

New York: People's Monday for Daniel Prude, Sept. 14

written by Struggle - La Lucha
September 10, 2020

#PEOPLESMONDAY RETURNS FOR DANIEL PRUDE

9/14/2020

**GRAND
CENTRAL
TERMINAL
7PM**

BLACK LIVES MATTER

 @NYC_ShutItDown



Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM EDT

Grand Central Terminal

89 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017

In this return of People's Monday we rally in solidarity with our comrades in Rochester and tell the facts of Daniel Prude, a 41-year-old Black man whose murder by police was covered up by the city.

Join us as we demand justice: no reforms, no trainings, abolition now!

#PeoplesMonday #AbolitionNow

On [Facebook](#)



Days of Rage for Jennifer Laude and all Victims of US Imperialist Intervention : Online Indignation

Rally

written by Struggle - La Lucha

September 10, 2020



Friday, September 11, 2020 at 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM PDT

Online Event

<http://tinyurl.com/DayOfRage4Jennifer>

Join GABRIELA USA and GABRIELA Philippines for Days of Rage for Jennifer Laude and all Victims of US Imperialist Intervention!

We call on our friends and allies to join our online protests on September 11 and 16. We will call to put a stop to the United States' interventionist agenda in different parts of the world and for justice for victims of militarization like Jennifer Laude.

The Days of Rage will launch on Friday, September 11 – 5:30pm PST / 8:30pm EST. (Registration Link in BIO) This event will be co-sponsored by BAHAGARI, SIGE and International Women's Alliance.

On September 16, GABRIELA in the Philippines will host all day Days of Rage activities. More information will be forthcoming and on how to join online.

We condemn the Duterte regime, call for the termination of all unequal military agreements (VFA, EDCA) and unite with justice seekers all over the world in fighting for justice for Jennifer and US out of US Out of the Philippines!

[#Justice4JenniferLaude](#) [#JunkVFA](#) [#USTroopsOutPH](#) [#DefendFilipinoWomen](#)
[#TransRightsAreHumanRights](#)

On [Facebook](#)



Baltimore Sept. 14: March for Housing Justice - Save Public Housing

written by Struggle - La Lucha
September 10, 2020

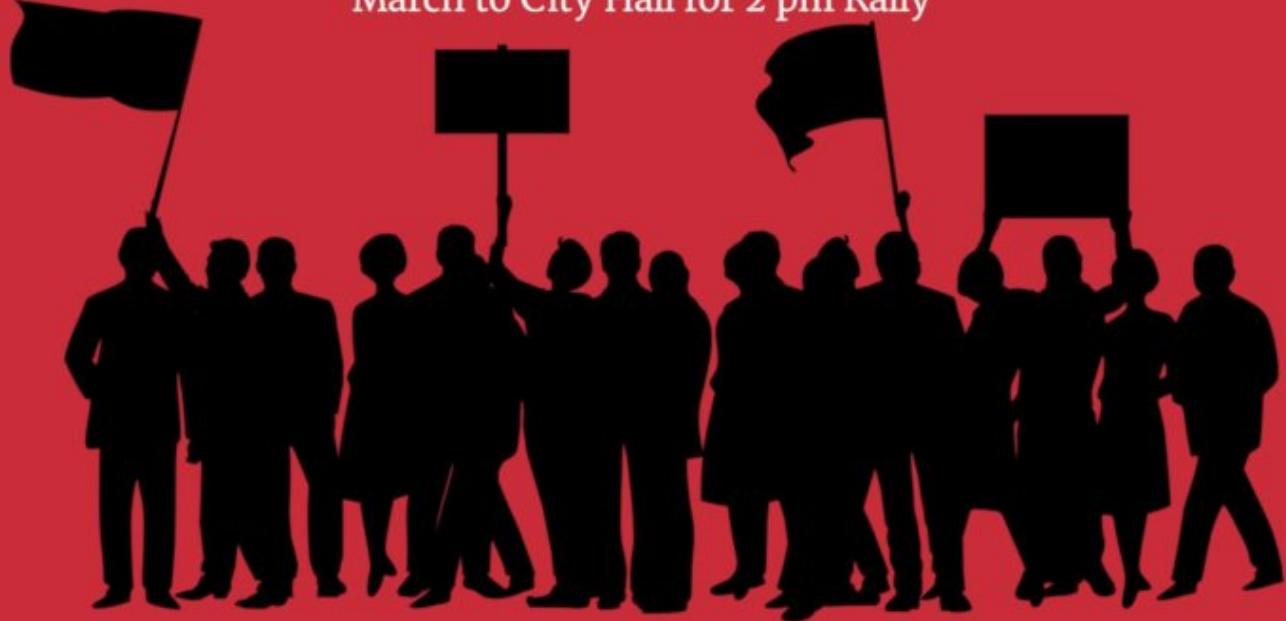
Join Public Housing Residents to
SAVE PUBLIC HOUSING

MARCH FOR HOUSING JUSTICE

Sept 14, Monday, 1 pm March

Gather @ Douglas Homes, N. Dallas Ct & Orleans Street.

