



‘Yemen, Yemen, make us proud!’

There have been many militant chants at the pro-Palestine solidarity demonstrations since the latest wave of Zionist genocide began after October 7, 2023. One has been, “Yemen, Yemen, make us proud; turn another ship around!” Palestinians applauded the blockade of Israeli ships carried out by the Yemeni resistance force, Ansarullah.

Now there is another reason to be proud of the people of Yemen. Ansarullah has liberated the port of Mokha, near the Bab al-Mandeb Strait, which connects the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean.

Control over this strategic chokepoint will give pro-Palestine and pro-Iran forces additional leverage against U.S. imperialism and Israel. Washington and the Zionist state had viewed Bab al-Mandeb as an alternative shipping route to the Strait of Hormuz, where Iran

has curtailed oil shipments by and to imperialist powers and states that aid the imperialist attacks.

Flow of oil through the Strait of Hormuz remains well below prewar levels.

“As the Houthis [Ansarullah] have taken control of the Red Sea port of Mokha in Yemen, recent events increase the threat to shipping around the Bab al-Mandeb Strait,” complained ING’s Warren Patterson and Ewa Manthey. ING is a global financial institution. (CNBC, Sept. 11)

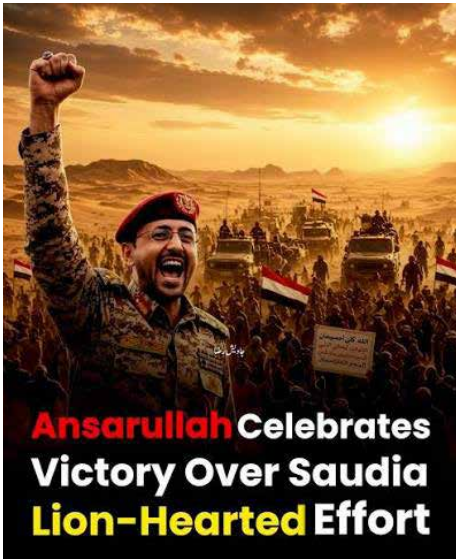
Across Yemen, people are celebrating the victory against forces allied with Saudi Arabia, which has subjected the country to over a decade of terror. Ansarullah now controls large sections of Yemen’s western coastline in addition to the port of Mokha.

A statement posted on the Instagram page of Shia Online Community reads

in part: “Families, youth, and supporters gathered in mass rallies, reaffirming their backing for the leadership and pledging continued support in personnel, resources, and resolve. Prisoners were freed, territory reclaimed, and a sense of restored sovereignty filled the air.

“For years the people of Yemen have endured the weight of conflict, blockade, and foreign intervention. Tonight the celebrations reflect resilience, unity, and the belief that the land and its people will not be broken. From the squares of Sana’a to the coastal cities, the message is clear: Yemen stands firm, its fighters have advanced, and the spirit of resistance lives strong.”

Workers World congratulates Ansarullah for this military victory. We know it did not come easily. Any victory against imperialism anywhere in the world is a boost to workers and oppressed people in the U.S. and everywhere.



We reiterate our solidarity with all anti-imperialist forces in West Asia. Yemen, Yemen, you have made the world proud! □



Week-long vigil starts in Berlin, Sept. 12, 2026, with bicycle ride from the Cuban Embassy in Prenzlauer Berg neighborhood to Brandenburg Gate. Here, sign held across from U.S. Embassy reads: ‘To the USA: Hands off Cuba! I’ve demanded that since 1961!’ Read more on page 6.

NYC protest demands: ‘Release Maduro & Flores’



As they have done every month since the U.S. kidnapped Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and First Combatant Cilia Flores on Jan. 3, New York City activists demonstrated outside the Metropolitan Detention Center on Sept. 3 in Brooklyn, New York. The protesters demanded that all charges against Maduro and Flores be dropped immediately and they both be freed and returned to Venezuela. Many groups jointly organized the action.

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workers.org



A perfect storm for socialist revolution 8-9

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TEAR DOWN THE WALLS

Death penalty: 50 years after reinstatement

Lessons from heroic Attica Prison uprising

Workers World hails Indigenous Peoples Day!

By Kathy Durkin

Boston’s announcement on Oct. 6, 2021, that the second Monday of October every year would be Indigenous Peoples Day “in lieu of” Columbus Day was a victory for Native peoples, since the U.S. settler-colonial project, which resulted in genocide and the theft and devastation of their lands and cultures, began and continues in what is now Massachusetts.

Two days later, the Biden administration proclaimed a federal Indigenous Peoples Day, which acknowledged the atrocities which “European explorers inflicted on Tribal nations and Indigenous communities.” These pronouncements came about due to the strong, unified struggles by Indigenous peoples and their allies, notably at Standing Rock against the Dakota Access Pipeline, the courageous, militant fight that shut down the Keystone XL Pipeline and more.

The movement for recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day began in the 1970s. A delegation of Native nations to the U.N.-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas, held in Geneva in 1977, first proposed replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day; their resolution passed.

Then, in July 1990, representatives from 120 Indigenous nations from throughout the Americas met in Quito, Ecuador, at the First Continental Conference on “500 Years of Indian Resistance.” They unanimously passed a resolution to transform Columbus Day in 1992 “into an occasion to strengthen our process of continental unity and struggle towards our liberation.”

In 1992, Berkeley, California, became the first U.S. city to adopt Indigenous Peoples Day. Since then, 17 states, Washington, D.C., and over 130 cities have dumped the Columbus Day holiday honoring the racist, genocidal conqueror and recognized Indigenous peoples, their history and cultures on that day.

Today, Workers World expresses solidarity with the



Indigenous Peoples Day, Oct. 10, 2021, Philadelphia.

Indigenous Palestinian people. the Palestinian Resistance and their allies in Iran, Lebanon and Yemen who are also under the gun of U.S./Israeli militarism. Our newspaper has continually posted Resistance groups’ statements and written about their valiant fights against U.S.-backed Zionist bombings, expansionism and violent dispossession for decades, heightening our coverage since October 7, 2023.

Workers World Party has consistently supported the righteous struggles of Native peoples on the streets and in our newspaper. WWP joins Indigenous communities to demand: Sink Columbus Day! Celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day everywhere! Land Back! Free Palestine! U.S. out of West Asia! □

Racial imperialism caused power outages

Special to Workers World

An imperialist structure seeking to extract maximum profit from land, infrastructure and Black communities recently led to massive power outages in Gary, Indiana, where on Sept. 3, CBS reported that over 7,000 residents lost electricity, many for as long as two weeks. The solution to this tragedy lies with a truth known by revolutionaries from Lenin to Mao to Malcolm X:

Justice requires a dictatorship of workers and oppressed people over land.

Amazon has proposed a massive \$15 billion data center project in Hobart, Indiana, not far from Gary, a center of Black culture and a former steel town that’s suffered from deindustrialization since the 1970s. Last October, in a bid to attract Amazon by creating enough electricity to satisfy the data centers, the local Northern Indiana Public Service Corporation (NIPSCO) created GenCo,

a spin-off company that would be free from regulations and public scrutiny.

Kofi Mframa of USA Today reports that this arrangement resulted in residents’ electric bills skyrocketing to up to \$1,447 per month, while NIPSCO made profits of over \$500 million. (Aug. 25)

In late August, this emphasis on electricity for corporate artificial intelligence (AI) data centers over people’s needs came to a head as thousands of

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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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MUNDO OBRERO WORKERS WORLD

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No contract? No coffee!

By Martha Grevatt

The union drive at Starbucks began almost five years ago with the first election win in Buffalo, New York. Now over 700 stores with over 12,000 workers have unionized, with new victories announced every month. The union has made some gains, such as the withdrawal of a drink-flavoring powder that caused breathing difficulties for workers. Yet the workers still do not have a first contract. There have been

a number of strikes and a campaign for supporters to delete the Starbucks app from their phones. Despite widespread support for the union, Starbucks bosses continue to stall negotiations. On Aug. 25, Starbucks Workers United (SBWU) officially called a boycott of all Starbucks stores and products. SBWU is asking groups such as unions and faith congregations to support the boycott. Many people were already not patronizing Starbucks, either out of solidarity with the union drive or

because of Starbucks’ support for the genocidal, Zionist State of Israel. The union’s main contract demands are around staffing levels, hours of work and wages. Workers want to be able to support themselves, and they want safe working conditions. They are demanding at least three workers in a store at all times and a minimum starting wage of \$17 an hour. SBWU also wants the over 550 Unfair Labor Practice charges it has filed with the National Labor Relations Board to be resolved.

As the union states: “Starbucks Workers United is a bright spot in a bleak landscape: 12,000+ baristas — many of whom are young, queer and workers of color — are organizing for a fair contract with higher pay, better staffing and hours and an end to the company’s ruthless union-busting campaign. They’re calling on everyone who supports working people over corporations to boycott Starbucks until their demands are met and a fair union contract is reached.” (boycottstarbucks.net). □



After 85-day strike, hotel workers win victory

By Jim McMahan
Seattle

UNITE HERE Local 8 union members bombarded the Embassy Suites by Hilton with a militant strike and picketline for 85 days in Seattle. They outlasted Hilton, as this hotel monopoly caved with an advance contract on Sept. 10. Hilton brags it operates under 28 brands, such as Embassy Suites, Doubletree and Waldorf-Astoria. They have 1.4 million hotel rooms on 940 properties in 144 countries and territories. That’s capitalist domination and world-wide imperialism! The Hilton/Embassy Suites in Seattle sits right in front of the Lumen Field, which hosted six World Cup soccer matches and is the site of big concerts and Seattle Seahawks football games. Yet the hotel workers are greatly overworked and the bosses had the audacity to initially offer the workers a wage increase of just 40 cents an hour! The specific gains of the new contract are preliminary and more will be released in a few days.

The hotel workers demanded protection for migrant workers from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids; initially management wouldn’t even agree to notify workers if ICE was on the premises. Union members have won improved rights for immigrant workers and an



PHOTO: UNITEHERE8.ORG

agreement on year-round health care coverage. Until this contract, many workers had been denied healthcare coverage when their hours were cut during the winter months. The 117 workers at the hotel get additional workload limits to address staffing shortages. Starting pay for union housekeepers will rise to \$31.03 an hour! “This contract includes tremendous wins on wages, healthcare, workload and immigrant rights,” said Stefan Moritz, the union’s secretary treasurer. (Seattle Times, Sept. 11) UNITE HERE members kept up a high-volume picket line every day of the strike with bullhorns, drums and other noise makers. They chanted to the well-heeled clients of the luxury hotel, “If we don’t get no contract, you don’t get no sleep!” Members of Workers World Party and other union solidarity activists joined the picket line. The UNITE HERE victory will be an impetus for upping the fightback and organization of workers, especially low-paid workers, in Seattle and elsewhere. □

Book Review: ‘Turn the guns around’

By Sierra Ward

As the United States continues its war on Iran and its aggression against Cuba, John Catalinotto’s 2017 book, “Turn the guns around: Mutinies, Soldier Revolts, and Revolutions,” becomes increasingly more relevant and is a history those interested in building a real movement that’s actually capable of defeating Empire should read. Catalinotto uses Marxist class analysis and cites historical examples to demonstrate that class matters, even with the state’s own enforcers. Drawing from the Paris Commune of 1871, the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the Kiel Mutiny of 1918, it shows how in each the troops turned their guns around. The book further draws on national liberation struggles in Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Angola in the 1960s and 1970s, which, in turn, sparked revolts within the Portuguese military that overthrew Portugal’s fascist regime in 1974, which, in turn, aided these

independence movements. Catalinotto weaves each of these events together around the history and struggle of the GI enlisted soldiers’ resistance to the U.S. war against the Vietnamese revolution, using real letters, interviews and first-hand accounts that he crafts together with that historical research. His work demonstrates how this resistance in the military led to the creation of the American Servicemen’s Union (ASU) and other active duty and veterans’ resistance groups and that this resistance within the rank-and-file U.S. troops helped strengthen the resistance to the war among civilians here in the United States. This aided the Vietnamese people in their victory and achieving independence in 1975.

