

STRUGGLE ★ LA LUCHA

for Socialism / por el Socialismo



Anti-Asian murders & capitalist state Fight racist, sexist violence

The Socialist Unity Party/Partido por el Socialismo Unido and Struggle-La Lucha newspaper condemn in the strongest possible terms the racist, sexist, fascist shootings in the Atlanta area that targeted mainly Asian women, but also Asian and Latinx men.

We express warm solidarity and class love to the families, friends and communities of the victims of this despicable attack: Delaina Ashley Yuan, Xiajie Yan, Daoyou Feng, Paul Andre Michels, and four others whose names have not been released at the time of writing. It is known that six of the eight people killed were women of Asian descent. A ninth victim, Elcias Hernandez-Ortiz, is in the hospital fighting for his life.

The killer, a 21-year-old white man named Robert Long, claims that his rampage was rooted in a “sex addiction,” and that he attacked three spas in order to “eliminate a temptation.” Georgia police officials are backing this as an excuse for mass murder. But to many, it’s clear that this violence is rooted in both patriarchal subjugation of women and, in particular, the racist fetishization of immigrant women.

It is crucial to understand the role of the state not just in these particular killings, but also the monstrous string of racist, fascist killings leading up to this. These include the murder perpetrated by, to name only a few: Dylan Roof, who murdered nine Black attendees at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.; Robert Bowers, who murdered eleven Jewish attendees of the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh; Derek Chauvin, who murdered George Floyd in Minneapolis; Darren Wilson, who murdered Michael Brown Jr. in Ferguson, Mo.; and Jonathan Mattingly, Brett Hankison and Myles Cosgrove, who murdered Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Ky.

Like many of these racist murderers, Robert Long was apprehended and detained by police without incident. Police took Dylan Roof for a cheeseburger after he murdered nine innocent Black people. In contrast, the Black victims of police violence — George Floyd, Michael Brown and Breonna Taylor — were unarmed and not charged with anything.

The murders in Atlanta must be seen in the context of former President Donald Trump’s viciously racist anti-immigrant bile, in both words and policy, as well as his constant attempts to blame the COVID-19 pandemic on the Chinese government. President Joe Biden has continued this anti-China sentiment by escalating the Cold War-style provocations against China, which has also contributed to a rise in attacks on Asian Americans and Asian immigrants. According to a report by Stop AAPI Hate, nearly 3,800 racist incidents against



Protesters took to the streets of Washington, D.C., March 17.

U.S. bombs Iraq and Syria Biden continues war to control oil

By Bill Dores

It was called the highway of death. On Feb. 26, 1991, U.S. military jets and helicopters rained napalm, cluster bombs and 30mm shells on convoys of Iraqi soldiers and civilian refugees leaving Kuwait. At least a thousand people were burned alive or shot to death while fleeing.

U.S. pilots called it a “turkey shoot” and “shooting fish in a barrel.” It was the final act of the massive bombing campaign the first Bush administration named Operation Desert Storm.

Between Jan. 27 and Feb. 28, 1991, U.S. planes dropped 88,500 tons of bombs on Iraq, killing 110,000 people. They destroyed the country’s oil refineries, power grid, water pumping stations, sewage treatment plants, food and pharmaceutical industry — and its only plant for baby formula.

Among the targets was Public Shelter 25 in the Amiriya neighborhood of Baghdad. On Feb. 13, the U.S. Air Force hit it with two laser-guided “smart bombs.” At least 409 civilians, many of them children, were burned to death.

War never ended

The bombing never stopped. Between 2001 and 2019, the U.S. military launched 326,000 bombs and missiles at countries in the region. At least 152,000 fell on Iraq and Syria.

In 2020, the Trump regime made the bombing figures secret. But the bombs kept falling.

According to a Brown University study released in September 2020,



Wreckage along Iraq’s ‘highway of death’ after U.S. massacre of Feb. 26, 1991.

U.S. military action has displaced 37 million people since 2001.

Exactly three decades after the massacre on Iraq’s Highway 80, President Joe Biden ordered an air-strike on the Syria-Iraq border. On Feb. 26, 2021, two U.S. F-15 Eagles dropped seven 500-lb. laser-guided bombs on the town of Abu Kamal. According to Reuters news agency, 22 people were killed. The airstrike was illegal under U.S. and international law.

The U.S. has now been at war in West Asia and North Africa for 30 years. No matter who is in the White House, the war machine rules.

Two days after the U.S. Air Force attacked Abu Kamal, Israel’s made-in-the-USA air force launched missiles at the Syrian capital of Damascus. The settler state bombs Syria regularly on behalf of its armurers in Washington.

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Mumia Abu-Jamal
HEALTH CRISIS
EMERGENCY
Protest In Philly 6

Send petition to DA Larry Krasner:
STOP defending
Mumia’s unjust conviction
Go to tinyurl.com/xf3dpyps

- ▶ Not your fault
- ▶ Young workers’ pensions
- ▶ Vaccine apartheid, profiteering
- ▶ Congress \$\$\$ for cops
- ▶ Eyes on Minneapolis
- ▶ George Floyd!
- ▶ LA police gangs
- ▶ Bloody Sunday in Philippines
- ▶ U.S. hates on China

Sanctions and B-52 flights

In its first days, the Biden White House stepped back from Donald Trump’s pursuit of all-out war with Iran. It pulled the USS Nimitz strike force out of the Arab-Persian Gulf. Biden said the U.S. would rejoin the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) “nuclear deal.”

However, on March 5, Biden renewed a “national emergency” against the Islamic Republic, extending the sanctions that are killing Iranian civilians. On March 4, he did the same thing to Venezuela. Iran has made clear there can be no talks with the U.S. unless the sanctions end.

On March 8, two U.S. B-52 long-range bombers flew over the Arab-Persian Gulf, the sixth such mission since November. They were escorted by U.S.-made Israeli fight-

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It's not your fault

By Stephen Millies

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo may be forced to resign. Several women have come forward to say he's a serial sexual harasser and all around creep.

Meanwhile 15,000 people have died of COVID-19 in New York nursing homes. Many were warehoused there to free up space in hospitals.

New York State Attorney General Letitia James estimates that nursing home deaths were deliberately undercounted by much as 50 percent. Cuomo's aides started to fudge the figures last June.

Before Cuomo went into free fall, the capitalist media treated him as a superhero for his supposed leadership during the pandemic. He was even awarded an Emmy for his news conferences.

During one of these presentations last November, the governor and moral philosopher offered these words of wisdom: "If you socially distance and you wore a mask and you were smart, none of this would be a problem. It's all self-imposed.... If you didn't eat the cheesecake, you wouldn't have a weight problem. It's all self-imposed."

It's obscene for Cuomo to talk about cheesecake when hungry

people line up at food banks.

Was it "self-imposed" for 151 New York City transit workers to die of the coronavirus? These absolutely essential workers who keep the buses and subways running were initially told by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority not to wear masks.

The safety measure was considered a violation of the MTA's dress code. Cuomo runs the MTA.

How are poor and working people supposed to socially distance themselves in overcrowded housing? Death rates for Black and Latinx people from COVID-19 are double the U.S. average.

It was Andrew Cuomo's daddy — Gov. Mario Cuomo — who stole \$8 billion that was supposed to be used to build affordable housing and spent it to build 30 prisons instead.

