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U.S. escalates war against Russia

By Gary Wilson

The Pentagon has confirmed reports by the Associated Press and the Washington Post that the U.S. has boots on the ground in Ukraine.

These troops are deployed to inspect and monitor U.S.-provided weapons in Ukraine, confirmed Pentagon press secretary Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder in an official briefing on Nov. 1. The troops will be operating far from the U.S. Embassy in Kiev and are in no way involved with embassy security.

Travis Tritten of military.com asked Ryder, "I'm wondering what the rules of engagement for those personnel are if they are fired on by the Russians or they are targeted by the Russians."

In a long-winded reply, Ryder never answered Tritten's question about what the U.S. would do if the Russians fired on any active-duty U.S. troops.

Tritten then said, "This [is] different because they would be working outside the embassy. I would just ask if people should read this as an escalation."

The AP reported that a Pentagon official would not say where the military advisers are operating or how close to the battlefronts the U.S. troops are getting. The official said U.S. personnel are engaged in "inspections" where security conditions allow, not on the front lines.

On Feb. 24, when President Joe Biden announced sanctions on Rus-

sia, adding that the people of the U.S. must make a sacrifice and gas prices would rise, he said, "Our forces are not and will not be engaged in the conflict."

Since that statement by Biden, the U.S. has intervened militarily in Ukraine with U.S. mercenaries (called contractors in media reports) engaged in the fighting. In addition, U.S. military advisers have been deployed to the Ukrainian military command, supplying military intelligence in real-time and engaging in planning and executing operations against Russian forces. Also, the U.S. has sent some \$70 billion in aid to Ukraine, including tens of billions of dollars worth of weapons and ammunition.

While the White House says there are no "combat" troops, this is how U.S. military escalations are launched. The U.S. military invasion of Vietnam began in May 1961 when President John Kennedy sent 500 military "advisers," not combat troops, to Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City).

With U.S. troops inspecting Ukrainian arms and ammunition at Ukrainian military bases, this puts U.S. troops directly into a war zone, with the possibility of direct engagement with Russia. That makes it possible that the U.S. would engage in a direct shooting war with Russia.

This is definitely an escalation. The U.S./NATO "proxy war" against Russia may be shifting into direct conflict. ■



Los Angeles

Photo: Walter Lippman

Demonstrations call for an end to U.S. blockade on Cuba

Large demonstrations on the East and West coasts of the U.S. took place Oct. 29 calling for the end of the blockade of Cuba just before the annual vote at the United Nations. Protests were held in New York; Los Angeles; San Francisco; Brunswick, Maine; Portland, Ore.; Duluth, Minn.; Laurel, Md.; and more than 20 other cities. ■

World stands with Cuba again!

By Alejandra Garcia

Once again, the United States has been left alone in its efforts to stifle Cuba. The General Assembly of the United Nations once again pronounced itself overwhelmingly against the economic blockade that Washington insists on maintaining against the island.

The UN member countries voted this Thursday on the Cuban resolution "Necessity of putting an end to the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba." On this occasion, the document had 185 votes in favor, two against (the United States and its

unconditional ally Israel), and two abstentions (Jair Bolsonaro's Brazil and Ukraine).

Today, the world is with Cuba, and it is no surprise. That U.S. policy is an outdated and ineffective measure that hasn't achieved and will not achieve its objective and has ended up discrediting and isolating the United States itself.

It has already been 30 years of continuous defeats. Since 1992, the Caribbean island, besieged and on the verge of economic asphyxiation, has presented this resolution before the UN in New York. Today, not even U.S. citizens themselves support this policy of hatred. Proof of this is

Continued on page 7



- Dockworkers fight for a contract 4
- Buried evidence of rigging in Mumia's trial 3
- North Korea responds to U.S.-led war games 6
- Europe protests: 'Let's get out of NATO' 6
- Kroger-Albertsons, layoffs, & high food prices 2
- Elections: The empire strikes back 4
- Alexis Castillo (Alfonso) 7
- Remembering Fatima Bernawi 8



- U.S. escalates war against Russia
- World stands with Cuba again!
- Kroger-Albertsons merger means layoffs, higher food prices
- National Day of Mourning, Nov. 24
- Demand buried evidence in Mumia's case be heard
- Elections: The empire strikes back
- Dockworkers fight for a decent contract
- How to not build unity
- North Korea responds to massive, 'reckless' U.S.-led war games
- Military intervention is not the answer to Haiti's crisis
- 'Let's get out of NATO': Protests across Europe
- Alexis Castillo (Alfonso), internationalist fighter in Donbass
- Remembering Fatima Bernawi
- Situaciones indignantes por ser colonia