Is conscription in the future?

Today, the United States is actively at war, and there is even talk about bringing back the draft. While war strategists debate over where they want to bomb and sanction next, more workers are sent off to die on behalf of the U.S. Empire. The soldiers, sailors, marines and airforce personnel are themselves workers. If we antiwar activists deny that reality, we don’t help the U.S. working-class military personnel, and our denial certainly doesn’t help the people in the Global South either. If we want to help protect Iran’s sovereignty, we should be organizing with the rank and file and helping their resistance. We should be taking steps to prepare for active, militant resistance to any draft efforts, and we should be in solidarity with workers facing vile conditions as they’re being sent off to slaughter. Recently, the USS Lincoln aircraft carrier has been in the news as families of those on

board report abhorrent conditions and a possible mutiny. It is important for the antiwar movement that these voices be heard and that we, as Marxist-Leninists, listen. Most of these voices within the rank and file go unheard due to government censorship. As Catalinotto wrote in the first page of the book, "This book is dedicated to the unknown soldier-resisters, who are the first to awaken their class interests and turn their weapons on the rulers who have sent them into vain battle." Communist Andy Stapp and many other brave antiwar veterans worked to create the ASU, a union of rank-and-file service personnel (who in those days were called GIs). This union fought for better wages and more benefits for low-ranking GIs. It also fought against illegal wars, racism and deployment of Army and National Guard against U.S. citizens. It challenged “the brass” in the chain of command. The ASU, in tandem with the other collective efforts of antiwar GIs in the U.S., contributed greatly to the Vietnamese liberation struggle as well as awakening the consciousness of numerous veterans who are active communists today. “Turn the Guns Around” makes this point well. If there’s an opening for us to get workers away from the clutches of the Empire, to save them from being cannon fodder and to raise their consciousness, then we should take it. We gain nothing by abandoning workers; we should meet them where they are at. As Workers World Party founder Sam Marcy stated, “The duty of revolutionary Marxists is to preach the class struggle, to fight the class war,” and this includes reaching out to those low-ranking military personnel swept up by the military machine, lest we abandon them to fascism. □

Power outages

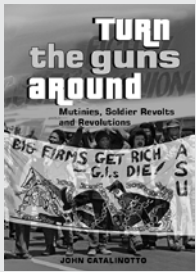
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residents of Gary — a community where over 80% of residents are Black — lost power. Pastor Eric Boone of the Tree of Life Missionary Baptist Church in Gary told the magazine Mother Jones: “Some people are 70 and 80 years old, in hot conditions with no air conditioning, and it’s 85 degrees in the house. ... People who were already living check to check are now trying to put gas in cars and generators while needing baby formula and diapers. We’ve seen it all.” (Aug. 25) The horrors of Gary were caused by the dictatorship of corporations profiting from the AI data center bonanza, especially Nvidia, which makes the microchips used in Amazon and other data centers. On Aug. 26, Amazon agreed to purchase 2 million additional chips for its data centers, including those planned for the Gary area. Nvidia is one of the most profitable companies on earth and is among the “Imperial Six” companies targeted by Iran as core foundations of the U.S. Empire. (workers.org/?p=93610) But this is about more than just AI. Like all companies looking to build massive data center projects, Amazon was attracted by something besides the electric grid: the availability of cheap land. And the area surrounding Gary, which had once been a center of steel production, now has plenty of it. Hundreds of thousands of Black families migrated to places like Gary during the Great Migrations of the early 1900s, fleeing racist terror in the Southern states and drawn towards good-paying jobs. Of course, Black families in the South were promised economic justice decades earlier, via the “40 acres and a mule” proposed after the Civil War. But this dream has been forever deferred. Investigate Midwest finds that while Black people owned 20% of U.S. farms in 1920, that number dropped to 1.5% in 2022. (Sept. 2) Instead, Black families fleeing to Gary and other cities have been faced with ongoing corporate extraction, earlier in the form of sharecropping and ongoing through for-profit prisons and predatory financial practices. Now, power outages caused by corporate data centers can be added to this list. But there is another way. Malcolm X said in his “Message to the Grass Roots” in 1963: “The French Revolution — what was it based on? The landless against the landlord. ... The Russian Revolution — what was it based on? Land. ... The Chinese Revolution — they wanted land. ... A revolutionary wants land so he can set up his own nation.” (freedomarchives.org) Of course, even the land today known as Gary was stolen from Indigenous nations by the U.S. government. Justice for Black and all oppressed communities, including those in Gary, depends on victory over imperialism. Free the land! □

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

An appreciation of Dolly Parton

By Dianne Mathiowetz

The announcement of Dolly Parton's death at age 80 on August 25, was shocking not only for her devoted fans worldwide but for the countless people who benefited from her well-known community development programs, such as the Imagination Library or Dollywood, as well as less publicized financial contributions to Nashville's Black community and COVID vaccine development.

The lyrics to her songs resonate with so many who experience discrimination, disparate treatment, lack of respect and poverty. Her lyrics as well as her own life highlighted the importance of having confidence in yourself, as well as the value of family, friends and community.

She was a sassy, bold, exuberant woman with more flashy outfits, rhinestones and wigs who relished being herself without apology. How cool was that to women in particular but also to all those denied their humanity in the LGBTQIA2S+ and Black communities within a bigoted society?

She was an international star who supported Black Lives Matter, unions and workers and women's rights and trans rights. In 2018, Parton renamed her "Dixie Stampede" dinner-theater attraction in Dollywood to "The Stampede" after learning that "Dixie" reflected white supremacy.

She refused to accept the Presidential Medal of Honor twice from President #47 and from President Joe Biden.

In the days since her death from cancer, countless statements have detailed her life with so many other performers of all kinds praising her kindness and the

concern she exhibited over the decades of her career.

Dolly Parton was not a conscious "political" person in the sense that a newspaper like Workers World would have covered in these pages to explain critical issues of imperialist aggression or racist terror.

But WW pays homage to her fundamentally innate social consciousness of the value of working and poor people. Many of her songs' lyrics reflect that she was never ashamed of growing up in extreme poverty near the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee as one of 12 children living in a one-room shack. She made her home in Tennessee until she took her last breath. Her wealth came from her hard work and talent within a very sexist and exploitative industry. Dolly Parton was well-known for managing her own career and supporting other artists' endeavors.

In a very early example of that independence, she turned down an opportunity to let Elvis Presley record her 1973 song, "I Will Always Love You," because his manager, Colonel Tom Parker, demanded half the rights to it as part of the deal. She very much admired Whitney Houston's 1992 rendition of this song. Dolly was a prolific songwriter with an estimated 3,000 songs to her credit. They are all part of her enduring legacy.

Dolly never had children, saying it was a conscious decision she never regretted. She has scores of nieces and nephews who all have stories of their own about her love and compassion. She often read books to children as part of her Imagination Library program that began in 1995 and continues today in the U.S., Britain, Ireland, Canada and Australia.

The fact that her father was illiterate motivated Dolly to

launch this program which provides children one free book a month by mail from birth to their fifth birthday. One cannot even imagine the excitement of these children to get a book in the mail every month. To this day, the program has provided over 330 million books worldwide. Parton's family has requested donations be sent to the Library to honor her memory.

And no review of Dolly Parton's life can fail to talk about the social impact of the 1980 film, "9 to 5" and her Oscar-nominated, Grammy-winning song of the film's name. The film focuses on office work as a mainstay of women's employment where examples of overt sexism were the norm. This writer had many typical "women's jobs" in offices, restaurants and stores where blatant sexist and discriminatory remarks and examples of male privilege were to be anticipated daily.

Dolly Parton's example of determining her own path to achieve her goals while always providing a helping hand in solidarity with others is why she is a working-class heroine and deserves recognition. She will be beloved and admired now and for generations to come.

Monica Moorehead contributed to this article.



Dolly Parton with legendary country and western singer, Charley Pride

Gloria Steinem and the 1970s women's movement

By Monica Moorehead

The passing of Gloria Steinem at age 92 on Sept. 2 evokes what her legacy means for the modern-day women's movement in the U.S., ignited in the early 1970s. Today this is appropriately referred to in a broader understanding as gender oppression. Feminism helped to define this important period of mass struggle.

This particular movement found inspiration from the Civil Rights struggles and bourgeois feminists, personified by Steinem, who dominated the political direction to one within the capitalist system.

Steinem demanded the creation of rape crisis centers, shelters for battered women, day care centers for working mothers and reproductive justice, including the right to abortion.

The strength of the women's movement had a tremendous impact on the conservative, male-dominated U.S. Supreme Court landmark ruling in Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion on Jan. 22, 1973.

Steinem was a proponent for women breaking the glass ceiling of climbing the corporate and banking ladder — which male billionaires like Bill Gates and Elon Musk still overwhelmingly predominate today — and becoming CEOs.

Since her passing, a not so well-known side of Steinem that has emerged is her part in founding a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) front group, the Independent Research Service, from 1959-1962. Her CIA involvement was confirmed by an exposé that appeared in the radical magazine Ramparts in 1967. This anti-communist group was tasked with investigating World Youth Festivals held in the 1950s and 1960s hosted by anti-imperialist governments.

The CIA has a sordid, notorious history of undermining and overthrowing governments and movements seeking independence and sovereignty from imperialist domination and plunder, most notably in Chile, Congo, Guatemala, Indonesia and Iran. This history also includes racism and sexism amongst the CIA's ranks. This brings into serious question Steinem's lack of connections with women's issues before 1970.

No orientation towards fighting racism

The traditional movement did not uplift the national oppression of Black women or other women of color, an integral part of the class oppression of poor and working women in general. The leadership of this movement was opposed to showing solidarity with the right of representation of Black women even within the bourgeois electoral arena.

For instance, Steinem supported the 1972 Democratic presidential candidate George McGovern and not the candidacy of Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman to run for president. In protest against this lack of support

from Steinem and others, Chisholm resigned from the National Women's Political Caucus, set up by the National Organization of Women, which was supposedly created to support women candidates.

In her 1984 groundbreaking book "When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America," Paula Giddings explores the historical and political relationship between racism and sexism in

the U.S. and how certain white feminists, such as Gloria Steinem, have succumbed to racist ideology for generations.

Giddings wrote: "Throughout their history, Black women also understood the relationship between the progress of the race and their own feminism. Women's rights were an empty promise if Afro-Americans were crushed under the heel of a racist power structure. In times of racial militancy, Black women threw their considerable energies into that struggle — even at the expense of their feminist yearnings." (page 7)

The U.S. women's movement has its roots a century earlier with the women's suffrage movement in upstate New York led by Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott and others who were also white. While this movement organized for women's right to vote, it demonstrated a lack of interest and even disdain for demands made by Black women suffragists like Ida B. Wells to build anti-lynching campaigns. This lack of anti-racist solidarity served to weaken the women's movement, which has really never recovered from this glaring omission.

Roots of women and gender oppression

An indispensable theoretical contribution to understanding the shortcomings of the U.S. women's movement was made by Dorothy Ballan, a founding member of Workers World Party, who wrote the pamphlet "Feminism and Marxism" in 1971.

Ballan challenged the bourgeois notions of prominent feminists such as Kate Millett, who Ballan quoted as saying, "The relationship between the sexes is and always has been a political one — a continuing power struggle in which women are sometimes idolized, other times patronized, always exploited."

Ballan provides a Marxist, historical view that the relationship between the sexes has not always been a continuing power struggle, nor has it always been one based on exploitation of women; rather, human relations — communal relations between people of all genders, are much

older than politics and exploitation. There was a protracted period of human history, devoid of any exploitation or divisions — known as the matriarchy. The supremacy of one sex over the other started with the patriarchy, which began with the advent of class society.

Regarding the necessity for building working-class solidarity, Ballan wrote: "The Black woman and the white woman are both concerned with the struggle against male supremacy. However, the Black woman faces an overriding problem which far exceeds in importance and significance the problem of male supremacy. That of course is the problem of white supremacy. In this latter struggle she sees the need to unite with Black men to struggle for Black Liberation for their very survival. This problem

arises, as we said, because the whites — both women and men — constitute an oppressing nation in the system of imperialism. And the Black men and women are in an oppressed nation.