The myth of 'free to choose'

There's nothing new about Cuomo's awful remarks. For centuries, the ruling class has told poor people that their misery was their own fault.

The economists Milton Friedman and Rose Friedman wrote "Free to Choose" in 1980. The book and television series claim that under capitalism people are free to choose their life.

The peoples of Africa and the

Americas didn't choose enslavement and genocide. The capitalist world market was jump-started by the enslavement of African peoples and the genocide of Indigenous peoples throughout the Americas.

The peoples of Asia didn't choose to be pillaged for centuries by European and U.S. imperialists.

Even during periods of capitalist "prosperity" millions are jobless. People didn't choose to be fired when thousands of factories and other workplaces shut down.

The army of people who collect bottles and cans for the deposit don't choose to go through garbage bags. They do it in order to eat.

Apologists for capitalism tell the unemployed to start their own business. Millions of street merchants have done so only to be harassed by cops.

Trump wanted veterans who were selling merchandise in front of Trump Tower to be arrested. New York City police shot 41 times at Amadou Diallo, killing the street merchant in front of his home on Feb. 4, 1999.

It was in order to start a career that 45 million people in the United States owe \$1.71 trillion in student loans. That's an average debt of \$38,000 they owe to legal loan sharks.

What the Friedmans really meant by "freedom to choose" can be seen in Chile. On September 11, 1973, the CIA and Chilean Gen. Augusto Pinochet overthrew the democratically elected president Salvador Allende.

Thousands were murdered and tens of thousands were tortured. Milton Friedman visited his pal Pinochet twice and called his bloody regime the "Miracle of Chile."

Choose socialism

Revolutionaries want people to make choices, too. We want Amazon workers in Bessemer, Ala., to vote for union wages and protection.

We want poor and working people to choose to make a socialist revolution. That's the only answer to a decaying capitalism that's cooking the earth.

Socialists want our class to read more and in many cases to learn to read. A growing socialist movement will open up its own schools.

We want people to better themselves. That includes personal struggles, getting healthier. That's why we call our newspaper Struggle-La Lucha.

Only after capitalist exploitation is swept away can billions of people really choose to control their own lives. □

Young workers are losing access to pensions. Why?

By Bayani

Millennials and zoomers — have you heard of pensions? Have you ever had a job that offered one? Some of us have, but we may be the exceptions.

As we grow older and more people come to join us in the working world, I'd bet money that — at least without a massive workers' movement — fewer and fewer people will have even heard of a pension.

For our more seasoned readers, it may shock you to learn that there are people in the world who don't know what a pension is, much less ever had access to one.

It's a reflection of capitalist decay. Decades and decades of privatization, austerity and union-busting have crushed the wages, benefits and protections the workers' movements won in the past.

Most jobs worked by younger people barely offer a 401(k) retirement plan, much less paid time off, sick leave or mileage reimbursement.

What is a pension?

The short version: pensions are deferred wages, paid out at a later date after you've retired.

A more pithy version: a pension is how you're going to survive when you're too old to work.

The default pension for most is Social Security, won through the militant labor struggles of the 1930s. Social Security is funded by taxes on your paycheck and on your employer. Of course your employer pays its share of the tax from your wages.

How did pensions come about?

In the U.S., pensions existed in different forms starting as long ago as



the early 1800s. Generally these were private enterprises or charitable drives led by religious communities. The Bureau of Pensions was established in 1832 to manage pensions for veterans of the War of Independence.

Pensions as we know them today were not widely available until after the New Deal and the Social Security Act of 1935. In short, this legislation created retirement income for senior workers, as well as unemployment insurance.

Social Security is not an employer-paid pension plan. Social Security is a federal government program. Social Security provided some relief from poverty for the elderly.

Franklin D. Roosevelt didn't just wake up one day and decide to push for this out of the kindness of his heart. The New Deal and Social Security was a result of the blood, sweat and tears of a militant workers' movement. The New Deal was implemented to prevent a workers' revolution.

The massive crisis of capitalism called the Great Depression forced workers, poor and oppressed people to fight for their lives. Their movement had to face the truth that many of us are starting to recognize today

Teachers in Frankfort, Ky., protested proposed pension cuts in 2018.

— that only a socialist revolution would save them.

Amidst massive unrest, poverty, unemployment, and facing down a quickly-growing workers' movement, the ruling class knew they had to offer concessions in order to save the capitalist system. Pensions were one of these concessions.

Following World War II, with the expansion of U.S. imperialism and the resulting super-profits made by U.S. capitalists through their global industrial monopoly, workers in labor unions were able to win employer-paid private pensions on top of the skimpy pensions paid by the Social Security program.

Union workers also won employer-provided health care plans that made up for the absence of health care as a basic human right in the U.S. Pension plans and health care coverage became standard benefits for many jobs.

Why are pensions disappearing?

Marxist leader Sam Marcy wrote "High Tech, Low Pay" in 1986 to explain the huge changes taking place in capitalist production and the changing character of the working class with the advent of major technological advancements. The technological advancements he wrote about, and their effects on workers and production, are still changing the world today.

The leaps and bounds in technology in the past few decades are driv-

en by the capitalists' ever-present thirst for profits, rather than to meet peoples' needs. This means that new technological advancements are introduced for the purpose of lowering labor costs — either reducing the overall "skills" required by workers in production, or entirely replacing workers with automation, sending entire labor forces to the unemployment line. Either way, workers pick up the cost.

At this late stage of capitalism, when the goal of imperialism has turned from attaining new markets and territories to maintaining its territories, the ruling class has to draw blood from stone. In other words, every market is already thoroughly saturated, and when imperialism has run out of markets to access, it has to find new ways to maintain profits.

In turn, jobs in the United States have begun to polarize sharply in two directions. On one end, you have service sector jobs without any hope for benefits; on the other end are relatively high-paying jobs that require degrees (aka student debt), which may or may not offer decent benefits.

Between the two are "gig"-type jobs that certainly don't offer benefits, and public sector and healthcare sector jobs from which the bosses constantly try to strip away benefits, either through direct cutbacks or privatization.

Moreover, workers who already have pensions are frequently at risk of losing them. This is not just because of the constant attempts to cut them, but also because most pension plans have been converted to 401(k)

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Community leaders demand: End vaccine apartheid in Baltimore

STRUGGLE-LA LUCHA
BALTIMORE BUREAU

On March 6, community leaders held a news conference announcing the formation of the Baltimore Saving Lives Campaign. They called for an end to vaccine apartheid in Baltimore, and for concrete remedies to the disparity in Maryland's COVID-19 vaccine rollout.

Participants included the Rev. Annie Chambers, Peoples Power Assembly and Douglas Homes advocate; Dr. "Doc" Marvin Cheatham, president, Matthew Henson Neighborhood Association (West Baltimore); Leon Purnell, director, Men's and Family Center (East Baltimore); Joyce Butler, Prisoners Solidarity Committee; and Sharon Black, retired RN and Peoples Power Assembly.

The press conference took place on a blustery cold day in front of Dallas Court at Douglas Homes. Rev. Chambers explained: "In this small housing court, three people have died from COVID-19 and a fourth has developed serious COVID illness. I have also lost a family member to COVID."

"We are asking for a minute of silence for the lives lost to COVID-19," Sharon Black announced. "You can see that this is not an abstract question for us. We will not rest until every person who wants a vaccine gets one and we beat COVID in Baltimore."

