



ANTI-ICE SOLIDARITY SPREADS!

By Martha Grevatt

January 30 was a historic day, one in which many thousands of people in Minneapolis and across the U.S. answered the call for a general strike to protest Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) terror. This terror has included the murder of Renee Good and Alex Pretti in Minneapolis, Keith Porter in Los Angeles and dozens more in 2025 and 2026.

Around 50,000 people demonstrated in Minneapolis on Jan. 23 on the first day of “no work, no school, no shopping” against ICE. The second call was to expand the strike countrywide. Many cities had huge demonstrations on or around Jan. 30, most of them in freezing or below average temperatures.

Again, tens of thousands of protesters filled the streets of Minneapolis, chanting “ICE out!”

Beyond the huge numbers, Jan. 30 was significant as a strike against the capitalist state. This was not simply a strike over economics or working conditions. Like the strikes in Europe against war and for Palestine, this political strike represents an advance in the class struggle and demonstrates an elevation of class consciousness.

On Feb. 1, the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) held vigils for Alex Pretti across the country. Pretti, a nurse at the Veterans Administration, was a member of AFGE Local 3669.

Go to workers.org/?p=90614 for more coverage.



Workers from Denver Health at anti-ICE protest, Denver, Jan. 30, 2026.

PHOTO: VIVIANA WEINSTEIN

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WW PHOTO: SUSAN SCHNUR

Cleveland, Jan. 30, 2026.



WW PHOTO: JIM MCMAHAN

Seattle, Jan. 31, 2026.



WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

March in solidarity with Venezuela, New York City, Jan. 31, 2026. Read more at workers.org/?p=90597

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with disabilities. It means joblessness,
increasing homelessness and impover-
ishment 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, edu-
cation or anything else — unless they can
pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and
youth are saddled with seemingly insur-
mountable 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, mul-
tigender and multigenerational working
class. It is time to point the blame at —
and challenge — the capitalist system.

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Big Lies – help them crumble

Will January 2026 be remembered as the month when U.S. imperialism's Big Lies crumbled? Workers World and other anti-imperialist and pro-socialist forums must wrestle with this question to devise a plan of action to collapse them further.

There's no doubt that the White House's Big Lies about the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) storm troopers in Minnesota have failed for now. But other big lies — meaning those repeated so often in the ruling class's propaganda machine that they are imposed on society — still prevail. Let's examine the crises of January and how they played out so far.

(1) ICE thugs occupying Minneapolis murdered Renee Good on Jan. 7 and abducted 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos on Jan. 20 to use as a hostage. These crimes fueled an unprecedented Jan. 23 general political strike and mass demonstration of over 50,000 people who shut down Minneapolis and affected hundreds of cities. The next day, after Customs and Border Protection killers murdered Alex Pretti, the people called another strike for Jan. 30.

(2) A U.S. warfleet in the Caribbean Sea, after sinking 25 small boats and killing over 100 sailors over a period of four months, on Jan. 3 bombed Caracas, Venezuela. U.S. Special Forces kidnapped President Nicolás Maduro and former head of the national assembly and revolutionary combatant Cilia Flores. The U.S. now holds the two Venezuelan political leaders hostage in a Brooklyn, New York, prison.

(3) The White House ordered a U.S. aircraft carrier fleet to sail toward Iran, threatening a superdestructive bombing raid and possible commando landing. A regional war is possible.

(4) The White House said the U.S. would impose tariffs and otherwise punish any country delivering petroleum or other fuel to Cuba. This, in addition to the already 60-year-plus economic blockade, threatens to strangle the Cuban economy.

These reactionary acts and threats all rely on military force and / or economic strangulation. As polls show, they clash with most people's wishes to avoid wars. What support they get — or hostility they avoid — depends on drowning the population in a

Niagara of big lies aimed at deceiving them.

The events in Minneapolis and its residents' reaction disrupted the usual Big Lie process. Everyone who follows the news saw videos or otherwise learned that top U.S. government officials tell blatant lies. They do it even when they know they are lying, and they know everyone else knows it.

What aided the demise of the lies was the open conflict among ruling-class politicians and in the corporate media.

Even Democratic Party politicians in Minnesota publicly rejected the arguments of the administration and demanded ICE get out. The section of the corporate media that opposes the MAGA regime's tactics disseminated at least part of the truth.

The people of Minneapolis, with organizational support from labor unions and encouraged by media criticism of ICE, confronted the threats and held a successful general political strike on Jan. 23. The next day, after Pretti was murdered, mass reaction was even more vehement and forced the MAGA regime to at least make a cosmetic retreat. This gave a big morale boost to the anti-fascist, anti-ICE movement.

