Presidential campaign chaos

Workers still have no real choice

Workers World has learned that President Joe Biden has dropped out of the race between him and former President Donald Trump. As of this writing it appears that Vice President Kamala Harris will run in Biden’s place. This is being presented as an unprecedented development, because no presidential candidate has ever withdrawn after winning their party’s nomination through the primary-election process.

Whatever Biden’s withdrawal leads to, it promises no meaningful change in the political positions of the Democratic Party. Even without “Genocide Joe” as the candidate, its support for the genocide in Palestine will continue—with Democratic and Republican support for continued military aid to the Zionist apartheid state. This will not change with the election of either Trump or Harris.

Workers World will oppose racism and misogyny whenever they raise their ugly heads, and that will happen if there is a possibility that Kamala Harris could be the first Black and South Asian woman president and the second president of color of the U.S.

But we have no illusions that the mere election of someone who is not Biden will lead to any change in policy in regards to ethnic cleansing in Palestine and the U.S-NATO proxy war against Russia. We don’t expect any drop in the number of murders by racist police, who have by and large operated with impunity no matter who sits in the Oval Office.

We don’t expect companies like Starbucks, Amazon and Tesla to reverse their anti-union agenda. We also do not expect there to be a reversal to the 2022 reactionary U.S. Supreme Court ruling that overturned Roe v. Wade—a historic ruling won through mass struggle that legalized abortion in 1973.

Stopping these injustices will take a massive struggle, and we will do all we can to help this happen.

Both capitalist exploitation at home and imperialist war abroad will continue to make life hell for the working-class, especially the most oppressed—as has happened under Biden.

Workers World understands the threat of fascism posed by Trump, J.D. Vance, Project 2025 and Agenda 47. Many workers are legitimately afraid. But the only way to win, especially in this era of late-stage capitalism where class antagonisms are razor-sharp, is to build a united global movement of all working class and oppressed people. That movement must act in total solidarity with the valiant resistance fight for the liberation of Palestine and battle every step by the U.S. imperialist regime to drag the people into war.

Workers World supports wholeheartedly the mass protests for Palestine that will take place Aug. 19 and during the Democratic National Convention. The march is demanding “End U.S. aid to Israel,” which convention delegates should be pressed to call for. Delegates representing “uncommitted” primary voters in a number of states are going into the convention to demand “Not one more bomb.”


We state this firmly: Capitulation and compromise on the issue of genocide is unacceptable. ☐
On the 71st anniversary of Moncada
Hail Cuba’s Revolution and internationalism with Workers World

Workers World/Mundo Obrero joins with the Cuban people in celebrating the 71st anniversary of an event which changed the course of history for their island nation. On July 26, 1953, Cuban revolutionaries boldly attacked the Moncada garrison in Santiago de Cuba and simultaneously conducted a siege of the army barracks in Bayamo.

These courageous acts were aimed to strike a blow against the brutal U.S.-backed dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista. Although the revolutionaries’ military goals were not achieved and the struggle suffered a temporary setback, the armed struggle had reached a new stage that continued until the dictatorship was overthrown on Jan. 1, 1959. As the guerrilla forces fought in the mountains, an underground movement spread across the country.

Cuba has not only developed in every sphere since the socialist revolution, this island nation has carried out acts of international solidarity to aid oppressed countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia, whether with military might or medical brigades.

This assistance has been given generously, despite the horrific blockade implemented against Cuba by Washington for 62 years. Even during the pandemic, despite a dearth of medical supplies, Cuba sent medical teams and shared its COVID-19 vaccines with countries denied them by the imperialist West.

This June, in a strong show of solidarity with the besieged Palestinian people, Cuba joined the lawsuit filed by South Africa against Israel before the International Court of Justice, against the Zionist state’s genocidal war in Gaza. Palestinian students, workers and citizens have been subjected to psychological intervention and thanked the court’s leaders and people for their support. This includes student demonstrations.

International support of Cuba and its people is ever more important now due to the restrictions on travel, trade and financial transactions imposed by the Trump administration and continued by Biden’s.

Cuba has deservedly won the support and respect of people around the globe. Workers World/Mundo Obrero has shown our unwavering solidarity with this socialist country on this newspaper’s pages and in countless activities on the streets.

WW needs your participation! This pro-worker newspaper depends on our readers’ backing. The WW Supporter Program was launched 47 years ago to help print this socialist newspaper and later support workers.org, where new articles are posted daily and the weekly paper’s PDF is displayed.

Workers.org contains news and analyses of global and U.S. struggles, bulletins from national liberation movements and articles translated by our staff. Our writer-organizers report on anti-capitalist struggles and people’s movements against racism and war — and for the rights of Black, Latiné and Indigenous people, women, workers, migrants, LGBTQ2AES+ and disabled individuals. The website is a resource for political activism.

While WW’s staff is voluntary, the 12 printed (and mailed) issues each year and the website incur expenses. Although membership publications require payments to read their articles, WW does not. Our articles are free to all readers.

Join the WW Supporter Program

Can you donate $50, $100 or $200 a year? Contributing $50 or more will entitle you to receive 12 print issues a year, email links to online articles and, upon request, the book “What road to socialism?”

Your donations help get class truth to more readers — and mean more support for Workers World. Mail them with your name, address and email address to Workers World, 121 West 26th St., Rm. 404, New York, NY 10011.

Some of the heroes of Moncada as they were freed from prison by a people’s campaign in 1953. Fidel Castro, front, center.

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 prevailing quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression of immigrants, asylum seekers, LGBTQ2AES+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future.

No social problem 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 — and, in the process, enrich themselves 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.

WW fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should be used to meet the basic human needs of all people. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and lack of hope for the future.

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

If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact:

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Workers World

Workers World workers.org

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Vol. 66, No. 30 • July 25, 2024
Closing date: July 24, 2024
Editors: John Catalotto, Martha Grevatt, Deirdre Griswold, Monica Moorehead, Betsey Piette
Web Editors: Abeer, Harvey Markowitz, Janet Meyes

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Mundo Obrero

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New York, NY 10001
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Subscription information is at workers.org.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Back issues and individual articles are available on this newspaper's pages and in countless activities on the streets.
Nicaragua

Long live the Sandinista Revolution!

The following is from a statement on the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Sandinista Revolution from members of Workers World Party and the Bronx Anti-War Coalition on a solidarity delegation in Nicaragua this July 19.