March to City Hall for 2 pm Rally



PEOPLESPOWERASSEMBLY.ORG 410-218-4835

Monday, September 14, 2020 at 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

N. Dallas Court and Orleans Street

Join with public housing residents,
for a "March for Housing Justice".

We are demanding:

- *Hands off the Residency Advisory Board/RAB/ Preserve RAB
- *No more sales of public housing units; Stop privatization
- *No evictions, cancel rent during COVID emergency
- *Where did the \$10.7 million go

We will be marching from Douglas Homes, N. Dallas Court & Orleans Street to City Hall to join with other public housing residents to make our demands known at a rally in front of 100 Holliday Street. Gather at 1 pm and we will March at 1:15 pm sharp. Don't be late. The March is 1/2 mile; we will have vehicles for those who aren't able to walk.

Everyone out! We are all in this together.

On [Facebook](#)

New York: Not Until It's Safe Day Of Action - Monday Sept. 14th

written by Struggle - La Lucha

September 10, 2020





Stop the Mayor's Reopening Plan!

We're just a few days into the school reopening plan negotiated by the Mayor and UFT leadership, and it's already clear our communities are in danger. Positive cases around the city have been reported among staff, requiring colleagues to quarantine at a moment's notice. Staff returned to buildings with sinks, windows, toilets still broken, without PPE and without adequate staffing for the hybrid model. The DOE released their ventilation reports on Labor Day, the night before staff was required to report.

We need to act. NOW. Before students come back into the building and everything gets worse.

Join our Day of Action on Monday, September 14th.

Here's how you can help:

1. Using Monday as a day in which you circulate the MORE [petition](#) for full remote.
2. Having members sign a joint letter detailing the safety problems in your school. This might be sent to elected officials or to the parents of students in your school, or can be shared (anonymously, if you need) with the MORE media team (media@morecaucusnyc.org) to post on our social media.
3. Organize your staff to wear #redfored. Take photos and post them on your social media with the hashtags #backtoschool2020 #notuntilitsafe.
4. Make calls to the Mayor, Chancellor and governor demanding a remote start to the year. [Here is a phone zap script you can adapt.](#)
5. Picket outside the school before work hours. Members at the Taft campus are already doing this. You can also join meetings from outside the school.
6. Lunch-time walkout. If done during lunch this will not subject members to disciplinary action.
7. Refuse to go into work in solidarity with your colleagues. This requires a high degree of membership solidarity to pull off effectively.

Source: [More](#)



Kevin Zeese, ¡presenté!

written by Struggle - La Lucha

September 10, 2020

Struggle-La Lucha newspaper and the Socialist Unity Party/Partido de Socialismo Unido send our heartfelt condolences to Kevin Zeese's family, loved ones and friends, especially his life partner Margaret Flowers. His sudden death on Sept. 6 is a loss for the entire anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist movement.

Zeese and Flowers co-founded [Popular Resistance](#). Zeese will be also remembered for his sacrifices and the role he played in the Embassy Protection Collective in 2019.

When the U.S. government under Donald Trump was poised to illegally seize the Venezuelan Embassy in Washington, D.C., and hand it over to its puppet Juan Guaido, who declared himself president of Venezuela, Zeese put his body on the line and became a protector of the embassy and international law. This was in the immediate aftermath of a failed U.S. coup against democratically-elected President Nicolás Maduro.

For 37 days, Zeece, along with other protectors both inside the embassy and in the streets, faced off with the Department of Homeland Security and all sorts of other vile, racist, homophobic, violent right-wing Guaido supporters and police agencies. The state tried to starve the protectors, then turned off electricity and, at one point, even water. But it took the forcible removal and arrests of the four protectors who remained inside, including Zeece, to end the standoff.

The Embassy Protectors faced heavy federal charges. After a major defense campaign was mounted, the U.S. government was forced to drop the charges on all four defendants.

This became a pivotal part of the struggle in the United States to defend the sovereignty of Venezuela and to fight against imperialist war.

