



WW COMMENTARY

A tribute to Fidel Castro:
‘¡Venceremos!’ (‘We will win!’)

By Monica Moorehead

August 13 marks the centennial birthday commemoration of Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz, affectionately known as “Fidel” to hundreds of millions of people around the globe. Fidel was the leader of the 26th of July Movement that eventually defeated the U.S.-backed puppet regime of President Fulgencio Batista in Cuba on Jan. 1, 1959.

It was in early 1961, at the time of a revolutionary victory over a CIA-sponsored invasion at the Bay of Pigs (Playa Girón), that Fidel declared that a “socialist revolution” was made under the noses of the U.S. By the end of the same year, he stated that he was a Marxist-Leninist.

For the next 52 years, from the triumph of the Revolution until his formal resignation in 2008, Fidel was the leader of the Cuban people. He died at the age of 90 on Nov. 25, 2016.

There will be commemorations of every aspect of Fidel’s legacy, not only among the Cuban people, but also on almost



every continent, especially within countries in the Global South. And rightfully so! Fidel was more than an individual survivor of hundreds of plots to assassinate him by several U.S. administrations. Fidel’s survival meant in many ways the survival of the Cuban Revolution; that is, Cuba’s independence and sovereignty in a world dominated by imperialist aggression and treachery.

Fidel’s exemplary revolutionary guidance helped Cuba to navigate through difficult times, including the U.S.-led Bay of Pigs invasion, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the collapse of the Soviet Union and loss of Cuba’s main trading partners, and, of course, the

ongoing devastating U.S. blockade.

It was Fidel who oriented the Cuban masses that it was necessary to take a step backward to survive during what was referred to as the “special period” in the early 1990s. This period ushered in capitalist reforms, including private investments, where dollars were integrated in certain sectors of the Cuban economy to help keep afloat crucial socialist measures, such as free healthcare and free education.

Looking toward the future

Fidel was also a fierce anti-imperialist internationalist. He encouraged Cuban brigades to travel — especially to other developing countries throughout the Global South — to provide healthcare to underserved populations.

Africa held a special place in Fidel’s heart. He helped to supervise Cuban militias battling side by side with the People’s Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) against invading South African

apartheid troops during the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale. Fidel and Nelson Mandela maintained a close personal relationship until Mandela’s death in 2013.

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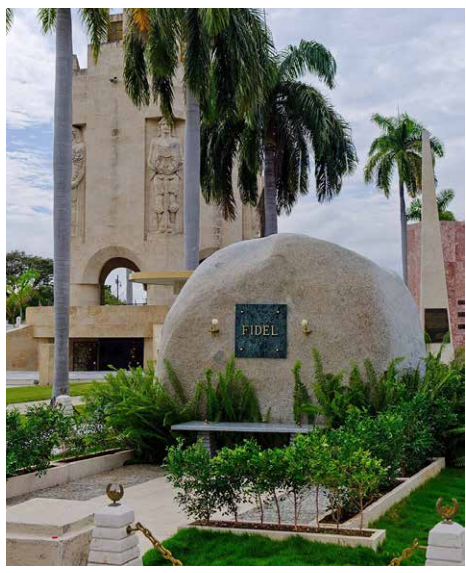
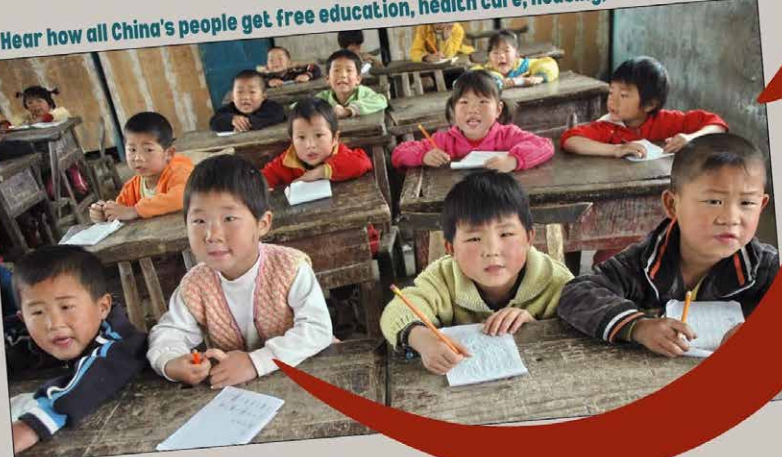


PHOTO: GREG ROTHSCHILD / WIKIMEDIA.ORG
Fidel’s final resting place, Santiago de Cuba.

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USS Lincoln in crisis

Will it lead to resistance in the military?

By John Catalinotto

August 16 — Major U.S. media have delivered the news of a collapsing supply line to the U.S. war fleet in the West Asia region. Thousands of personnel on aircraft carriers and other warships in the region have experienced exhausting working conditions, threats to safety on deck, a lack of supplies, food shortages, water contamination and disruptions in the mail system.

That’s according to their relatives, who showed their anger at an Aug. 7 virtual town hall meeting with top U.S. Navy officers in San Diego. MS NOW reported the discussions, which were

then reproduced in military newspapers, in the Guardian and later in the New York Times and other media.

Pentagon spokesperson Vice Admiral Douglas Verissimo blamed Iran’s knocking out the U.S. naval base in Bahrain, a logistics hub, for the inability to deliver mail and supplies.

Conditions on the ships have led to mental health crises, with little to no counseling available, and to attempted suicides, which even the corporate media have reported.

The extensive news coverage of the deteriorating conditions aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln

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Black August

Nurses free colleague from ICE

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On Labor Day, Workers World says: Support immigrants! ICE out!

Since 1959, when the first issue of Workers World was published, this newspaper has published news about workers’ struggles. This issue, published prior to Labor Day, stresses the need for a bold union-wide offensive against Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Border Patrol’s war on immigrants, ordered by the Trump administration. **This is urgent! Act now!**

Nurses boldly demonstrated in Portland, Maine, Aug. 5 to demand the release of their colleague Debora Kapisha, RN, from the clutches of ICE, **setting an example for all workers.** Within 24 hours, these unionized healthcare workers mobilized and won her freedom. National Nurses United calls ICE “a violent, paramilitary organization that must be promptly abolished.” (See “Nurses’ union forces ICE to release a colleague.”)

Opposing the racist anti-immigrant attacks in Minnesota, a **“unique general strike”** was held there on Jan. 23 and elsewhere in solidarity. Thousands of workers struck and businesses closed. The organizers — labor unions, community groups and other forces — demanded ICE leave their city and end its abusive operations.

After Border Patrol agents killed Alex Pretti, a Veterans Affairs Medical Center nurse and member of American Federation of Government Employees, in Minneapolis, the union called a Feb. 1 national day to honor him, with vigils outside VA hospitals in 22 cities and demonstrations in Portland, Oregon and Seattle.

The Minnesota AFL-CIO and Communication Workers of America demanded ICE leave the state. The Service Employees Union, American Postal Workers Union and United Electrical Workers also denounced ICE.

May 1, 2026, New York City. WW PHOTO: JEN KANTER

On Labor Day 2026, WW expresses solidarity with all workers, especially immigrants, Black, Latiné and other workers of color who risk their lives to earn a living. We support unions and workers who protest this government repression — and those who defend and protect their migrant coworkers and neighbors. WW encourages all unions to condemn ICE and join anti-ICE demonstrations.

Forging class solidarity is the duty of labor unions. This Labor Day is a critical time to not only say it — but show it — on signs and banners and to loudly chant: “Support migrants!” “No to racism!” “ICE out!”

Our newspaper is partisan, siding with workers and oppressed people fighting for their rights against capitalist bosses, government agencies and their police forces.

WW says: Build working-class unity among all workers!

Be a WW Supporter!