"Give Baltimore the damn vaccine!" proclaimed Doc Cheatham. His organization has been actively engaged with neighborhood outreach since the pandemic began. Cheatham stressed that Coppin State University should become a site for vaccination. "It sits in the heart of West Baltimore, and it enables residents to easily access the vaccine."

Leon Purnell stated, "Our residents don't have internet access and the ability to navigate the complex systems, and they are being left behind." He exclaimed, "We already have the vans that can do work in the Eastside."

"Our prisoners must get the vaccine! They are our relatives and loved ones. We are continually getting reports that there is inadequate PPE and they are getting sick," stated Joyce Butler.

The Baltimore Saving Lives Campaign is seeking meetings with city officials, the Baltimore Health Department, the state government and National Guard representatives to discuss concrete steps.

Following is the group's statement and list of demands:

Statement from the Baltimore Saving Lives Campaign

ENDING VACCINE APARTHEID

As community leaders and organizations, we have come together to form a Baltimore Saving Lives Campaign. We both seek to expose and highlight the disparity in vaccine distribution and put forward solutions.

Black, Brown and poor communities of Baltimore have been left behind. The facts are there, and the urgency is real. In the last year, Black people's life expectancy has dropped a full 2.7 years due to COVID-19. This is the first time in U.S. history that we have seen such a sharp decline.

Those most in need have been pushed to the back of the line. This is due to the methods that have been used to roll out the vaccines. Complex, confusing and impossible internet sign-ups, phone lines that people cannot get through, and lack of transportation have created barriers.

Our most vulnerable elders, those without digital access and transportation, must get the vaccine. So must low-wage essential workers, those living in public housing and on the streets, and those who are being forgotten in the patchwork of confusing delivery systems.

Our goal is to see that everyone who wants a vaccine gets a vaccine. Our goal is to beat COVID in Baltimore.

Our proposals are based on that larger goal. We must be proactive and think beyond the initial rollout, which has been a failure — a failure that has obviously left out the people of Baltimore. We need to prepare now, not wait!

These are our initial proposals:

Include M&T Bank Stadium site for Baltimore residents first

Allocate more vaccines to close the disparity

One dedicated 24-hour city hotline to schedule vaccines, based on the 311 model and with adequate staffing

Plan to extend hours for all vaccination sites

Door-to-door vaccinations

Accessible community vaccination centers

- Churches and closed recreation centers
- Coppin State University - West Baltimore
- Men's and Family Center - East Baltimore

Housing projects

- The zip code priorities set at the Convention Center site have left off many housing projects, including Douglas Homes. With the detection of the virus at Latrobe Homes, setting up mobile units to cover each area is urgent.



SLL PHOTO: RASIKA RUWANPATHIRANA

Free Uber transportation

- Baltimore County is already providing free Uber transportation.

Expand categories based on need

- The City of Baltimore can use its own guidelines based on the fact that many of our residents are at greater risk. For instance, the COVID death rate for Black, Latinx, and low-wage and essential workers is higher, regardless of age. In Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser lowered the age for vaccinations in heavily Black wards. This is because the Black population's death rates were higher, and life expectancy was shorter. We must think out of the box, including exploring other vaccine sources if needed.

Homeless people and people with addictions

- Plans must be made to immediately go into action when one-shot vaccines are delivered. Many states have already begun using the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Prisoners

- While the prison system is run primarily by the state government, many of the incarcerated population are from Baltimore City. We must strongly advocate that all prisoners be vaccinated and have adequate PPE.

Low-wage and essential workers not formerly covered

- Many of these workers suffer from underlying health conditions, yet they are forced to work with no protection. This includes grocery workers, retail clerks, fast food and restaurant workers, bus drivers, etc. Let's get them vaccinated as soon as possible.
- Involve the unions in making plans to protect their workers.
- Listen to our teachers: No return to classrooms until it's safe.

Weekly briefings with community leaders on progress and problems

We are urging weekly briefings for the Saving Lives Campaign and others with city and state representatives, including the Baltimore City Health Department, representatives of the mayor's office, the governor and the National Guard.

We are developing a volunteer network of students, doctors, nurses, nursing assistants, EMTs and firefighters willing to roll up their sleeves and get the work done now. Please text us at (410) 218-4835 to get involved. ☎

'Free the vaccine' protest hits Pfizer profiteering

By Stephen Millies

More than a hundred people gathered outside Pfizer's midtown Manhattan headquarters on March 11 to demand the drug company provide its COVID-19 vaccine to poor countries.

Under current schedules, it won't be until 2024 that most people in Africa, Latin America and South Asia will be vaccinated. That's because Big Pharma outfits like Pfizer think it's not profitable enough to do so sooner. Last year Pfizer had a net income of \$9.6 billion.

Speakers said the unavailability of vaccines was a death sentence for the poor. Among them was Dr. Roona Ray, a family physician and supporter of Physicians for a National Health Program.



The delayed rollout of vaccines for countries made poor by global capitalism threatens everyone's health. Rally participants pointed out that "no one is safe until everyone is safe."

Members of ACT-UP and other organizations came to the noontime rally, held two blocks from United

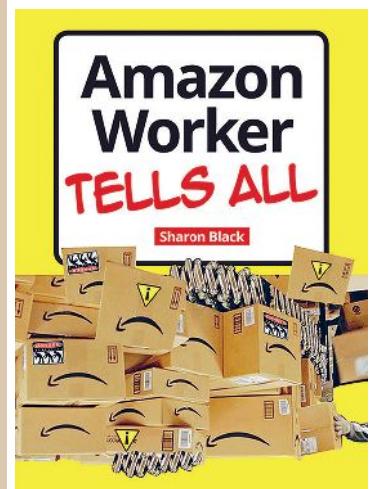
Nations headquarters.

While Pfizer rolls in the profits, socialist Cuba is preparing to manufacture 100 million nonprofit vaccine doses. Before 1959, when Cuba was a sugar colony for Wall Street, the country wasn't even able to make an aspirin. ☎

AMAZON WORKER TELLS ALL

Sharon Black

1. Robotics on steroids
2. 21st century exploitation
3. Let's organize!



Booklet is available to download at Struggle-La-Lucha.org

With Minneapolis under police siege Congressional bill would give more money to cops

By Greg Butterfield

On June 25, one month after the brutal murder of George Floyd by Police Officer Derek Chauvin sparked an uprising against racist killer cops, the Minneapolis City Council voted to get rid of the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) and replace it with community-based safety mechanisms.

Today, just over eight months since that vote, Minneapolis is an armed camp overrun by police. As jury selection in the trial of killer cop Chauvin began on March 8, downtown Minneapolis was covered with fencing and razor wire. Police were brought in from other cities to bolster the MPD against anticipated protests.

And that very same 13-member Minneapolis City Council (all Democrats with the exception of one Green Party member) had again voted — but this time to spend \$6.4 million to recruit MORE cops. The pledge to disband the MPD was completely discarded.

It would be hard to find a more blatant about-face, even by the standards of a Democratic Party that frequently buries its progressive promises to the poor, working-class and oppressed people who make up its voting base.

This didn't stop more than 1,000 people from coming out in Minneapolis on International Women's Day to demand "Justice for George Floyd," mobilized by the Twin Cities Coalition for Justice 4 Jamar (TCCJ4M) and other groups.