Ballan continues: "Unless this is very clearly understood by the white woman, any type of relationship between the white woman and the Black woman will be of an extremely superficial and tenuous character and

will lead in the long run to mutual hostility."

"This is a very crucial point, and the Women's Liberation Movement, at the present time, largely white and middle class in character, cannot hope to have any meaningful alliance with Black women without first taking this into account. The road to any alliance between Black and white women lies first in the recognition that the alliance must be based principally on a struggle against racist imperialism."

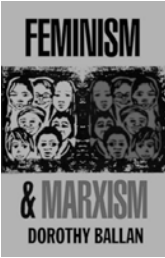
Ballan goes on to explain that all patriarchal, sexist ideas emanate from the ruling class, not from individual males, a prevailing view of the women's movement. The Women's Caucus of Youth Against War and Fascism, a mass arm of Workers World Party, reflected this class view within this movement, both in theory and in the streets.

While winning any reforms through struggle under capitalism is important, Ballan stresses that only a socialist revolution can lay the basis for eradicating not only patriarchy but also all forms of class divisions, including white supremacy and LGBTQIA2S+ oppression.

Go to workers.org/book/feminism to read Ballan's full pamphlet.



Chicago protest, Aug. 26, 1970.



The death penalty: 50 years after reinstatement

By Gloria Rubac
Houston

Texas has just gone four whole months, 125 days, without carrying out an execution. The Earth is still spinning on its axis and orbiting around the sun. The Texas governor is still opposed to same-sex marriage and abortion and wants the Ten Commandments displayed everywhere. These 125 days prove Texas can survive without any state-sponsored executions.

But, on Sept. 16, executions will resume when LeJames Norman, a 40-year-old Black man and father of three, is scheduled to be legally lynched in Huntsville at 6:00 p.m. Norman’s life was troubled from the beginning, as his father physically assaulted his mother when she was pregnant with him. Norman’s family was extremely poor and lived in several homeless shelters. His parents fought constantly, suffered from drug and alcohol use and abused Norman physically. At 19 years of age, Norman was accused of murder during an attempted robbery.

A police officer fatally shot his father causing Norman to have chronic nightmares. Norman attended special education classes. Like too many youth of color, this racist system allowed him to fall through the cracks.

One week after Norman’s scheduled execution, his partner is also set to die. Ker’Sean Olajuwa Ramey, also Black, was not the shooter in the incident these two men were charged with. He was there, however, and was determined to be guilty of capital murder under Texas’ infamous Law Of Parties.

Many constitutional violations led to Ramey’s conviction and death sentence. These include the systematic exclusion of all potential Black jurors, the state’s presentation of false testimony and, above all, the abysmal performance of his trial attorney, who failed to conduct his own investigation or provide witnesses to rebut the state’s case.

Crucially, trial counsel failed to present readily available mitigating evidence of Ramey’s childhood abuse, poverty and cognitive impairment during the penalty phase of the trial. This evidence could have persuaded jurors to spare his life, but instead — without any such details about his background — they deliberated for only 14 minutes before sentencing Ramey to death.

The U.S. has 29 more executions scheduled for this year.

A history of legalized white supremacy

This past July marked 50 years since capital punishment was reinstated by the U.S. Supreme Court’s landmark ruling in the case of Gregg v. Georgia in 1976. This began what is now called the modern era of the death penalty.

Supposedly, new legal guidelines in sentencing procedures were going to ensure fairness and consistency, but after 50 years, statistics prove this has not happened.

After almost 1,700 executions in the last half century, the facts are clear:

- The death penalty is still racist.
- People of color are 58% of those sentenced to death, but only 38% of the population.
- Legal errors are still common; 203 innocent people have been exonerated off death row with over 100 being African American.
- Arbitrariness continues. A death sentence still depends on the county where the crime occurred rather than on the nature of the crime itself.

In recent years, abolition activists view changes to the death penalty as unfair and unconstitutional. Non-unanimous juries are sending people to death row in Florida and Alabama; this includes almost 60% of those on Florida’s death row. Ironically, Florida leads the country with 30 innocent people having been exonerated from death row since 1973. (Death Penalty Information Center)

now options in many states. Because the Supreme Court has never found any method of execution unconstitutional, all known methods can be used if lethal injection drugs cannot be accessed.

Organize and fight!

Nationally, recognized civil rights and legal organizations and a law firm filed a writ petition in the California State Supreme Court challenging the state’s death penalty statute as racially discriminatory and unconstitutional under the Equal Protection guarantees of the State Constitution. This is the first time a petition of this nature has been filed with the court.

There is positive news from the Death Penalty Information Center:

- More than half of young U.S. adults aged 18 through 43 now oppose the death penalty.
- Opposition to the death penalty has nearly tripled over the past three decades.
- Support for the death penalty is at a five-decade low.

During the first six months of 2026, the Death Penalty Information Center documented new efforts to conceal critical details about the death penalty. The reality about the death penalty and executions is seen as a threat to public support for executions by its proponents.

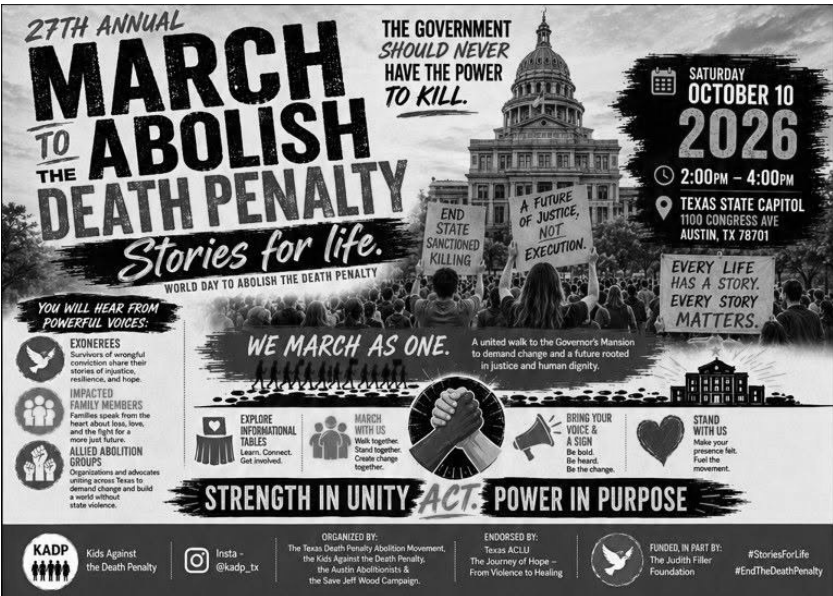
U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first African American to ever sit on the bench, understood this 50 years ago. His dissent on the vote to reinstate capital punishment said, “The American people know little about the death penalty, and the opinions of an informed public would differ significantly from those of a public unaware of the consequences and effects of the death penalty.” (naacp.org)

Opponents of legal lynchings continue to educate their coworkers, congregants in their houses of worship and students on their campuses. With death row exonerates speaking out, their stories change hearts and minds. Families of murder victims who oppose capital punishment

play an important role in abolition. When statistics about innocence, torture and racism see the light of day, support for executions will continue to diminish. Total abolition is the light at the end of the tunnel.

The phrase “better to be rich and guilty than poor and innocent” was made famous by Bryan Stevenson, founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative. Activists must continue to organize and fight until this quote is no longer relevant!

The writer is a founding member of the Texas Death Penalty Abolition Movement.



Since the decade beginning with 2010, pharmaceutical companies have refused to supply drugs for lethal injection executions after a successful campaign by activists in Europe.

Nitrogen hypoxia, which is not even allowed to euthanize animals, has tortured people to death in Alabama and Louisiana. According to the Equal Justice Initiative, “Risks include feelings of suffocation and choking to death on one’s own vomit, as well as brain damage, a stroke or a persistent vegetative state instead of death.” (eji.org/)

Since this gas is odorless and colorless, guards, other prison staff and witnesses including news media, face a risk of asphyxiation if there is a leak of the gas.

Electrocution, firing squads and gas chambers are

55 years later: Lessons from heroic Attica Prison uprising

By Larry Holmes

The following excerpted article first appeared online at workers.org on Sept. 14, 2016. This year, 2026, is the 55th anniversary of the heroic Attica Prison Rebellion of incarcerated workers and revolutionaries.

Attica, Sept. 9, 1971, is the story of how prisons can be incubators of revolutionaries — like George Jackson, assassinated 2 ½ weeks earlier at San Quentin State Prison.

Attica has been described as the biggest deployment of state violence since the crushing of the Indigenous uprising at Wounded Knee — 81 years before.

The significance of the Attica uprising as a prison rebellion transcends prisons. It was almost the Black Liberation Movement’s Paris Commune of 100 years before in France in 1871.

Attica was spontaneous, but it was organized by highly political individuals who considered themselves Marxists, Maoists, Black liberationists. They organized committees for food and for negotiations. Their demands addressed every aspect of survival in prison: health, food, an end to solitary confinement, legal rights, the right to family visitation, the right to get political material in the mail.

This is from their statement: “We demand an end to prison labor exploitation. ... Prisoners who refuse to work are punished and segregated. This is a class issue.”

They stated: Prisoners should be considered workers. The workday should be eight hours. Prisoners should

have the right to form a union. Prisons should be made to conform to New York state labor laws, including wages and workers’ compensation for accidents. Prisoners should have access to vocational training, union pay scales, union membership.

Workers World Party played an important role at Attica with a tremendous reputation with prisoners, through both Youth Against War and Fascism and the Prisoners’ Solidarity Committee, and was known in all state prisons. We did work, ranging from solidarity with political prisoners and legal help to providing buses to take prisoners’ families for visits to upstate prisons.

Our political program declared: “Prisons are concentration camps for the poor! Tear them down!” The Attica negotiating committee asked that a leading comrade, Tom Soto, be an observer during negotiations with the state.

Ultimately the repression came. Nelson Rockefeller, the oil billionaire, then the governor, gave the orders to crush the uprising. He had a reputation as an Eastern liberal, but he was actually a ruling-class monster with presidential aspirations, so he ordered more than 1,000 troops, guards and state troopers from four to five nearby states to shoot indiscriminately. The state killed more than 30 prisoners and 10 hostages.

The bourgeois propaganda was that the prisoners had killed the hostages, with the media giving all sorts of lying details. But it later came out that all who died, died of bullet wounds — and the prisoners had no guns. Surviving prisoners were tortured, without their wounds being treated.

The ruling class made their point: “There is a price to pay” if there is rebellion.

Organize prisoners, NOT cops and guards!

But the uprising opened up the question of prisoners’ rights and liberation. From then on, the cutoff, isolated prisoners became a much bigger issue in our movement, as well as the issue of prisoners as workers.

The prison population was perhaps under 500,000 in 1971. Now it is six to seven times that, and there is the prison-industrial complex. More than one million of those prisoners work within the prisons. Many, many corporations are exploiting prison labor.

The prisoners are a detachment of the working class, working under prison slave-like conditions for pennies a day. Revolutionaries aid in the organization of the working class so that workers can better their conditions.

However, revolutionaries should never forget that our ultimate goal is not merely improving the conditions under which workers’ labor is exploited, but rather the abolition of exploitation, the abolition of all wage slavery and capitalism.

One problem for some unions is that they have cops and prison guards in these unions. That makes it harder for the union to take anti-racist and solidarity positions. **They should get rid of the prison guards and organize the prisoners!**

The working class is changing. Now a big section is temporary and unorganized. If you have a Marxist view, our class is expanding! End prison slave labor! □



Portland brigadistas return from Cuba’s Century of Fidel Colloquium

By Lyn Neeley
Portland, Oregon

Four young brigadistas from the Portland Action for Cuba (PAC) coalition — Mona, Je, John and Leo — attended Cuba’s First International Colloquium on the Centennial of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz as part of the Venceremos brigade. They gave a stirring report back on Sept. 8 about conditions they found in Cuba and the enduring spirit of the Cuban people.