This pro-worker newspaper depends on our readers’ backing. The WW Supporter Program was launched 49 years ago to help publish this socialist newspaper and, 35 years ago, support workers.org, where new articles are posted daily and the weekly paper’s PDF is posted and archived.

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, Arab, Asian and Indigenous people, women, workers, migrants, prisoners, LGTBQIA2S+, low-income, elderly and disabled individuals. **Prisoners receive all print issues for free. The website is a resource for political activists.**

While WW’s staff is voluntary, the 12 annually printed issues and workers.org incur expenses. Although many online publications require payments to read their articles, WW does not. **Our articles are free to all readers.**

Can you donate \$50, \$100 or \$200 annually? Contributing \$50 or more will entitle you to receive all print issues and five emails per week linking to online articles.

Your donations help get class truth to more readers — and are appreciated. Write monthly or yearly checks to Workers World. Mail them with your name, address and email to Workers World, 121 West 27th St., Rm. 404, New York, NY 10001.

MUNDO OBRERO WORKERS WORLD

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Marxism, Reparations & the Black Freedom Struggle

Edited by Monica Moorehead

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Vol. 68, No. 33 • August 20, 2026
Closing date: August 19, 2026
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Workers World (ISSN-1070-4205) is published monthly by WW Publishers, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Phone: 212.627.2994.
Subscriptions: One year: \$36; institutions: \$50. Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited. Articles can be freely reprinted, with credit to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or photocopy from NA Publishing, Inc, P.O. Box 998, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0998. A searchable archive is available on the Web at www.workers.org.
A headline digest is available via e-mail subscription. Subscription information is at workers.org.
Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World
121 W. 27th St., Suite 404
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Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary MarxistLeninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it.

Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

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

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

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the

streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at www.workers.org/join-form and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you □

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What is Black August to the Black Comrade

By Benny Schaft

WW COMMENTARY

“What I do feel is the urge to resist, resist and never stop resisting or even think of stopping my resistance until victory falls to me.” (“Soledad Brother: The Prison Letters of George Jackson,” 1970)

These words, written by revolutionary George Jackson 56 years ago in 1970 while he was being held as a political prisoner of the state, sum up what Black August is to the Black comrade, in the struggle for not only the liberation of the working class, but the liberation of Black people. Since the inception of both capitalism and the creation of the white supremacist structure, Black people have been singled out as an important revolutionary and dangerous section of the working class.

This is why Black August is so important to the Black community. But to truly understand why this is the case, we must look at the history of Black August.

That history goes much deeper than we know now, especially concerning the revolutionary actions of comrades like George Jackson, Jonathan Jackson and so many others. Black August goes back much further than that, with its roots in the tradition of Black resistance and the repression waged against that resistance. This is seen in the history of August, tracing back to Aug. 20, 1619, when the enslavers' ship, The White Lion, arrived in Virginia bringing with it 20 to 30 kidnapped Black comrades from Africa.

The arrival of Black Africans jump-started the first wave of enslavement in the belly of the beast, which bourgeois historians claim was abolished in 1865 in the aftermath of the Civil War. This is false, because the ruling class found another way to continue enslavement by using the prison-industrial complex to exploit prisoners and keep the institution going. Many of the people currently held in the prison-industrial complex are comrades of color, especially many being Black.

Of course, one of the key things about Black August is that its history is very much centered on two vital moments having to do with the exploitation of prisoners and the racism of the prison system: the cases of Jonathan Jackson and his brother, George Jackson. The latter's short life was spent as a political prisoner, who was suffering the same fate of being brutalized for being Black, Latine, working-class or part of another oppressed section of the proletariat.

This led to 17-year-old Jonathan Jackson's

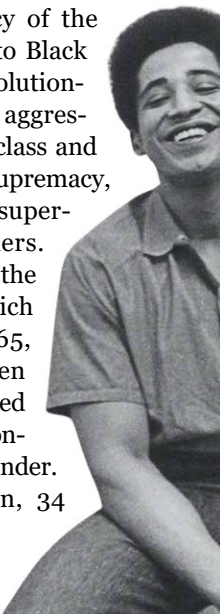
Aug. 7, 1970, attempt to liberate his brother and other comrades being held and exploited at the

hands of the prison system, which the capitalist class still enthusiastically supports. Jonathan Jackson was murdered on that day.

The state ordered the deaths of both comrades, with George Jackson assassinated in San Quentin prison on Aug. 21, 1971. Yet it was the state that created the conditions that led to George Jackson becoming a political prisoner and Jonathan Jackson leading the attempt to free him. And contrary to propaganda, neither Jonathan nor any of the comrades who took part in what happened at the Marin County courthouse murdered or harmed any of the hostages they took. It was law enforcement who did, ignoring calls not to shoot.

Racist violence a state policy

The killings of Jonathan and George Jackson are not isolated incidents. but the official policy of the state when it comes to Black people becoming revolutionized or resisting the aggression of the capitalist class and its weapon of white supremacy, which continues to super-exploit Black workers. An example of this is the Watts Rebellion, which began Aug. 16, 1965, in Los Angeles when Black comrades rebelled against the material conditions they were put under. During the Rebellion, 34 people were killed and thousands more injured or arrested.



The police serve as an occupying force, one meant to stop any type of radicalism or organizing among Black people. It was for this purpose that the state responded the way it did during the Watts Rebellion, just as it did in the case of George Jackson and Jonathan Jackson, with nothing less than violence. This was especially clear when the state called in 14,000 members of the California Army National Guard to suppress the rebellion, which led to the state further increasing its occupation of the Black community in Los Angeles.

From the time of the Rebellion to now, as many Black revolutionaries have said

throughout history, the Black community of Los Angeles remains the most heavily policed area in the city.

The Los Angeles Police Department began its terror campaign against the Black Panther Party (BPP) on Aug. 25, 1968, by murdering three party members — Robert Lawrance, Steve Bartholomew and Tommy Lewis — after they, along with Steve Bartholomew's brother Anthony Bartholomew, were followed by police.

Repression breeds resistance

Whenever there is repression, there will always come resistance and resilience. This was shown on August 14, 1791, when the enslaved people of Saint- Domingue in Haiti rose up against the plantation class and began the steps toward liberation in what would become known as the Haitian Revolution. In winning the Revolution, the Haitian people defeated not only the French but the British and other imperial forces to remain free.

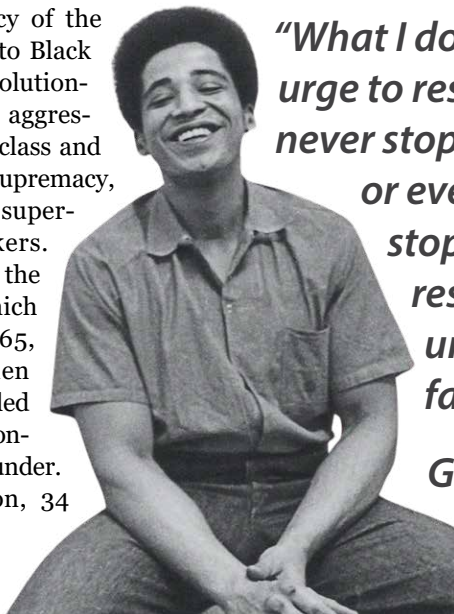
"What I do feel is the urge to resist, resist and never stop resisting or even think of stopping my resistance until victory falls to me."

George Jackson



This would go on to inspire many of the rebellions that happened in the U.S. in August, including Gabriel's Rebellion in 1800 and Nat Turner's rebellion in 1831. Even before both of those revolts, in 1768, members of the maroon colony in Charleston, South Carolina, successfully defended themselves against enslavers who attempted to capture them.