We are honored to stand beside the Nicaraguan people on the anniversary of the victory of the 1979 Sandinista revolution, which liberated the Nicaraguan people from U.S. occupation and ended the U.S.-backed Somoza dictatorship. For 200 years, the United States has been interfering in Nicaragua’s affairs since the Monroe Doctrine, which asserts U.S. hegemony in the Western Hemisphere even today. The brutal dictatorship of Somoza worked at the behest of U.S. capital, trampling on the dignity of Nicaraguans through the use of the U.S.-built Guardia Nacional. After a series of striking blows to the Somoza regime, the people’s insurrection against U.S. imperialism through guerrilla tactics was solidified when Managua was liberated.

Following an 18-year armed struggle against the repressive regime that ended in 1979, the Sandinistas began to rebuild their nation from the ashes of the war while the dictator fled to Miami. Over the following decades, the U.S. did all it could to crush the Sandinista revolution. From the 11-year terrorist campaign of the U.S.-funded Contras to the age of neoliberalism following the defeat of the Sandinistas in 1990 to the 2018 U.S.-backed attempted coup—these are not blips in time but continued imperialist transgressions against the sovereignty of Nicaraguans.

Despite these attempts, the revolution and its legacy have not been eradicated, which we had the honor of witnessing during our visits to the many beautiful corners of Nicaragua.

A society run by the people

Many comrades were moved to see a society truly run by the people and in which the well-being of the people is the top priority. The Nicaraguan people are politically conscious, active and powerful, exercising agency over all aspects of Nicaraguan society. Our delegation met with union deputies, health care professionals, churchgoers and other community members.

We connected with doctors and nurses in Nueva Vida and joined them in house visits. We saw how they offered holistic, accessible and free health care, ensuring nobody gets left behind or denied. We spoke with high school students who tended their school’s garden and saw how they practiced food sovereignty and taught others in their community to do the same.

We heard from the water safety committee and leaders of hydraulic projects in Ciudad Sandino who are able to supply their communities with food and water. We saw the uplifting of the Afro-descendant people on the Caribbean coast through cultural autonomy.

We witnessed martyrs being honored in church ceremonies in Managua and on plazas throughout the streets of León. We noticed that the people constantly express gratitude for those who sacrificed their lives for the Sandinista revolution so that the Nicaraguan people could live a life of dignity and agency.

The Sandinista government’s primary goal is poverty alleviation. The infrastructure development we saw—newly paved roads, new health clinics, new water treatment facilities and new electrical grids—significantly improved the quality of life, providing the dignity promised by the 1979 victory.

Every day, people recognize Russia, China and Iran as strong allies who have helped them secure food, medicine and building materials so that they can continue to develop their nation’s infrastructure. This internationalist approach has been mutually beneficial for the well-being of the Sandinista struggle. Despite the U.S. government’s attempts to demonize these states, we were able to see the life-saving material support that these states have offered to Nicaragua. Whereas the U.S. has only ever played the role of killing and suffocating Nicaraguan life, Russia, China and Iran have been key international players in protecting Nicaraguan sovereignty and ensuring dignity.

It has been 45 years since the people liberated themselves from U.S. occupation, and the success of preserving Nicaraguan sovereignty is a model to all. The people are proactively participating in determining priorities and addressing their own material needs while simultaneously asserting the right of self-determination for movements abroad, such as Palestinian liberation.

Palestine and Nicaragua

Nearly every person we spoke to said they saw the Palestinian struggle as their own. Palestinian flags can be seen everywhere, hanging alongside FSLN flags. We noticed many parallels between the two liberation movements, including but not limited to the role of armed struggle, the religious foundation of the revolutions and the honoring of martyrs. Because of their shared fight against Western imperialism, the people of Nicaragua have an intuitive understanding of the Palestinian struggle and the necessary means for national liberation.

Delegations such as our own are determined to return back to the belly of the beast and dispel the propaganda and myths about Nicaragua that are fed to us by the CIA/U.S. State Department. Through conversations with working people, we learned that our primary task as revolutionary anti-imperialists in the imperial core is to actively wage a struggle to lift the deadly U.S. sanctions on Nicaragua and demand a complete cessation of imperialist policies in the Western Hemisphere.

Connecting directly with migrant diasporas, who understand that forced migration is a product of imperialist military interventions and economic sanctions, is also an avenue to mobilize against the U.S. war machine. The success of the Sandinista victory is a source of education and inspiration for our struggle in the imperialist United States. Major labor unions, solidarity networks and the FSLN bolstered support for the revolution, teaching us that we should be involved in meeting the material needs of our community members.

We understand that education and raising class consciousness is fundamental to an anti-imperialist struggle. We must genuinely build trust and love the people, cultivating a culture of care that counters the individualism and opportunism that capitalism instills.

We want to thank the Nicaraguan people and the FSLN for welcoming us into your beautiful nation. We will continue to uplift the successes of the Sandinista revolution—struggle, which is a model for those fighting for the liberation of all peoples from Western imperialism.

¡Viva la Revolución Sandinista! Long live the Sandinista Revolution!

Software update glitch hits a billion people

By G. Dunkel

New code released by cybersecurity company CrowdStrike, Inc. hit the hospital system that serves just over 10 million people in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the Caribbean and Europe:

The way that CrowdStrike officials decided to update the system for detecting intrusions, which require updating frequently to keep up with the ever-changing tactics of cybercriminals, was such that it froze computer systems in a wide range of organizations. Customers of the software installed by large- and medium-sized companies. According to Microsoft, over 8 million computer running Microsoft’s Windows have CrowdStrike software installed.

The wave of intrusions caused by the software update has spread across industries. In the United States, the federal government was hit with a massive cyber attack that led to the closure of government websites for days. Businesses around the world have also been affected, with some reporting service disruptions and others seeing a decrease in productivity. The impact has been felt across industries, from healthcare to finance to retail, with many organizations relying on CrowdStrike for cybersecurity.

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Indifference, which violates the Eighth Amendment and
[Federal] Bureau of Prisons not only deliberately ignores
Leonard is in pain. He has lost flesh from his toe. The
[United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary
Peltier Official Ad Hoc Committee on July 16, 2024. Go
to www.freeleonardpeltiernow.org.

Demands health care treatment
for Leonard Peltier now!

The following statement was issued by the Leonard
Peltier Official Ad Hoc Committee on July 16, 2024. Go
to www.freeleonardpeltiernow.org.