Actions were held in many cities as Chauvin's trial kicked off, in response to a call from the National



Minneapolis protest on opening day of Derek Chauvin's trial, March 8.

PHOTO: BRAD SIGAL

Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (NAARPR). In Grand Rapids, Mich., police arrested organizers of an anti-racist protest.

Supporters of the NAARPR in Minneapolis had warned last summer that the City Council's pledge to abolish the MPD would come to nothing unless it was backed up with real measures to implement community control of the police, like the Civilian Police Accountability Council (CPAC) advocated by Chicago organizers. This would create a completely independent body, its members voted for by the community, that would have control over the hiring, firing and punishment of cops.

Congress: More funds for police

Timed to coincide with the start of Chauvin's trial, the House of Representatives passed the "George Floyd Police Reform Act" on March 3 by a vote of 220-212. Congressional Democrats and the White House hailed

the measure as the fulfillment of the party's many election-year promises to rein in racist police terror.

However, it seems unlikely that this bill will pass in the Senate, where it requires the votes of 10 Republicans along with every Democrat. The House bill received only one Republican vote.

But this measure named for George Floyd, even if adopted, would do nothing to prevent the exact same kind of police murders that he and Breonna Taylor suffered last year.

The bill's much ballyhooed provisions against chokeholds and no-knock warrants, and limitations on qualified immunity for brutal cops, only apply to federal police. The vast majority of police and police brutality cases in the U.S. are overseen by local and state agencies, and these measures would hold no power over them.

One of the most popular slogans of the Black Lives Matter protests that spread across the U.S. in the summer of 2020 was to "Defund the police" and use that money for community needs, like expanding healthcare, improving public schools and housing the homeless.

But Congress's so-called "Police Reform Act" actually includes provisions to give millions more federal dollars to local and state police agencies in exchange for their pledge to make "reforms" like using body cameras — which have not prevented police killings in places where they have already been adopted. It's common practice for brutal cops to simply turn off the cameras or discard the footage.

One of the bill's provisions is actually to fund police recruitment!

Don't let Biden & Congress off the hook

Donald Trump's 2020 reelection campaign fueled a racist backlash against the Black Lives protests. This led to the white supremacist siege of the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 6 that sought to overturn the results of the presidential election in Trump's favor.

But the backlash wasn't limited to this. Almost immediately after the protests started to subside, police agencies, local governments and mainstream media began a concerted effort to build up the idea of a "massive crimewave" sweeping the country as a result of anti-police-brutality sentiments. The idea was to make people fear for their safety and scare them into supporting more, not less, funding and power for the police.

Democrats like New York Mayor Bill de Blasio and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot were instrumental in promoting this pro-cop narrative, while shielding the police from punishment for their brutal treatment of Black Lives protesters. Then-candidate Joe Biden (in)famously gave his nodding approval to the campaign when he advised cops to "shoot them in the leg" instead of the heart.

What role the police themselves had in promoting the narrative has mostly gone unquestioned. However, an investigation published by the Star Tribune on March 8, "Minneapolis residents demand transparency after police inflate carjacking charges," helps to shed some light on the real goings-on.

MPD carjacking scam

Following the George Floyd uprising, Minneapolis police promoted the story of a wave of violent carjackings and bragged about how their subsequent actions had netted a large number of arrests.

"Police and the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office said that aggressive enforcement and helicopter surveillance netted 87 arrests and dozens of felony charges during carjacking crackdowns this winter in south Minneapolis."

"But a Star Tribune analysis of Hennepin County jail rosters on the days the helicopter was in use could not verify authorities' claims that the operations 'resulted in 41 felony-level arrests' in December and 46 arrests with '69 felony-level charges' in January."

"When pressed on the issue, city officials later acknowledged that just 15 of those cases were actually charged, though police say many remain under investigation," according to the report.

"The enforcement campaign's inflated success is deeply concerning to many south Minneapolis residents who endured days of low-flying helicopter operation that now has them questioning the value of the surveillance and wondering what other information authorities were collecting...."

"The inflated numbers announced by authorities baffled members of the Hennepin County Attorney's Office, who worked to track down the cases after Minneapolis police publicized charges that had not been filed."

Resident Molly Priesmeyer told a reporter that "her neighborhood felt like a war zone, and it brought back traumatic memories from last summer, when helicopters constantly hovered following George Floyd's death."

Multiply this example by the number of big-city police departments with vast multi-million-or-billion dollar budgets, sophisticated PR departments and connections to both legal and illegal organizations. We should demand an investigation of similar practices in every city.

Most of all, we can't rely on Democratic officials to keep their promises to reign in the police. The movement must continue to fight for community control, as a step toward abolishing these defenders of private property and the racist status quo once and for all.

U.S. bombs Iraq and Syria Biden continues war to control world's oil

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ers as they flew over Palestine.

No pause in arms to Israel

Biden also said he wants to end the war in Yemen, which Washington's Saudi clients are losing. He "paused" arms sales to the Saudi kingdom.

There is no pause, however, in the flow of the most advanced arms in the U.S. arsenal to the racist state of Israel. Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Benny Gantz openly threaten to use them to attack Iran.

Nor is there a pause in the U.S.-Israeli blockade of Gaza and the Israeli occupation regime's daily terror against the people of Palestine, on whose stolen land the racist settler state was created.

On March 7, an Israeli drone struck a fishing boat off Gaza, murdering three fishers.

Biden officials say the U.S. still supports the "Abraham Accords," which the Trump regime brokered between Israel, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. That so-called "peace deal" involves massive arms sales. It is in reality a military alliance against Iran.

Iraqi resistance strikes back

On March 3, Iraqi Resistance forces retaliated against a U.S. base at

Ayn Al Assad. The Pentagon says a U.S. "contractor" died of a heart attack after 10 Grad rockets hit the site. "Contractor" could mean a worker at the Pizza Hut or Burger King franchises on the base. Or it could mean a mercenary.

"The resistance sees confrontation as the only option that guarantees the freedom and dignity of this country after exhausting all the means that others have bet on with the occupation," the coordinating body for the Iraqi resistance factions said in a statement on March 4.

On March 10, improvised explosive devices hit four U.S. military convoys in northern Iraq.

Won't stand up to Wall Street

Joe Biden won't stand up to corporate power. He's not fighting the GOP to raise the minimum wage, even to \$15 an hour in five years. He's not canceling student debt or fighting for Medicare for all.

But, like his predecessor, the new president has no problem denying medicine to people in Iran and Venezuela. He is willing to have U.S. troops fight the people of Iraq and Syria on their soil for control of their oil.

He is continuing the war George H.W. Bush started three decades ago.

Read the full article:

tinyurl.com/t5ezc3kw

Los Angeles police gangs you should know

By Anthony Dawahare

Spartans, Regulators, Grim Reapers and the Banditos. These are just some of the names of the gangs that run the largest sheriff's department in the world.

The first publicly-reported case of a "neo-Nazi, white supremacist gang" within the Lynwood station of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department occurred in just 1971, with a totaled \$9 million lawsuit involving the Vikings, whose members were eventually fired or resigned. Though LA County is familiar with these secret societies and the continual acts of murder, perjury, blackmail and other forms of police brutality, newly-elected District Attorney George Gascón denied the existence of gangs within his department.