Before his sudden death, Zeece was working on a program around the case of imprisoned journalist Julian Assange, whose extradition trial begins this week.

We can best remember him by redoubling our efforts to end capitalist exploitation and imperialist war.

Kevin Zeece, rest in power!



A salute to the heroic Attica Rebellion

written by Struggle - La Lucha

September 10, 2020

"We are men! We are not beasts, and we do not intend to be driven or beaten as such!"

— Elliot L.D. Barkley, a 21-year-old leader of the Attica Rebellion who was murdered by the state. He was placed in Attica on a minor parole violation and was scheduled to be released approximately a week after the rebellion broke out.

On Sept. 9, 1971, approximately 1,500 prisoners in Cell Block D seized the Attica Correctional Facility in upstate New York, after submitting a 27-point manifesto to the prison administration in an attempt to address the torturous conditions inside the prison.

At the time of the uprising, 2,300 prisoners were sandwiched into a prison built for

barely 1,600 people. White supremacy behind the walls was evident everywhere, from how prisoners were housed to brutal work assignments.

Prisoners were allowed one shower per week and one roll of toilet paper a month. They labored for five hours a day and were paid between 20 cents and \$1 for the entire day. For 14 to 16 hours, they were locked in tiny 6-foot by 9-foot cells.

A revolutionary mood

It is critical to understand the broader historical context in which this rebellion took place. How could people who were so beaten down, whose lives hung in the balance at the whim of a guard, take such heroic action?

Outside of the jails and also inside many prisons, a battle was raging for the national liberation of Black, Puerto Rican, Indigenous and Chicanx people. A new revolutionary mood was sweeping the country to end all kinds of oppression.

Millions of people were protesting the Vietnam War. The women's liberation movement was beginning to blossom. Just two years later, the occupation of Wounded Knee by the American Indian Movement (AIM) took place.

The McKay Commission (New York State Special Commission on Attica) later commented: "With the exception of Indian massacres in the late 19th century, the State Police assault which ended the four-day prison uprising was the bloodiest one-day encounter between Americans since the Civil War."

Organizing behind the walls

Serious organizing was going on inside Attica prior to the rebellion. Many of the groups outside the prison were reflected inside, including the Black Panther Party, the Young Lords, the Nation of Islam and the Five Percenters. Many had study groups. The Attica Liberation Faction developed in this period.

In July 1971, the Attica Liberation Faction presented a list of 27 demands to Commissioner of Corrections Russell Oswald and Gov. Nelson Rockefeller. This list of demands was based on the Folsom Prisoners' Manifesto crafted by Chicano prisoner Martin Sousa in support of a November 1970 prisoner strike in California. (For more background, see [Project NIA](#).)

Then, on Aug. 21, 1971, Black Panther leader George Jackson was gunned down by racist guards in California's San Quentin prison. Prisoners all across the country, including several hundred in Attica, went on hunger strikes. The assassination of George Jackson became the glue that allowed the Attica prisoners to unite across religions, nationalities and political factions.

The prisoners' Paris Commune

On Sept. 9, Attica prisoners seized the facility. They took corrections officers hostage to ensure that their protest would be heard, since they had received no response to their manifesto from the corrections commissioner or governor.

While the events that took place on Sept. 9 were spontaneous and began as a clash between guards and prisoners, the level of organizing and what became a full-scale uprising were the result of the revolutionary leadership and consciousness that had grown during this period.

What's remarkable is the high degree of organization and discipline of the thousands of prisoners who took part. They elected a central committee, which rotated chairpeople; they organized a 33-person observers' committee, which included not only attorney William Kunstler, Black Panther Bobby Seale, New York State Assemblymember Arthur O. Eve, and representatives of the Young Lords, but also Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee.

Demands were continually being developed. A major one was amnesty for all

prisoners.

Countless photos show the rows of tents, preparatory ditches and many of the other measures the prisoners organized. They voted on demands and rationed food and water for survival. During the entire occupation, the 40 hostages were treated humanely.

The concrete demands that developed during the insurrection included all aspects of survival in the prison, including health, food, ending solitary confinement, the right to visitation and a list of labor rights, including the right to a union and an end to exploitation.

The first time the working class took power into its own hands was the insurrection known as the Paris Commune of 1871. The communards canceled rents, recognized women's rights, abolished child labor, took over workplaces and set up their own form of government. The commune served as a historical example to many revolutionary socialists of the potential for a workers' state. It was ultimately put down in blood, but the lessons remain.

