for pensions and a contract

By Judy Greenspan
Berkeley, California

Nurses at the three sites of the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center campuses in Oakland and Berkeley went on a 90-day strike from Dec. 24 until the early morning of Jan. 2. They took this action after 97% of them voted to reject their bosses’ last-minute contract offer. The East Bay registered nurses, who are members of the California Nurses Association, are the only CNA bargaining unit steadfastly refusing to ratify the contract offered by Sutter Health. These nurses have been working on an extended contract since January 2020. This reporter spoke with several strikers, including Thoirld Urdal, a 40-year, labor and delivery nurse, who explained that they were not able to vote on the contract extension. And when a settlement was finally reached statewide, “CNA staff encouraged one facility after another to settle and, in fact, pushed for a settlement here . . . which included a two-tiered pension.”

Urdal explained that this meant new nurses would not have the option of getting a “true pension.” She said nurses on their bargaining team did not like the “best and final offer” at all. “We have only had a pension for about 20 years, and it was a big fight for us to get it.” The bargaining units which ratified this new contract lost pension rights for nurses hired after the contract ratification.

“We all have to fight back!”

The striking nurses held rallies every day during the strike. On Christmas Eve, a vigil was dedicated to patients and staff who had lost their lives due to COVID-19. Ann Giebeler, a veteran Neonatal Intensive Care Unit nurse, said: “Many, many lives were lost in the pandemic . . . We are out here trying to correct some of the conditions that led to the deplorable situation that people faced. It’s not a good thing what is going on, and somebody has got to stand up and fight for us, and that somebody is all of us.”

Later that week, this reporter spoke with Eric Koch, an Alta Bates nurse on the negotiating team, at the makeshift outdoor “nurses’ lounge.” Koch talked about the tragic “hemorrhaging of staff” since the pandemic: “We have lost over 70% of nurses since the pandemic started. Most of the nurses are leaving not only because of the bad conditions, but we can go down the street to Kaiser (in another California hospital system) and make a minimum of 15% to 20% more.”

Sutter Health’s goal: increase profits

Koch says he believes Sutter Health’s ultimate goal is to close the Ashby campus of Alta Bates. “Sutter Health creates a monopoly wherever they go. They buy hospitals, combine them and then shut ancillary facilities down.” These hospitals can then charge exorbitant rates and greatly increase their profits.

A union-friendly DJ provided nonstop music during the nine-day strike, despite the rain. Punctuating the music and dancing on the picket line was the constant honking of passing cars, showing drivers’ support for the only hospital in Berkeley and in solidarity with the courageous fight of the nurses for a just contract. Many young and new nurses participated in the strike. Lilliam Morrison, an Alta Bates nurse hired in September, explained that she was on the picket line because of all the support and other nurses have given her. “We do the hard work here,” she said.

Many nurses brought their children, their parents and other family members to the picket lines. A contingent of teachers from the Oakland Education Association joined the strikers in Berkeley almost every day.

Unity is key

On New Year’s Day, a rally was held at 11 a.m. to support the striking nurses. Speakers included nurses on the bargaining unit and supporters from local unions, including teachers from the OEA. Donna Woodruff, negotiator for nurses at the Alta Bates Herrick campus, said, “I want Sutter to know that the bargaining team is ready, anytime Sutter wants to come to the table and bargain with us.”

Sutter suspended bargaining until the beginning of 2023.

“We must continue to stand shoulder to shoulder,” said Janine Pereira, another nurse negotiator. “Bargaining for 18 months is absolute nonsense. It is all about greed, maltreatment, and we are not having it. We are doing things now that will benefit the new nurses that are coming. We may never meet them, but we are still planting the tree.”