In February 2021, a Superior Court judge dismissed the latest lawsuit from a deputy and veteran in the Compton Sheriff's Station who called out the Executioners and their criminal activity, illegal arrest quotas and unlawful punishments. Another 63-page lawsuit in October exposed the Banditos, one of the most notorious gangs currently taking



over the county, as promoting violence and criminal behavior towards local residents.

Along with retaliation and battery claims from other officers, Black and women deputies are reportedly not allowed in these cliques (though a gang consisting of Black officers has also been discovered). Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva has denied the existence of gangs, yet allegations say he is one of the prominent ringleaders of the Banditos. The group of 90 deputies mark themselves with matching tattoos of a skeleton with mustache, sombrero, and pistols, and control the East LA station "like inmates running a prison yard."

The police murders of Anthony Vargas and Andres Guardado were victims of the police gang "initiation" process. Despite the composition of a few notorious LA police gangs, they all uphold racism and white supremacy. It's why they are allowed to exist. Police gangs, predominantly white,

primarily responsible for the 900 killings by police since 2000. Almost all of them all of them being men and nearly 80% Black or Latinx. Within Los Angeles alone, reporters, journalists and whistleblowers have accounted for more than a dozen gangs currently present in the sheriff's de-

partment, yet time and time again we see lawsuits overturned, internal investigations coming back with no findings, and county officials denying any existence of historical claims.

The truth lies beyond the LASD's farce and seems nearly untouchable from the latest findings that shootings in Los Angeles have more than doubled this year alone, while overall crime has dropped 26%. A federal grand jury investigation has opened its own probe into the Banditos, though it is still unclear what their findings were from the 2011 investigation into reports of inmate abuse from deputies working in county jails and countless episodes of corruption and mismanagement in the sheriff's department. □

George Floyd, say his name!

Speech by Peoples Power Assembly activist Lars at the March 7 Baltimore "Justice for George Floyd" rally, part of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression day of action.

By Lars

The trial of Minneapolis cop Derek Chauvin is set to begin tomorrow, many months after the death of George Floyd. This is the latest in a string of police-procured killings that have been witnessed by people all across the country. The time for the United States to reckon with its abhorrent history is long past due. The time to take action against a past and present of racism, hatred and white supremacy is today.

It is insisted, over and over again, that we live in an idealized America where the country can't have a racism problem, because racism is supposedly long done with. Anything we see now is nothing more than the misgivings of a "couple of bad apples." I know that's a blatant lie and so do you.

This country was built on genocide and enslavement, and that foundation has never been uprooted. There

can be no more excuses for this.

You cannot say that Mr. Floyd's case only matters in Minnesota, because the same thing happens here. You cannot say that there are too many unknowns and we have to take the police at their word, because we have the footage that says otherwise.

These so-called arguments never held any weight in the first place, and no one can justify why a man had to die, because that justification does not exist. There is no reason why George Floyd shouldn't have left that store alive and the cops know it.

Bad apples are not a natural reality of a working system. They come from a broken system that spoils the whole bunch. This is not a one-and-done deal, and these killer cops must face what they're due. Along with Derek Chauvin, militarized police and security forces across the country must be held accountable for the death of George Floyd!

The deaths of Black people cannot be allowed to be accepted as normal or brushed under the rug, and let no one tell you otherwise.

Black lives matter! No justice, no peace! □

Young workers lose access to pensions

Continued from page 2

plans. Legally 401(k) plans are not regulated like pension funds; that is, they are deregulated and open to speculation and manipulation. Pension plans guarantee a monthly check in retirement while a 401(k) does not offer any guarantees.

Wall Street controls most 401(k) plans and has been using some 401(k) funds to gamble in the stock market. Recent controversy around GameStop stocks highlighted the volatility of the stock market speculation.

Workers have no legal recourse. We just have to hope our pensions

are there for us when we retire.

How can I get a pension?

Pensions came around because of militant workers' struggle. Pensions have started to disappear because of a vicious capitalist counter-offensive. It's in our hands to renew and broaden the workers' struggle for a living wage, safe workplaces and job benefits, but also to connect the workers' struggle to the struggle against racism, war and gender-based oppression.

Fight for a union; if you have a union, fight to make it fight! □



SLL PHOTO: SHARON BLACK

Keep Our Eyes on Minneapolis

A rally was held in Baltimore March 7 to demand justice for George Floyd on the eve of killer cop Derek Chauvin's trial in Minneapolis. The protest was part of a call to action from the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (NAARPR). Peoples Power Assembly member Joyce Butler recited this piece at the rally.

By Joyce Butler

Keep Our Eyes on Minneapolis

Monday begins the trial of a racist coward

(I refuse to say his name)

Let's call him "The Murderer in Blue"

The "Neck Rider"...

The Aggressive Bigot who has had many a run-in with Blacks.

Let's keep our eyes on Minneapolis!

Let's keep our eyes on Minneapolis.

We need to watch the trial —

Jury selection begins on Monday.

Let's keep our eyes on Minneapolis!

First Degree Murder!

Let's keep our eyes on Minneapolis —

We cannot fall asleep.

We cannot be lulled into quietness ... we cannot nod off.

Remember the words of George Floyd —

"I CAN'T BREATHE!"

Remember the racial & very hurtful jokes.

Let's keep our eyes on Minneapolis —

KARMA IS COMING KILLER —

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE KARMA CAFE

BEGINNING ON MONDAY —

THERE ARE NO MENUS ...

YOU WILL GET EXACTLY WHAT YOUR ASS DESERVES!

KEEP YOUR EYES ON MINNEAPOLIS! □

PHILADELPHIA: Free Mumia! Free them all!

By Stephen Millies

Righteously angry people protested outside the office of Philadelphia's "progressive" District Attorney Larry Krasner on March 12. They demanded the immediate release of world-famous political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal and all other incarcerated fighters for the people.

Abu-Jamal has been confirmed to have COVID-19 as well as congestive heart disease. The Pennsylvania deep state has been trying to kill him for almost 40 years.

The people stopped Mumia's execution twice after Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge signed death warrants in the 1990s. After Abu-Jamal was

taken off death row, prison officials tried to kill him by medical neglect, first by denying him treatment for hepatitis C and now for COVID and heart disease.

As a sign of how much the wealthy and powerful want Abu-Jamal dead, it's been revealed that National Public Radio asked Philadelphia radio station WHYY-FM for help in writing his obituary!

Over a hundred prisoners in Pennsylvania have died of the coronavirus. Gov. Tom Wolfe has refused to release prisoners over 50 years old who are most likely to die from it.

Pam Africa from the International Concerned Family and Friends

of Mumia Abu-Jamal demanded the release of Abu-Jamal and all political prisoners. She denounced the phoniness of DA Krasner, who claimed he was against mass incarceration yet keeps the prisons full.

Krasner has opposed Mumia Abu-Jamal's struggle to get a new trial.

After the speak-out outside Krasner's office, people marched to block traffic in front of City Hall and South Broad Street. The power of the people will free Mumia! ☐



SLL PHOTO: STEPHEN MILLIES

Pam Africa demands Mumia Abu-Jamal's release.

From Minneapolis to Philippines, shut down U.S.-funded death squads

Message from Andrew Concon of Maylaya Movement (Baltimore) at the March 7 Baltimore "Justice for George Floyd" rally, part of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression day of action.