A century later, on Sept. 13, 1971, Gov. Rockefeller ordered the storming of Attica prison. With helicopters flying overhead, close to 1,000 state troopers, national guard troops and prison guards fired into the yard, killing 39 people and wounding 85 in what can only be described as a massacre. This took place in just 15 minutes.

Many of those wounded received no medical care. The prisoners had no guns or bullets to defend themselves.

The press screamed that the 10 captive guards who died had their throats slit. But autopsies showed that all 10 had been shot to death by Rockefeller's storm troopers.

What happened in the immediate aftermath of the slaughter is too painful to fully

describe. Prisoners were stripped naked, beaten, made to run through gauntlets of guards and brutally tortured. Guards stormed into the yard chanting “white power.”

A battle cry for liberation

Nevertheless, the Attica uprising and the massacre stirred prisoners everywhere. It's estimated that 200,000 prisoners protested and held strikes in its aftermath. The number of prison rebellions doubled.

It continues to serve as a beacon today for those fighting against racism and mass incarceration and for workers' rights everywhere.

To commemorate the 49th anniversary of the Attica uprising, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee will hold an [online forum on Sept. 13, 2020](#). The webinar begins at 2 p.m. Pacific time, 4 p.m. Central and 5 p.m. Eastern.

The forum will feature the premiere of “Give Us the Freedom: Voices from the Vaughn Prison Uprising” by filmmaker Rasika Ruwanpathirana, as well as speakers, poetry and videos.

Endorsers include the Prisoners Solidarity Committee; the Peoples Power Assembly; the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice; Struggle-La Lucha newspaper; the Socialist Unity Party/Partido de Socialismo Unido; Youth Against War & Racism; and Women in Struggle/Mujeres en Lucha.

To participate, please [register here](#).



Trump lays groundwork to steal election

written by Struggle - La Lucha

September 10, 2020

The newly unleashed federal police force entered the Portland, Ore., area on Sept. 3 and assassinated anti-fascist activist and Black Lives Matter supporter Michael Reinoehl. Attorney General William Barr triumphantly announced: ["Agitator removed."](#)

In the U.S., we've been told, one of the marks of democracy is that there is no national police force. The only police are employed by state and local governments, not the federal government. That excludes the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which [claims it is not a national police force](#) because it is confined to enforcing violations of federal laws, while most laws in the U.S. are state laws.

However, since the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, established after 9/11 under President George W. Bush, federal security forces often wear uniforms that identify them as "police." These are the secret, unidentified federal

police being used against the people of major working-class cities where Black Lives Matter protests have been ongoing since the Minneapolis police murdered George Floyd on May 25, 2020.

Could Trump use these paramilitary forces to stage a coup d'etat if he loses the Nov. 3 presidential elections?

Trump has hinted that he might do that. When [asked by Fox News anchor Chris Wallace](#) whether he would accept the results of the presidential election, Trump answered: "It depends. I think mail-in voting is going to rig the election."

Pressed on whether he will accept the results of the November election, Trump responded, "I have to see."

After the November 2016 election, when he lost the popular vote by almost three million votes to Hillary Clinton, Trump insisted that he had really won the popular vote and that Clinton only appeared to win because "unauthorized" immigrants had voted. [Factcheck.org](#) says there is no "evidence of wrongdoing, and numerous studies have found such voter fraud is virtually nonexistent."

Trump's current election strategy counts on a turnout of "populist" racist voters combined with [extensive voter suppression](#) to ensure his reelection in the Electoral College. The Electoral College is an undemocratic institution that was created to ensure the dominance of the slaveholders in the U.S. and continues to do something like that today. (See ["The Electoral College's Racist Origins,"](#) The Atlantic, Nov. 17, 2019)

The state and the president

In ["The State and Revolution,"](#) the Russian revolutionary leader and Marxist political theorist Vladimir Lenin wrote that the capitalist state is an institution of organized violence that is used by the ruling class of a country to maintain its rule. "State

power,” Lenin said, is rooted in “special bodies of armed men having prisons, etc., at their command.”

The capitalist state machine is the legislative bodies, the prisons, the standing armies, National Guard and state militias, police and the government agencies. This is not the ruling class, but the instruments used by the capitalist class to maintain its rule.

Throughout the history of the state — from ancient slave states to medieval monarchies to bourgeois republics — there has been a tendency to personify the state power in the personality of an individual. In monarchies, it was claimed that the king was the living god on earth. In Japan, the emperor was considered a god right down to the defeat of the Empire of Japan in 1945. In current times, a president or to a lesser extent the prime minister personifies the state.