Je was moved by dignitaries from around the world who spoke at the Colloquium in support of Cuba. Speakers from South Africa and Namibia described Fidel’s qualities as a military strategist when he helped lead the battle of Cuito Cuanavale in Angola. A Brazilian participant spoke about Fidel’s climate activism and a Guyanese speaker praised Cuba’s years of solidarity with Caribbean nations.

Brigadistas talked about the tens of thousands of Cubans in desperate need of health care that is now unavailable

because of the U.S. blockade. People are waiting for surgery, ultrasounds for pregnant people, infant immunizations and cancer treatments. Infant mortality has doubled since the U.S. imposed a fuel and oil blockade in January and only 30% of necessary medications are available.

Under these conditions, brigadistas talked about Cuba’s innovations: developing some of the world’s best vaccines for COVID-19 and a new one for Alzheimer’s, organizing a food shortage sharing system and a people’s militia. Last year Cuba graduated 30,185 international students from 62 countries!

Brigadistas described a power outage during a visit to a hospital. They were impressed by the Cubans’ persistence and what they could do without computers. At one hospital, workers installed solar panels overnight in the dark.

The delegation visited the Quisicuaaba Farm Assisted Living Center, which cares for seniors, children and people with HIV, addictions and dementia. The center has 222 acres of land where workers produce

food and raise livestock that provide healthy meals they adapt to each person’s needs. The brigadistas quoted José Martí: “The true medicine is not the one that cures but the one that prevents.”

Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel spoke at the Colloquium about the Revolution’s hope in young people around the world. He said, “Fidel believed in the role of youth in the revolutionary process,” and stressed how important it is to “build solidarity networks. It is not enough to deliver speeches of support. Solidarity must be translated into concrete actions.” (For his full speech, see the Granma website or workers.org)

Díaz-Canel said, “Fidel is not the patron saint of Cuba, he belongs to all who fight for a better world.” Over 600,000 Cuban health care workers have served in more than 160 countries since 1963. Despite the U.S. blockade, there are currently up to 24,000 Cuban medical personnel active in more than 50 countries.



WW PHOTO: LYN NEELEY

Portland brigadistas reported back about their recent trip to Cuba.

The report back ended with Fidel’s words: “Internationalism is the most beautiful essence of Marxism-Leninism and its ideals of solidarity and fraternity among peoples. Without internationalism the Cuban Revolution would not even exist. Being internationalists means paying off our own debt to humanity.”

PAC is hosting Cuban activist Tamara Hansen from Canada on Oct 12. The coalition is planning a rally and teach-in on Oct 24 when the United Nations votes on the resolution to end the U.S. blockade and will host the annual National Network on Cuba meeting in November. □

Berlin: Week-long solidarity vigil for Cuba

Press Release from junge Welt: Protest Vigil for Cuba in Front of the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, September 12-19, 2026. Translation: John Catalinotto

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Unblock Cuba coalition and over 50 participating organizations, we would like to inform you about the upcoming protest vigil for Cuba outside the U.S. Embassy in Berlin at the Brandenburg Gate from Saturday, Sept. 12, through Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026, and cordially invite you to stop by the protest vigil and report on it.

The current U.S. administration under Donald Trump has significantly tightened the blockade measures in an effort to bring the Caribbean island nation of Cuba politically to its knees. These measures not only severely disrupt the island’s energy and, consequently, its water supply; they are also costing many people their lives, as hospitals can no longer perform surgeries and deliver medications — nor provide lifesaving equipment



Berlin vigil set for solidarity with Cuba.

for premature infants; these are no longer available.

In Cuba, as well as around the world, resistance is mounting against this barbaric action by the U.S. government. The overwhelming majority of United Nation member states are calling for an immediate end to this inhumane blockade.

In Germany, more than 50 organizations

and many individuals have joined forces to clearly demonstrate their support for this demand through a protest vigil in front of the U.S. Embassy in Berlin.

Among the 50 are solidarity organizations such as Netzwerk Cuba and KarEn, labor unions, various media outlets such as the daily newspapers junge Welt and nd (formerly Neues Deutschland), youth organizations such as DIDF-Jugend, Solid, and SDAJ [Youth organization of German Communist Party (DKP)]; party structures (including the Bundestag parliamentary group of Die Linke; the DKP’s Party Executive Committee and the Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht group of Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg); and other organizations (such as Naturfreunde Berlin and the International Peace Bureau, IPB).

The protest vigil will take place day and night in Berlin from Saturday, Sept. 12, through Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026, directly in front of the U.S. Embassy at the Brandenburg Gate.

In addition to a series of events and

discussions, performances by various artists are planned, including actress and singer Chris Dörk, singer-songwriter Wenzel and rappers Masur and KontA. You can find the complete program in the attached schedule. The protest vigil will kick off with a bicycle parade from the Cuban Embassy to the U.S. Embassy, and an encirclement of the U.S. Embassy is also planned for the closing event.

For more information [in German], visit unblock-cuba.org. Download the protest vigil program: unblock-cuba.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Flyer-Unblock-Cuba-Protestwache.pdf

The protest vigil will also feature an information tent where media representatives can pick up a press kit. Event organizers will be available on site to answer any questions, but you are also welcome to contact me at any time.

With best regards,
Nick Brauns, Editor-in-Chief, daily newspaper junge Welt. □

Internal conflict shakes up the Pentagon

By John Catalinotto

The internal conflict that has been roiling the Pentagon since Pete Hegseth needed Vice President JD Vance’s vote to win appointment by 51-50 in the Senate to lead that department on Jan. 24, 2025, has spilled into the main corporate media. The conflict has focused on criticism of Hegseth’s incompetent leadership. So far those critical of Hegseth have been unable to unseat him.

This conflict is important for activists organizing against U.S. aggression worldwide, which right now is hottest in West Asia against Iran. Most essential is to analyze what the differences are among the different ruling-class factions involved in this conflict and to explore the possibility of intervening politically so as to obstruct U.S. aggression.

The following events have made headlines recently:

1. Pentagon investigators subjected “50 members of the U.S. military’s Joint Staff to polygraph tests over alleged leaks to journalists, including about how the Iran war has created a shortage of crucial munitions.” Rear Adm. Donald J. Guter, a retired top judge advocate general for the Navy from 2000 to 2002, said of the testing: “In my experience, it’s unprecedented.” (The New York Times, Sept. 4)
2. The Pentagon has fired journalists at the U.S. military’s daily newspaper, Stars and Stripes, apparently for giving extensive coverage to the serious problems among personnel on the USS Lincoln aircraft carrier group. Especially sensitive were the reports on the failure to get adequate supplies to the ship’s 5,000 personnel and regarding a spike in attempted suicides. The Pentagon’s attempt to censor this newspaper is an admission of weakness of the Pentagon leadership.
3. Hegseth has either fired or prevented the

promotions of 80 generals and admirals without publicly explaining why. Among them are five of the 10 members holding the top positions in the military, including Army Chief of Staff Gen. Randy George, and at least three senior officers forced out who had been viewed as potential successors to General George. There have been no replacements. An Aug. 25 Times article said Hegseth “has left the Army essentially rudderless.”

4. Senator Thom Tillis, Republican of North Carolina and a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who voted to approve Hegseth for his Pentagon role in January 2025, recently called on the president to replace Hegseth.

Professional military

Since the Pentagon decided to eliminate conscription at the beginning of 1973 (while the U.S. occupation of Vietnam was winding down) under the Richard

Nixon administration, those running the U.S. Armed Forces have made enormous changes, trying to create a professional military that would function effectively.

Since the end of World War II, the role of the U.S. military machine has been to police the planet to defend and expand the interests of the imperialist ruling class and especially that section of this ruling class directly connected to the United States. This is Hegseth’s stated goal. It also has been the likely goal of the top officers who Hegseth has pushed out or obstructed.

That is, both groups aim to improve U.S. war readiness. If we examine the differences between Hegseth and the officers he has targeted regarding the diverse character of the U.S. military, this is what shows up:

In 1973 about 99% of the flag officers (generals and admirals) were white men, even though 10% of the enlisted ranks were African American. Today’s military is

continued on page 7

Deportations mean disaster for Haitians and U.S. workers

By G. Dunkel

Ending Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in a burst of deeply racist, brutal cruelty is a personal disaster for the Haitians swept up in the attacks. It is also a personal loss for the people in the nursing homes, hospitals and remediation centers, whose essential care many Haitians facing deportation now provide, and they will certainly miss their services, as will the restaurants and farmers who depend on Haitians' labor.

TPS was just removed from approximately 330,000 Haitians and from a few thousand Syrians, Somalians, Ethiopians and Sudanese in February, all of whom now face deportation. Florida, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Ohio are the states with the largest number of Haitian TPS holders.

A coalition of immigrant rights groups in February released detailed data showing Haitian TPS holders contribute an estimated \$5.9 billion annually to the U.S. economy and pay more than \$1.5 billion

in taxes. (haitiantimes.com)

Deportation flights for Haitians who had lost their TPS began Aug. 21 when a Department of Homeland Security-chartered flight with 160 Haitian nationals and their children born as U.S. citizens landed in Cap Haïtien, Haiti's second largest city.

Haiti's major international airport in Port-au-Prince is unavailable, because armed groups opposed to the government, which the big media calls gangs, have attacked it. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has closed Haiti's airspace to commercial flights.

Nearly half a million Haitians work and live in the Dominican Republic which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti. The president of the DR has pledged to deport 10,000 Haitians a month.

Deportees in chains

All the deportees are dressed in white jumpsuits and forced to wear shackles on their arms and legs connected to a chain around their waist which, intentionally or



Rally January 2026 at Fort Lauderdale / Hollywood International Airport, organized by several local union groups, demands extension of TPS.

not, recalls the coffles of enslaved people being brought to market.

On one recent flight the deportees were kept in their shackles for 14 hours, not counting the flight time, arriving well after the Haitian government workers tasked with receiving them had gone home.

They are forced to hand over their personal possessions — immigration papers, passports, money and phones — allegedly to be returned on landing. The deportees have made numerous complaints,

documented in media like the New York Times, CNN, ABC and Haïti Libre, that not all of the money and phones are returned.

Once they are landed, the Haitian government gives them 10,000 Haitian gourdes (about \$80), which is less than the price of a bus ticket from the Cap Haïtien airport to Port-au-Prince. The money is not enough to get most of them home. The roads out of Cap Haïtien are controlled by groups that demand tolls from bus passengers. Five police officers were recently killed trying to leave Cap Haïtien.

Deportations to create economic disaster for Haiti

According to the International Monetary Fund, about 25% of Haiti's economy — nearly \$5 billion annually — is based on remittances, money sent by relatives working abroad. The IMF also reports that Haiti's economy has contracted for a seventh consecutive year, and inflation remains high at around 32% a year. □

Mobilization resists xenophobic, anti-Black attacks

By Jason Cohen
New York City

August 28 — Over 100 community members and militant activists, representing over 40 organizations, flooded Foley Square in downtown Manhattan to protest the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling allowing President Donald Trump to terminate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitian and Syrian migrants. This decision removes a major judicial roadblock for the Department of Homeland Security's war against migrant workers, their family members and their communities.

The demonstration was initiated by various Haitian community organizations, such as Rasanbleman Pou Ayiti, Komokoda and Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees. The Haitian community is being specifically targeted by the Trump administration for detention and deportation. From Immigration and Customs Enforcement



Haitians and supporters protest Supreme Court ruling to deny TPS status. New York City, Aug. 28, 2026.

(ICE) raiding Haitian communities throughout the country to Haitians in Ohio being forced to wear ankle monitors and report to ICE offices regularly, the anti-Black and xenophobic character of the war being waged against Haitian communities in the United States is quite clear.