This amazing strike was conducted as a rank and file-led effort against Sutter Health, a multimillion-dollar hospital company. It was held despite the last-minute pressure by Sutter Health and CNA staff to accept what nurses criticized as a bad contract. Nurses ended their strike and entered Alta Bates Hospital on Jan. 2, 22 a large group. They promise to continue fighting and organizing for a fair contract, even if that effort means future strikes and labor actions.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette strike vs. Block Communications continues

By Stephanie Hedgecoke
Member, Typographical Local CWA 14156

Communications Workers Locals 14827 and 14842, Typographers and Mailers union members, walked out on strike at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Oct. 5, 2022, joined shortly afterward by members of Teamsters Local 205/211 newspaper drivers and Graphic Communications Conference/IBT Local 24M/9N press operators.

The paper’s owners, Block Communications, suddenly quit paying pension and health care contributions in the fall, then terminated all health coverage Oct. 1. Block also owns the Toledo Blade in Ohio and a half dozen TV stations in Ohio and Kentucky.

According to a CWA District 2-13 press release: “The workers, who are responsible for designing, printing, distributing, advertising sales and accounts receivables at the newspaper, have been working without a collective bargaining agreement since March 2017. . . . the workers have not had a pay raise in 16 years. . . . Block Communications, the owners of the Post-Gazette, refused to pay an additional $19 per employee per week to maintain the existing coverage. The workers currently pay over 8% of their wages toward insurance premiums, amounting to approximately $7,300 per year. Out-of-pocket costs for the high-deductible plan proposed by the Company can cost a family as much as $14,400 or more per year.”

Pittsburgh NewsGuild (TNG-CWA Local 38061) editorial staff joined the picket lines Oct. 18, in response to the unilateral changes to their health coverage and Block’s longtime unfair labor practices. Subsequently, the Pennsylvania state labor federation called on readers to end their subscriptions in a boycott. (tinyurl.com/zuumwp7y)

Striking workers continue to get the word out about their strike at Pittsburgh’s Market Square, and they started a strike newspaper, the “Pittsburgh Union Progress.” Other union locals in the newspaper industry have been making donations to the unions in Pittsburgh to help the strikers with health care and other needs.

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“Unity is key

On New Year’s Day, a rally was held at 11 a.m. to support the striking nurses. Speakers included nurses on the bargaining unit and supporters from local unions, including teachers from the OEA. Donna Woodruff, negotiator for nurses at the Alta Bates Herrick campus, said, “I want Sutter to know that the bargaining team is ready, anytime Sutter wants to come to the table and bargain with us.” Sutter suspended bargaining until the beginning of 2023.

“We must continue to stand shoulder to shoulder,” said Janine Pereira, another nurse negotiator. “Bargaining for 18 months is absolute nonsense. It is all about greed, maltreatment, and we are not having it. We are doing things now that will benefit the new nurses that are coming. We may never meet them, but we are still planting the tree.”

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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette strike vs. Block Communications continues

By Stephanie Hedgecoke
Member, Typographical Local CWA 14156

Communications Workers Locals 14827 and 14842, Typographers and Mailers union members, walked out on strike at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Oct. 5, 2022, joined shortly afterward by members of Teamsters Local 205/211 newspaper drivers and Graphic Communications Conference/IBT Local 24M/9N press operators.

The paper’s owners, Block Communications, suddenly quit paying pension and health care contributions in the fall, then terminated all health coverage Oct. 1. Block also owns the Toledo Blade in Ohio and a half dozen TV stations in Ohio and Kentucky.

According to a CWA District 2-13 press release: “The workers, who are responsible for designing, printing, distributing, advertising sales and accounts receivables at the newspaper, have been working without a collective bargaining agreement since March 2017. . . . the workers have not had a pay raise in 16 years. . . . Block Communications, the owners of the Post-Gazette, refused to pay an additional $19 per employee per week to maintain the existing coverage. The workers currently pay over 8% of their wages toward insurance premiums, amounting to approximately $7,300 per year. Out-of-pocket costs for the high-deductible plan proposed by the Company can cost a family as much as $14,400 or more per year.”