By Andrew Concon

Today I'm representing the Maylaya Movement (Baltimore), but I'm going to say this as an individual. And I don't know how you all feel, but I hope Derek Chauvin rots in jail. I hope every person in that jail, every imprisoned person, knows that he is a murderer cop. And what they decide to do after that — I'm not saying anything. But I hope he rots in jail.

The reason this is so important is because it's a historic moment, not just for Minnesota, but for the entire United States. This is the first time



a Minnesota cop has been taken to court for murdering someone. This is going to set a precedent in Minnesota. That's why we're holding solidarity actions all over the U.S.

Because we want them to throw the goddamn book at Derek Chauvin.

Because if we can't set that precedent, it's going to send a message to cops all over the U.S. It will say, "You can murder someone, on camera, in broad daylight, and you're going to get away with it." And that's going to build that culture of police impunity where they know they can do whatever the hell they want and never suffer a moment for it. Maybe they get put on administrative leave, but that's a vacation. [From the crowd: "With pay!"] With pay!

Another Bloody Sunday happened today on the other side of the world, in the Philippines. Nine activists, murdered in cold blood. This is two days after President Duterte of the Philippines said: "Kill them all. I'll go to jail for it. It's no problem."

I raise this because there is a machine through which the U.S. funds death squads. My sign says, "Money for jobs and education, not for Duterte's death squads." Your tax dollars are not just funding the police, they are funding the world police. They're funding the death squads in the Philippines, they're funding the Israeli death squads that are every day brutalizing the Palestinian people, they're funding the death squads in Honduras, they're funding Saudi Arabia dropping bombs on Yemen.

So while we raise the demand for community control of police, we should also demand community control of the world police. Defund the Pentagon, shut down every single U.S. military base, stop funding the death squads overseas. And let Derek Chauvin rot in jail. ☐

Protest condemns massacre in Philippines

By Greg Butterfield

Chanting "Activism is not a crime!" and "Long live international solidarity!" a rally outside the Philippine Consulate on New York's swanky Fifth Avenue March 15 condemned the recent massacre dubbed Bloody Sunday. The action was called by BAYAN USA and the Maylaya Movement.

Nine activists in Southern Tagalog were murdered by President Rodrigo Duterte's regime on March 7. The rally began with the reading of their names and a minute of silence in their honor.

Nicole from Gabriela New Jersey, who participated in a delegation that lived and worked with Lumad peasants resisting corporate and government repression, declared: "It is our duty to continue their struggle, to amplify their voices."

She led the crowd in chanting, "Oust Duterte now!"

People spoke representing overseas national democratic organizations of the Philippines. Several U.S.-based groups gave solidarity statements, including the Teamsters union.



SLL PHOTO: GREG BUTTERFIELD

additional aid from the U.S. government. By the next day, the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines launched a synchronized raid across the Cavite, Laguna, Batangas and Rizal leaving nine activists dead and six arrested."

One of the chants at the rally was, "From Palestine to the Philippines, stop the U.S. war machine!"

This U.S. military, political and economic support for the Philippine government continues regardless of whether Democrats or Republi-

cans occupy the White House. The Visiting Forces Agreement ensures a continuing Pentagon occupation of the archipelago.

On Feb. 15, Reuters reported that the Philippines received \$3.9 billion in "counter-terrorism" support since 2002, including \$689 million in military hardware. U.S. "aid" is exclusively used to suppress the movements of workers, peasants, Indigenous peoples, women and students fighting for their rights and for the country's independence from U.S. domination.

This bloody money, paid from the taxes of U.S. workers, is meant to ensure that Wall Street can continue to extract super-profits from the Philippines and exploit the millions of workers who are part of the Filipinx diaspora.

Last year, migrant nurses from the Philippines and Filipina-American nurses born in the U.S. had the highest incidence of death from COVID-19 of all U.S. healthcare workers, as they are often on the frontline of hospital emergency rooms.

Justice for the victims of Bloody Sunday! U.S. out of the Philippines! ☐

The real reason for U.S. attacks on China: GLOBAL CLASS STRUGGLE

By Scott Scheffer

As the 2020 U.S. presidential campaign wound down, there was a perception held by many that a Biden win would mean a more diplomatic international approach by the new administration.

But that presumption didn't consider the decades of uninterrupted hostility towards countries targeted by U.S. imperialism. Hostility towards Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Venezuela, Iran, Zimbabwe and other countries that try to chart a course independent of U.S. imperialism, gets passed on from administration to administration.

The vitriol toward China in particular has recently reached levels not seen in years.

China's victorious "people's war" against COVID-19 drew high praise from scientists around the world. But the virus was largely ignored in the U.S. even as it overwhelmed hospitals and devastated communities.

That stark contrast has fueled the new Cold War-level propaganda blitz. The White House pointed the finger of blame at China as Trump allowed the virus to rampage through the poorest and most vulnerable populations — Black and Brown and Indigenous.

Trump lost the election, but the Biden administration hasn't dropped the lies and attacks on China. That hostility has been around since that day in 1949 when Mao Zedong declared that "China has stood up."

Aggression and military threats are being amped up in the form of the "Pivot to Asia" — the new international orientation ushered in during the Obama administration. After decades of trying economic strangulation, and even with the inroads capitalism had made in the giant Chinese market, the imperialists haven't achieved their goal of recolonizing China.

The Pivot to Asia is the U.S. mil-

itary's attempt to refocus on China. Though they haven't been able to extricate themselves from their bloody efforts to reconquer oil-rich West Asia and North Africa, important aspects of the Pivot to Asia have still proceeded.

Repeated provocations by U.S. battleships steaming close to China have become commonplace, and the Pentagon is quietly redesigning itself — getting its ducks in a row for an all-out war.

The Quad: a tool of imperialism

Biden's team is also continuing efforts to strengthen the as-yet loose alliance between the U.S., Japan, Australia and India against China. The alliance is called "the Quad" and the imperialists are banking on it becoming a version of NATO for Asia.

The Quad won't only be a military threat. It is meant to be a tool to complement all aspects of the U.S. relationship to China — a complete package.

Immediately after their first well-publicized summit by Zoom, the Quad are already proving to be an amplifier for Washington's imperialist voice. On March 12, Japan rejected China's offer to supply vaccines for every Olympic athlete in the postponed Tokyo Games and next year's Winter Games in Beijing. The International Olympic Committee had already welcomed the offer.

Australia, for its part, has for months bolstered the false theory, once again being promoted by the White House, that the virus "leaked" from a Wuhan laboratory, the implication being a cover-up by the Chinese Communist Party.

The real foundation of the U.S.-led hostility and aggression against China is the global class struggle — "a struggle to the death between the future and the past," as Fidel Castro, the leader of the Cuban Revolution, called it. Like Cuba, People's China has survived, and in fact thrived,

against the most destructive imperialist empire ever.

The class struggle aspect of the relationship between China and the imperialist countries is obscured by the presence of a major capitalist economy functioning inside China which, on one hand, is in competition with U.S. capitalism and other major capitalist countries, but at the same time has become a global manufacturing center that they have interests in.

This capitalist economic sector functions in parallel to the giant economy which is owned collectively by the Chinese working class and is directed by the Chinese Communist Party. The CCP has so far exercised control over the capitalists, and through state-owned industry has lifted 800 million people out of dire poverty.

This historic and unprecedented achievement by the workers' state is a blow to the U.S. and other imperialist countries and is the basis for the rising beat of their war drums.