Yet, instead of being intimidated and cowed into silence by this wave of state

terrorism, anti-imperialists, students, workers and members of various migrant communities came together to denounce the continuing ICE and Customs and Border Protection raids. They demonstrated solidarity with the Haitian community and all migrant communities currently under siege by the security forces of the U.S. government. The call

to struggle until ICE and CBP are abolished and there is a general amnesty for all migrants in the U.S. was resounding.

Workers World Party, as one of the endorsing organizations, was on the ground and will continue to struggle in solidarity with the Haitian community — against both imperialist aggression targeting Haitian sovereignty and the racist and xenophobic attacks facing the diaspora communities now in the U.S.

The ongoing war against migrant communities is a class war imbued with anti-Black racism and bigotry toward all immigrants of color. This has been integral to the founding and development of U.S. settler-imperialist policy. Only through unity among the working class and the oppressed nationalities in the United States will the plans of the imperialist bourgeoisie be thwarted and the ruling class itself be liquidated.

Foley Square is just the beginning! □

Internal conflict

Continued from page 6

48% people of color, including about 20% African American. It is 20% women. Gay and lesbian personnel are now allowed to enlist, although trans people are now barred from military service.

The increased diversity does not automatically lead to equal treatment any more than it does in civilian U.S. society. Even after procedures were adopted allegedly to improve opportunities for promotion of groups facing discrimination, still only 6.5% of the flag officers were Black as of 2024. Only 8% were women. Both numbers are less than half the proportion of enlisted personnel in those categories.

Hegseth represents the racism, misogyny and xenophobic positions of his commander in chief and the MAGA group overall. He openly aims to reduce the already limited opportunities for women and personnel of color to advance by eliminating any programs he calls "woke," which means any steps aimed at lowering the impact of racist or sexist discrimination.

Regarding his firings, a disproportionate number of officers pushed out or denied promotion were women or officers of color (or both), along with any officers he considered "woke."

This is only one of the differences

Hegseth brings to the Pentagon. Other differences include blowing up fishing boats in the Caribbean Sea without any evidence of crime and attacking civilian infrastructure and the civilian population of Iran — which are both war crimes — and boasting about it. Not to mention urging soldiers to increase their testosterone levels.

Can this conflict open a struggle?

While those in conflict with Hegseth within the military or Congress might point out his lack of experience running any organization, let alone one with a \$1.5 trillion budget and more than two million personnel, and the absence of any redeeming qualities for Hegseth beyond the ability to do pushups, their goals are mainly to strengthen the U.S. Armed Forces (and at best to oust the MAGA regime).

However, it is hard to see how they can dislodge Hegseth without exposing his open misogyny and racism and encouraging the rank-and-file personnel to participate in the struggle. Otherwise they will likely lose.

Most officials in the military, the Congress and the corporate media will do their best to avoid awakening a mass struggle. But once the genie is out of the bottle — it stays out. That's the kind of opening the antiwar movement should be alert to. □

Justice for Pierre Damas Bel!

By Martha Grevatt
Cleveland

Pierre Damas Bel was a 20-year-old Haitian immigrant, an honors student at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, and an avid soccer player. After President Donald Trump revoked Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians, Bel became one of many immigrants forced to wear an ankle monitor. He became depressed from the bullying by some classmates and the inability to play college sports.

On Aug. 31, Bel got out of his car and threw himself under a truck, which killed him.

"Justice for Pierre Damas Bel" was the theme of a demonstration held in Cleveland on Sept. 13, called by the Party for Socialism and Liberation. Actions were held in cities around the state, including in Springfield, where some 20,000 Haitians comprise about one-third of the city's population.

Demands included: Full legal rights for Haitian immi-

grants, immediately; permanent protected status for Haitian immigrants with a direct pathway to citizenship; Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) out of Springfield and Ohio; end the ankle monitor program now; abolish ICE; and return the detained Haitian pastors now. The last demand refers to the ongoing detention by ICE since August of Pastors Gilbert Joubert Adrien and Julio Dumano.

In addition to the actions on Sept. 13, there have been a number of demonstrations and news conferences to protest the treatment of Haitians in Ohio. □



Cleveland activists in solidarity with Haitian migrants, Sept. 13, 2026.

WW PHOTO: MARTHA GREVATT

A perfect storm is coming

World capitalist economic crisis today



By Larry Holmes

The writer is Workers World Party's First Secretary.

Sept. 1 — We can't explain the full complexity of the current capitalist crisis and all of its inherent explosive fault lines in this article. Instead, we offer a Marxist view of what's coming, why and what working-class militants need to do about it.

U.S. imperialism is always waging economic warfare against the workers and the oppressed of the world, as well as its competitors for markets and dominion.

However, U.S. presidents have never openly declared economic war against former allies or directed their underlings, like Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, to declare an economic "D Day" not only against Iran but also against China and other countries that trade with Iran — as president #47 did on Aug. 24. This is a publicity-seeking, unhinged, billionaire terrorist pouring fuel on a system that is about to go up in flames.

The financialization of capitalism

The 2008 financial crisis that nearly crashed the global financial market was ostensibly caused by the bursting of the sub-prime mortgage bubble. In reality, it was the most dangerous modern manifestation of a transformation endemic to the advance of end stage capitalism.

That crisis, nearly 20 years ago, which essentially forced capitalists and their governments to put the financial system on permanent life support, was a glaring sign of the degree to which capitalism had transformed from a profit system primarily based on manufacturing and the exploitation of labor to a system based on what is referred to by both Marxist and bourgeois economists, but with different interpretations, as the "financialization" of the capitalist economy.

In the view of Marxism, this inevitable transformation stems from a dying system's fight to survive by compensating for the crisis of capitalist over-production and the falling rate of profit by prioritizing the buying and trading of U.S. dollars, stocks, bonds, Treasury bills and a thousand other forms of grossly undervalued or worthless paper. At present, the world is moving away from treating the U.S. dollar as the global reserve currency, dumping vast quantities of U.S. Treasury bills. This is important for many reasons, especially the fact that selling U.S. Treasuries is one of the ways U.S. imperialism finances its wars.

AI: The biggest bubble in history is about to burst

Financial bubbles are not new to capitalism. What is new is when the entire U.S. economy and the interconnected global capitalist economy metastasizes into one giant bubble inflated by what amounts to a gigantic Ponzi scheme run by the financial markets, involving the trading of paper with a purported value of hundreds of trillions of dollars, but a real value, when the chickens come home to roost, that is closer to nothing.

Everything that is tied to the capitalist financial system — government debt, private debt, workers' pensions and savings — is either part of this bubble or doomed to be destroyed by it. This is the biggest bubble in the entire history of capitalism. This bubble is about to burst and crash the global capitalist financial system. It's not only U.S. imperialism that is at the cliff's edge. U.S. capitalism

is the beating heart of world capitalism, and as it goes, so does the whole system.

A few months ago, the Group of Thirty (G30), a global economic think tank whose members are almost exclusively present and former heads of the major central banks in the world, issued a report entitled "A perfect storm is in the making." The report is, in essence, a warning about the devastating consequences of the financialization of the world capitalist economy.

The report concerns itself with the dangerous growth of what's called the "shadow banking system," meaning non-bank financial institutions such as hedge funds, and mutual funds sponsored by BlackRock, Fidelity, etc. The shadow banking system is a direct creation of the financialization of the capitalist system. It grew out of the deregulation of the banking system in tandem with globalization during the 1980s. It provided a way for the superrich to invest and businesses to borrow capital, while circumventing the regulations of the standard banking system.

Today, with a reported \$260 trillion in assets, the shadow banking system is bigger than the banks. The shadow banks are the biggest investors in artificial intelligence (AI), and the AI bubble that is on the verge of bursting is conservatively estimated to be four times larger than the housing bubble of 2008.

The G30 report warns that something needs to be done to prevent a global economic catastrophe far greater than the Great Depression that lasted from 1929 to 1939. The truth is that it's already much too late to stop the storm that's coming.

The disastrous global economic fallout from the U.S.-Israeli war against Iran has hastened the arrival of the storm. Consider the vast changes that are taking place

WW COMMENTARY

population — under capitalism is a lethal threat to workers everywhere.

AI is also perhaps the biggest nail in the coffin of the capitalist system. AI is most likely the last technological revolution under capitalism, precisely because the astounding technology doesn't save or help capitalism; rather it exposes that capitalism is an obstacle to further technological advances and the forward progress of society and life on the planet.

Until capitalism is overthrown, AI will only compound the other overlapping crises that will make life unbearable for most people.

Chaos for the entire world

The whole world will be affected by the economic storm. The European countries are economically weaker, more crisis-ridden than the U.S., and therefore more vulnerable to the new crises in the making. Poor countries and populations will be ravaged by the storm. To some extent, the impact on parts of the Global South may be blunted by the alternate world economic infrastructure that China has helped put in place.

And of course, no worker will be safe from the impact of the storm. It's coming after jobs, homes, pensions, savings, even Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare. For the mass of the working class, the basic necessities of life will be unavailable.

Working-class struggle must be global

Some thoughts on how the coming storm will impact the struggle and how it should reorient the most advanced socialist and communist forces especially in the U.S.: The struggle of the workers and the oppressed against the capitalist ruling class has always been a world struggle. However, time changes, and events have made this reality more important than ever before.

For those of us who have prioritized the struggle against imperialism and solidarity with all the peoples fighting for freedom from colonial and neo-colonial subjugation, we tend to have a deeper understanding that the people of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean are leading the struggle against U.S. imperialism and that it is this struggle that has pushed the U.S. empire into decline and towards defeat.

Ninety percent of the world's population lives in the Global South. About 4% of it lives in the U.S., and the working class living in the U.S. and Europe is more and more Black, Asian, Indigenous, Arab and Latiné. All of this makes it clear, if you are in the struggle, but not consciously part of the world struggle, then you are marginalizing yourself into irrelevance unless you reorient your perception of the struggle very soon.

Political consciousness in relationship to the struggle against imperialism does not flow from idealism, but is rather a product of material changes. The globalization of the capitalist economy and the global reorganization of the working class, new technology, migration and now the decline of the U.S. as the world hegemon have made the world infinitely more interconnected, rendering geographic boundaries and distances, while still important, less relevant than in the past.

This reality has changed society's consciousness from being limited by geography to a new world consciousness. Never have the masses of workers everywhere understood more than today that the people of the world are interdependent and that their fate and their survival is based on this understanding. Trump's white supremacy and "America First" political charade isn't going to slow this historic process down.

Uniting class struggles everywhere — critical for the world's workers to unite

Of course, revolutionaries and working-class militants and their organizations and movements will continue to prioritize the struggles that affect the people around them. How could or should it be otherwise? However, going forward, the tens of thousands of class struggles everywhere must no longer be viewed as separate battles,

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Workers protest against anti-strike legislation on International Workers' Day in Warsaw, Poland, May 1, 2026.

in the world: the decline of the U.S. Empire, the collapse of the old world order, the rise of China and the Global South, the potential for a wider and more destructive world war and the ecological crisis from which there is no safe haven.

The Pentagon recently announced that henceforth it will use "tactical" nuclear weapons. If that happens, the escalation to the use of big nuclear weapons is more likely than not. This threat is aimed at Iran, but it also reflects the U.S. ruling class's fear that its conventional air and naval military dominance is no longer capable of sustaining the empire. This amounts to a threat to start a thermonuclear war and destroy the world in order to save the empire.

Capitalism's chickens coming home to roost

It's vital to understand that the crisis of the capitalist system is the central dynamic connecting all of these processes. The problem with AI is even greater than the destructive bubble underneath. The problems posed to society by the development of artificial intelligence aren't confined to its killing jobs or to the mass opposition to AI data centers because of their negative impact on nearby working-class communities and the environment or to its role in strengthening state surveillance and repression.

The arrival of AI — which under socialism, could liberate society from many forms of labor and raise both the living standards and social equality for the world's

World capitalist economic crisis today

Continued from page 8

but rather as many fronts in a united, global, class war of liberation.

Ultimately, the working class cannot prevail if each struggle around the world is treated like a fight confined to a small room in a large house that's on fire.