To summarize: The administration lied about Minneapolis and was unable to hide its lies. The Trumpites are sure to lie even more about Venezuela, Cuba and Iran, where it is harder to expose their lies. It's harder, because the corporate media and the Democratic Party repeat all the MAGA criminals' lies about Venezuela, Cuba and Iran.

U.S. imperialism uses sanctions to deprive the people of Venezuela, Cuba and Iran of food and income with the goal of strangling the independent governments of those countries. Since sanctions alone failed to overthrow those governments, U.S. imperialism turned to war. The government invents whatever pretext its propagandists believe might work.

At this moment, the anti-ICE attitude is so widespread that many artists at



WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

Against all Trump's Big Lies, NYC, Jan. 31, 2026.

the Grammy awards ceremony Feb. 1 condemned ICE. The experience of Minneapolis enables people to challenge the lies of the big liars of this administration (and don't forget their co-imperialists in the leadership of the Democratic Party) and the corporate media.

Right now the antiwar and anti-imperialist movement has an opening to expose their Big Lies — that they use as a pretext for whatever war they start. Consider the Gulf of Tonkin in 1964 for Vietnam or the nonexistent "weapons of mass destruction" in Iraq in 2003.

These are slogans anti-imperialists can bring to any protests against ICE or against MAGA: They lied about Minneapolis. They lie about Venezuela. They lie about Cuba. They lie about Iran.

Abolish ICE! Feed the people, not the Pentagon! Stop the U.S. war drive! □

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Cuba condemns, denounces new escalation of U.S. economic blockade

The Cuban government issued the following statement on Jan. 30, 2026, which was posted on granma.cu on Jan. 31, 2026.

The Revolutionary Government condemns in the strongest terms the new escalation by the U.S. government against Cuba in its efforts to impose a total blockade on fuel supplies to our country.

The executive order issued by the U.S. President on January 29, 2026, declares a supposed national emergency, under which his government will be able to impose trade tariffs on imports of products from countries that supply oil to Cuba.

To justify such extreme action, the text of the order contains an extensive list of lies and defamatory accusations against Cuba. Among them is the absurd assertion that Cuba constitutes an “unusual and extraordinary threat” to the national security of the United States.

The president himself and his government are aware that no one, or very few, can believe such mendacious arguments, but they do not care. Such is their contempt for the truth, public opinion and government ethics when it comes to endorsing their aggression against Cuba.

With this decision, the United States government, through blackmail, threats and direct coercion of third countries, is attempting to impose additional pressure on the economic suffocation measures that have been in place since Trump’s first term to prevent fuel from entering our country.

It consolidates a dangerous way of conducting U.S. foreign policy by force and exercising its ambitions to guarantee its imperialist hegemony. As announced, that country claims the right to dictate to sovereign states which nations they can trade with and to which they can export their

domestic products.

The executive order issued by the president of the United States therefore constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and also contravenes the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace. It confirms that it is the



Havana, Cuba.

PHOTO: RICARDO LÓPEZ HEVIA

government of that country that is threatening the security, stability and peace of the region and the world.

The government of the United States has reached this point after 67 years of failing to surrender and destroy a genuine and legitimate political and revolutionary process of full sovereignty, social justice and the promotion of peace and solidarity with the rest of the world.

Cuba’s historical willingness to engage in serious, responsible dialogue with the United States government, based on international law, sovereign equality, mutual respect, reciprocal benefit, non-interference in internal affairs and absolute respect for the independence and sovereignty of states, is widely documented.

As everyone knows, including the U.S. government itself, Cuba poses no threat whatsoever to the United States, its national interests or the well-being of its citizens, who, moreover, have always been treated with respect and hospitality when their government has allowed them to visit the island.

Cuba does not threaten or attack any country. It is not subject to sanctions by the international community. It is a peaceful, supportive and cooperative country, willing to help and contribute to other States.

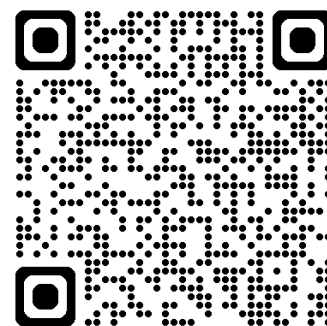
It is also a country of brave and combative people. Imperialism is mistaken when it believes that economic pressure and the determination to cause suffering to millions of people will break their determination to defend national sovereignty and prevent Cuba from falling, once again, under U.S. domination.

The international community faces the inescapable challenge of determining whether a crime of this nature could be a sign of things to come or whether sanity, solidarity and the rejection

of aggression, impunity and abuse will prevail.

