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TELL BIDEN: No war! U.S./NATO hands off Russia and Donbass!

By Greg Butterfield

Jan. 24 – U.S. imperialism is playing with fire in Eastern Europe. U.S. officials are toying with the lives of millions of people in Europe, Asia and potentially the entire world with their unprecedented campaign of threats, provocations and war propaganda aimed at the Russian Federation.

The Biden regime and corporate media are lying when they warn of an "imminent" Russian invasion of Ukraine. The real danger of invasion comes from the U.S.-supported, NATO-armed Ukrainian government against the peoples of the independent Donbass republics of Donetsk and Lugansk on Russia's Western border. Wall Street, its bought-and-paid-for politicians and the Pentagon have long sought to dominate all of the former Soviet Union, including Russia. Big Oil is especially rabid to stop Russian oil and gas from reaching the European Union, so that erstwhile U.S. allies are forced to rely on their products instead.

Today the U.S. announced it was pulling diplomats' families and other "nonessential personnel" out of Ukraine. It's not because they are in danger from Russia. Rather, it's another in a long line of war provocations by Washington and the NATO military alliance it dominates.

U.S. politicians are working to create a wartime atmosphere so that any defensive action by Russia or the Donbass republics, or a wholly manufactured incident, can be used to justify Ukrainian aggression and NATO intervention.

After a week of talks where Secretary of State Antony Blinken continued stonewalling Russia on its just demands for security guarantees against NATO expansion, and when Biden said at a news conference that his "guess" was that a Russian invasion of Ukraine was inevitable, it seemed on Jan. 21 there might be a glimmer of hope that the U.S. warmongers would take a step back.

Blinken finally agreed to Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's request to give a written U.S. response to Russia's draft statement on security guarantees, more than a month after it was pre-



Protest against NATO Summit in Chicago, May 2012.

National Days of Action Feb. 4-12

sented by Russian diplomats. At least, this would force Washington to declare its intentions in writing before the world rather than being shrouded in backroom negotiations and rumors circulated by unnamed sources in the Western media.

Instead of using this opportunity to step back from the brink of war, it now seems the U.S. and its allies are instead rushing recklessly ahead.

Along with the move to pull embassy personnel out of Ukraine, the weekend of Jan. 22-23 saw a new propaganda barrage from Washington's junior partner Britain, alleging that Russian President Vladimir Putin was planning a coup to replace the current U.S.-backed Ukrainian government of President Volodymyr Zelensky with one friendly to Russia.

Moscow immediately refuted the claim. But it was taken as gospel by all the big-business media, despite the fact that, as even the New York Times admitted, "The British communique provided no evidence to back up its assertion."

Meanwhile, another provocation was carried out by Kiev on Jan. 22, as a Ukrainian military sabotage team illegally crossed the ceasefire "line of contact" into the Lugansk People's Republic and kidnapped a soldier of the People's Militia. It was the third such kidnapping since October.

After a weekend at Camp David with his military and diplomatic advisers – when they were

Continued on page 4



HONDURAS inaugurates Xiomara Castro

By John Parker

Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Jan. 26 — A delegation of activists representing organizations from various countries arrived in Tegucigalpa yesterday, at the invitation of the Libre Party, to celebrate with them the inauguration of President-elect Xiomara Castro, who is also a member of the Libre Party.

President Castro's overwhelming victory follows the rapid deterioration of life for the people of Honduras after the 2009 coup that kidnapped and overthrew the elected government of self-described pro-socialist President Manuel Zelaya. That coup — with technical, logistical and monetary support from the U.S. — was led by two Honduran military officers who had trained at the Pentagon's notorious "School of the Americas." The school made headlines in 1996 when the Pentagon released training manuals used at the school that advocated torture, extortion and execution.

After the coup, fraudulent elections were imposed on the country, seeking to give legitimacy to the coup regime. But the economy and social well-being of Honduras was destroyed by rapid privatizations, environmental destruction and brutal repression and torture targeting any supporters of Zelaya, especially those in the National Front of Popular Resistance (FNRP) which formed after the coup to bring back the legitimate presidency of Zelaya. Women and LGBTQ2S members were also severely targeted and tortured.

In spite of the repression, the courageous people of Honduras continued to grow their re-

Honduran Youth

7
Struggle-La Lucha
reports from
Honduras 7

Continued on page 7



Anti-trans bills
threaten youth 2

MLK Day Caravan,
no police 3

Voting rights 4

Economic turmoil 5

U.S. targets China,
loses COVID battle 6



Delegation at a culture center for revolutionary art and music in Tegucigalpa.

- No war! U.S./NATO hands off Russia and Donbass!
- Honduras inaugurates Xiomara Castro
- Anti-trans bills threaten youth in many states
- No cops, ICE or military in Los Angeles MLK Day Caravan
- Murder and voting rights
- In response to capitalist economic turmoil, war funding soars
- China successfully battles COVID
- China expands international medical solidarity
- Youth movement organized for social change in Honduras
- Struggle-La Lucha correspondents land in Honduras for presidential inauguration
- Aprobado Plan de Ajuste de Deuda
- National Days of Action Feb. 4-12, 2022