So now you must wonder: What does all of this have to do with the terror being waged against Black people today, as the state ramps it up? This has everything to do with today, especially with understanding why the state engages in the violence it wages against the Black community. From birth to adulthood, Black people under-



TEAR DOWN THE WALLS

The graphic features the text "TEAR DOWN THE WALLS" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the text is a stylized illustration of a watchtower with a spiral staircase and a small roof, standing next to a section of barbed wire fence.

stand that the system and the ruling class are neither friend nor ally to their community, but always oppressor and exploiter.

Oppression is on full display in the number of Black people who have lost their lives this year alone because of the ruling class — especially the youth, who the state has always made it its mission to murder and repress the most. It is the Black youth who inherit the radical Black tradition and have always made it their mission to organize and become more revolutionized and to revolutionize more comrades in the community to help in the struggle for Black liberation.

An example of this was the BPP, a majority of whose members were the youth of the Black community. Many other revolutionaries in the struggle for African liberation and the Pan-African movement, like the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) during the Civil Rights Movement, were Black working-class youth.

This is why you see the state engaging in the lynching of young Black people, not because of what the ruling class says in the propaganda they would have people believe, such as crime, or Black people being supposedly more violent, but merely because Black youth will always inherit the Black radical tradition.

This tradition has been passed down from the rebellions carried out by enslaved people and the actions of the maroons to the revolutionary activity of figures like George Jackson, Jonathan Jackson, Fannie Lou Hamer, Walter Rodney, Ella Baker and so many others. The state's practice of legal lynching is shown by the recent murders of 17-year-old Antoneil Williams II, 19-year-old Kadir Skinner, 16-year-old Juliana Nzita and 18-year-old Nolan Wells. The cops even murdered an infant in the case of one-year-old Kohen Wiley.

So now this begs the question: What do we do? How do we stop these lynchings, these pogroms against our Black people, from continuing? We do what we always do, which is to continue to stress solidarity and organize with Black siblings without any type of paternalism, and allow Black comrades to have more leadership of the anti-racist movement. Comrades who are the most oppressed and vulnerable and who understand how the system functions are the ones who best know what is to be done. □

Nurses union forces ICE to release colleague

Special to Workers World

Debora Kapisha, a union nurse at Maine Medical Center in Portland [Maine], who was recently kidnapped by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at Boston Logan International Airport, was released from ICE custody on Aug. 6. Kapisha is a medical surgical nurse and member of Maine State Nurses Association/National Nurses Organizing Committee (MSNA/NNOC), an affiliate of National Nurses United (NNU), the largest and fastest growing nurses' union in the U.S.

Kapisha is from Zambia and was arrested while traveling through Logan Airport on July 30. While holding her in custody, ICE threatened to transfer Kapisha to a detention facility in Louisiana. The Department of Homeland

Security (DHS) made the charge that Kapisha “overstayed her legal visa.” (nationalnursesunited.org, Aug. 6).

Over 200 members and supporters

of MSNA and NNU organized a militant rally outside of Maine Medical Center demanding the release of their union sibling. “We were able to organize a rally for



Union nurses rally for colleague Debora Kapisha outside Maine Medical Center, Portland, Aug. 6, 2026.

PHOTO: NATIONAL NURSES UNITED

‘Fidel: Legacy and Future’

Below are edited excerpts of the address by Cuba’s President Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez at the 1st International Colloquium “Fidel: Legacy and Future” in Havana Aug. 10-13, attended by 1,500 people, 900 of them from 63 countries. 2026 is the “Centennial of Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro Ruz.” Cuban media Granma posted the entire speech Aug. 11, also available at workers.org/?p=94307

Liu Haixing, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, spoke of Fidel’s legacy and his contributions to China-Cuba relations. Cuba was the first country in Latin America to formalize relations with the People’s Republic of China. Liu stressed the 66 years of trust between the two countries has grown stronger and that Fidel Castro’s spirit “is eternal.”

Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia, the Hon. Dr. Tjitunga Elijah Ngurare, honored Fidel and the heroic role played by Cuban troops in the liberation of Southern Africa. He brought solidarity greetings from Namibia’s first woman president, Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Natewa, and from the Namibian people who view Fidel as a “revered hero” and “symbol of international solidarity.”

Distinguished academics, intellectuals, artists, social and political leaders, young students and comrades who have come from the five continents to share this week of profound reflection on the man who marked the 20th century and whose thought illuminates the 21st.

We are grateful that you have made it your mission to be here, defying distances, disinformation campaigns and pressure from your own governments. Your presence is an act of courage and consistency, because coming to Cuba today, amidst the blockade and imperial hostility, is a gesture of militant solidarity that honors Fidel’s legacy.

Studying and embracing the immense work of the Commander-in-Chief, in thought and action, is a necessity for all who are committed to promoting economic and social transformations that will stop the process of suffocation to which the Cuban Revolution is being subjected as part of [an over 60-year] criminal war.

We have a history steeped in heroism, a people trained in resistance and the legacy of a leader who, always at the forefront, transformed setbacks into victories.

Preserving the gains that gave this heroic people the Revolution and socialism, breaking all the sieges that seek to annihilate the nation as collective punishment for its



PHOTO: DUNIA ALVAREZ

Cuba’s President Miguel Díaz-Canel speaking at the First International Colloquium on “Fidel: Legacy and Future,” on Aug. 10, 2026.

Fidel explained the panorama the triumphant Revolution encountered in Cuba, which the media-war propaganda machine tries to portray as the prosperous, dazzling Cuba before 1959. Neither the Revolution nor Fidel can ever be discussed without acknowledging this reality, this starting point that **demand**ed the most radical transformation of the 20th century in this part of the world.

Despite U.S. blockade, Cubans make progress

The country’s current statistics, even under the terrible restrictions imposed by [over 60 years] of economic, financial and commercial blockade and seven months of energy embargo, amidst harsh blackouts, water shortages, high prices and other problems that damage the very essence of society [show] the indicators for health, education, science, culture and sports remain better than in other countries of similar development.

We are the country with the highest rate of doctors per capita, more than 9 per thousand inhabitants; one of the ten countries with the **highest life expectancy in the Americas, at 77.7 years**, and the one that has contributed the most to the health and education of its population and other nations, according to the World Health Organization and UNESCO.

The Revolution’s great social and humanitarian work led by Fidel Castro, always under blockade and siege, so radically changed the panorama he described at the United Nations in September 1960 that it will forever make Cuba’s return to its colonial and neocolonial past impossible.

There, Fidel expressed [that] ... the world’s problems would worsen with the disappearance of the socialist bloc and the imposition of unipolarity: “Wars, since the beginning of humanity, have arisen, mainly, for one reason: the desire of some to plunder others of their wealth. **Let the**

dignity, its resistance and its decision not to surrender to the most powerful empire in history is the first tribute we owe to Fidel, born 100 years ago in a country marked by injustice, inequality and dependency — a painful reality that he vowed to change from his years as a rebellious and outspoken university student.

[Fidel led] the 26th of July Movement of 1953, which [attacked] the barracks of a bloody, pro-imperialist dictatorship to begin another Necessary War.

philosophy of plunder disappear, and the philosophy of war will disappear! Let colonies disappear, let the exploitation of countries by monopolies disappear, and then humanity will have reached a true stage of progress!”

The Commander-in-Chief bequeath[ed] to us **the lesson that internationalism is an attitude that should distinguish us ... that socialism is the only path to save humanity** from the abyss; [he] was the first to denounce neoliberal globalization as the empire of death and the first to raise his voice for a better world for all.

He taught us that the struggle to preserve the environment and the human species is also a socialist battle. Science must be at the service of the people and the unity of revolutionaries is more important than any tactical differences.

Fidel led by example. He did not accumulate wealth, nor did he betray his principles; he lived as he thought and died as he lived.

