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 Yaun, Xialijie 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-Oritz, is in the hospital fighting for his life.

The killer, a 21-year-old white male 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 perpetrators, to name only a few: Dylnn Roof, who murdered nine Black attendants 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 Dylnn Roof for a cheese-burger 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 Asian American and Pacific Islanders were reported in 2021, including 337 mass incidents.

With a history of racist, anti-immigrant policies, the Biden administration has been reluctant to declare hate crimes against Asian Americans as such. They have continually tried to shift the blame onto China, which has led to a rise in attacks on Asian Americans. The Biden administration has also failed to address the root causes of racism and sexism that have led to these attacks.

It is crucial that we stand in solidarity with Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and call for an end to racism, sexism and anti-immigrant policies. We must work towards a world where all people are treated with dignity and respect, and where we stand together against hate and violence.

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 10,000 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 Amiriyah neighborhood of Baghdad. On Feb. 13, the U.S. Air Force hit it with two laser-guided “smart bombs.” At least 209 civilians, many of them children, were burned to death.

War never ended

The bombing never stopped. Between 2003 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, 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 armormen in Washington.

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 Ar- ab-Persian Gulf, the sixth such mission since November. They were escorted by U.S.-made Israeli fighter jets.

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It's not your fault

By Stephen Millies

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo may be destined to resign. Operations 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 under-counted by 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 social distance and you wear a mask and you wash your hands, 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 your fault.

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 aged for food by Europeans 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.

The world in order.

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 not to be arrested. New York City police shot 41 times at Amadou Diallo, killing the street vendor 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.

Why are pensions disappearing?

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 most treasured readers, it may come as a shock 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. The long version: pensions had to face the truth that many of us are starting to recognize today the early 1800s. Generally these were private enterprises or charities that drives led by religious communities.

The Bureau of Pensions was established in 1917 in the U.S. 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 the brilliant 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 jobs. 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 capitalists.

Pensions were one of these concessions. Following World War II, with the expansion of U.S. imperialism and the U.S. $40 trillion in student loans. That’s an average debt of $38,000 they owe to legal loan sharks.

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 driven 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 industries out of business. 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; and on the other are highly-paid 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) plans.

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Community leaders demand: End vaccine apartheid in Baltimore

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, an effort to get 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 the Baltimore Health Department, and that the University should become a site for the city and 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 inaccessible information about sign-ups, phone lines that people cannot get through, and a 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:

1. **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.

2. **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

3. **Housing projects**

   - The zip code priorities set at the Convention Center site are unfair. Those most in need have been pushed to the back of the line.
   - The city has made plans to go into all housing projects, including Douglas Homes.
   - The detection of the virus at Latrobe Homes has left off many housing projects, including Douglas Homes.
   - The zip code priorities set at the Convention Center site are unfair.

4. **Schools**

   - No return to classrooms until it’s safe.
   - Involve the unions in making plans to protect their workers.
   - Listen to our teachers.

5. **Government officials**

   - 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.

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.

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, the city and the state government, the Coalition of Teachers, 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.

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 noted that 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.”

We are urging weekly briefings for the Saving Lives Campaign and others with city and state representatives, including the Baltimore City Health Department, the city and the state government, the Coalition of Teachers, 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. Please text us at (410) 218-4832 to get involved.
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 in 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 4, 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 Demo- crats, plus an independent so-called Reform Party member) had again voted — but this time to spend $2.4 million to recruit MORE cops. The pledge to ditch the MPD was completely discarded.

It would be hard to find a more blatant about-face, even by the standard of Minneapolis. That frequency 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 Minne- apolis on International Women’s Day to demand “Justice for George Floyd,” mobilized by the Twin Cities Coalition for Justice 4 Jamar (TCCLJ) and other groups.

Actions were held in many cities as Chauvin’s trial kicked off, in re- sponse to a call from the National Alliance Against Racist and Politi- cal Repression (NAARPR). In Grand Rapids, Mich., police arrested organ- izers of an anti-racist protest.

Supporters of the NAARPR in Minneapolis had warned last sum- mer 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 inde- pendent 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 Repre- sentatives passed the “George Floyd Police Reform Act” on March 3 by a vote of 220-212. Congressional Dem- ocrats and the White House hailed the measure as the fulfillment of the party’s many election-year promis- es 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 Re- publicans along with every Dem- ocrat. The House bill received only one Republican vote.

But this measure named for George Floyd, even if adopted, would amount to preventing the exact same kind of police murderers that he and Breonna Taylor suffered last year.

The bill’s much ballyhooed pro- visions 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 hous- ing the homeless.

But Congress’s so-called “Police Reform Act” actually includes provisions to give millions more fed- eral dollars to local and state police agencies in exchange for their pledge to make “reforms” like using body cameras — which have not prevent- ed police killings in places where they have already been adopted. It’s the same kind of police murders that he and Breonna Taylor suffered last year.

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 re- sults of the presidential election in Trump’s favor.

But the backlash wasn’t limit- ed to this. Almost immediately af- ter the protests started to subside, police agencies, local governments and mainstream media began a con- certed effort to build up the idea of a “massive crimewave” sweeping the city of a red police brut- ality-brutality sentiments. The idea was to make people fear for their safety and scare them into support- ing more, not less, funding and pow- er for the police.

Democrats like New York May- or Bill de Blasio and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot were instrumental in promoting this pro-cop narrative, while defending federal punish- ing for their brutal treatment of Black Lives protesters. Then-candi- date Joe Biden (in)famously gave his vice-presidential approval to the campaign when he advised cops to “shoot them in the leg” instead of the heart.