Slander to conceal class truth

The lies and slander against China are used to conceal the class struggle from workers at home at a time when millions here in the U.S. have been thrown into poverty or near poverty by the pandemic and capitalist crisis.

Millions of youth have already rejected the Cold War atmosphere that made socialism a dirty word for more than half of a century in the U.S. The Occupy Wall Street movement, the popularity of Bernie Sanders' recent presidential runs, and the rise of left-leaning congressional representatives like "the Squad" are testament to that.

The popularity of self-described socialist political figures doesn't go as far as embracing the idea of workers' ownership of the means of production that exists in China, but it's still a development that has

the corporate ruling class in the U.S. concerned.

One of the most egregious examples of the China-bashing campaign is evident in the World Health Organization.

Even though the Biden administration restored the U.S. share of WHO funding that was cut by Trump, the threat created by the financial attack has resulted in a split in the delegation that took a second trip to Wuhan to further investigate the origin of the virus in January. Key figures in the Biden administration are embracing those WHO delegates that are now accusing China of not cooperating with their investigation and of a coverup of the virus' origin.

U.S. intelligence agencies pushed the "lab leak" theory under Trump. It was discredited by the first WHO delegation in the spring of 2020, and there was a consensus among the world's scientific community that a "lab leak" was extremely unlikely. Now the Biden administration and U.S. intelligence agencies have revived it.

Many mainstream media — even some seen as left-leaning — are writing unfounded and hypocritical criticisms on the efficacy of Chinese vaccines, cynical attacks on China's commitment to help poor countries being excluded by capitalist countries, and support for the discredited "lab leak" story. A March 8 Politico article by Josh Rogin is one example of a liberal publication carrying water for the imperialist White House.

China's "people's war" against the virus and its commitment to aid the poorest countries as the pandemic continues to plague the world will stand historically as an example of resourcefulness, strength, and most of all, global solidarity. The movement for social justice, especially activists in the U.S., where the most reactionary slanders against China take root, need to make every effort to bring the truth to light. □

Spain punishes anti-monarchy speech: Free Pablo Hasél

By Iña Martínez

Monarchies, monarchies ... what are they good for?

Let's talk about the kingdom of Spain, for example. The Spanish monarchy had been abolished by public demand almost a century ago. In 1936 there was a coup d'état by Spanish fascist Francisco Franco and consequently a dictatorship followed until he died of old age on Nov. 20, 1975.

Before his death, the fascist dictator appointed Juan Carlos I (Bourbon Dynasty) as the head of Spain and made him sign the principles of his dictatorship, which Juan Carlos I agreed to with pleasure.

Due to Juan Carlos I's misbehavior, and with the Spanish monarchy in dire straits (I have to be careful what I say here, because people who have called out his crimes have ended up in prison), it was decided that to preserve the monarchy, he would abdi-

cate in favor of his son Felipe VI, who became King of Spain on June 19, 2014.

In 2020, some members of the Spanish military exchanged tweets about wishing to kill 26 million Spaniards, because apparently that is the number that are not faithful to the principles of the dictatorship. Gen. Francisco Beca Casanova and Col. Andrés González Espinar openly discussed their wish to murder 26 million people by firing squad.

But that's okay. It's freedom of expression. Never mind that people with the same murderous wishes actually killed millions during and after the Spanish Civil War. Today many of their bodies have still not been recovered by their descendants, who have been searching for their loved ones for almost a century now.

Fascists protected, anti-monarchist jailed

And then we get to 2021. This year the Spanish High Court incarcerated

a leftist Catalonian rapper for his songs against the Spanish monarchy and for tweeting his opinions about the monarchy and the Spanish elite. His name is Pablo Hasél.

He has been demonized by the Spanish media and was incarcerated on Feb. 16. In his case, freedom of expression was not allowed. And this is a singer, a poet and an activist. He is not a military guy.

Please write to him to shame the Spanish judiciary for having incarcerated a singer for his songs and his opinions on Twitter. Also, please, know that your letters will be read by this judiciary system that incarcerates people for their opinions.

My wish is that so many letters will arrive that the Spanish monarchy and judiciary feel such embarrassment that they think twice about incarcerating people for their opinions.

There is another rapper, Valtònyc,



Pablo Hasél after his detention by riot police inside the University of Lleida on Feb. 16.

who is in exile as a political refugee because Spain wants him incarcerated for the same reason. Another 15 singers are awaiting trial in Spain for their songs.

Then again, it's not all opinions that deserve incarceration. If you are a military fascist wishing to kill 26 million Spaniards, your freedom of expression will be respected.

You may write to Pablo at:

Pablo Rivadulla Duró
Modulo 9
Centro Penitenciario de Ponent
c/ Victoria Kent s/n
25071 Lleida
Spain □



Struggle-La Lucha celebra el 110 aniversario del Día Internacional de la Mujer

Clara Zetkin, fundadora del Día Internacional de la Mujer, ideas sobre el fascismo:

Por Sharon Black

Las celebraciones actuales de muchos de los días festivos que reconocen las luchas del pueblo y sus líderes, como por ejemplo el movimiento de derechos civiles y el Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., son un tanto agridulces.

La única razón para el reconocimiento formal es que las protestas y la lucha lo hicieron posible, y esto en sí es una victoria. Pero la otra parte, la esceptica, es que la historia real de cómo se originaron, está escondida.

La sangre, el sudor y las lágrimas que se derramaron se han ocultado.

El Día Internacional de la Mujer es así. Se ha hecho mucho para esterilizarlo, empaquetarlo, comercializarlo, hacerlo cómodo al capitalismo, principalmente en el Occidente capitalista, del cual Estados Unidos es la capital.

Pero el corazón que late detrás de todas las imágenes y representaciones de fantasía sigue siendo fuerte, rojo y tiene el potencial de cambiar el mundo. Su cola roja se asoma por debajo de todos los escombros corporativos.

El valor de las trabajadoras negras en el almacén de Amazon en Bessemer, Alabama enfrentándose a Jeff Bezos, uno de los hombres más ricos del mundo; de mujeres indígenas que resisten la violencia de género, asesinatos y oleoductos saqueadores; de mujeres inmigrantes / migrantes que luchan por su supervivencia; de maestras y enfermeras que resisten al COVID-19, son el latido continuo del Día Internacional de la Mujer.

También las mujeres en Haití que están tomando las calles a pesar de la violencia de la derecha; las mujeres de la India que se resisten a Modi y luchan por los derechos de los agricultores pobres; y las mujeres de Brasil, Argentina, Irlanda y Polonia que luchan por el control de sus cuerpos, son el latido de su corazón.

Y no hay elogio suficiente para las mujeres de Cuba, China, Zimbabwe, Irán, Corea del norte, Yemen y tantas mujeres de países que se resisten a las sanciones y al imperialismo estadounidense.

Después de todo, el Día Internacional de la Mujer se fundó sobre la idea de la solidaridad internacional de las mujeres trabajadoras y pobres de

Anti-Asian murders & capitalist state Fight racist, sexist violence

Continued from Page 1

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have been documented since last March.

The shootings must also be seen as a continuation of centuries of U.S. imperialist aggression in Asian countries. In the pursuit of profit, Washington perpetrated some of the most gruesome acts of inhumanity in history — bombing northern Korea flat, dropping two atom bombs on Japan, pillaging Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, and committing genocide in the Philippines, only to name a few. Similar to its operations in Latin America, U.S. involvement creates refugees and forced migration. Often, migrants and refugees seek a better life in the United States only to be met with racist violence and exploitation.