In the U.S., it is the president who is chief of state and personifies state power. The president personifies the state as the leader elected in a democratic election. However, in the U.S., which is a republic but not a democracy, no president has ever been directly elected by popular vote. Instead, the president is chosen by the Electoral College.

U.S. presidential elections are, by design, complicated procedures. The presidency is a national position, but the elections are organized by the individual states. According to current law and the Constitution as amended, all U.S. citizens who have reached the age of 18 and who have not been convicted of a felony — the exact rules vary state by state — are eligible to vote for the presidential electors on Nov. 3, 2020.

These electors form the [Electoral College](#) and are sworn to vote for a specific presidential candidate, with variations among the states as to how this is exactly decided. After the election, the electors will assemble on Dec. 14, 2020. That’s the

Electoral College and the electors are expected, but not constitutionally bound, to vote for the candidates they represent. The electors cast ballots and pick a president. Immediately after this vote, the Electoral College is dissolved.

Finally, the Electoral College results are reported to Congress, where the Electoral College votes are to be counted and certified at a joint session on Jan. 6, 2021. That is when the victorious candidate formally becomes the president-elect.

That's the law. But there are also unofficial election rules.

One unofficial rule is that only a Democrat or a Republican can be president. The laws protect the status of the two parties as official, putting them automatically on every ballot and restricting or prohibiting any other parties. This limit on parties in the U.S. makes it the least diverse of all the major capitalist countries, where normally, there are many political parties.

Hillary Clinton told to concede before results were known

Another unofficial rule is that the losing candidate in the presidential election, whether Democrat or Republican, is expected to concede as soon as possible to the victorious candidate. This is expected to occur on election night, when the TV networks "call" the election based on computer predictions of the results.

This occurs weeks before the Electoral College formally elects the president and two months before Congress certifies the result. Usually, the actual election of the president by the Electoral College is barely mentioned in the media.

In 2016, when it was predicted that Trump would carry the Electoral College, President Barack Obama called Hillary Clinton and demanded she concede the election to Donald Trump. "You need to concede," Obama told Clinton early on election night.

Since Clinton was widely expected to win, there was some concern that she might resist or at least postpone conceding. This could have sparked a broader movement to keep Trump out of the White House, perhaps because he had lost the popular vote.

When Obama called Clinton demanding that she concede, the result of the popular vote wasn't known. But at 1:30 a.m., the TV networks were predicting that Trump had won the Electoral College vote. Under the U.S. electoral system, that's all that matters. It turned out that Clinton had gotten almost three million more votes than Trump. But the electors are chosen not on a national but a state basis, and on this basis, electors pledged to Trump were in the majority.

In theory, Clinton could have demanded that the GOP-majority Electoral College bow to the popular vote, which showed that the majority did not want the racist far-right Trump to be president. Also, the popular vote was extremely close in three states — Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania — where Trump had won by extremely narrow margins and preelection polls had indicated that Clinton would prevail.

There was also the problem of widespread suppression of the Black vote. Racist voter suppression was restored by the Supreme Court in a 2013 decision that voided much of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which was the first time that "one person, one vote" was made law in the U.S.

Clinton could have demanded recounts in these states, but didn't. [Jill Stein of the Green Party](#) demanded recounts in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin and raised more than \$7 million to fund it, but ultimately, the effort was blocked by the courts.

However, Obama and the Democratic Party rejected such a challenge from the very beginning. Within a few hours, Clinton had already bowed to the overwhelming pressure and conceded the election to Trump. The media began to refer to Trump as

the “president-elect,” though from a legal point of view he was not yet the president-elect. This killed any attempt to challenge Trump’s right to assume office, which he had no democratic claim to.

But the U.S. Constitution was written by and for slaveholders. In the words of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, the Constitution and its many undemocratic features legalized slavery. At the time, there was no bourgeois democracy anywhere in the world and there were no plans for democracy. In the Federalist Papers, democracy was dismissed as mob rule — the mob being poor people and farmers — and slaves were dismissed as property, not people.

Trump had the slaveholders’ Constitution behind him in his claim to the presidency.

What will Trump do?

So far in the election campaign, there have been few if any differences in domestic and foreign policy between Trump and the extremely conservative Joe Biden. It seems improbable that Trump could find enough support to end more than 230 years of uninterrupted constitutional rule. It is this long period that gives the U.S. government its legitimacy.

The ruling U.S. capitalist class, dominated by the billionaires for Trump, may not support an open Trump coup, which would also put an end to the government’s legitimacy. After all, Biden wouldn’t be a real change. Biden’s primary campaign promises are to avoid Trump’s extreme racist rhetoric at home while continuing to target U.S. “enemies” such as China, Iran, Venezuela, Cuba and Zimbabwe. The essence of U.S. imperialism and its policies would remain unchanged.