Internationalism and revolutionary optimism

Fidel did not understand the Cuban Revolution as an isolated event; homeland was humanity. That is why he supported the causes of liberation for African peoples and for Palestine and denounced apartheid and genocide. He raised his



PHOTO: ENRIQUE GONZÁLEZ

First International Colloquium, “Fidel: Legacy and Future,” Aug. 10-13, 2026, Havana.

voice against the Iraq War, the blockade and colonial appropriation of any people in the world.

Fidel was never a pessimist. In the darkest days, when the socialist bloc was collapsing and the blockade was intensifying, he maintained his faith in humanity and in history ... revolutionary optimism is not naiveté, but an unwavering conviction in victory.

Fidel was a master of guerrilla warfare, which led to the triumph of January 1, 1959. The **Battle of Cuito Cuanavale**, directed by the Commander-in-Chief, demonstrated his qualities as a military strategist.

Above all, **we have not abandoned internationalism. We continue to send medical brigades to the poorest places in the world**, sharing our educational and scientific methods; we

continue to build bridges of brotherhood.

No material hardship has extinguished the flame of solidarity in which Fidel raised us. In the last academic year, tense and difficult like no other, **30,185 young professionals graduated from Cuban universities**, 735 of them from 62 countries, [with] **20 new Palestinian doctors** and five American doctors.

It is about continuing the construction of socialism on a small island threatened by the greatest imperialism in the history of humanity and completely blockaded, whose state is cut off from all sources of resources, financing and trade.

Faced with this dilemma, it is necessary to produce and generate wealth, to redistribute it with social justice and **to preserve the Revolution’s historical and essential achievements in strategic areas: health, education, culture, science, energy and communications.**

Fidel belongs to all who fight for a better world

You, participants in this Colloquium, intellectuals and activists who have embraced its thought, have a decisive role to play. We call upon you to spread the truth about Cuba and all peoples in resistance ... Every book you write, every article you publish, every lecture you give in your countries is a bulwark against disinformation.

You must build effective solidarity networks; it is not enough to deliver speeches of support. **Solidarity must be translated into concrete actions.** You must deepen your critical thinking about 21st-century socialism. You must strengthen the unity of progressive movements. Concentrate on what is essential: the struggle against capitalism and imperialism.

The Revolution has dedicated its utmost effort to young people and placed its greatest hopes in them. Fidel always trusted in the role of youth in the revolutionary process. Today, Cuban youth are called upon to forge themselves with the same historical stature. There is no challenge that the youth cannot face ...

Fidel bequeathed to us: the future is not written; we have the power to write it. The empire is powerful, but history is on the side of the people.

Fidel’s Centenary is a starting point. His legacy is in the present and in the future we are building. **We must emulate him!**

Fidel said: “We are prepared to resist the imperialist blockade with dignity and selflessness for as many years as necessary. Cuba will know how to remain an example of a revolution that does not surrender.”

Long live Fidel! Long live socialist Cuba! □

Sunlight against the blockade: China and Cuba's solar revolution

The following excerpt from an article by Carlos Martinez, published by Friends of Socialist China, sets out why recent Chinese-Cuban collaboration amounts to considerably more than an infrastructure project. Read the full article at tinyurl.com/mr3tg2bz

China has delivered a second consignment of 5,000 photovoltaic systems to Cuba, destined for rural communities, health centers, day nurseries and bank branches. Receiving them, President Miguel Díaz-Canel said Cuba “deeply appreciates this gesture by the Chinese people and government, which adds to the efforts Cuba is making to change its energy mix, amid the genocidal blockade.”

The donation is a small part of what has become one of the fastest energy transitions anywhere in the world. ...

Washington has spent the past two years hunting down the tankers that supply the island, sanctioning the shippers and pressuring the suppliers, to the point where Cuba was reported to be weeks away from running out of oil. A blockade now in its seventh decade, condemned last year by 165 countries at the UN General Assembly with only a handful of votes against, is designed precisely to produce hunger and despair.

That is what makes the solar programme more than an infrastructure project. Every megawatt generated from Cuban sunlight is a megawatt that cannot be embargoed, intercepted or sanctioned. The programme constitutes an important step towards both energy sovereignty and environmental sustainability. □



Cubans install solar panels donated by China.

March against neo-colonialism and for Puerto Rican independence

By Ferdinand J. Almodovar
Bronx, New York

A community coalition of the Puerto Rican diaspora held a demonstration in front of Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx, a location long associated with the Puerto Rican struggle in New York City, on Aug. 16. With audio enhancement such as bullhorns, the organizers spoke of its significance historically and currently with prescient comparisons to the generational and ongoing struggle for Puerto Rican independence, civil rights and self-determination. People then marched for Puerto Rican independence, ending with a second gathering and rally at St. Mary’s Park.



Bronx, New York, Aug. 16, 2026. WW PHOTO: FERDINAND ALMODOVAR

The neoliberal Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico — known as La Junta — along with U.S. military and colonial governance — represented by the current governor of Puerto Rico, Jennifer González-Colón — continues to harm Puerto Rican citizens, migrants and working-class families. This includes recent water rationing imposed in the wake of drought and a months-long water crisis due

to broken and unrepaid infrastructure. La Junta was a significant development under the neo-colonial PROMESA Act instituted by then-President Barack Obama 10 years ago. It has been reduced by the current administration of President Donald Trump to essentially one man with sole authority over the board, John E. Nixon, a Utah-based business executive and Washington insider of the Republican Party. In the aftermath of one crisis after another for decades and the influx of billionaire firms seeking a tax-free paradise exclusive to themselves and their clientele, the island archipelago of Puerto Rico has suffered unprecedented resource extraction, privatization and sale of public land, such as the Esencia project in

Rican liberation and the liberation of all peoples suffering and struggling under the yoke of imperialistic destruction and colonialism across the world, most urgently women, children and other vulnerable groups targeted by state violence and proxy actors. Speakers included both Puerto Rican community leaders as well as allies in full solidarity from African-American, Haitian, Filipino and other communities. Organizations included ProLibertad FC, JUPI (Juventud Unida Por La Independencia/Youth United For Independence), Call To Action On Puerto Rico, Adolfini, The Diaspora Pa'lante Collective, Black Alliance For Peace, and PIP (Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño/The Puerto Rican Independence Party).

Rally features music and solidarity

The rally in St. Mary’s Park included Bomba, a culturally significant and celebrated ancestral folk music of Boriken, and additional speakers demanding justice for the Puerto Rican people and the diaspora, as well as for Haiti and Haitians living under threat of deportation from the Trump Administration’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) terror campaign. Speakers condemned U.S. colonial and neo-colonial crimes in the Philippines and called for international solidarity against actions of the U.S. imperialistic war machine, such as the looming threat of war and worsening sanctions against Cuba and the kidnapping of Venezuela President Nicolas Maduro and First Combatant Cilia Flores, currently held in federal Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) in Brooklyn, New York. The parallels between the consequences and devastating effects of hypercapitalism and imperialism on Puerto Rico and its systemic counterparts here in New York

and other Puerto Rican and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) communities are stark and consistent with fascist escalation globally. Here, under the may- orship of social-democratic Mayor Zohran Mamdani, the privatization of New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), the country’s largest public housing development, proceeds in spite of protests and tenants’ rights violations and amid decades long infrastruc- tural neglect and economic divestment. The daily struggle to survive in San Juan or Santurce isn’t so different from that in the Bronx or Harlem. Basic utilities such as water and electricity are not guaranteed, unless one is wealthy or a U.S. corporation or data center. There are officially eight data centers currently operating in Puerto Rico, along with projects that continue to displace Puerto Ricans for ultraexclusive tourism and wealthy U.S. investors. They are exempt from Governor Gonzalez-Colon’s water rationing measures, unlike the families who must somehow endure and rely on public water distribution and natural springs to live day to day. Those who rallied and marched from Lincoln Hospital to St. Mary’s Park were more than optimistic for significant change and liberation for Puerto Rico and other col- onized nations and populations. Even in such drastic times, there was a collective hope, determination and understanding that not only will Puerto Rico finally be freed from 128 years of American colonialism and imperial- ism, but that it will happen in this lifetime. The leadership and organizers of this march have been demonstrating in Puerto Rico and across the U.S. International solidarity with all oppressed peoples and immense love and strength in community across all borders is at the center of that optimism. □

Protests continue vs U.S. war on Iran

By Betsey Piette

As of July 28, the U.S. was at war with Iran for 150 days, resulting in the deaths of thousands of civilians and dozens of Iranian leaders, the destruction of civilian infrastructure, including bombing a school in Minab, Iran, and the undermining of global trade. Calling for this war to end, locally coordinated protests took place in over 30 cities in the U.S., Britain and Canada.