Dear friends,
Leonard Peltier was taken from the prison to the hospi-
tal and held for four days. He was released from the
hospital today, Leonard has been and is being denied
medical care. His health care is so far below medical
provisions that we filed an urgent appeal to the United

Another prisoner pointed out that Leonard’s toe was
written off as infected and healing. It is not. It is
Diabetes is a condition that requires medical care. Now,
Leonard is in pain. He has lost flesh from his toe. The
[Federal] Bureau of Prisons not only deliberately ignores
medical needs, but at times, they withhold their insulin.

Leonard Peltier’s current situation results from the
Bureau of Prisons’ failure to adhere to even its own health
policies. The policy Leonard lives under is Deliberate
Indifference, which violates the Eighth Amendment and
the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Leonard now lives with an open wound in conditions
that would be illegal for livestock. Prisoners are locked
down 24/7 and forced to live in filth, because they are
given no cleaning supplies.

For a person with diabetes, a foot wound is dangerous.
An infection could quickly lead to amputation or death.
That is how Leonard lost his father, Leo. One piece at a
time.

Even with the best standard treatment, about 50% of
patients do not entirely heal in 12 weeks. Leonard suffers
from the opposite of the best standard treatment. He can
expect an untreated foot wound in an 8 x 10 cell crawling
with bacteria for quite some time. If we allow it.

The simplest day-to-day activities for an elderly
slave can be extremely challenging, even something as
easy as cleaning their cells. We would ask that
prisoners, willing inmates be allowed to assist elderly
inmates in this task as well as others. The Grey OWLS
would also seek to enlist the assistance of the
younger inmates in escorting the elderly to
meals and other appointments.

Leonard Peltier is 59 years of age and suffers a
tortuous journey toward death by incarceration.

While 25% of the PA DOC inmates are 50 years of age or older, 50% of the
elderly PA lifers are 50 and over — 53% of the
female lifers and 43% of the male. The
actual numbers on elderly PA lifers are:
103 females and 2,259 males. On April 30,
2015, there were 162 lifers in PA age 70
years and older, 25 of those were 80 years
or older.

In analyzing the cost of a life sentence, age is a major factor. The total cost to
confinement for all inmates in fiscal year 2017 was
$2.926 billion or $47,599 per inmate. In
fiscal 2016, the total medication cost for those over age
50 was almost $2.1 million, the same amount spent on
the entire under 50 inmate population.

The goal of all elderly PA lifers is to educate and to raise
the issue of the $3.6 million cost per lifer for the length
of their incarceration to the taxpayers of PA. The main
question for the taxpayers is very simple—Do you want to
continue spending $2.3 billion annually to fund the PA
DOC, particularly when the limited financial resources are
needed elsewhere?

Elderly PA lifers and lifers in general in the PA DOC
would like to educate everyone, to let them know that the
system is broken and in great need of Criminal Justice
Reform. If this practice continues, the state and this
country would be nothing more than a penal colony of
the 15th Century.

Anthony Brown is serving a life sentence at State
Correctionsal Facility in Pennsylvania.
U.S. interferes in July 28 Venezuela election – once again

By Teddie Kelly

Venezuelans expect to go to the polls to determine the future of the country's government on July 28, but the long history of U.S. interference in Venezuela looms over the contentious election.

The history of U.S. interference in the sovereignty of the Venezuelan people dates back over a century. In 1895, President Grover Cleveland contested British ownership of the Venezuelan port of Aruba by invoking the Monroe Doctrine—a policy of U.S. imperialist dominion over all of the Americas and the Caribbean.

The peoples of Venezuela live atop an ocean of oil, which the U.S. has sought to control since the early 20th century. The administration of Howard Taft in 1913 attempted to overthrow the government of Vicente Gomez through the seizure of power in 1913, the first of many U.S.-backed coups d'état. Gomez remained the country's de facto head of state for almost 30 years. Capitalists raked in profits by exploiting workers under the succession of destabilizing military takeovers in 1943, 1948 and 1952.

The threats of military force and economic sanctions compelled subsequent civilian governments to comply with the International Monetary Fund, World Bank and other global financial institutions. To put a stop to the wholesale theft of the country, Hugo Chavez, a progressive military colonel, made two attempts in 1992 to march soldiers into Caracas and overthrow the comprador government.

Famously, Chavez addressed the Venezuelan people on live television, saying, “Comrades: unfortunately, for now, we have not achieved our intended objectives in the capital... New possibilities will present themselves and the country will move decisively to a better future.”

Hugo Chavez elected president in 1998

Six years later, Hugo Chavez would be elected president. His socialist-leaning government nationalized industries, and efforts were made to democratize the administration through the establishment of communal councils and a new popular constitution. Another coup attempt during the George W. Bush administration in 2002 was defeated by Chavez's government within 48 hours.

Venezuelans wrenched back control of domestic oil production to fund programs to increase literacy and access to food, health care and housing. After Chavez's death in 2013, the United Socialist Party of Venezuela has continued to struggle for the health and sovereignty of its peoples through the administration of former bus driver and union organizer Nicolas Maduro, now president.

Ten years and myriad imperialist attacks later, Venezuela now faces a new challenge from an opposition that will attempt to sell the country back to the capitalists. Borrowing a page from the Trump playbook, for the last several months corporate media has tried to cast doubt on the legitimacy of the outcome should Maduro be reelected.

The New York Times on July 10 cited dubious claims about electoral fraud by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems; its chairperson is international real estate banker William C. Echo, who was granted an ambassadorship by President Barack Obama after donating over $500,000 to his 2008 campaign. The Times failed to disclose that Echo was also a senior adviser for the Department of National Intelligence in 2015 when the Obama administration designated Venezuela as an “unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.” This was, effectively, a declaration of hybrid war on the country.

According to the Times, supporters of regime change insist that the Maduro government is to blame for the low voter registration rate among the 640,000 Venezuelan nationals in the U.S., while ignoring the fact that many of them are poor, undocumented and live nowhere near a Venezuelan consulate.

Critics of the pro-socialist Venezuelan government claim refugees have fled “in search of the American dream,” yet thousands are denied entry at the U.S. border. In Tijuana, CSIS.org, Nov. 27, 2023 Last September, more Venezuelans attempted to enter the U.S. than people from any other country. (voanews.com, March 31)

U.S. sanctions behind flood of Venezuelan refugees

The unbearable conditions of living under a U.S.-sanctioned regime caused thousands of people to seek food, medical care, education and shelter abroad. The Center for Strategic & International Studies noted that of the half million migrants who crossed the treacherous Darién Gap on the border of Panama and Colombia in 2023, an estimated 60% were Venezuelan.

Thousands more crossed over the U.S. by avoiding Customs and Border Patrol checkpoints, leaving them vulnerable to arrest, deportation and violence at the hands of police and Immigration and Customs Enforce officials.