Pittsburgh NewsGuild (TNG-CWA Local 38061) editorial staff joined the picket lines Oct. 18, in response to the unilateral changes to their health coverage and Block’s longtime unfair labor practices. Subsequently, the Pennsylvania state labor federation called on readers to end their subscriptions in a boycott. (tinyurl.com/zuumwp7y)

Striking workers continue to get the word out about their strike at Pittsburgh’s Market Square, and they started a strike newspaper, the “Pittsburgh Union Progress.” Other union locals in the newspaper industry have been making donations to the unions in Pittsburgh to help the strikers with health care and other needs.

CWA 14827, formerly Pittsburgh Typographical
The following tribute was submitted to the "Ka Joma Lives: International Proletarian Revolutionary Leader, Theoretician, Teacher and Poet in the Service of the People" Dec. 23 memorial in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Workers World Party from the United States recognizes the great achievement of Comrade Joma and mourns alongside the Communist Party of the Philippines, the world proletarian movement and anti-imperialist worldwide. Rest in power, Chairman Sison! Comrade Larry Holmes First Secretary Workers World Party.

Joma Lives: International Proletarian Revolutionary Leader, Theoretician, Teacher and Poet in the Service of the People December 23, 2022

By Monica Moorehead

A standing room only forum, “Ka Joma Lives: International Proletarian Revolutionary Leader, Theoretician, Teacher and Poet in the Service of the People,” was held in tribute to the Filipino leader, Professor Jose Maria Sison, in Amsterdam Dec. 23.

Comrade (Joma) Sison died on Dec. 16 at age 83 in a hospital in the Netherlands, where he was forced into exile in 1988 by the reactionary Philippine government. Sison was imprisoned in the Philippines in 1977 for nine years but was released following the ouster of the U.S.-backed dictator, Ferdinand Marcos.

The U.S. placed him on its terrorist list in 2002, which kept him from traveling outside of the Netherlands.

Sison was a founding member of the Communist Party of the Philippines, guided by the revolutionary principles of Karl Marx and Mao Zedong, in December 1968. The party was the theoretical foundation of New People’s Army, an armed liberation formation that still exists today.

Although Sison faced many hardships being in an anti-imperialist organization in the diaspora. Quality of leadership is reflected throughout any organization. From contact with many Philippine revolutionaries throughout the world, who through their own example of courage, willingness to cooperate on a principled basis and to sacrifice and to carry out what they promise, WWP members learned to value that leadership.

Workers World Party recognizes the great achievements of Comrade Joma and mourns alongside the Communist Party of the Philippines, the world proletarian movement and anti-imperialist worldwide.

Workers World Party has launched a series of striking actions by the Royal College of Nursing, nurses and NHS staff. A recent poll by YouGov found that two-thirds of nurses and NHS staff out in the cold again in January, "instead they have chosen to push nursing and midwifery out in the cold after the government fail to resolve the issues. The nurses want a 19% pay increase to compensate for a decade of wage cuts and staff shortages. Yet, NHS officials are only offering a 4% increase, and they refuse to discuss more. A Dec. 20 nursing strike was avoided in Scotland, when the government agreed to hold talks on pay. The two days of job actions were unprecedented in the British nursing union’s 106-year history, but RCN said it has no choice as workers struggle to make ends meet.

The poll showed 65% believe the government had handled the strikes “badly” or “very badly” and blamed the government's refusal to engage in pay talks for causing the strikes.

New strikes planned for January

Pat Cullen, General Secretary and Chief Executive of the RCN, announced that nurses will go on strike again Jan. 18 and 19 in England, unless pay talks are opened. More hospitals are expected to be impacted than in December. GMB has called for a new coordinated walkout Jan. 11. And in Scotland, NHS workers rejected a 7.5% pay increase offer and are expected to strike.

“The government had the opportunity to end this dispute before Christmas, but instead they have chosen to push nurses and midwives out in the cold after the government fail to resolve the issues," Cullen said. “The public support has been heartwarming, and I am more convinced than ever that this is the right thing to do for patients and the future of the NHS.” (BBC News, Dec. 23)

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Workers across Britain have been engaged in wave after wave of strikes. Since summer, workers in multiple industries have been on strike, resulting in cancellations of thousands of outpatient appointments in England over wages. The strike has agreed to hold talks on pay. The two days of job actions were unprecedented in the British nursing union’s 106-year history, but RCN said it has no choice as workers struggle to make ends meet.