The role the police who had in promoting the narrative has mostly gone unquestioned. Howev- er, an investigation published by the Minneapolis and St. Paul apa- residents demand transpar- ency 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 carj- ackings and bragged about how the MPD was handling a 20-21 police had netted a large number of arrests.

“Police and the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office are investigating a enforcement and helicopter surveil- lance 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 roster on the day the MPD was in use could not verify authorities’ claims that the operations “resulted in 41 felo- ny-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 re- main under investigation,” accord- ing to the report.

“The enforcement campaign’s in- flated success is deeply concerning to many south Minneapol- is residents who ended days of low-flying police operation that now has them questioning the value of the MPD’s involvement, and what other information authorities were collecting.

Violent numbers announced by authorities baffled members of the Minneapolis 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 sum- mer, when helicopters constantly- ly hovered following George Floyd’s death.”

Multiply this example by the number of big-city police depart- ments with vast federal and state and county. These federal dollars, once upon a time, flowed to local police departments for the very purpose of combating anti-police violence.

But Congress’s bill that passed in March 2021 replaces the MPD and replaces it with community-based safety mechanisms.

U.S. bombs Iraq and Syria

Biden continues war to control world’s oil

Continued from page 1 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.

But while the U.S., however, in the flow of the most advanced arms in the U.S. arsenal to the racist state of Israel, President Donald Trump’s Prime Minister Ben- jamin Netanyahu and Defense Min- ister Benny Gantz openly threaten to use them to attack Iran.

Nor is there pause in the U.S.-IS- raeli blockade of Gaza and the Israe- li 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, mopping up three fishers.

Biden officials say the U.S. still supports the “Abraham Accords,” which Field Marshal Hossein Salami, who heads a militia brokered between Israel, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. That so- called “peace deal” involves massive armed occupation and the refusal of a military alliance against Iran.

Iraqi resistance strikes back

On March 3, Iraqi Resistance forc- es retaliated against a U.S. base at Ayn Al Assad. The Pentagon says a U.S. “contractor” died of a heart att- ack after 10 Grad rockets hit the site. “Contractor” could mean a worker at the Pizza Hut or Burger King franchise on the base. Or it could mean a mercenary.

“The resistance sees confronta- tion as the only option that guar- antees 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.

In a sign of how the war was compromised, explosive devices hit four U.S. military convoys in northern Iraq.

Wont stand up to Wall Street

Joe Biden won’t stand up to corpo- rate power. He’s not fighting the GOP to replace 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 medical care to people in Iran and Vene- zuela. 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/15zezjkw
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 total of 200 LA County Sheriff’s deputies batoninging the Vikings, whose members were eventually fired or resigned. Though LA County is familiar with these secretive societies and the continual acts of murder, perjury, blackmail and white supremacy, it’s why they are allowed to exist. Police gangs, predominantly white, are 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 department, 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 LSDS’s facade and seems nearly untouchable from the latest findings that shootings in Los Angeles have more than doubled this year alone, while over all 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 2021 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–prosecuted 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. Nothing 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.

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 guaranteed check in retirement while a 401(k) does not offer any guarantees.

Wall Street controls most 401(k) plans and has been using some (401k) 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 can be no more excuses for this.

Young 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!

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.

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! 

March 22, 2021
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.

Tom Ridge signed death warrants twice after Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf 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 phony trial of Mumia Abu-Jamal, 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. 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

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

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.

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 Malaya 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 common knowledge that the Philippines is going to set a precedent in Minnesota. That's why we're holding solidarity actions all over the U.S.

"On March 5, Duterte was quoted saying 'kill them all' and 'disregard human rights,'" said a statement from the protest organizers. "This was applicable to the National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines to kill communist terrorist groups, a term the Duterte government uses to label all critics, cause-oriented groups and human rights defenders.

"On March 6, Philippine Ambassador to the United States confirmed that the Philippines will be receiving 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, "After Palestine to the Philippines, stop the U.S. war machine!"

This U.S. military, political and economic support for the Philippines government continues regardless of whether Democrats or Republicans 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 unfolded, another phrase came to con- ception held by many that a Biden win would mean a more diplomatic international approach by the new administration.

But that presumption didn’t con- sider the decades of uninterrupted hostility towards countries targeted by U.S. imperialism. After decades of trying econom- ically strangulation, and even with the impetus given by the “Pivot to Asia” — the new in- ternational approach by the new administration — Black and Brown and the poorest and most vulnerable pop- ulations — 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 de- clared that “China has stood up.”

The White House pointed the finger of blame at China as Trump allowed the vitriol toward China in partic- ular has 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 United States, when overwhelmed hos- pitals 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 pop- ulations — Black and Brown and Indigenous.

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La Primera Guerra Mundial agravó el sufrimiento de muchas mujeres. Zetkin entendió las causas del fascismo, condenando las crisis del capitalismo, instando a la unidad socialista y de la clase trabajadora, y al mismo tiempo, a la lucha contra el racismo. Extraordinariamente, Lenin se reunió con ella 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 76 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 inmejorable, llena de dificultades y luchas. Sufrido por el asesinato de sus buenos amigos y camaradas Rosa Luxemburg y Karl Liebknecht, pero también por el testigo del nacimiento de la Unión Soviética y vio avances genuinos para las mujeres.