The number of people attempting these so-called “illegal” crossings has halved in the last year because of the Biden administration’s recent deportation orders that specifically target Venezuelans. On Oct. 18, 2023, ICE claimed that it deported 300,000 Venezuelans during the summer of 2023.

Those who are permitted to enter are placed on “parole,” an arrangement which allows businesses to exploit their labor in exchange for paltry wages.

Threat of U.S. military intervention

The threat of another U.S. military intervention has loomed over Venezuela for decades. Sen. Marco Rubio, who represents a fervently pro-war and anti-communist constituency, has preemptively declared the upcoming election illegitimate. Rubio, himself a right-wing child of Cuban exiles, decried Venezuela’s new laws cracking down on fascist agitators. As a ranking member of both the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate Intelligence Committee, Rubio made a clear threat on April 8, in a FRC press release: “The United States and the international community must respond swiftly and hold the regime accountable.”

In August 2018, Nicolas Maduro survived an assassination attempt which the Venezuelan government says was planned and financed by right-wing Venezuelans living in the U.S. According to CNN, at least one of the assassins later claimed to have met with officials from the U.S. State Department. (March 14, 2019)

Weeks later, Maduro defiantly traveled to New York City to attend a meeting of the U.N. General Assembly, after which he made a surprise appearance at the Riverside Church in Harlem alongside Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel. He told the assembled crowd: “We have been the victim of enormous imperialistic aggression. However, today on September 26, 2018, the Bolivarian revolution of Venezuela is on its feet, it is alive, and it is victorious.” (tinyurl.com/537efjru)

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Workers ready to strike Boeing behemoth

By Jim McMahan

Seattle

Some 33,000 workers represented by the International Association of Machinists walked out of Boeing’s Seattle and Portland plants on July 17 to demonstrate their will to strike. The workers have experienced cutbacks, layoffs, union-busting and all-around attacks on their standard of living throughout the 2000s.

After the walkout in Seattle, over 20,000 workers held a “stop-work meeting” at T-Mobile Park and voted for strike authorization, with 99% in favor. The Machinistsmobile Park and voted for strike authorization, with 99% in favor. The Machinists

The Machinists are demanding higher pay, full, defined benefit pensions, which Boeing eliminated in 2014, converting everyone to a 401K plan. Workers want an end to mandatory overtime.

The union also wants a guarantee that future Boeing planes will continue to be built in Washington state.

The IAM was pressed by Boeing in 2009 after the company moved most of the production of the new 787 plane to a newly-built plant in North Charleston, South Carolina. IAM leaders thought if they didn’t make contract concessions, Boeing would move away from the Northwest entirely to North Charleston or somewhere else.

The Machinists made two attempts to unionize the North Charleston plant, and there was good initiative from the workers there. But the organizing attempt was defeated by tens of millions of dollars of anti-union money from both the South Carolina and the Boeing establishment.

Plane crashes tied to union busting

Boeing has been exposed by both whistleblowers and consumers after two massive casualty MAX plane crashes and a huge number of hazardous defects found in many of its planes.

The manufacturing problems can all be traced back to Boeing’s anti-labor policy, with workers forced to work long hours for low pay. Some 33,000 workers represented by the International Association of Machinists walked out of Boeing’s Seattle and Portland plants on July 17 to demonstrate their will to strike. The workers have experienced cutbacks, layoffs, union-busting and all-around attacks on their standard of living throughout the 2000s. After the walkout in Seattle, over 20,000 workers held a “stop-work meeting” at T-Mobile Park and voted for strike authorization, with 99% in favor. The Machinists

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Vance was born and raised in Middletown, Ohio, a small town located between Dayton and Cincinnati. Vance served in the Marines from 2003-2007 after graduating from high school. He spent six months in 2005 with U.S. occupation forces in Iraq. He then attended Ohio State University and eventually Yale Law School, where he received a degree in 2013. In 2015, Vance became a business partner with Mithril Capital, a venture capital firm run by the Silicon Valley far-right tech billionaire Peter Thiel. Vance, Thiel and former Trump adviser Darren Banton are all major investors in Rumble, a Canadian video platform.

Rumble is known for platforming racist and antisemitic conspiracy theories that are banned from YouTube. Thiel quickly took Vance under his wing and helped fund much of his 2020 senatorial race, reportedly donating $10 million and making Vance his personal protégé.

**Disparities and racist tropes**

Vance's hometown of Middletown is not located in the Appalachian Mountains. According to "Hillbilly Elegy," Vance did spend some youthful summers in Eastern Kentucky. Vance was raised by his maternal grandparents, and they were originally from the Appalachian coal-mining community of Jackson, Kentucky. Like many of his grandparents' peers, he wrote, they were pro-union and registered Democrats.

Although he spent most of his youth in the flatlands of Middletown and only a few summers in Appalachia, Vance uniquely chose to describe himself as a "hillbilly" in his memoir.

**Vance's faux Appalachian tale is also filled with racist tropes. Author and middle-school teacher Neema Avashia, the daughter of Indian immigrants who was born and raised in West Virginia, points out the following about Vance: "People like me and my family are historically multicultural immigrants who neighbor and labor alongside white working-class Appalachians — don't exist in Vance's narrative. Black folks don't exist in his narrative. Queer folks don't exist in his narrative. Avashia stresses: "And in his campaign rhetoric, we only exist as the root of Appalachia's problems; never as one of its sources of strength." (The Guardian, July 16)

For oppressed people and people of color like Avashia, who actually did grow up in Appalachia, Vance's story is completely false. In Vance's Eurocentric version of Appalachia, everyone looks and acts a certain way, and nobody else exists. "Hillbilly Elegy" makes the misleading claim that everyone in Appalachia is Scots-Irish heritage, which ignores people of Indigenous nations whose ancestors pre-date settler colonialism, as well as the historically multinational character of coal miners in the region.

In making an unscientific generalization about people in Appalachia, particularly Scots-Irish descendants, Vance writes, "We do not like outsiders or people who are different from us, whether the difference lies in how they look, how they act, or, most importantly, how they talk." (Politico, July 15)

Vance's description of Appalachia is the opposite of that of the late Kentucky native and "Appalachian" activist bell hooks (born Gloria Jean Watkins), who authored much prose and poetry about the region. Among bell hooks' books on the subject is "Appalachian Elegy: Poetry and Place," a progressive alternative to Vance's reactionary memoir.