Stop U.S.-Israel War on Iran actions included banner drops, leafleting and speak- outs at federal buildings, shopping areas and busy intersections. Demands included: End the wars on Iran, Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen! End sanctions on these and all countries! Defend Iran’s sovereignty! Participating organizations included United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC), Black Alliance for Peace, U.S. Peace Council, Resist U.S.-Led War Movement, Veterans for Peace, International Action Center, Freedom Road Socialist Organization, Sanctions Kill-Americas Without Sanctions, Anti War Action Network, Socialist Action, Bronx Antiwar, Popular Resistance, the Sovereignty Support Movement for West Asia, Action LA Network and Workers



New York City, July 28, 2026. WW PHOTO: JEN KANTER

World Party (WWP). About 50 people gathered at Washington Square Park’s historic arch in New York City on July 28 despite dire storm and flood warnings. They set up a moving memorial to acknowledge the school children killed in a U.S. terror bombing and re-bombing of a grade school in Minab on Feb. 28 and the murder of respected leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and 50 leading members of the Iranian government. On the same day, Trump met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to strategize on expanding weapons for terror attacks against Iran. A sound system broadcast strong anti- war and solidarity chants and speak- ers who defended Iran’s sovereignty. Speakers included Sara Flounders with the International Action Center; Ché Marino with Bronx Antiwar; Sundae from Arm the Dollz; Charlotte Philips, chair of Brooklyn for Peace; WWP’s First Secretary Larry Holmes; Tony Murphy, also with WWP; and Ferdinand J. Almodovar,

a WWP candidate. Palestinian and Iranian flags and antiwar signs conveyed the determined anger at endless U.S. wars amid rising costs and cutbacks at home. Participating groups included Bronx Antiwar, WWP, Black Alliance for Peace, Brooklyn Against War, UNAC and Arm the Dollz. In Atlanta, a diverse crowd of determined opponents of the U.S. war on Iran gathered at a busy eastside thoroughfare despite tem- peratures approaching 110 degrees. As soon as the “No War on Iran” signs became visible there were nonstop sounds of horns honking from cars, trucks, buses, bikes and motor- cycles. People waved and gave thumbs up; others took photos as they stopped at the traffic light. The Atlanta protest was organized by the Atlanta chapter of the International Action Center in response to the national call from UNAC. It was the last of three Iran-related events. On July 26, Resistance Cinema screened the film “Still, Minab” featuring the parents whose children died from the U.S. triple bombing of the school on Feb. 28. On Monday, the Labor Forum program on WRFG 89.3FM interviewed an Iranian activ- ist who exhibited the resolve of her people to overcome all attacks by U.S. imperialism. In Cleveland, antiwar activists rallied and marched at Market Square Park on July 26. Among the speakers was an Iranian who con- demned the U.S. war against Iran. Sponsors included All-African Peoples Revolutionary Party, Cleveland Peace Action, Cleveland Sudan Network, Cleveland United Against War, Council on American-Islamic Relations Ohio, InterReligious Task Force on Central



Evart, Michigan, July 28, 2026. PHOTO: MICHAEL WARD

America, Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless and WWP. In Evart, Michigan, while supporters of Iran held signs, passersby responded posi- tively, with many giving thumbs up and yell- ing, “Right on!” and “Hell yeah!” as they drove by. Even local protesters were surprised by the amount of people responding positively to their small demonstration. Houston activists demonstrated during heavy rush hour traffic outside the U.S. Federal Building on July 28, clearly explain- ing why people in the U.S. need our tax dol- lars for human needs and not for murder and terrorism around the world. A sign that read “Honk if You Agree” got loud responses from motorists passing by who saw the antiwar signs. Some rolled down their car windows to thank us for standing up to the government. Protesters distributed flyers, and new activists signed up to be kept informed about future antiwar actions. A young woman who came to the demonstration explained she had come in memory of her three brothers who had been martyred in Iran. In Seattle, demonstrators held up a 20 ft.- long banner reading “U.S. Out of Iran NOW” downtown at Westlake Center. Martha Grevatt, Sierra Ward, Gloria Rubac, Jen Kanter, Jim McMahan and Ferdinand J. Almodovar contributed to this report.



Houston, July 28, 2026. WW PHOTO: GLORIA RUBAC

Profits, climate disasters and war on Iran

Once again, President #47 exposed his utter contempt for the U.S. population when he remarked during a Garden City, New York, rally on Aug. 15 that paying “a tiny little bit more for your gasoline” is worth the cost of ensuring “a very evil country” could not have a nuclear weapon, one of his stated rationales for the [Iran] war.” (Huffington Post, Aug. 15)

And in his typical bullying style, he went on to say, “After we finish defeating Iran ... pretty soon I’ll be declaring the Hormuz Strait a territory of the United States.”

The war on Iran began on Feb. 28 when the U.S. and Israel assassinated beloved Iranian leader Ayatollah Ali Hosseini Khamenei, along with members of his family and massacred at least 168 Iranian schoolchildren.

In response to this terrorist attack, Iran justifiably blockaded the Strait of Hormuz in the Persian Gulf. One fifth of the world’s oil and gas passes through the Strait. Before this unprovoked war, over

130 ships used this vital waterway on a daily basis. As of Aug. 15, only two ships reportedly were allowed to use the Strait.

As a result of the war, energy prices have soared an estimated 29% since Feb. 28. The average price of gas at the pump as of Aug. 16 is \$4.09. For #47 to tell people that carrying out this illegal war is worth paying higher gas prices once again exposes his utter disregard for the suffering and sacrifice that workers, including those who voted for him, are forced to endure.

And if this display of arrogance was not enough, eight of the world’s largest oil conglomerates — Aramco, BP, Shell, Equinor, TotalEnergies, Eni, Chevron and ExxonMobil — made a combined \$93 billion in profits in just three months from April until the end of June based on the war. This amount is almost double the profits made by these firms within the same time period in 2025.

#47 has publicly criticized these multi-billionaire companies for price gouging

and, therefore, has demanded that they lower their prices. But his bluster is only window dressing. A corporate boss himself, he knows better than anyone how these corporations operate.

It was also reported that these same eight are among other fossil fuel-driven corporations causing a tremendous increase in carbon emissions that are wreaking havoc on the environment. Carbon emissions are causing ongoing climate disasters, such as the devastating fires throughout Europe. These disasters have caused thousands of deaths and wreaked economic destruction over the past decade.

But this should not come to any surprise, especially for revolutionary activists who understand the underpinnings of capitalism. During the mass protests against the Vietnam War during the 1970s, a popular slogan was “Big firms get rich, GIs die.” This slogan was a clarion call for working-class troops to refuse to fight an imperialist war against

the Vietnamese people that they have no interest in fighting. The slogan also showed how corporations make lucrative profits at the expense of millions of lives, if you include the Vietnamese people who were slaughtered.