The events that are determining the future of the world will unfold on a worldwide battlefield. The geopolitical struggle waged by the alliances of countries in the new multipolar world is a critical factor in the global class war. But the geopolitical struggle led by governments cannot be a substitute for the mass organization and entrance of millions and billions of workers on the world's battlefield.

China is fighting for a new rules-based world order to govern relations between countries. The purpose of the new rules is to constrain U.S. imperialism from terrorizing countries and liberation movements with military and economic wars. Many countries, particularly in the Global South, support the struggle for new rules. But a new rules-based world order is at best a transitional measure that alone can't stop U.S. imperialism. Ending imperialism will require revolutionary measures carried out by the masses through class struggle.

The working-class movement faces enormous challenges that are surmountable

The challenges before the working class and its organizations are arduous and too many to mention here. Mere words can't describe the work it will take to prepare the working class to rise to the task that history has placed before it.

The organized labor movement has only two ways to go. It can either continue to be paralyzed by weakness, fealty to the ruling class and drift into irrelevance and disintegration, or it can undergo a revolutionary transformation, fueled from below by both organized and unorganized workers into a class-wide struggle movement. We believe the coming storm will compel workers to choose revolutionary transformation.

The election of social democrats — a promising sign of what's coming

There already are promising signs that the radicalization of the working class is well underway. As the storm rages, the radicalization of the working class will engender mass organization and the development of militant, widespread class struggle against capitalism. The election gains of social democratic candidates supported by the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) are a sign of the change in consciousness. We are witnessing the reformation of a mass socialist movement.

The ruling class is trying to minimize the election results by claiming that the millions who voted for DSA-supported candidates are mostly white, educated, young professionals who are not representative of the working class. This assertion is profoundly incorrect. This false notion plays into the theory that over the past 50 years the working class has been disappearing. In fact, the election result is another sign of how the working class has been changing and growing for quite some time.

A decisive section of new workers are voting for socialism. End stage capitalism has stolen the futures of young people who may have once believed a good life awaited them. The capitalist system has pushed younger people and people of all generations into the working class. There's no longer a social ladder for young workers to climb. Now, not only can they no longer afford to have children, they can't get a good steady job, pay back student loans or afford healthcare and housing.

This is why young workers of every nationality and gender are rebelling against capitalism and increasingly against U.S. imperialism. These workers are not merely voting out of fear of Trump; they are voting against the capitalist system.

The ruling class fears this development. The Zionists who reflect the ruling class are absolutely apoplectic. It should come as no surprise that the bourgeoisie is trying

to foment a Red Scare. It's also possible that Trump will respond to the election developments with more repression, including directing the most rabid MAGA forces to organize violent fascist attacks on progressives with the support of the state apparatus.

Political struggle needed within the left

All of this opens up a new and critical ideological struggle in the left and in the working-class movement over direction. At the core of this struggle is once again the



May Day march, Philadelphia, May 1, 2021.

WW FOTO: JOE PIETTE

question of reform versus revolution. In order for this struggle within the working-class movement to happen, there must be a strong force of socialists with a revolutionary orientation who are organized independently.

The most influential leaders of the DSA's electoral strategy believe that the Democratic Party can be pushed to the left and that the capitalist system can be reformed. The system can't be reformed, and most likely the rul-

but rather an inevitable and necessary part of struggle within the working-class movement for revolutionary direction.

Elections vs. class struggle

The most immediate problem that the DSA's election efforts pose for the working-class struggle is that they reinforce the idea that workers don't need to organize themselves independently from their class enemy in order to wage class struggle. Elections under capitalism can play a role in the class struggle if the working-class movement is independent of control by the capitalist political establishment. The most dangerous trap that the elections set for the working class is that they are interjected by the ruling class as an alternative to class organization and class struggle.

The social democrats who get elected will not be able to accomplish anything unless there is class struggle with strikes, occupations and mass action spreading terror among the billionaire bosses, bankers and their politicians.

The problems of social democracy and the importance of anti-imperialism

Another problem with the DSA electoral strategy is no less dangerous. The fact is that the ranks of DSA and the numbers who voted for DSA candidates were

swelled by supporters of the Palestinian liberation struggle. This is so not only because of outrage over genocide; it's a reflection that young workers are anti-imperialist and want to be part of a world struggle.

When DSA-backed candidates are advised to tone down international solidarity and talk about how great the U.S. is, it's not just pragmatism. It's bowing down to imperialist pressure. This sends the message that struggle and our fate is disconnected from the 8 billion people on Earth. This amounts to dividing and disarming the working class. This will hold the struggle back, unless it is called out and vigorously fought.

Time for the maximum program — Worldwide Socialist Revolution!

This brings us back to the critical questions of the scope, character and ultimate goals of the struggle in response to the perfect storm. Conditions demand that the understanding of the urgent necessity to end capitalism and bring about world socialism must grow and be acted upon.

Workers in any struggle always have their immediate demands. The time has come to find and dust off the maximum demand and place it alongside the immediate ones — the maximum program of Worldwide Socialist Revolution.

The world is descending to a period of unprecedented trauma and relentless upheaval. But in nature, everything must descend before it can rise again. There's no avoiding the birth pangs of a new liberated world. For revolutionaries, our duty is to do all we can to prepare the masses to be the midwife to the revolution. □



Havana, Cuba, 2024. Banner translation: "Long Live Our Socialist Revolution."

ing-class forces who own the Democratic Party will either absorb and tame the social democrats or throw out those who resist absorption.

Starting now, the working-class movement will have to learn anew what history has taught us over and over again. The struggle over the role of the Democratic Party in the class struggle should not be a useless distraction

unprecedented trauma and relentless upheaval. But in nature, everything must descend before it can rise again. There's no avoiding the birth pangs of a new liberated world. For revolutionaries, our duty is to do all we can to prepare the masses to be the midwife to the revolution. □

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What the Himalayan avalanche means

By Paddy Colligan and G. Dunkel

Around 8:30 a.m. local time on August 26, millions of tons of rock and ice split from high on the Langtang Lirung Glacier near the Nepal-China border. The mixture of glacier, bedrock and mud plunged thousands of feet into the Lhende Khola and Bhote Koshi river valleys picking up speed and debris before creating a temporary dam in the Lhende Khola River.

When the dam failed, a massive surge of water, mud, debris and rock nearly 650 feet high rushed downstream into Nepal’s Rasuwa and Nuwakot districts, smashing the road that followed the river, leaving just a trace. It destroyed bridges, houses and hydroelectric projects that were being built in Nepal to supply India and Bangladesh with power, and it obliterated the Gyirong Port border crossing between Nepal and Tibet.

Nepal has a flash flood warning system that sent three-quarters of a million messages to people in the river valley, but this flood outran the warnings. It is possible that thousands of people have died, as many are still missing. Bodies have been pulled out of the river 150 miles downstream, some too mangled to be readily identified. Official casualty figures have been sharply fluctuating.

There were also hundreds of casualties on the Chinese side of the border.

Nearly two weeks after the flood, workers are still being saved from the tunnels of the hydroelectric projects.

The first description of this avalanche attributed it to an earthquake. But the U.S. Geological Survey later said it was not.

Seismic sensors registered the collapse of hundreds of tons of rock and ice as a 5.2 seismic event, but no tectonic shifts or fault slips — characteristics of earthquakes — were evident.

While the exact cause of this disastrous flood is still not clear, it was not caused by heavy rainfall. The collapse involved an 1,800-foot-wide section of glacier and its underlying bedrock breaking off and falling about 10,000 feet.

How burning fossil fuels affect glaciers

Two pollutants that contribute the most to global warming are black carbon, also known as soot, and methane gas. Both of these are short-lived but extremely potent.

Black carbon is a component of fine particulate air pollution and is a direct result of burning fossil fuels, wood and other waste. It absorbs sunlight and converts it directly into heat. This is a major problem when black carbon falls on highly reflective surfaces like snow and ice.

While the exact cause of the catastrophic detachment of ice from Langtang Lirung is yet to be determined, scientists have been warning of the increasing risk of catastrophic glacier failures and deadly floods downstream due to air pollution and global warming. The once white surfaces of the Himalayan glaciers are increasingly receiving the soot from fossil fuel pollution and becoming coated with it. (New York Times, Sept. 2, 2026)

When these surfaces are white, they reflect up to 90% of the energy striking them from the sun — this is a high albedo. When the same surfaces have a coating of black carbon, they might only reflect 40%

of this energy, leaving a dark surface that absorbs a lot of the heat. The resultant warming causes glaciers to become porous, allowing melt water to permeate them, risking glacier failures and floods.

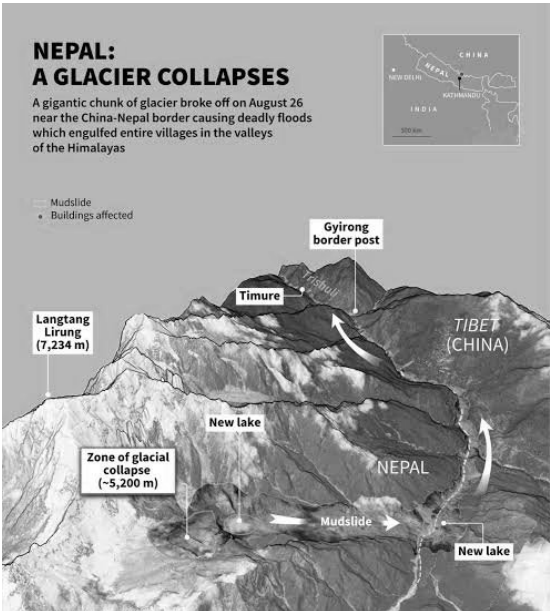
Glaciers are not stationary, and all move at different rates. Satellite photos showed that the glaciers high up in the Himalayas had been observed to be moving slowly at least since the beginning of 2026.

The water from melting enables glaciers to move more easily and creates lakes both on the surface and under them. It can cause underlying permafrost to melt and lose cohesion. When this takes place on steep mountainsides, huge chunks of the glaciers and rock can break off, causing deadly landslides and avalanches, as probably happened on Langtang Lirung.

Trump administration on global warming

While black carbon does not persist very long in the atmosphere, it is very potent. It is also a contributor to pollution that is harmful to breathe, as well as a major contributing factor to environmental disasters. It is produced by incomplete burning of fossil fuels like coal, gasoline and diesel.

Trump’s determination to increase the use of fossil fuels directly contributes to this dangerous pollutant. According to Trump, “global warming” is a “con job.” He demands nations buy “more U.S. oil and gas,” declaring falsely that fossil fuels are cheaper and much more reliable than



renewable energy sources. (Trump speech to United Nations General Assembly, Sept. 23, 2025)

Climate change and global warming are the complicated results of many factors. It is admittedly going to be very difficult to remove heat trapping gases from the atmosphere. But the campaign to increase the pollutants resulting from fossil fuel use further sabotages the goal of limiting, let alone reversing, the accelerating warming of the earth’s atmosphere.

Those who are working to alleviate climate change must continue to demand that immediate steps be taken to reverse these policies and to rapidly and vastly increase reliance on cleaner energy. The efforts being made by China and other countries serve as examples of policies that can begin to mitigate the destruction the world faces due to global warming. □

Will U.S. war escalation spark resistance in the military?

By John Catalinotto

August 31 — Yesterday the Washington Post reported that military leaders have warned Pentagon head Pete Hegseth against extending war operations against Iran. They say it risks U.S. military positions in other parts of the globe. Yet as the New York Times reported later on Aug. 30, U.S. forces bombed Larak island in the Strait of Hormuz, and Iran retaliated by launching missiles at U.S. warplanes stationed in the Kingdom of Jordan.

The question is how the U.S. population and military personnel will react if the White House orders an escalation of its aggression against Iran.

Despite its weakened military position and the unpopularity of the war among the U.S. population, the administration is risking a much wider war. It has yet to effectively explain the goals of the war or a timetable for its conclusion. As a result, polls show that more than 60% of the U.S. population opposes the war.