From "never Trumper" to demagogic grifter

In 2016, Vance publicly positioned himself as an open critic of Trump's then-presidential campaign. In addition to labeling himself a "never Trump" guy when interviewed by Charlie Rose that year, he called Trump "noxious" and said Trump was "leading the 'white' working class to a very dark place," during an interview with National Public Radio. (Politico, July 15). It was also reported that Vance even called Trump "America's Hitler," around the same time. (Politico, July 15).

Just a few years later, Vance took a sharp turn to the right, becoming a "venture capitalist." This autobiographical narrative that falsely argues people can somehow escape poverty and exploitation through "hard work." "Hillbilly Elegy" quickly became a New York Times bestseller. While receiving some rave reviews, it also faced fair share of criticism for its controversial and classist conclusions. Starting with the hookey title, "Hillbilly Elegy" reinforces negative stereotypes of workers residing in rural Midwestern and Appalachian communities.

Vance's memoir was later made into a movie in 2020. Directed by Ron Howard, the film features award-winning actor Glenn Close as Vance's grandmother, who he calls "Mamaw." The movie focuses on the emotional storylines rather than the far-right political undertones of the memoir. Something removed from the movie is how Vance's narrative washes down and blames poor people for their own suffering.

Rather than fault capitalism for unemployment and the opioid crisis, Vance contends that workers have only themselves to blame. He wrote, "There is a lack of agency here in Middletown — that you have little control over your life and a willingness to blame everyone but yourself." (Politico, July 15).
Fight Trump, not migrants!

Donald Trump’s acceptance speech for the Republican presidential nomination was mostly his usual reactionary rant aiming to scare the most vile, misogynist, racist and anti-immigrant masses.

In his record-length 90-minute speech, Trump rambled about a number of issues, including attacking amendments to the right to abortion access; calling for the firing of two of his opposition Workers, Shawn Fain; blaming China for COVID-19 and supporting the apartheid state of Israel.

Without a doubt, the one issue that especially whipped up Trump’s MAGA right-wing supporters into a total frenzy was his attacks on immigrants, especially those he slandered as “illegal.” These attacks were nothing new, harking back to his first election victory in 2016.

His vile disdain for immigrants, especially those undocumented workers and their families forced to cross the U.S.-Mexico border and confront the Imperialist plunder of Global South economies, often because imperialist wars have wreaked their home countries.

Many migrants die desperately trying to cross the treacherous border either by following illegal smuggling truckers, or they wind up in concentration camps called detention centers, painfully separated from their families.

Neither Trump nor the Democratic administration are friends to migrants, as the Biden administration has imposed more strict restrictions on the asylum programs that are still categorizing U.S. The only difference between the two is the tone of their political rhetoric.

While Trump and Biden and their pro-capitalist parties seek to serve the interests of the billionaire ruling class with tactics to divide and conquer U.S.-Mexico workers, the working class on a global scale must fight to build class solidarity with the most oppressed, especially migrants. This is the only way for the global working class to effectively unite to fight back against their oppressors to win the collective power they deserve.

If capitalist exploitation knows no borders, then internationalism must know no borders.

Attempted assassination

Working class needs an independent struggle

By Monica Moorehead

The attempted assassination of presidential candidate Donald Trump during a July 13 campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, has taken center stage regarding the 2024 elections, altering the political narrative. In the ensuing days and weeks, there will be much speculation about whether the Secret Service was derelict in its duty for allowing this shooting to take place.

Even before Trump was fired at, he tried to portray himself as a victim of the 34 criminal charges against him. Once he was convicted, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 6-3 ruling, granted him immunity from prosecution for any “official acts” he carried out as president.

In light of the shooting, Trump is trying to portray himself as a martyr, saying, “I should be dead,” in order to swing the elections even more in his favor. A certain state of Israel.

During his July 13 press conference in reaction to the shooting, President Joe Biden stated: “There is no place in America for this kind of violence or any violence ever, period. No exceptions. We can’t allow this violence to be normalized.” (The Hollywood Reporter, July 15)

Who is Biden trying to kid with false rhetoric? An estimated 39,000 people died in the U.S. in 2023 from guns, whether by murder, suicide or other motives.

As the old saying goes, “Violence is as American as apple pie.” And for Biden, also called “Genocide Joe,” to decry gun violence is the height of utter hypocrisy.

Since Oct. 7, he has justified supplying the most terrifying weapons to apartheid Israel, especially a multitude of tons of bombs, to commit daily massacres of Palestinians in Gaza, including tens of thousands of children.

Trump, who cozied Biden during their first presidential debate last month for not “finishing the job” to exterminate the Palestinians, is just as violently pro-Israel.

At least 120 Palestinians were killed by U.S. bombs with hundreds more wounded on the day of the Trump shooting. Where was the outrage by the corporate mainstream media for this ongoing targeting of civilians? Utter silence.

What does this mean for the working class?

No matter how many millions of workers hate Trump, which is certainly justified, individual actions like the one taken by the gunman who targeted Trump, regardless of the motivation, are never a substitute for the workers mounting an independent class resistance to the program of all sectors of the ruling class.

All working class differences between Trump and Biden do not disguise the fact that both are pro-ruling class and anti-working class, no matter their political affiliations.

If workers want to stop fascism, which Trump symbolizes, they have to look beyond the electoral arena. The decay of U.S. imperialism at home and abroad is the root cause of mass violence—whether it’s state-sanctioned violence by the police or the Pentagon or random violence. Gun violence is a class issue, not a moral issue, and will not go away after the November Election.

Workers may feel powerless right now to stop Trump, but the working class has the most power of any class—that is the power to stop production and to bring the capitalist system to a halt.

J.D. Vance: ‘Populist’ or demagogue?

Continued from page 6

right as he ran for the U.S. Senate, taking reactionary and misogynist positions on social issues. CNN reported that “Vance quickly joined the New Right.” Campaigning then and now, “I certainly would like abortion to be illegal nationally.” (CNN, July 17)

At the same time, Vance inaccurately presents himself as a champion of blue-collar workers. On one rare occasion that he did speak about workers, Vance visited a United Auto Workers picket line in Toledo, Ohio, for a photo-op. Labor activists considered Vance’s appearance to be a misdirection of the struggle. As the former boom and vote against pro-union legislation, such as the PRO- Act—which would make it easier for unions to organize.

Vance is an associate with the Heritage Foundation, a reactionary think tank responsible for “Project 2025,” a 922-page anti-worker and pro-business document listing far-right proposals that corporate and neo-fascist forces aim to implement following the presidential election.