However, Trump could get support for stealing the election as long as a pretext for constitutional rule is maintained. Indeed, this is an old tradition in the U.S. Tammany Hall, the corrupt Democratic machine that dominated New York City

politics from the early 19th century until the 1960s, was notorious for the slogan, “Vote early and vote often.” Chicago, also home of a corrupt Democratic machine, was infamous for its “Chicago Methods” of stealing elections.

It is widely believed that John F. Kennedy won the presidency in 1960 only because the Chicago machine — Mayor Richard J. Daley and the Chicago Mob — managed to steal enough votes to swing the state of Illinois vote from Republican Richard Nixon to Democrat Kennedy.

Republican Nixon conceded the election of 1960 that Democrat John F. Kennedy had stolen from him, just as Democrats Al Gore in 2000 and Hillary Clinton in 2016 conceded elections that were stolen from them.

For a hundred years, [from the end of the Civil War until 1968](#), the “Jim Crow” system of apartheid in the U.S. was built in no small measure by election-stealing by the Democratic Party, achieved through the illegal and unconstitutional suppression of the Black vote.

There are many ways that U.S. elections are undemocratic compared to most capitalist countries. One way is that elections are held on a workday, not on a holiday or a weekend, as they are in all other countries. This makes it difficult if not impossible for most workers to vote.

Exhausted by work and not inspired by the candidates, most workers choose not to stand in line for hours to vote.

Voting by mail is safe and democratic

An attempt to overcome this limitation on voting has been the introduction of mail-in voting. Under this system, a ballot is mailed to eligible voters — either all voters or on request to individual voters. This way, voters have time to mark the ballot and then mail it in. They have more time to consider the issues and are less likely to

make a mistake in marking the ballot.

This year, the still-rising COVID-19 pandemic means that if you stand in line to vote in a “booth” on Nov. 3, you will not only experience an inconvenience, you will be risking your life and the lives of your loved ones.

It appears that the majority of U.S. voters prefer Joe Biden as a “lesser evil” to the widely hated Donald Trump. They might be willing to go out of their way or vote after an exhausting working day to help get Trump out of the White House. But how many will be willing to risk their lives to do this? And of those who are willing to risk their own lives, how many are willing to risk the lives of family members if they catch COVID-19 while standing in line to vote?

The Republicans and Trump are betting that many potential Biden voters will not be willing to risk the lives of themselves and/or their loved ones simply to vote for Biden.

Trump, therefore, has made a special issue of opposing voting by mail. He claims that voting by mail enables widespread “fraud.” In reality, he means voting by people of color.

Trump threatened to sue the state of Nevada, whose legislature, now dominated by Democrats, has passed a vote-by-mail law. Trump even claims that if voting by mail is allowed, not a single Republican will ever again be elected to any office.

Though exaggerated, there is some truth in that. Under present U.S. political conditions where there is low socialist class consciousness in the working class, it has been a rule of thumb that if voter turnout is high the Democrat wins, and if it is low the Republican wins. Many elections are won by the Republicans because potential Democratic voters, though more numerous than Republican voters, are not inspired enough to bother to vote.

Trump has also stepped up his [attack on the U.S. Postal Service](#) with moves toward privatization. The attacks on the post office are significant because voting by mail is the only democratic and safe way to vote this year. Under the new postmaster-general, Trump appointee Louis DeJoy, mail deliveries have slowed considerably, according to the postal workers' unions. Also, many mailboxes and mail-sorting machines have been removed.

While public outrage has forced DeJoy to promise not to remove any more mailboxes and sorting equipment, he has indicated he will not replace those that have already been removed. If there is widespread voting by mail despite the obstacles, reporting of the November election results will be delayed. This increases the chances that the results will be contested, especially if Trump loses.

That's where Trump's statements come in that he may not "accept the results" because they will be fake, especially if voting by mail is allowed. The results, Trump said, will "be rigged." By "rigging," Trump means more people who are legally entitled to vote are voting.

Who will concede?

The unofficial rule is that a presidential candidate becomes the "president-elect" when his or her opponent concedes. However, once the candidate does "concede," it becomes hard to build a movement in the streets or elsewhere to contest a stolen election. Richard Nixon in 1960, Al Gore in 2000 and Hillary Clinton in 2016 all put the stability of the state power ahead of the rules of democracy and the legalities that govern U.S. elections.