This slogan could be extended today to say, “Oil firms get rich while the whole world suffers.”

This truth has not changed decades later. The very existence of capitalist corporations depends on their making profits no matter how much people and the environment suffer. Under capitalism, all forms of life are expendable, whether in the Global South or the Global North.

This is why the vast majority of the people should become more conscious of being part of the global working class. They must unite with each other to help defeat a global system of exploitation, plunder and imperialist war. #47 is just one small part of a global problem that only socialist revolution can resolve. □

A tribute to Fidel Castro

Continued from page 1

Fidel expressed solidarity in words and deeds with national liberation struggles inside the U.S., despite ongoing hostility from the U.S. government. The late Black Liberation fighter Assata Shakur was granted permanent asylum in Cuba from 1987 until her death in September 2025. Rallies to free Angela Davis were organized throughout Cuba when she was arrested by the FBI on phony charges in 1970 for supporting imprisoned Black Panther Party (BPP) leader, the martyred George Jackson. Fidel also publicly expressed solidarity with another political prisoner and former BPP member, Mumia Abu-Jamal.

This Workers World commentary could go on and

on with many other awe-inspiring examples of what Fidel has done to defend the sovereignty of the Cuban people and to promote the interests of all the world’s workers and oppressed peoples. Arguably his greatest gift is what his passing represents: his undying optimism in the revolutionary struggle for worldwide socialism for future generations. And that optimism is embedded deeply within the fabric of Cuban society.

Cuba continues to defend its socialist gains today and beyond despite a devastating oil and gas blockade and the current threat of a U.S. military invasion.

As Fidel repeated time and time again: “¡Venceremos! (We will win!)” □



Monica Moorehead, fourth from right, was part of a U.S. delegation that met with Fidel Castro, June 2000, in Havana, Cuba.

USS Lincoln in crisis: Will it lead to resistance in the military?

Continued from page 1

nuclear-powered aircraft carrier has shone a spotlight on a broad change in attitude at least among the enlisted personnel (non-officers). It’s what the Naval leadership describes as “demoralization.”

The first step

Often in military history what appears as demoralization is the first step to a greater consciousness. This is a consciousness that the people giving you orders and determining your life are acting neither in your interest nor for some ideal, but to serve the interests of the ultrarich who rule society.

At least some of the flight deck personnel are aware that a growing proportion of people in the U.S. consider the work of the USS Lincoln to constitute war crimes. A half-dozen military veterans in the U.S. Congress last December told the world that U.S. military personnel have not only the right but the duty to disobey orders to commit these war crimes.

The first step to the change in consciousness on the USS Lincoln comes after more than nine months on a combat mission with no time on land. There are 5,000 personnel on the Lincoln, and the enlisted personnel on the flight deck are mostly between 18 and 22 years old. They often work 16-hour shifts. The ship is like a giant factory, which after nine months



at sea must seem like a prison.

It’s no wonder some Navy personnel are “demoralized.” It’s no wonder some have attempted suicide. It’s even less of a surprise that many of their relatives are mad as hell at the Navy top bosses.

And it wouldn’t be hard to imagine they all are furious at the MAGA commander in chief and his sycophant at the Pentagon, Pete Hegseth. Both swept aside the relatives’ concerns. They treated the sailors and their relatives as useful cannon fodder. And unlike most U.S. governments in the recent past, they did it with open arrogance.

What to do?

Given this rapid expansion of the struggle, the antiwar and anti-imperialist movement must consider how to respond to the new challenge. What can the movement do to help the relatives get their message out to the people? What can be done to make sure the military rank and file remain in contact with their relatives and with the people of the U.S.?

Organizations like Veterans For Peace have publicized the right of people in the military to refuse to obey illegal and

unconstitutional orders, like orders to commit war crimes. They have reached out by placing billboards near many bases around the U.S. and the world. Other groups have offered legal counseling. All this is good.

But the movement must take into account what is behind the corporate media reports on the failures of the MAGA administration. The media criticism reflects a struggle among different sectors of the rulers of U.S. society: Many consider the MAGA regime incompetent to defend and expand U.S. imperialist interests. While this struggle creates a temporary opening, the movement must encourage resistance independent of both ruling factions.

Can the movement also promote the idea that rank-and-file personnel in the U.S. Armed Forces have the right to form their own organization, much as workers would form a labor union?

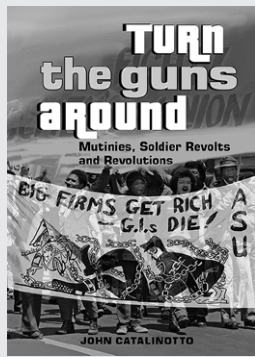
Can the movement demand that the military personnel and their relatives have access to media of all types and have the right to report on and express their opinions on what is happening to them?

The actual form of any organization of active-duty personnel will have to grow from their own needs and reflect their own demands, but the movement can begin to find ways to provide support. Antiwar veterans of prior U.S. wars of aggression — against Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, for example — can play a valuable role in this work, as they have already begun to do.

Information and insight into the USS Lincoln developments by retired Col. Ann Wright: workers.org/2026/08/94296

Turn the Guns Around

By John Catalinotto



During the Vietnam War, U.S. draftees and enlistees disrupted the Pentagon’s war machine, emerged as anti-war leaders and organized for a union in the armed forces. Letters and interviews of active-duty war resisters combine with memoir and research to highlight the link between rank-and-file troop resistance and the battle for state power from the Paris Commune to the Portuguese revolution.

More info at workers.org/books/turn-the-guns-around

U.S. gov't terrorists weaponize subpoenas vs. the left

By Sara Flounders

What is the meaning of the House Ways and Means Committee subpoena, demanding that three peace and justice organizations — BreakThrough News, The Peoples Forum and Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research — turn over all internal communications, membership and financial records by Aug. 7? The Republican-dominated Committee claims that this is a tax inquiry.

The subpoenas came just one day after the July 20 release of a State Department 100-page report titled “Cuba: The Capital of 21st Century Communism,” which claims that Cuba is the center of global terrorism.

This State Department report names at least 43 people and organizations. Among them are the mayors of New York City and Los Angeles, members of Congress, the Amazon Labor Union and numerous journalists and organizations across the movement. They include the National Lawyers Guild, the Venceremos Brigade, IFCO/ Pastors for Peace, the National Network on Cuba, Black Lives Matter, CodePink and the Democratic Socialists of America. Many of the organizations named are broad coalitions involving hundreds of other organizations and activists.

Four days previously, on July 16, President Donald Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio convened an international “Ministerial on the Resurgence of Political Terrorism” at the State Department. The gathering drew officials from 66 countries to call for a machinery of counterterrorism against left-wing movements worldwide.

The State Department meeting labels all movements opposing U.S. domination as “Far-Left Terrorism” and proposes these movements be met with “the

same seriousness and ferocity” the government reserves for “jihadist” attacks. Multiple cabinet departments, and even foreign governments, must be involved in “crushing” the “radical left.” Rubio said new terrorist designations for left-wing groups were coming.



PHOTO: VENCEREMOS BRIGADE

The Venceremos Brigade, which brings solidarity and aid to Cuba from the U.S., is one of over 40 groups named in the State Department report attacking Cuba and the progressive movement in the U.S.

Clearly this is a desperate and coordinated approach to paint all forms of dissent with such a broad brush that nearly anyone and anything critical of any government policy can be labeled as terrorist, rather than be protected as they should be under the First Amendment right of free speech.

Rubio claimed Iran and Cuba direct the world’s left. But the millions of people in the streets outraged at Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) raids and killings and opposing U.S.-funded Israeli genocide in Gaza know that terror comes from the White House. They know who orchestrated the bombing of Lebanon and Iran and attacks on Cuba and Venezuela.