Among some of its recommendations are the elimination of government agencies like the Department of Education and the privatization of Medicare and Social Security, cutting Medicaid, promoting, even indoctrinating children with a hard-right world view, banning abortion and restricts some contraceptives. Its program includes mass deportations, detentions and family separations of immigrants. Heritage Foundation President Kevin Roberts has called Vance a “leading voice for the conservative movement.” (ABC, July 15)

During a 2021 podcast, Vance stated that if he could offer Trump one piece of advice, it would be to “Fire any single mid-level bureaucrat, every civil servant in the administrative state, replace them with ‘our people.’” (Vox, July 18) One of Project 2025’s most controversial proposals is to fire and replace thousands of federal civil servants with far-right “loyalists.”

Since Project 2025 is unpopular among most voters, Trump has tried to distance himself from it on social media.

But his pick for vice president epitomizes the project. Peter Thiel is rumored to be the person who introduced Trump to Vance. According to various media reports, the three attended a $300,000-a-person dinner during a 2021 podcast, Vance stated that if he could offer Trump one piece of advice, it would be to “Fire any single mid-level bureaucrat, every civil servant in the administrative state, replace them with ‘our people.’” (Vox, July 18) One of Project 2025’s most controversial proposals is to fire and replace thousands of federal civil servants with far-right “loyalists.”

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China leads world in renewable energy

By Lyn Neeley

In 2023, China produced 60% of the world’s electric vehicles, 98% of the world’s electric buses and two-thirds of all the world’s wind and solar projects. Its workers installed more solar panels than they had in the previous three years combined, nearly twice as much as the rest of the world combined.

These figures account for large solar farms that feed directly into the grid. Small solar farms, which make up 40% of China’s solar capacity, make solar power production totals in China much higher. China’s growth in wind power also increased in 2023, faster than in any country except the United States.

China’s goal of peak carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions before 2030 and carbon neutrality before 2060 may well be reached sooner than expected. The biggest driver of China’s renewable growth is the shift away from combustion engines, is the title of the lithium-ion cell components. “China’s Batteries Are Now Cheap Enough to Power Huge Shifts,” meaning the shift away from combustion engines, is the title of an article in the Bloomberg newsletter. (tinyurl.com/3yc74gy7au) This year the U.S. government will increase the tariffs on Chinese batteries up to 48% sometime this year.

China supplies 60% of global EV batteries and much of the lithium-ion cell components. “China’s Batteries Are Now Cheap Enough to Power Huge Shifts,” meaning the shift away from combustion engines, is the title of an article in the Bloomberg newsletter. (tinyurl.com/3yc74gy7au) This year the U.S. government will increase the tariffs on Chinese batteries up to 25%. It plans to also impose stiff tariffs on semiconductors and raw materials used to make EV cars. (tinyurl.com/7esqzqu)

Chinese innovations: people before profit

Chinese workers and scientists have created the first seawater electrolysis system that produces hydrogen directly from ocean water using offshore wind power, a renewable energy resource. Hydrogen is a clean, versatile fuel that traditionally could only be produced using an expensive high-energy process to first desalinate ocean water.

Chinese researchers have designed a material that reflects the sun’s rays and can be welded together in planks. When attached to the outside surface of buildings, the planks reduce temperatures inside them, cutting down the need for air conditioning and reducing carbon emissions. The planks are made of gelatin and DNA from organic matter, which can be made bio-degradable and converts ultra-violet (UV) radiation into visible light. This plank technology opens the way for further innovative, sustainable cooling materials.

At the end of 2023, China had produced 1.27 million registered drones; these are huge pilot-free cargo planes that can carry a 500-kilogram (1,100-pound) load as far as 800 kilometers (500 miles) with a maximum range of 1,800 kilometers (1,118 miles). They can be used for transportation, fire and rescue teams and flood control and disaster relief work. They are 70% quicker and 30% cheaper than conventional cross-sea transport.

U.S. corporations are threatened by the Chinese innovations being developed and transforming the world. They know that when privately owned capitalist industries have monopoly control of an industry, their only goal is to maximize profits.

Land back now!

China just completed the largest floating solar farm in the world on top of an old coal plant! In contrast, U.S. industries trespass on sovereign Indigenous land to construct solar plants, wind farms, power transmission lines and copper mines for lithium extraction for electric batteries—with or without the consent of Indigenous peoples.
Two major security alliances held summits in July. Each summit consisted of a bloc of major powers and nearby countries that met separately for closed-door exercises. Each summit meeting included guest and observer countries.

The two summits could not have been more different in tone and purpose. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) met in Astana, Kazakhstan, on July 4 and 5, 2024. The NATO Summit was held in Madrid, Spain, on July 5 and 6, 2024.

A week later the North Atlantic Treaty Organization met in Washington, D.C., on July 9-11, 2024.
Numbers prove that Israel’s stated goals are an epic lie

By Susan Abuhabwa

This article first appeared on Electronic Intifada at tinyurl.com/20736esa, on June 27 and has been lightly edited.

When you’re in Gaza and see the destruction firsthand, the clearest conclusion is that Israel’s stated goals are an epic lie, on a par with “5 people without a land for a land without a people,” packaged and sold to the world.

The Israelis are not targeting Hamas, nor are they interested in returning their captives, who pose a tremendous liability upon their release, as they often have good things to say about their captors. Math is useful to prove what I’m saying, so here are some numbers to start.

Direct fire causes death and injuries

The reported number of martyrs on Wednesday [June 29] this week was 377,718. It’s important to note that this number only includes martyrs who have been identified by name and civil ID number through the beleaguered health ministry in Gaza.

Given the breakdown of reporting systems due to heavy destruction of infrastructure and personnel, this number, even with its limited parameters, is a gross underestimate.

Based on more accurate figures of approximately 377,000 people killed daily, multiplied by 264 days of genocide, the actual number is closer to 97,680 martyrs. (Per OCHA estimate of 5% of these patients die as a result of injuries, this number comes to 221,760.)

Death from lack of medications and chronic conditions

Importantly, the number above does not include the thousands of unidentified martyrs, some of whom were uncovered by mass graves; those who arrived headless or in impossible pieces; those who were buried by their loved ones without going through the hospital system; those who have died of starvation; those who have died from lack of access to critical medications; those who have died from infections or communicable diseases.

Taking into account 1,100 dialysis patients, 2,000 cancer patients and 14,000 individuals who depend on medication to manage chronic illnesses (45,000 people with cardiovascular disease, 71,000 diabetes, 225,000 hypertension), the extreme shortage of life-saving medication has and will continue to lead to deaths from Israel’s withholding of supplies. If a very conservative estimate of 5% of these patients die as a result (if they have not already), that’s an additional 71,050 people.