Trump hints that he will not concede the election even if the broadcast networks project Biden as the winner in the Electoral College. Instead, he may declare that the election was rigged.

Perhaps Trump will challenge the result in the courts, including the Supreme Court. Remember, the Republican-controlled Supreme Court reversed the results of the 2000 elections by handing the White House to defeated Republican candidate George W. Bush. Could they do so again in 2020?

If Trump does not concede, according to previous practice, the media will not declare Biden the “president-elect.” Then, Trump’s reactionary-racist base may rally in the streets, perhaps even in armed demonstrations, demanding the courts declare Trump the winner.

By allowing the elections of 2000 and 2016 to be stolen from them without a fight, the Democrats have made it much easier for Trump to steal the election in 2020.

Trump has good reason to believe that Biden would quickly concede the election to him if Trump has any pretext at all for claiming he won the Electoral College. If Biden concedes the election, the media will declare Trump “reelected,” and he will be sworn in for his second term as the unchallenged “legitimate” president of the United States on Jan. 20, 2021. If Biden doesn’t concede, it opens the possibility for a broad movement to “vote in the streets” and stop Trump from stealing the election.



Organize to defeat the racist backlash!

written by Struggle - La Lucha

September 10, 2020

Recent events in Kenosha, Wis., and Portland, Ore., are the biggest signs that a racist backlash is underway in the United States against the righteous rebellion that followed the police murder of George Floyd in May and has continued through the summer.

The backlash originates with the billionaire class of big capitalists, landlords and bankers, takes shape through its state, politicians and media, and ends in the violent white supremacist gangs that are carrying out attacks on protesters and communities of color, often in collaboration with local police.

On Aug. 29, activists in Kenosha bringing food to protesters were [kidnapped by federal agents](#). On Sept. 3 in New York's Times Square, cops escorted racist counter protesters to their car, which the fascists then [drove into a crowd of Black Lives supporters](#), injuring several. In Louisville, Ky., [armed fascists threatened protesters](#)

demanding justice for Breonna Taylor during the Kentucky Derby on Sept. 5. The same day, in Tallahassee, Fla., cops and Trump supporters [targeted socialist student activists](#) during protests that followed the grand jury exoneration of killer cops. The list goes on.

For Marxists, this is not an unexpected development. Every push forward by the masses in the struggle to secure their rights and advance their liberation is met by a counterattack of the ruling class, who are desperate to protect not only their own wealth and privileges but the capitalist system of exploitation upon which their power rests.

Anti-racist unity threatens bosses

The biggest threat to the capitalist system is working-class unity, and the bosses' most powerful weapon against unity is racism. That's why this summer's massive uprising — uniting Black, Brown and white workers and youth against the racist cops — scares them so much.

President Donald Trump openly waves the flag of white supremacy and urges his fascist supporters to greater acts of racist violence to silence and intimidate the movement. [Trump defended Kyle Rittenhouse](#), the 17-year-old white supremacist who murdered two protesters in cold blood and wounded another in Kenosha.

Shortly after, his supporters attacked Black Lives protesters in Portland. One of the Patriot Prayer neo-Nazis was allegedly shot dead by a white anti-fascist defending himself and other protesters. Trump then ordered a hit on Michael Reinoehl, which was [carried out by federal agents](#) on Sept. 3. Reinoehl's assassination was meant as a warning to the anti-racist movement.

But the backlash extends beyond the ultraright. Democratic presidential candidate [Joe Biden has joined in](#), giving speeches and airing [nationwide campaign ads](#)

condemning “looters” and “rioters” — essentially conceding Trump’s argument and aiding his campaign to demonize anti-racist protesters and the Black community.

Before the police shooting of Jacob Blake in Kenosha, Biden gave aid and encouragement to killer cops by vowing not to “defund the police,” reassuring his major funders and masters on Wall Street that nothing will really change if Democrats take the White House.

From Los Angeles to Minneapolis to New York, measures promised by local officials (mostly Democrats) to rein in police after Floyd’s murder are being quietly defanged or dropped altogether.

The pages and airwaves of “liberal” corporate media are filled with stories questioning whether anyone really wants to “defund the police” amidst a wave of shootings in major cities. (Whether this “crime wave” emanates from the corrupt police departments themselves, as it often has in the past when they felt their funding and power threatened, is a question that is never asked, however.)

Amidst all this blame-the-victim propaganda, we must remember that it was the burning of the police precinct in Minneapolis, and the righteous rebellion of the masses of people there and in other cities, that inspired the anti-racist struggle to new heights across the U.S. and forced the politicians and big business to address the epidemic of police violence.