Giving sweeping coverage to this

whipped-up campaign is Fox News, whose “investigation” claims there is a global conspiracy, a network encompassing 2,000 nonprofits, activist groups, think tanks and media organizations worldwide. This conspiracy is purportedly behind anti-Israel demonstrations,

kidnappings and fully subsidized Israeli genocide in Palestine face a major obstacle: The population in the U.S. is increasingly opposed to their wars. Most frustrating to those who profit from the endless wars is the growing popular sympathy for the countries targeted by the U.S. war planners.

The war profiteers aim to remove this obstacle. They ask themselves how they can silence the most outspoken forces opposing their criminal policies? How can they generate fear and silence instead of domestic opposition? How can they prepare the many government agencies of repression to focus on this artificial “threat”? How can they force the corporate media into lockstep to go along with this manufactured threat?

The war profiteers’ answer is to reach back to the totally illegal, discredited tactics of the past McCarthyite era of the late 1940s and 1950s. Their problem is that this period was when U.S. imperialism was at its height in productive capacity, market domination and in popular support. That is far from true now.

Plus, as intense and as coordinated as the late 1940s-1950s repression was, it was defeated by the early 1960s when a new upsurge in struggle led to collective defense and people refusing to be intimidated.

Now U.S. wars are proving to be unwinnable and unpopular. The U.S. global economic position and productive capacity is in an irreversible decline. Domestic repression can’t reverse this global downslide.

The power of collective response and unified opposition in the face of attack dates to the earliest workers’ movements. The old union slogan, “An injury to one is an injury to all,” is the only way forward today. □

pro-Cuba actions, mass opposition to ICE raids, protests targeting artificial intelligence and opposition to data centers. (Fox News, July 22)

How the movement must respond!

Everyone under attack — individuals or organizations targeted by this police-state move — must be defended by every organization in the movement. Anyone and any group that refuses to submit to the subpoena should be praised for resisting a criminal proceeding.

The U.S. government is the center of terrorism. Terrorism is government policy. The terrorists are in the White House.

But U.S. imperialism’s endless wars, regime change operations, starvation sanctions, targeted assassinations,

Facing U.S. threats, Iran prepares for long war

By Sara Flounders

Mobilizing the whole Iranian population for continued harsh economic sanctions, likely new rounds of bombings and a continuing state of war with the U.S. and Israel is underway in Iran. The prolonged conflict and economic standoff is centered on a strategy of determined endurance, increasing missile production in numbers and asymmetric capability and maintaining clear control of shipping through the Strait of Hormuz.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a first step to a ceasefire, has collapsed based on U.S. violation of every point in the agreement it signed with Iran. Iran is publicly responding.

On Aug. 10, Mohsen Rezaei, a former commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), was appointed as the new Secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council (SNSC). This is Iran’s top security and foreign policy body. To give his role greater authority, Rezaei, who is well known within Iran and internationally for his extensive military and political background, will serve as Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei’s representative on the SNSC.

Iranian Parliament committees have advanced detailed strategic action plans seeking to formalize control over the Strait of Hormuz. Iran has confirmed its political position against any U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf. This will be a consistent position in any diplomatic talks, and all legislative moves will ban hostile foreign assets from Iran’s regional waterways.

Iran’s Army Commander-in-Chief, Major General Amir Hatami, describes the Strait of Hormuz as a

geopolitical asset for the Iranian nation that will never return to its previous status. Tracking data shows the number of commodity and commercial ships plummeting to around zero to five per day, compared to pre-conflict averages above 130.

U.S. military bases destroyed

Faced with incoming fire from U.S. military bases in the region, Iran has officially warned the feudal monarchies of the Persian Gulf, who have served as U.S. proxies for decades, that now hosting U.S. intelligence or military cooperation will make their local infrastructure vulnerable to retaliatory strikes.

Independent investigations by BBC Verify and The Wall Street Journal confirm that at least 20 sites across eight countries are damaged. Earlier investigations by CNN and The New York Times placed the minimum number between 16 and 18. (CNN, May 1; BBC, June 1; New York Times, July 22)

According to a comprehensive satellite mapping analysis by The Washington Post, more than 228 distinct U.S. military structures and assets were damaged or destroyed. (May 6) This includes extensive damage to the headquarters of the U.S. Navy’s 5th Fleet in Bahrain. Heavy strikes at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Camp Buehring and Camp Arifjan in Kuwait destroyed Patriot missile batteries, troop quarters and hangars. Most serious is the damage to the critical satellite communications terminals and high-value early warning radar arrays at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the largest U.S. facility in West Asia.

Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia sustained multiple strikes. The Muwaffaq Salti Air Base in Jordan

was hit by multiple waves of attacks, resulting in the loss of THAAD air defense radar systems, living spaces and drone shelters. The military complex at Erbil International Airport in Iraq sustained heavy damage, along with air defense infrastructure at Al Dhafra Air Base, Al Sader and Al Ruwais in the UAE.

Brigadier General Hossein Mohebbi, the spokesperson for the IRGC says U.S. aggression has exposed Washington’s strategic vulnerabilities, while highlighting the Islamic Republic’s growing influence over military, economic and political developments.

Iran has survived despite U.S. sanctions

Iran reminded the Trump administration that it is well experienced in coping with economic strangulation. Iran has built a modern industrialized society with a highly educated and skilled population with the ability to defend itself despite 47 years of harsh U.S. sanctions. Iranian First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref has warned the U.S. that seeking to compensate for military failures through economic pressure can be defeated through national unity and cohesion.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration continues to act as if the MOU signed with Iran does not exist, is vague and is open to endless debate, intermittent bombing, continuing sanctions and withholding of Iran’s own funds.

President Trump declared on social media that the U.S. has total control over the Strait of Hormuz, and he threatened to designate the vital global chokepoint as U.S. territory. Iran has responded forcefully, demanding the U.S. get out of the entire region. □



George Jackson. Para conmemorar a los revolucionarios caídos del Movimiento por la Liberación Negra, el “Agosto Negro” se honra cada año.

El legado de Fidel Castro: «¡Venceremos!»

Por Monica Moorehead

El 13 de agosto se conmemora el centenario del nacimiento de Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz, conocido cariñosamente como «Fidel» por cientos de millones de personas en todo el mundo. Fidel fue el líder del Movimiento del 26 de Julio que, finalmente, derrocó en Cuba, el 1 de enero de 1959, al régimen títere del presidente Fulgencio Batista, respaldado por Estados Unidos.

Fue a principios de 1961, en el momento de la victoria revolucionaria sobre la invasión patrocinada por la CIA en la Bahía de Cochinos (Playa Girón), cuando Fidel declaró que se había llevado a cabo una «revolución socialista» ante las propias narices de Estados Unidos. A finales de ese mismo año, afirmó que era marxista-leninista.

Durante los siguientes 52 años, desde el triunfo de la Revolución hasta su dimisión oficial en 2008, Fidel fue el líder del pueblo cubano. Falleció a los 90 años el 25 de noviembre de 2016.

Se celebrarán actos conmemorativos de todos y cada uno de los aspectos del legado de Fidel, no solo entre el pueblo cubano, sino también en casi todos los continentes, especialmente en los países del Sur Global. ¡Y con toda razón! Fidel fue más que un simple superviviente de cientos de complotos para asesinarlo urdidos por varias administraciones estadounidenses. La supervivencia de Fidel significó, en muchos sentidos, la supervivencia de



la Revolución Cubana; es decir, la independencia y la soberanía de Cuba en un mundo dominado por la agresión y la traición imperialistas.