However, a more accurate all-cause mortality rate for unmanaged diabetes is 13.6% (putting mortality at 9,869 people); 37% for uncontrolled hypertension (translating to 83,250 people). Untreated dialysis and cancer patients will have a high mortality rate. A conservative estimate for this group is 30% or 930 patients.

Taken together, this is 94,049 people. (I didn’t consider cardiovascular disease alone, since patients tend to have co-morbidities and there would be natural overlap in these numbers.)

Dead or dying from starvation

According to a recent U.N.-backed Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report, approximately 405,000 Palestinians in Gaza are facing “catastrophic” hunger, which means they suffer extreme lack of food leading to acute malnutrition in young children, and imminent risk of starvation and death. If we make a conservative 5% estimate of death from starvation among this population, that’s 22,700 people dead or dying from starvation.

Data-driven mortality for acute malnutrition is approximately 20%. However, the current classification has not yet reached full-blown famine levels, making the current estimate reasonable.

Missing, presumed dead or kidnapped

Approximately 25,000 children are missing and unaccounted for. Some are trapped under the rubble, some have been kidnapped by Israeli soldiers, while others are simply lost in the chaos. Given the relative equal ratio of adults to children in Gaza, it is safe to assume the same number of adults are likewise unaccounted for, doubling this number to 42,000 people missing overall.

Death from disease

Due to the destruction of water and sanitation infrastructure, coupled with restrictions on aid entering Gaza, Israel’s assault has led to the spread of communicable and water-borne diseases such as acute jaundice (due mostly to hepatitis A), acute diarrhea (with bloody stool), scabies and lice, skin rashes, chicken pox and acute respiratory infections, which totaled over 1.44 million cases as of June 10. If only 1% of these patients succumb to these serious conditions, that’s 14,408 people otherwise killed indirectly by Israel’s bombing and siege of Gaza.

Mortality for acute jaundice or hepatitis A is low (2.5% in adults and less than 1% in children; thus a 1% mortality estimate is appropriate for this category, or 817 people); mortality for diarrhea ranges from 4.2% to 12% (20,722-52,338 people); smallpox mortality is 1% to 30%, depending on strain (894-25,136 people); mortality rates for acute respiratory disease range from 27% to 45% depending on severity (or 233,592-589,320 people). Taken together, adjusted for scientific data, the range for this category of martyrs is 255,685-450,936 people.

Estimate summaries

Based on these estimates, both conservative and data-driven, respectively, the actual figures are likely as follows:

- 377,280 buildings destroyed completely or partially
- 95,040 – 97,680 martyred
- 221,760 injured
- 24,750 dead or dying from starvation
- 42,000 missing (presumed dead, kidnapped by Israel’s occupying forces or possibly trafficked).

The following ranges represent conservative estimate or lower range of data-driven population estimates:

- 47,000 – 94,049 with chronic illnesses
- 930 dead from lack of medication
- 14,408 – 22,700 dead from epidemics resulting from Israel’s assault

This means the actual number of dead is closer to 104,768 – 511,824 people, with 221,760 injured. And counting.

This does not include the thousands who have been kidnapped and are being tortured in Israel’s prisons, at least three dozen of whom have been tortured to death or died from harsh conditions.

Some lives matter

The estimates here are reasonable, but on-the-ground studies must be conducted immediately. International institutions must urgently assess the actual all-cause mortality resulting directly and indirectly from Israel’s assault on Gaza.

Thus far, of the 240 Israeli captives in Gaza, Israel has allegedly killed 50 of their own, both directly (shooting them) and indirectly (bombing the buildings they are in) and secured the release of 112 captives, 103 through negotiated agreements with Hamas, and seven via “rescue” missions.

The most recent direct “rescue” mission resulted in the release of four captives in Nuseirat refugee camp, central Gaza. A total of 274 Palestinians and several Israeli captives were killed in the same operation! At least one U.S. lawmaker believes sacrificing hundreds of Palestinians for four Israelis is worth it, because, it seems, only some lives matter.

I’ll leave it to readers to do the math to see the level of death and destruction inflicted on Gaza per captive or per Hamas fighter.

There can be only one of two conclusions. Either the Israeli military is the most incompetent force to ever walk this planet — and has no reliable intelligence gathering capability — or Israel is a sadistic nation intent on genocide of the Indigenous popu-

lation, much as all settler colonial projec-

tests have been throughout history.

Susan Abuhabwa is a Palestinian writer and activist. Her most recent novel is “Against the Loveless World.” (Washington Square Press, 2021.)
Axis of Resistance expands solidarity with Palestine

The following statement on "Tel Aviv Operation and Expanding Hezbollah’s Attacks: The First Signs of The New Program" was published by Ibrahim Al-Amin on July 20, 2024, and carried by Resistance News Network.

In his first speech after the Al-Aqsa Flood, Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah stated that the support front from Lebanon operates according to two criteria: one related to the scale of the enemy’s attacks and the other concerning the support needed to prevent the breaking of the resistance in Gaza. The leader of Ansarallah, Sayyed Abdulmalik Al-Houthi, was quick to announce that Yemen’s involvement in the battle aims to stop the aggression and lift the siege on Gaza. Both parties, in all subsequent statements issued by their respective war media, emphasized key phrases: supporting Gaza, backing its resistance and striving to stop the aggression and lift the siege. Later, Nasrallah and Al-Houthi developed their stance in several speeches, linked to various events, most importantly, the coordination between the forces of the Axis of Resistance took a different form and settled on mechanisms that included all fronts, including Gaza itself. It won’t be long before some of the daily operational coordination, both politically and on the ground, between the parties of the Axis is revealed, from the center in Iran, passing through Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon and reaching Gaza the rest of the Palestine. Over the past nine months, the resistance in Gaza has provided one proof after another that conflict and tension are not necessarily two sides of the same coin.

The source stated that the Yaffa drone was developed after Arab countries intercepted Yemeni weapons that targeted "Elad," noting that it is locally made and travels 2,000 kilometers. The drone is equipped with advanced jamming and stealth systems.

The source noted that the stockpile of such weapons is very large and that the bank of targets in "Tel Aviv" is very diverse.

The Yemeni Armed Forces have vowed to persist in their operations, expanding them in scope and frequency, until their demands are met. If the enemy continues, "there will be actions that even Yemenis themselves can’t imagine, nor can the Americans.”

This statement was lightly edited.

The Yaffa drone strikes Yaffa ("Tel Aviv")

The following statement was published on July 19, 2024, by the Yemeni Armed Forces on Resistance News Network.