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Days before the New Year, President Joe Biden signed a $1.7 trillion fiscal year 2023 omnibus bill, allocating the budget for that sector and dubbing it spending called “discretionary.” If one had to describe the bill in two words, they would be: “war crime.”

Before mentioning the role of the Republican and Democratic imperialist war parties in handling this bill, we should describe the bill as it really is. This federal fund to spend funds for a war on the world’s people, including on the working class within the United States. It hands the Pentagon more money than Biden even asked for, over $850 billion. It funds the proxy war in Ukraine against Russia; it increases military aid to the Pentagon’s worldwide reach and imperialist plunder and to enforce exploitation of the working class at home. Regarding the two parties that are the political wings of the imperialist War Party, they both supported military spending and adding funds to Biden’s proposals. The omnibus spending bill passed the House 252-201. All House Democrats but two voted for the bill; all the Republicans but eight voted against it. In the Senate, many Republican senators voted for the bill, and all the Democrats did, including Bernie Sanders.

Of the House Democrats, only Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez voted against the budget, and Rashida Tlaib reportedly asked for a vote to “present,” which is something like abstaining. This means that even the most progressive, socialist, decolonial sector of the Democratic Party had only token opposition. Many House Republicans made noises objecting to the high sums spent for military aid to the Kiev regime in Ukraine, but no one should misinterpret their “no” vote as opposition to imperialist war. They spoke out mainly against any part of the total budget that might aid some of the poorer members of U.S. society, including people of color, who consider undervesting, even of the crumbs offered. And they complained that that aid was sent to Ukraine but that no wall was built on the U.S.’s southern border to punish human beings from the Global South for the crises that imperialism has created.

Democrats, on the other hand, boasted that they pushed through some programs that benefit the poor. To the small extent that they did, it was token opposition backed by the Senate Republicans for this war budget. Feeding the war in Ukraine risks nuclear confrontation with Russia and the continued belligerent moves by the Pentagon against China can easily turn from cold war to hot—a war crime.

The omnibus budget vote showed once more that any movement wanting to stop the imperialist war buildup must abandon the belief that electing Democratic Party politicians will accomplish this. Look instead to the developing movement in the working class; organize demonstrations in the streets—like those called this month by the United National Antíwar Coalition—and build a movement outside the two dominant capitalist parties. They are the war criminals—the working class must be the war resisters.

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**Threat of more U.S. sanctions on Haiti**

By G. Dunkel

While the huge social, economic and political problems of Haiti have slipped off the news, if anything, they have intensified over the past few months.

According to Helen La,Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Haiti and Head of BINUH (U.N. Integrated Office in Haiti), “Close to half the population are food insecure, with some 200,000 people facing famine-like conditions; 34% of schools remain closed.”

She spoke at a Dec. 21 Security Council meeting to consider what additional sanctions the U.S. should impose on Haiti.

La was a high-ranking U.S. diplomat before she joined the U.N. in 2018. She previously served as the U.S. ambassador to Angola.

La Lime claimed that there were 15,000 cases of cholera spread throughout the country, which is an admitted undercount. Cholera is spread by a lack of sanitation and untreated water, both imposed on Haiti by the U.S.

Ignoring the 15 years and $8 billion the U.N. disbursed during its last occupation of Haiti, La Lime’s solution was more of the same.

In her report to the Security Council, delivered by video from Port au Prince Dec. 21, La Lime asserted: “The HNP [the Haitian National Police] continues to be underresourced and insufficiently equipped to address the enormity of the internal security threat, including in the form of a specialized force, as outlined in the Secretary-General’s letter of 8 October.”


He pointed out that Haiti had suffered three coups d’état in the past three decades—1991, 2004 and most recently, the 2021. In 1991 and 2004, the U.N. intervened militarily, “cementing in place an unjust and illegal status quo.” The victims of these coups—the Haitian masses—were the ones policed, repressed, terrorized, demonized, sexually violated, politically bullied and economically sanctioned.