As the 5,000 personnel aboard the USS Lincoln aircraft carrier prepare to go ashore in Thailand for their first port call in over 250 days, more evidence is showing that the enlisted personnel in the U.S. Armed Forces (USAF) are questioning the

actions that the MAGA regime and the top military officers have ordered.

The sailors and Marines aboard the USS Lincoln and other warships have expressed — mainly through the open anger of their relatives at a “Town Hall” meeting recorded and publicized by MS NOW — their outrage at the exhausting conditions, including deprivation of food and hygienic supplies, which led to attempted suicides.

Will events awaken political awareness?

Will this anger lead to a change in political consciousness that causes a break between the sailors and Marines on one side and the government and Pentagon leadership on the other? The professional military — that the Pentagon has developed since the end of conscription in 1973 — is going through a combination of conflicts that raise new challenges. The path to resistance is still unmapped.

Military experts, opposition politicians (mostly Democrats) and media analysts have criticized the White House and Pentagon for underestimating the Islamic Republic of Iran’s ability to withstand the Feb. 28 sneak attack and retaliate. The usually pro-militarist establishment media—like the Washington Post and the New York

Times—have faulted the administration for launching a losing war.

No one, including military personnel, is unaware that the U.S. opened the war by bombing and killing over 160 young school pupils and their teachers and murdering Iran’s religious and political leaders. Iran retaliated by firing missiles and drones that put many of the U.S. bases in the Persian Gulf emirates and monarchies out of service.

Iran’s missiles drove out U.S. troops and hundreds of their dependents who have been seeking permanent housing since. One admiral told relatives of personnel on the USS Lincoln that the reason the military was unable to deliver supplies to the carrier was that the logistics hub in Bahrain, on the Persian Gulf, had been made inoperable.

Early signs of military resistance

The following signs of potential military resistance have appeared:

Personnel aboard the USS Lincoln have attempted suicide under the crushing pressure of exhausting work and no time off, along with a shortage of food. Earlier aboard the USS Gerald Ford, a fire destroyed many bunks and toilets were clogged. There were indications that personnel might have sabotaged the toilets.

Both these aircraft carriers and the ships in their battle fleet have been moved out of the combat zone in West Asia. The USS Ford has been back in its home port of Norfolk, Virginia, since May.

Activist and antiwar veteran organizations — for example, Veterans For Peace — have sponsored billboards making active duty personnel aware that they have the right and the duty to disobey orders to commit war crimes. This has led to more personnel applying to legally remove themselves from the military.

Mike Prysner, who runs a hotline at the Center for Conscience and War, told MS NOW that the CCW normally has about 50 personnel applying for Conscientious Objector status in an entire year. He said that since the war started six months ago, the CCW has assisted 140 applicants. That’s nearly six times the rate as before the U.S. and Israel attacked Iran.

A coalition of antiwar veteran organizations, Veterans Against Fascism, formed a strong contingent in a July 4 demonstration in Philadelphia. VAF reached out to active duty military personnel and reservists who, with the older veterans, made a dramatic impact on the protest.

The MAGA regime is also showing its fear of these signs of resistance by trying to censor those media that have reported on the poor conditions on the ships and other problems in the military. Earlier in August, the Pentagon fired three journalists from the military-focused newspaper, Stars and Stripes, after they had reported on the USS Lincoln events.

What is significant is that the journalists then sued the Pentagon to regain their jobs and on Aug. 28 had won a reprieve for a week — and a chance to keep on fighting.

Intra-Pentagon conflict

Hegseth, in charge of the Pentagon despite his lack of both military and managerial experience, has been purging many of the highest officers in the U.S. Armed Forces. His firings have halved the number at the highest ranks from 10 to five. He has fired or prevented promotions of recently promoted generals, while giving no reasons for these firings.

Hegseth’s purges have resulted in eliminating Black and women officers and any officers associated with what the MAGA administration calls “woke.” Since nearly 20% of military personnel are women and nearly 50% are from communities of color, one can only imagine the impact on the enlisted ranks who might have considered remaining in the military as a lifetime career.



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Philadelphia, July 4, 2026. The Veterans Against Fascism contingent drew participants with experience in all U.S. wars of the last 70 years plus some active duty personnel.

Iran – A graveyard of U.S. war plans

By Sara Flounders

Sept. 10 — Despite President Donald Trump, Pentagon head Pete Hegseth and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent’s gangster language and thuggish threats to totally destroy Iran, its ability to organize a fierce resistance is winning global support.

The failures to militarily defeat Iran, destroy its capacity to defend itself or economically strangle the country are exposing U.S. weakness and disarray in unexpected ways. Each of Trump’s exaggerated claims of victory are now met with skepticism at best and increasingly with ridicule.

The U.S. has demanded total isolation of Iran and threatened any country that helps or does business with this sovereign nation. In response, 10 countries that are engaged in almost half of all world trade announced their support of Iran and their determination to continue trade. Rather than increase isolation, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization’s (SCO) support for Iran provides a vital diplomatic shield and alternative economic lifeline. It has become a decisive collective pivot away from dollar-dominated networks.

Iran has grown increasingly confident of the ability of its thousands of sophisticated and accurate small high-tech weapons to challenge the overwhelming power of U.S. bases, missiles and aircraft carriers. Iran has announced a fundamental shift in its defense doctrine, warning that future responses to U.S. aggression will be asymmetric and multilayered. (Press TV, Sept. 7)

To growing U.S. frustration and humiliation, Iran has demonstrated the ability to advance its defense against U.S. bombings. Key U.S. military facilities in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Kuwait and Jordan were again targeted during the first week in September.

The aircraft carrier and guided-missile destroyer USS George Washington came under attack. Iran claims its new Qasem Basir anti-ship ballistic missiles forced a U.S. aircraft carrier and destroyer to retreat out of range during an alleged attack in the Strait of Hormuz. U.S. Central Command claimed the ships evaded being hit. Iran then released footage it says shows the confrontation.

The latest attack will force the U.S. to reconsider the warships’ vulnerable positioning.

The Strait of Hormuz — Is it open or closed?

The latest Pentagon strikes prompted Iran to retaliate against U.S. targets in the region, including in the Strait of Hormuz, previously one of the busiest oil-shipping routes that carried about 20% of the world’s oil and liquefied natural gas supplies.

Formerly 100 ships per day transited the strait; now less than 10 ships move cargo of any size. The squeeze on the strait has raised energy prices globally. Insurance rates for all freight, including tankers, have soared. Lloyds of London and other major insurance companies have little faith in Trump’s continuing announcements that the strait is open.

Iran is confidently speaking to a listening world audience. PressTV has posted several articles explaining in some detail why Trump’s latest declaration of a “tanker for tanker” threat is also doomed to be a strategic failure.

Iran has hundreds of miles of rocky coast line, with thousands of hidden weapons with increasing range. It also has hundreds of drone minisubs and drone speed boats, along with its missiles. Iran’s oil can be moved by many other alternative channels. The mega ships of the U.S. can’t hide and now lack even a close port in West Asia for resupply, refueling and repairs.

Sanctions are unenforceable

On Aug. 24, the U.S. launched a maximum pressure campaign dubbed “Operation Economic Outcast” with ominous fanfare. It threatened the harshest secondary sanctions in history against any nation, bank or business trading with Iran.

Both Trump and Bessent declared this an “Economic D-Day.” They were upfront about their intent to create massive inflation, domestic economic distress and critical shortages inside Iran.

Iran has 47 years of dealing with ever harsher U.S. sanctions and has developed numerous alternative trade routes via the Caspian Sea along with overland routes using high speed rail and trucking lines. Iran uses alternative currencies and barter arrangements to sell its oil, gas and agricultural products and to buy food, medicines and essential chemicals on world markets.

“The process of selling oil and delivering it to customers was carried out thousands of kilometers away from the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman,” Petroleum Minister Mohsen Paknejad explained. (ISNA, Sept. 4)

SCO members reject sanctions

Within less than a week, Iran issued a stunning reply to Washington’s Aug. 24 economic threats, at a meeting of heads of state and top officials that account for 43% of the world’s population and 23% of the global economy. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held its annual meeting on Aug.31 and Sept 1, this year in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

The SCO, based in Beijing, includes 10 member states: Iran, China, Russia, Belarus, the countries of Central Asia — Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan — and Pakistan and India from South Asia, along with 17 countries that are Dialogue Partners or Observers. All of the member states of the SCO are under different forms of U.S. sanctions. (ofacblockedfundslawyers.com)

The member states unanimously voted to denounce the sanctions and affirmed their total support for an “open, transparent, equal, inclusive, non-discriminatory, multilateral trade system,” based on international law and including “special treatment for developing nations.”

This gathering strengthened the economic relations of the entire region and is a lifeline for both Iran and Russia, which face the harshest sanctions. Most important is

that it expands trade far beyond Washington's financial reach. The summit became a major platform for economic and diplomatic pushback and was a resounding setback to U.S. demands that every country comply with U.S. sanctions on Iran.

India’s and Türkiye’s dual role confirms U.S. setbacks

Türkiye is well-known for playing both sides. Türkiye is a member of NATO, the U.S.-commanded military alliance, and has extensive trade with countries of the European Union. It complies with U.S. sanctions in all banking and dollar transactions.

But to U.S. frustration, Türkiye is working with Iran to set up a joint “Free Trade Zone” on the Türkiye-Iran northwestern border area of Khoy, Iran, near the strategic Razi border crossing.

Iran, Russia and China are major trading partners with Türkiye, despite U.S. sanctions. Goods flowing into Türkiye will move into global markets, despite U.S. threats and demands of complete adherence.

While Türkiye did not sign the SCO declaration, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan met separately with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on the sidelines of the SCO summit to discuss continued regional cooperation.

A similar situation exists with India, which has agreed to enforce U.S. sanctions. However, India’s rice trade with Iran continues despite the sanctions. Iran purchased more than 1 million tons of rice from India in the last financial year, an increase of 17% from a year earlier. Iran remains the second-largest market for Indian basmati rice globally. This reflects the ability of Indian suppliers to use alternative routes and destinations to maintain supplies to the Iranian market. (tribuneindia.com, Aug. 26)

India sells millions of dollars worth of pharmaceutical products to Iran annually and is a critical supplier of affordable generic drugs and specialized formulations using alternative mechanisms such as the Rupee-Rial payment system.

What is not counted in a global economy

According to the International Monetary Fund’s COFER database, the U.S. dollar still makes up about 56% of global foreign exchange reserves, although its significance is shrinking. However, as the SCO meeting confirmed, a great deal of global trade is increasingly using barter transactions that are not counted in dollar focused banking. The IMF only counts liquid financial assets held by central banks. (data.imf.org)

To date, not one of the grandiose schemes of Washington’s war planners has succeeded. A reckless gamble to reestablish U.S. dominance, each new power projection exposes the limits of U.S. imperialism. The new “tanker for tanker” threat and the “Economic D-Day” declaration only pull the U.S. deeper into the morass. □

The Cradle posted the following articles on Aug. 29, 2026.

Thousands of Palestinians in Gaza forcibly disappeared since 2023

Between 2,500 and 3,000 people are estimated to have suffered enforced disappearance in the Gaza Strip throughout the ongoing Israeli genocide, according to a report released today by the Palestinian Center for Missing and Forcibly Disappeared Persons.

Issued on the eve of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, the analytical study highlights widespread patterns of missing individuals distinct from the estimated 4,000 to 5,000 people believed trapped or buried beneath the rubble of destroyed buildings.

The center's findings are drawn from an in-depth



Palestine’s missing sons.

sample of 317 documented cases submitted by families, revealing that 95.27 percent of the victims were male, including 41 children and 17 seniors.

Geographically, Gaza City recorded the highest concentration of disappearances, followed by northern Gaza, Khan Yunis, central Gaza and Rafah.

The circumstances surrounding these cases vary widely, spanning home raids, neighborhood sieges, displacement checkpoints, humanitarian aid queues and attacks on medical or journalistic personnel.

Highlighting that the crisis compounds earlier figures indicating over 11,200 missing or disappeared Palestinians since October 2023, the organization urged immediate international intervention.