La ejemplar dirección revolucionaria de Fidel ayudó a Cuba a superar tiempos difíciles, entre ellos la invasión de Bahía de Cochinos liderada por EE.UU., la crisis de los misiles en Cuba, el colapso de la Unión Soviética y la pérdida de los principales socios comerciales de Cuba y, por supuesto, el devastador bloqueo estadounidense que aún persiste.

Fue Fidel quien orientó a las masas cubanas sobre la necesidad de dar un paso atrás para sobrevivir durante lo que se denominó el «período especial» a principios de la década de 1990. Este período dio paso a reformas capitalistas, incluidas las inversiones privadas, en las que se integraron dólares en determinados sectores de la economía cubana para ayudar a mantener a flote medidas socialistas cruciales, como la sanidad y la educación gratuitas.

Mirando hacia el futuro

Fidel fue también un internacionalista antiimperialista acérrimo. Animó a las brigadas cubanas a viajar —especialmente

a otros países en desarrollo de todo el Sur Global — para prestar asistencia sanitaria a las poblaciones desatendidas.

África ocupaba un lugar especial en el corazón de Fidel. Ayudó a supervisar a las milicias cubanas que luchaban codo con codo con el Movimiento Popular para la Liberación de Angola (MPLA) contra las tropas sudafricanas del apartheid invasoras durante la batalla de Cuito Cuanavale. Fidel y Nelson Mandela mantuvieron una estrecha relación personal hasta la muerte de este último en 2013.

Fidel expresó su solidaridad, con palabras y hechos, con las luchas de liberación nacional en el interior de EE.UU., a pesar de la hostilidad constante por parte del Gobierno estadounidense. A la difunta luchadora por la liberación negra Assata Shakur se le concedió asilo permanente en Cuba desde 1987 hasta su fallecimiento en septiembre de 2025. Se organizaron manifestaciones en toda Cuba para exigir la liberación de Angela Davis cuando fue detenida por el FBI en 1970 bajo acusaciones falsas por apoyar al líder encarcelado del Partido de las Panteras Negras (BPP), el mártir George Jackson. Fidel también expresó públicamente su solidaridad con otro preso político y antiguo miembro del BPP, Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Este editorial de Mundo Obrero podría prolongarse indefinidamente con muchos otros ejemplos impresionantes de lo que Fidel ha hecho para defender la soberanía del pueblo cubano y promover los intereses de todos los trabajadores y pueblos opri-

midos del mundo. Podría decirse que su mayor legado es lo que representa su fallecimiento: su optimismo inquebrantable en la lucha revolucionaria por el socialismo mundial para las generaciones futuras. Y ese optimismo está profundamente arraigado en el tejido de la sociedad cubana.



FOTO: GREG ROTHSCHILD, VIA WIKIMEDIA

El lugar de descanso final de Fidel, en Santiago de Cuba.

Cuba sigue defendiendo sus logros socialistas hoy y en el futuro, a pesar de un devastador bloqueo petrolero y gasístico y de la actual amenaza de una invasión militar estadounidense.

Como repetía Fidel una y otra vez: «¡Venceremos!» □

editorial Por qué la vida de Emmett Till sigue siendo importante

El 23 de julio, el gobernador de Illinois, J. B. Pritzker, firmó el proyecto de ley 4323 de la Cámara de Representantes, que designa el 25 de julio de cada año como el «Día de Emmett Till» para recordar el legado de Till y de su difunta madre, Mamie Till-Mobley.

Emmett Till, nacido el 25 de julio de 1941 en Chicago, era un joven afroamericano de 14 años que fue secuestrado a finales de agosto de 1955 por dos miembros del Ku Klux Klan, J.W. Milam y Roy Bryant, mientras visitaba a su tío abuelo en Money, Misisipi. Estos supremacistas blancos torturaron y posteriormente lincharon a Till.

Acusaron a Till de silbar a la esposa de uno de los miembros del Ku Klux Klan. Cuando el cadáver de Till fue hallado días después en el lecho del río Tallahatchie, su madre tomó la decisión de celebrar un funeral con el ataúd abierto para que todo el mundo pudiera ver los horribles restos desfigurados y descompuestos de su hijo. Se calcula que unas 50.000 personas acudieron al funeral celebrado en Chicago el 6 de septiembre de 1955.

Aunque Milam y Bryant confesaron haber asesinado a Till, ambos fueron declarados «inocentes» por un jurado compuesto exclusivamente por personas blancas. Esta farsa de juicio recibió amplia cobertura en un número de la revista Look

con fecha del 24 de enero de 1956.

Durante la ceremonia de firma del proyecto de ley por parte de Pritzker, celebrada en la misma iglesia donde tuvo lugar el funeral de Till hace más de 70 años, el fiscal general del estado, Kwame Raoul, afirmó: «La conmemoración de Emmett Till en Illinois nos recuerda que no debemos permitir que se normalicen los delitos de odio dirigidos contra las personas negras. Debemos continuar con el legado de Emmett Till y Mamie Till-Mobley luchando contra los delitos de odio y los ataques a los derechos civiles que siguen produciéndose». (Riverbender News, 23 de julio)

Hasta el día de su fallecimiento, el 6 de enero de 2003, Mamie Till-Mobley exigió justicia para su hijo.

El legado de Emmett Till en la actualidad

La indignación por el linchamiento de Emmett Till contribuyó a desencadenar el histórico Movimiento por los Derechos Civiles, que comenzó con el heroico boicot a los autobuses de Montgomery en diciembre de 1955, el cual condujo a la desegregación de los autobuses.

Históricamente, Till podría haber quedado relegado a ser simplemente una de las muchas miles de víctimas negras anónimas de los brutales linchamientos que se intensificaron tras el fin de la

Reconstrucción hace más de 150 años. Su linchamiento tuvo lugar muchas décadas antes de la creación de las redes sociales, en las que se grabó en vídeo el linchamiento policial de George Floyd el 25 de mayo de 2020 en Minneapolis. No obstante, la imagen del cuerpo maltrecho de Till quedará grabada para siempre en la memoria de millones de personas, incluso en la actualidad, gracias a campañas de gran repercusión, entre las que se incluyen varios documentales.

La verdad es que los linchamientos nunca han cesado y han continuado desde el asesinato de Till. Estos atroces asesinatos adoptan diversas formas, como el reciente linchamiento policial de Corey Ruiz, de 38 años, en Madison, Wisconsin. A Ruiz se le aplicó una descarga con una pistola eléctrica y, a continuación, recibió tres disparos en la cabeza a quemarropa.

Está el caso de Nolan Wells, de 18 años, cuyo cadáver fue hallado dos días después de que se denunciara su desaparición el 4 de julio en la costa del Golfo de Misisipi, tras pasar unas vacaciones con jóvenes blancos. La policía se apresuró a calificar su muerte de accidental, en lugar de homicidio, tras una investigación muy superficial. También está el trágico caso de Trey Reed, otro joven negro hallado ahorcado de un árbol en 2025 en la Universidad Estatal de Delta,



Emmett Till y Mamie Till Mobley

en Cleveland, Misisipi. Este crimen tuvo muy poca repercusión mediática. (Más información en workers.org/?p=93839)

Bajo la actual administración de la Casa Blanca, liderada por un supremacista blanco descarado, las personas negras, junto con los latinos y otras personas de color, son tratadas como si fueran menos que humanos por la policía, los agentes del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) y los justicieros racistas que cometen atrocidades con total impunidad. Cuando las comunidades oprimidas sufren la pérdida de un ser querido a causa de este tipo de terrorismo interno, ya sea legal o extralegal, no deberían estar solas en su clamor por la justicia. Merecen la amplia solidaridad de clase que sienta las bases para una solución revolucionaria que conduzca a una sociedad más justa.

Este es el verdadero legado para los Emmett Till del mundo. □