Ives addressed the “need” that the BINUH, the U.N. and Canada feel to control the “gangs,” which have proliferated in Haiti. He stated, “The previous two U.N. military interventions have so weakened the Haitian state” that the growth of groupings engaged in extortion, kidnap, rape and more was unbridled. The masses responded with the creation of “vigilance brigades.”

Ives points out: “These self-constituted defense committees are the very embodiment of self-determination and organic community action and response.”

Ives analyzed the cost of the U.N.’s occupation as compared to the cost of the fuel subsidy that Prime Minister Ariel Henry removed to the general detriment of the Haitian people. He pointed out that the blockade of the Varreux fuel port was not key to the economic disaster in Port au Prince and that de facto Prime Minister Henry was assisted by the Core Group—ambassadors from the U.S., France, Canada, Germany, the U.N., Spain and Brazil—and has no political legitimacy in Haiti.

In his report with a plea: “The Haitian people, acting with full sovereignty, must be allowed to sort out their own problems.”

Impact of sanctions

Vassily Nebenzia, Russian ambassador to the U.N., began his presentation, immediately after Ives spoke, by saying, “We also thank American journalist and editor of Haiti Liberté, Mr. Kim Ives, and appreciate his rather interesting and unbiased view of the situation in the country.”

It was the Russian delegation that got the invitation extended to Haiti Liberté.

Nebenzia asserted that Haiti’s “chronic crisis of statehood, socioeconomic collapse and decomposition of legal institutions to a large extent are the results of the protracted external political engineering.” The “historical responsibility for this rests not only with Washington, which has repeatedly intervened in Haiti’s internal affairs, including by armed force, but also with Paris.” France extorted yet another payment for the so-called “property” — the enslaved people—the French enslavers lost.

Nebenzia stated that the “former colonial powers have changed their behavior now in Haiti, using the money it has remained” the same; interference in Haiti’s internal affairs occurs by means of imposing alien solutions.”

He noted that “the insights of Mr. Ives that he shared today should be the reason for us to be even more careful with sanctions. Otherwise, sanctions risk affecting not the criminal elements but the opposition activists.”

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¡Permitid la entrada en EE.UU. a todos los inmigrantes! (Let immigration into the U.S. for all migrants!)

continúa en página 7
La administración Trump implementó los Protocolos de Protección al Migrante o la política de Permanecer en México (REM) para detener el tráfico de hombres adultos solos, las mujeres y las unidades familiares, que buscan asilo, a través de la frontera entre Estados Unidos y México, regreses a México mientras esperan sus audiencias de asilo en el tribunal de inmigración de Estados Unidos. Esta política perjudicia a poblaciones vulnerables ya de por sí vulnerables a condiciones inseguras y peligrosas en la frontera y les niega su derecho a solicitar asilo. Más de 70,000 migrantes se han visto obligados a permanecer en México a la espera de justicia en Estados Unidos. Pero el 3 de diciembre, el alcalde de Nashville, Tennessee, John Cooper, había suspendido ese programa cuando asumió el cargo en enero de 2021. Sin embargo, tribunales inferiores restablecieron la política REM después de que se presentaran demandas encabezadas por republicanos de Texas y Missouri. Se reanudó en diciembre de 2021; el 8 de agosto, un juez anuló la orden que había estado en vigor desde entonces, y el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional puso fin a esta política. Pero el 1 de diciembre el juez federal de Texas impidió que la administración Biden pusiera fin temporalmente al programa REM que ha sido considerado inconstitucional y violatorio de los derechos humanos. Los migrantes locales impidió que la administración Biden pusiera fin temporalmente al programa REM que ha sido considerado inconstitucional y violatorio de los derechos humanos. Los migrantes locales impidió que la administración Biden pusiera fin temporalmente al programa REM que ha sido considerado inconstitucional y violatorio de los derechos humanos.