The rights group demanded that authorities disclose the fate of all missing persons, grant the International Committee of the Red Cross immediate access to detainees and establish an independent international investigation mechanism to ensure accountability. □

Since 2023, Israelis responsible for nearly all fires in occupied West Bank

The Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission reveals that Israeli settlers and occupation forces were responsible for nearly 89% of all property fires targeting Palestinian homes, buildings and vehicles in the occupied West Bank since January 2023.

According to the commission's comprehensive report,

900 arson and fire incidents were documented between the start of 2023 and July 10, [2026], with Israeli settlers directly accountable for 799 of the cases, or 88.8 percent, while the Israeli military caused the remaining 101 incidents.

The data underscores an escalating campaign of violence, showing a steady annual rise in recorded fires from 217 incidents in 2023 to 264 in 2024 and peaking at 307 cases in 2025, alongside another 112 fires documented up to mid-2026.

Geographically, the Nablus and Ramallah governorates bore the brunt of the assaults, accounting for 281 and 271 blazes respectively, which combined represent over 61 percent of all documented cases across the territory.

The commission connected the spike in arson directly to an official “government environment of enablement” that guarantees impunity for Israeli settler violence, utilizing illegal outposts as staging grounds for systemic displacement.

The report noted that the broader campaign of terror has forced the complete or partial depopulation of 121 Palestinian communities — including 46 completely emptied hamlets — displacing upwards of 6,200 Palestinians, more than half of whom are children. □



CWRC.PS



FOTO: HAITI LIBERTE

Manifestación haitiana en EE.UU. para preservar el Estatus de Protección Temporal (TPS). ¡Basta de deportaciones!

Los verdaderos delincuentes

Mientras el presidente n.º 47 sigue liderando la guerra terrorista de su Gobierno contra Irán, junto con su socio menor, el Estado del apartheid de Israel, también está promoviendo una guerra terrorista en el frente interno contra los migrantes

procedentes del Sur Global. Un artículo del *Washington Post* señalaba que, durante el mes de julio, los agentes del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) detuvieron a más de 49.000 migrantes, independientemente de que tuvieran o no antecedentes «penales». (28 de agosto) Innumerables vídeos muestran a matones armados del ICE sacando al arbitrariamente a trabajadores migrantes de sus automóviles y hogares, tirándolos al suelo y aplicándoles descargas con pistolas eléctricas incluso cuando están esposados. A muchos de estos migrantes ni siquiera se les permite mostrar los documentos que poseen y que acreditan su derecho a trabajar y vivir en Estados Unidos con sus familias.

El Congreso asignó 170.000 millones de dólares adicionales al Departamento de Seguridad Nacional en 2025 para

formar a más agentes del ICE y de la Patrulla Fronteriza, construir más centros de detención y desarrollar equipos de vigilancia de alta tecnología. Cumplir con una cuota diaria de 2.000 detenciones de migrantes es el principal objetivo del DHS.

Human Rights Watch (25 de junio) documentó que más de 50 migrantes han fallecido bajo custodia desde que el n.º 47 asumió oficialmente el cargo el 20 de enero de 2025 hasta el 4 de junio de 2026. Al menos ocho migrantes han recibido disparos mortales mientras eran detenidos por el ICE desde enero de 2025. (New Americas Now)

Otro aspecto importante de esta campaña de represión contra los migrantes es la cancelación del Estatus de Protección Temporal (TPS) para los migrantes que solicitan asilo político en Estados Unidos debido a la represión, la pobreza extrema o los desastres naturales en su país de origen. La cancelación del TPS afecta a 350.000 migrantes haitianos que ahora se enfrentan a la deportación Estados Unidos. Muchos de los haitianos que están siendo deportados se vieron obligados a

venir a Estados Unidos a raíz del devastador terremoto de 2010 en Haití. El primer grupo, compuesto por más de 160 haitianos, fue deportado el 21 de agosto de vuelta a Haití, algunos de ellos encadenados.

Sectores importantes de la economía estadounidense, como la sanidad, la alimentación y la agricultura, se verán gravemente afectados por las deportaciones de trabajadores haitianos y otros migrantes de color, en particular los procedentes de Filipinas.

Los únicos migrantes que no son blanco de ICE son los 7.000 sudafricanos blancos, a quienes la administración racista de EE.UU. anima a venir y acoge con los brazos abiertos.

¡La solidaridad es clave!

La criminalidad de los agentes del ICE al invadir barrios enteros, colegios, restaurantes y aeropuertos ha generado una oleada de amplia solidaridad con los migrantes. Los residentes estadounidenses han organizado sus propias formas de alertar a sus amigos y vecinos migrantes de la presencia de los matones del ICE. La comunidad jurídica informa a los migrantes de sus derechos si el

ICE llama a la puerta de sus hogares o de sus lugares de trabajo. Los simpatizantes locales organizan manifestaciones y concentraciones para exigir la abolición del ICE.

Residentes solidarios han llegado incluso a dar la vida en defensa de los migrantes. Por ejemplo, Renée Nicole Good y Alex Pretti, quienes no representaban ninguna amenaza cuando fueron abatidos a tiros por agentes del ICE el pasado mes de enero en Minneapolis.

Esta administración pretende crear un clima xenófobo de miedo contra los migrantes procedentes de países en desarrollo que, durante décadas, han visto cómo el imperialismo saqueaba sus economías. Independientemente de su ubicación o condición social, los migrantes de todo el mundo tienen un enemigo común — la clase dominante multimillonaria y su aparato represivo, como el ICE — y un aliado común: toda la clase trabajadora mundial.

La solidaridad en todos los frentes debe seguir creciendo e intensificándose en favor de los migrantes y de todos los oprimidos. ¡Una agresión contra uno es una agresión contra todos! □

¡La inflación se está comiendo nuestros sueldos!

Normalmente, en torno al fin de semana del Día del Trabajo —que marca extraoficialmente el final de la temporada de vacaciones de verano — los costes de los viajes comienzan a bajar.

Pero este año no es así. El precio de la gasolina sigue siendo elevado, con un aumento del 30 % respecto a esta misma época del año pasado. El incremento de los costes del combustible también ha repercutido en las tarifas aéreas, que han subido un 39 % en el mismo periodo. Los costes del gasóleo han alcanzado máximos históricos. La guerra ilegal e impopular de EE.UU. contra Irán es un factor que influye en el coste del transporte.

De hecho, el aumento de los precios del petróleo, que los capitalistas, movidos por el afán de lucro, repercuten en los consumidores, está afectando al coste de todo, desde los alimentos hasta los servicios públicos, pasando por los medicamentos y los desplazamientos al trabajo y de vuelta a casa —es decir, las necesidades básicas de la vida.

Esta inflación relacionada con la guerra se suma a unos precios que ya se estaban disparando incluso antes de este último acto de agresión imperialista.

Mientras que los beneficios de las petroleras aumentan, la vida de la clase trabajadora y de los oprimidos es una crisis sin fin. A los altos precios se suman el desempleo, el subempleo, los salarios estancados o a la baja, la represión sindical, la supremacía blanca y otras formas de intolerancia, las pérdidas relacionadas con el clima —a las que contribuye la catástrofe climática — y mucho más.

Muchas personas, especialmente aquellas que sufren algún tipo de opresión especial, viven al día, de sueldo en sueldo. Un acontecimiento inesperado, como un tornado o un corte de electricidad, puede llevar a un trabajador al límite, tanto económica como psicológicamente.

Y ahora la inteligencia artificial (IA), el último arma tecnológica en la guerra de los patronos contra la clase trabajadora, amenaza con eliminar un número incalculable de puestos de trabajo, aumentar los costes de la



Las manifestaciones del Primero de Mayo de este año en todo el país, como esta en Washington, D.C., abordaron diversos problemas a los que se enfrenta la clase trabajadora, incluido el terror infligido por los agentes del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE).

electricidad y el agua y someter a quienes aún trabajan a la vigilancia en el lugar de trabajo.

Tal y como escribió el primer secretario del Partido Mundo Obrero, Larry Holmes, en «Se avecina una tormenta perfecta: la crisis económica capitalista mundial actual», publicado el 1 de septiembre:

«La llegada de la IA —que, bajo el socialismo, podría liberar a la sociedad de muchas formas de trabajo y elevar tanto el nivel de vida como la igualdad social de la población mundial — bajo el capitalismo supone una amenaza letal para los trabajadores de todo el mundo. ... Hasta que se derrote al capitalismo, la IA no hará más que agravar las demás crisis superpuestas que harán la vida insoportable para la mayoría de las personas». (workers.org/?p=94553)

Holmes añade: «Y, por supuesto, ningún trabajador estará a salvo del impacto de la tormenta. Se cernirá sobre los puestos de trabajo, los hogares, las pensiones, los ahorros e incluso la Seguridad Social, Medicaid y Medicare. Para la mayoría de la clase trabajadora, las necesidades básicas de la vida dejarán de estar al alcance».

Ninguna de estas crisis a las que se enfrentan los trabajadores y los oprimidos —ahora y, más aún, cuando la tormenta golpee de verdad — se resolverá simplemente eligiendo a un político más «progresista». Para ello, debemos derrocar el sistema capitalista de una vez por todas. □



WW PHOTO: JASON COHEN

Haitianos y simpatizantes protestan contra la sentencia del Tribunal Supremo que deniega el estatus de Protección Temporal (TPS). Nueva York, 28 de agosto de 2026.

comunidades de la diáspora en EE.UU.

La guerra en curso contra las comunidades migrantes es una guerra de clases impregnada de racismo contra los negros y de intolerancia hacia todos los inmigrantes de color. Esto ha sido parte integral de la fundación y el desarrollo de la política imperialista colonizadora de EE.UU. Solo a través de la unidad entre la clase obrera y las nacionalidades oprimidas en Estados Unidos se frustrarán los planes de la burguesía imperialista y se liquidará a la propia clase dominante.

¡Foley Square es solo el comienzo! □

La movilización se opone a los ataques xenófobos y contra la comunidad negra

**Por Jason Cohen
Nueva York**

28 de agosto — Más de 100 miembros de la comunidad y activistas militantes, en representación de más de 40 organizaciones, se congregaron en Foley Square, en el centro de Manhattan, para protestar contra la sentencia del Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos que permite al presidente Donald Trump poner fin al Estatus de Protección Temporal (TPS) para los migrantes haitianos y sirios. Esta decisión elimina un importante obstáculo judicial para la guerra que libra el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional contra los trabajadores migrantes, sus familiares y sus comunidades.

La manifestación fue convocada por diversas organizaciones de la comunidad haitiana,

como Rasanbleman Pou Ayiti, Komokoda y Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees. La comunidad haitiana está siendo objeto de una persecución específica por parte de la Administración Trump con fines de detención y deportación. Desde las redadas del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) en comunidades haitianas de todo el país hasta el hecho de que los haitianos de Ohio se vean obligados a llevar tobilleras electrónicas y a presentarse periódicamente en las oficinas del ICE, el carácter antinegro y xenófobo de la guerra que se libra contra las comunidades haitianas en Estados Unidos resulta bastante evidente.

Sin embargo, en lugar de dejarse intimidar y silenciar por esta ola de terrorismo de Estado, antiimperialistas, estudiantes, trabajadores y miembros de diversas comunidades

migrantes se unieron para denunciar las continuas redadas del ICE y del Servicio de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza (CBP). Mostraron su solidaridad con la comunidad haitiana y con todas las comunidades migrantes que actualmente se encuentran asediadas por las fuerzas de seguridad del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos. El llamamiento a luchar hasta que se supriman el ICE y la CBP y se conceda una amnistía general a todos los migrantes en EE.UU. fue rotundo.

El Partido Mundo Obrero, como una de las organizaciones que respaldaron la iniciativa, estuvo presente sobre el terreno y seguirá luchando en solidaridad con la comunidad haitiana, tanto contra la agresión imperialista dirigida contra la soberanía haitiana como contra los ataques racistas y xenófobos a los que se enfrentan actualmente las