At dawn, a large drone bypassed all Zionist radar systems, flying undetected for 2,000 kilometers (1,243 miles), and making impact in the heart of the Zionist entity, entitled "Tel Aviv." The operation was claimed by the Yemeni Armed Forces, using a newly unveiled drone named after the city it was set to target. The Yemeni Armed Forces declared occupied Yaffa an unsafe zone, promising to expand their operations.

The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) welcomes the legal opinion issued by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the illegitimacy of the Zionist occupation and the need to end it. The opinion exposed the fascist settlement system and called for its termination, highlighting the extensive violations of international law committed by the occupation governments against our people and our Palestinian land.

This decision, and the Court’s demand for the United Nations and the Security Council to consider measures to end the Zionist occupation, places the international community before the imperative to act immediately to end the occupation and translate the successive decisions issued by the Court into serious steps on the ground. This is especially crucial in light of the ongoing genocidal war against our people in the Gaza Strip, the dangerous set- tlement expansion in the West Bank and the frenzied judaization steps in Al-Quds and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The International Court of Justice has issued several decisions ordering a halt to actions leading to genocide in the Gaza Strip and the necessity of facilitating humanitarian aid access to all areas of the Strip. Additionally, it has called for the cessation of the ongoing criminal military operation in the city of Rafah.

Hamas on ICJ decision denouncing Israeli settlements

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This decision, and the Court’s demand for the United Nations and the Security Council to consider measures to end the Zionist occupation, places the interna- tional community before the imperative to act immediately to end the occupation and translate the successive decisions issued by the Court into serious steps on the ground. This is especially crucial in light of the ongoing genocidal war against our people in the Gaza Strip, the dangerous set- tlement expansion in the West Bank and the frenzied judaization steps in Al-Quds and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The International Court of Justice has issued several decisions ordering a halt to actions leading to genocide in the Gaza Strip and the necessity of facilitating humanitarian aid access to all areas of the Strip. Additionally, it has called for the cessation of the ongoing criminal military operation in the city of Rafah.

These decisions have been blatantly ignored by the occupation government, with full support and cover from the U.S. administration. As Zionists positions continue to attack the Court and its deci- sion today, we call on the international community to embrace these decisions, bypass the U.S. will and work to compel the racist occupation to implement them and comply immediately.

This statement was lightly edited.

Apoyo al sionismo se derriba

Continúa de página 12
han sido martirizados, pero el número real de personas masacreadas por Israel podría ser muchas veces superior.

Solidaridad mundial: una parte de la resistencia

El colapso del apoyo sionista se extiende más allá del ejército israelí. En los seis primeros meses posteriores al 7 de octubre, unos 550.000 ciudadanos israelíes emigraron del país. La emigra- ción a Israel se ha disparado.

En todo el mundo, el apoyo a Israel ha caído en picado. Trabajadores de diversos países han obstaculizado la producción o bloqueado los envíos de armas destinadas al embargo. En el país, la intifada estudiantil, iniciada con una acampada en la Universidad de Columbia, atrajo a estudiantes de todo Estados Unidos y de muchos otros países.

Incluso los sindicatos estadouniden- ses, algunos de los cuales han apoyado a Israel en el pasado, han pedido un alto el fuego en Gaza y están desestimando la posi- bilidad de desinvertir en bonos israelíes. No es ni mucho menos lo que deberían estar haciendo, pero representa un cam- bio radical que amenaza claramente la hegemonía estadounidense e israelí en deal with the U.S. [election] event. Axis leaders are acting on the basis that there is no point in waiting for any change in the context of the official Arab sys- tem, as Saudi Arabia and the UAE [United Arab Emirates] show readiness to take the responsibility that the U.S. left behind.

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Declaración del Mundo Obrero

Mundo Obrero se solidariza plenamente con el pueblo de Kenia, que lleva a cabo una rebelión popular desde el 25 de junio -tras las protestas contra la austeridad de la semana anterior en los “7 días de rabia”, después de que la policía matara a decenas de manifestantes desarmados e hiriera a cientos más. Parte del edificio del Parlamento fue incendiado.

¿Qué desencadenó esta revuelta? La respuesta: la creciente crisis de la deuda impuesta por el Fondo Monetario Internacional y el Banco Mundial a Kenia y al resto de África. Antiguas colonias y ahora países en desarrollo, como Kenia, pagan un precio muy alto por miles de millones de dólares en préstamos que supuestamente sirven para construir infraestructuras, pero que en realidad exigen el pago de elevados intereses que no pueden devolverse ni siquiera a lo largo de muchas vidas.

Para cubrir los pagos de intereses, los gobiernos locales se ven obligados a imponer devastadoras subidas de impuestos, indeseadas e hirientes para aquellos que lejan a diario a tener comida en la mesa y a un techo bajo el que cobijarse.

Son los bancos imperialistas los que acaban destruyendo las economías locales, que se ven obligadas a sucumbir a la naturaleza despiadada, competitiva y avaricia de beneficios del mercado mundial capitalista.

Según un informe de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Comercio y Desarrollo, la deuda pública interna y externa de Kenia asciende a la alucinante cifra de 80.000 millones de dólares, casi tres cuartas partes de toda la producción económica del país. Sólo el pago de intereses se come el 27% de los ingresos recaudados.

Estas cifras se dan a pesar de que, según los informes, Kenia tiene la economía de más rápido crecimiento del continente africano. (tinyurl.com/42nyoh3hp)

Reparaciones para el pueblo de Kenia, ¡no deuda!

El heroico levantamiento ha impulsado al Presidente keniano, William Ruto, aliado de la administración del Presidente Joe Biden, a no firmar el pólómeno proyecto de ley, al menos de forma temporal. Muchos kenianos exigen ahora la dimisión de su presidente.

El Partido Comunista de Kenia declara: “La sangre derramada en las calles de Kenia está directamente en manos del FMI, el Banco Mundial y sus marionetas locales dirigidas por el presidente Ruto en Nairobi, Ruto: dime si será derrocado” (communistpartyofkenya.org, 26 de junio).

Esta deuda inimaginable debe cancelarse de una vez por todas. Se deben reparaciones al pueblo de Kenia junto con todo el continente africano por centenares de años de recursos robados y mano de obra superexplotada, primero por parte de la clase dominante imperialista de Gran Bretaña, Francia, Alemania y otros países ricos europeos y actualmente por los bancos imperialistas dominados por Estados Unidos.

El apoyo al sionismo se derrumba en todos los frentes


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