In this context, it is impossible to deny the complicity of the capitalist state in racist vigilante killings. As we saw in Trump's attempted coup on Jan. 6 in Washington, D.C., cops and fascists go hand in hand. Capt. Jay Baker, the Cherokee County sheriff's spokesman, made this abundantly clear when he claimed killer Long was just having "a really bad day." Baker had previously made social media posts blaming "CHY-NA" for the coronavirus pandemic.

The only answer to this is working class unity, proletarian internationalism, and the struggle for socialism.

todo el mundo, y fue reconocido por primera vez por el movimiento socialista mundial el 19 de marzo de 1911.

El Día Internacional de la Mujer cumple 110 años

Clara Zetkin era su latido original, y definitivamente tenía un corazón rojo.

Si bien los avances en la historia humana nunca son producto de una sola persona o líder, sino más bien el resultado de condiciones sociales y materiales que obligan a la intervención de masas de personas, los líderes y sus organizaciones son un producto indispensable de ese proceso.

No pueden separarse de éstos terremotos, ni colocarse por encima o por debajo de él, sino que juegan un papel indispensable para garantizar su éxito. La lucha intensa, en forma de grandes huelgas, protestas en las calles, sentadas en el lugar de trabajo, ocupaciones y, en última instancia, insurrecciones y levantamientos, son el motor del cambio.

En el caso del Día Internacional de la Mujer, se podría llamar a Clara Zetkin la incansable conductora de ese motor.

Durante ese período, las mujeres en Europa y otras partes del mundo estaban saliendo del feudalismo y condiciones de casi esclavitud, donde eran sometidas al abuso sexual, aisladas en sus hogares y aldeas como siervas y campesinas; sólo para ser forzadas a un nuevo tipo de esclavitud, trabajando junto a sus hijos en los brutales talleres del capitalismo.

En estas nuevas condiciones, las mujeres revolucionarias socialistas y comunistas agitaron y organizaron a las trabajadoras para resistir, incluso cuando esto significaba hacerlo en condiciones ilegales sometiéndose a la posibilidad de cárcel y al exilio.

La Primera Guerra Mundial agravó el sufrimiento de formas inimaginables. Trajo muerte y hambre, pero también resistencia, especialmente por parte de las mujeres.

Si bien la declaración del Día Internacional de la Mujer se hizo en Europa, el objetivo de Zetkin como socialista y comunista revolucionaria era que fuera de alcance internacional, uniendo a las mujeres a través de todas las fronteras.

Inspiración desde la ciudad de Nueva York

Una de las primeras protestas de mujeres que ayudó a impulsar el movimiento tuvo lugar en los Estados Unidos el 8 de marzo de 1908. Miles de trabajadoras textiles, principalmente inmigrantes, salieron a las calles exigiendo sus derechos.

Esto fue seguido un año más tarde con el "Levantamiento de las 20.000" de 1909, también llamada "huelga de las camiseras de Nueva York", una huelga de trabajadoras de la aguja que duró tres meses.

Las mujeres inician una revolución

Pero el inolvidable punto de inflexión que selló el trato fue cuando las mujeres de Rusia iniciaron una revolución.

El 8 de marzo de 1917, las trabajadoras textiles en huelga se unieron a otras mujeres que atacaban las panaderías por los altos precios del pan en Petrogrado, Rusia. Le imploraron a los soldados que no dispararan sus rifles.

Unos 90.000 manifestantes salieron a las calles exigiendo "paz, tierra y pan".

Esta fue la salva inicial que derrocó al odiado zar de Rusia y en menos de un año, los trabajadores, campesinos y pobres liderados por el Partido Bolchevique tomaron el poder en noviembre de 1917.

Mientras estaban rodeados y bajo el ataque de las potencias imperialistas, formaron el primer estado obrero socialista. Una de las primeras cosas que hizo la nueva revolución soviética fue reglamentar la igualdad de la mujer.

Una lección para hoy

Zetkin la teórica, organizadora y activista

Si bien Clara Zetkin dedicó gran parte de su tiempo y esfuerzo a la causa de las mujeres de la clase trabajadora, fue a la vez intelectual y escritora, lo que llamamos teórica, y revolucionaria, hacedora, organizadora y participante.

A veces hubo divisiones y conflictos dolorosos. Zetkin abandonó el Partido Socialista de Alemania en 1916 debido a su posición imperialista a favor de la guerra, y junto a Rosa Luxemburgo ayudó a allanar el camino para la fundación del Partido Comunista de Alemania.

Fue encarcelada repetidamente por oponerse a la Primera Guerra Mundial.

Extraordinariamente, Lenin se reunió con ella para elaborar estrategias sobre la cuestión de la mujer.

Otra parte de la historia de Clara Zetkin: la lucha contra el racismo

Zetkin se opuso ferozmente al Jim Crow y el linchamiento en el sur de los Estados Unidos.

Desempeñó un papel importante en la creación de apoyo internacional para el caso Scottsboro (1932) de nueve adolescentes negros acusados falsamente de violar a dos mujeres blancas. Fueron declarados culpables y Alabama solicitó la pena de muerte para 8 miembros (el noveno tenía solo 12 años). Si bien finalmente fueron liberados, pasaron años antes de que los adolescentes fueran liberados.

Puede encontrar el llamado de Zetkin, "Save the Scottsboro Black Youth" en "Clara Zetkin: Selected Writings" (Salvemos a los jóvenes negros de Scottsboro, en Escritos selectos de Clara Zetkin) editado por Philip Foner con un prólogo de Angela Davis.

Zetkin y el golpe de Estado derechista en el Capitolio de EE. UU.

A medida que continuamos discutiendo los eventos del 6 de enero de 2021 en el Capitolio de los Estados Unidos, podemos evaluar y aprender de Clara Zetkin.

Zetkin entendió las causas del fascismo, conectándolo con la decadencia del capitalismo, instando a la unidad socialista y de la clase trabajadora. En lugar de resumirlo mal, les instamos a leer y estudiar el informe de Zetkin presentado el 20 de junio de 1923 a la Internacional Comunista: "La lucha contra el fascismo".

Los escritos, presentaciones y polémicas de Zetkin no eran abstractas. No tuvo el lujo de mirar atrás, sino que tuvo que escribir en medio de la vorágine. Esto hace que sus contribuciones sean más agudas e incluso extraordinarias.

A la edad de 75 años, gravemente enferma y casi ciega, habló durante una hora en el Parlamento alemán (Reichstag) el 30 de agosto de 1932, mientras los nazis le gritaban amenazándola de muerte.

Cuando Hitler llegó al poder, Zetkin se vio obligada a exiliarse y vivió sus últimos días en la Unión Soviética. Tenía 76 años cuando murió el 20 de junio de 1933.

Clara Zetkin vivió una vida increíble, llena de dificultades y luchas. Sufrió por el asesinato de sus buenos amigos y camaradas Rosa Luxemburgo y Karl Liebknecht, pero también fue testigo del nacimiento de la Unión Soviética y vio avances genuinos para las mujeres.

Esta historia real no se puede sepultar bajo tierra.

El corazón rojo de Zetkin permanecerá con nosotros.

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