We will face this new attack with firmness, equanimity and the certainty that reason is absolutely on our side. The decision is clear: Homeland or Death, We Shall Overcome! □

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Lo que une a Palestina y Minneapolis

MUNDO OBRERO editorial

Durante la protesta del 23 de enero en Union Square, en la ciudad de Nueva York, el Partido Mundo Obrero exhibió pancartas con el lema: «¡Detengan la ocupación desde Minneapolis hasta Palestina!». Este mensaje no pretendía equiparar los casi 78 años de apartheid y control militar sionista sobre todo un pueblo con la actual invasión de Minneapolis por parte de 3000 soldados de asalto del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE). Las ocupaciones de cualquier naturaleza no deben presentarse como iguales.

El lema pretendía ilustrar que, a pesar de estar geográficamente separadas por miles de kilómetros, Palestina y Minneapolis se enfrentan a un enemigo común sin fronteras: el imperialismo estadounidense.

Es el imperialismo, un sistema capitalista mundial, el que respalda y sostiene el genocidio colonialista israelí para aterrorizar al pueblo palestino, especialmente en Gaza y Cisjordania. Y es este mismo sistema el que ha permitido que los matones del ICE en Minneapolis aterroricen a las comunidades migrantes, especialmente a los somalíes, desde principios de diciembre. No olvidemos que, hace seis años, Minneapolis fue el epicentro de la lucha contra la brutalidad policial cuando el vídeo del linchamiento de George Floyd desencadenó una rebelión espontánea.

No es de extrañar que exista una conexión directa entre el entrenamiento de las Fuerzas de Defensa de Israel (también conocidas como Fuerzas de Ocupación Israelíes o IOF) y los departamentos de policía y las fuerzas represivas federales de todo Estados Unidos, incluido el ICE.

Según accuracy.org: «Miles de agentes de las fuerzas del orden han viajado a Israel para aprender nuevas estrategias de represión y técnicas de vigilancia de la Policía Nacional de Israel, las Fuerzas de Defensa de Israel y el Shin Bet, que infligen violencia, controlan a las multitudes y vigilan a los palestinos. ... Los departamentos de policía de Nueva York, Los Ángeles, Nueva Orleans y Atlanta, entre otros, tienen estrechos vínculos con las

fuerzas israelíes». (10 de junio de 2025)

El ICE es una creación del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional del Gobierno federal. Al igual que la Patrulla Fronteriza de los Estados Unidos, el ICE tiene vía libre para detener, deportar y maltratar indiscriminadamente a cualquier persona que considere «ilegal» utilizando criterios sesgados como su aspecto y su forma de hablar.

A estos soldados de asalto se les ha concedido una licencia legal para irrumpir en los hogares de las personas cuando y donde quieran sin necesidad de una orden judicial, lo que supone una clara violación de la Cuarta Enmienda, que supuestamente protege las residencias individuales y, en menor medida, los espacios públicos como escuelas y negocios de «registros e incautaciones injustificados» sin orden judicial.

Y como hemos presenciado trágicamente con los asesinatos de Renee Good y Alex Pretti, el ICE y el Control Fronterizo tienen luz verde para matar con impunidad a cualquiera que exprese el más mínimo indicio de solidaridad de clase con sus vecinos migrantes. Ninguno de los agentes responsables de las ejecuciones de estos dos monitores anti-ICE ha sido detenido ni procesado.

Resistencia en muchos frentes

Desde el 7 de octubre de 2023, la resistencia palestina ha estado al frente de la inspiración de millones de personas en todo el mundo para enfrentarse al Estado nazi de Israel y a sus partidarios estadounidenses con protestas masivas, boicots y acciones directas organizadas por estudiantes y trabajadores. Esta resistencia sigue sobreviviendo a pesar de ser demonizada como «terrorista» y de ser objeto del asesinato de sus líderes por parte de los criminales de guerra imperialistas Donald Trump y Benjamin Netanyahu.

Y hay un paralelismo directo entre lo que está sucediendo en Palestina y en Minneapolis, cuando Kristi Noem, directora de Seguridad Nacional, etiqueta fal-



Protesta en la ciudad de Nueva York, 23 de enero de 2026.

M.O. FOTO: JOHN CATALINOTTO

samente a Good y Pretti como «terroristas nacionales» para justificar sus asesinatos.

Las ocupaciones policiales de las comunidades de color han sido constantes dentro de una sociedad de clases dividida entre los que tienen y los que no tienen, los oprimidos y los opresores. El asesinato de Floyd es un reflejo de esta relación antagónica. Pero el ICE añade otra dimensión extralegal y terrorista a la violencia capitalista. Se trata del terror fascista que amenaza abiertamente con la destrucción de los derechos democráticos burgueses de los trabajadores y los oprimidos.

La existencia tanto del ICE como de las IOF refleja la creciente y permanente inestabilidad del sistema económico capitalista. La única respuesta para poner fin a esta represión y al sistema que se nutre de ella es un movimiento revolucionario, militante y de la clase trabajadora unido, tanto a nivel nacional como internacional. □

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