What’s different this time

There are many examples of capitalist backlash against popular movements.

U.S. imperialism was taken by surprise by the 9/11 attacks in 2001, which came amidst a large and youthful anti-globalization movement. For a short time afterward, while the George W. Bush administration was reeling, there was an opportunity to speak and educate people about the crimes of the U.S. abroad.

Then came a crushing wave of repression and propaganda. The ruling class took over and dominated the narrative, marginalizing and ostracizing the struggle of the oppressed, and plotted new “endless wars.” The anti-globalization movement was crushed under its weight.

Similarly, during the Barack Obama administration, the Occupy Wall Street movement took the bosses and the government by surprise with its rapid spread to every nook and cranny of the country. Many of today’s most dedicated organizers got their start with Occupy. But when the capitalist state got coordinated and cracked down, the movement was quickly dispersed.

What’s different this time is that, despite the vicious backlash and very real threat of violence, people are still in the streets — and continue to come into the streets with each new racist police murder, from Atlanta to Kenosha, [Los Angeles](#) to [Rochester, N.Y.](#), and beyond.

The refusal of the people, especially young people, to be silenced is encouraging. But a spontaneous protest movement is not an unlimited resource, especially when the forces of the capitalist state are mobilized against it.

Unity and coordination needed

The urgent need is for greater unity and coordination of people’s organizations for the coming battles with the state and the fascists. This includes developing strategies for self-defense, new tactics to escalate the struggle in the streets and workplaces, and alternative forms of power to challenge the right of the presidency, the Congress, state legislatures and city councils to make the rules. This is true regardless of the outcome of November’s presidential election.

The broad movement in defense of Black lives needs to prepare for whatever may come in the next several months. The least likely scenario is a sweeping Biden

victory, a peaceful Trump concession and a return to pre-2017 governmental norms, as bad as those were.

Police and fascist repression at polling places; massive voter suppression; interference with the Post Office and mail-in voting; manipulation of the undemocratic Electoral College system; fascist violence in the streets; an “October surprise” war against Venezuela, Iran or China; even a coup involving the military or other state forces — are all possibilities that revolutionaries must reckon with.

Underlying the volatile instability at the top is the cataclysmic crisis of capitalism, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has created the greatest economic crisis for the workers and oppressed since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Now is the time for bold initiatives, careful planning, and building class-conscious, anti-racist organs of self defense. Time is short, but the human material exists and conditions are ripe for taking the first steps onto the path of revolutionary change. Let’s get to work.



Appeal to revolutionaries: We must defend each other from state attack

written by Struggle - La Lucha
September 10, 2020



Revolutionary parties and organizations in the U.S. are surely aware of the significance of today's political period. There are the massive outpourings into the streets, both organized and spontaneous, in an all-out rebellion against racism. A global pandemic has laid bare the inability and outright unwillingness of imperialism and monopoly capitalism to protect anything but profits. And state terror in the form of police murder, extrajudicial killings and kidnappings, and imperialist warmongering continues to be the order of the day around the world.

Revolutionary class consciousness is building among the U.S. working class in an unprecedented way, and the capitalist ruling class sees it. We know that the capitalists are gearing up to defend their class rule. Already we see the ramping up of police and military forces, in collusion with fascist white supremacist gangs, aimed at quelling the rebellions against racism and police terror.

This is why the Socialist Unity Party/Partido de Socialismo Unido urgently calls for unity, coordination and preparation among the revolutionary parties and organizations in the United States. A critical situation is unfolding in the global center of imperialism, and as the various struggles intensify, they will reach a dead

end without revolutionary working-class leadership.

It is the responsibility of revolutionary parties and organizations, armed with revolutionary theory and decades of combined revolutionary practice, to ready the masses for this political period and those to come. In order to do this, the revolutionary forces, scattered geographically and politically, must begin to unite.

The Socialist Unity Party proposes a first step towards this unity: **We must commit to defend each other from state attack.** We have already seen revolutionaries kidnapped and imprisoned for their heroic work in the rebellions. The Socialist Unity Party calls on all parties and organizations to raise these cases so the movement can amplify them to our class and mobilize support.

The waxing and waning of the movement in this period will require the revolutionary forces to constantly assess, analyze and strategize our next steps. But what is sure to be required is a stronger unity between revolutionary parties and organizations. It is our sincere hope that this can be the first step.



Milwaukee Sept. 12 - Justice for Jacob March & Rally

written by Struggle - La Lucha
September 10, 2020



On [Facebook](#)

