

STRUGGLE ★ LA LUCHA

for Socialism / por el Socialismo



Attempted U.S. coup televised Voting rights still being eliminated

STRUGGLE-LA LUCHA STATEMENT

The public hearings of the House Committee to Investigate the Jan. 6 Attack have dramatically confirmed that Donald Trump, former president of the United States, attempted a coup d'état.

Rep. Bennie Thompson of Mississippi, head of the committee and member of the Congressional Black Caucus, said clearly: "Any legal jargon you hear about 'seditious conspiracy', 'obstruction of an official proceeding', 'conspiracy to defraud the United States' boils down to this: Jan. 6 was the culmination of an attempted coup."

Thompson added: "It represented Trump's last, most desperate chance to halt the transfer of power."

This is unprecedented. An overt coup attempt has not happened in any of the imperialist powers in the last century and exposes the bare threads of capitalist democracy in the U.S. The coup attempt also revealed the sharp instability in the U.S. ruling class.

The House hearings, however, conceal more than they reveal.

Pentagon played key role

The Pentagon played a key role in the Jan. 6, 2021, coup attempt, but the hearing has been silent on that.

The Pentagon was deeply involved. Members of the U.S. military, both active and veterans, as well as from numerous police forces across the country, were leading participants.

The "Insurrection Timeline – First the Coup and Then the Cover-Up," published at "Moyers on Democracy," details the central role played by Donald Trump and his new Acting Secretary of Defense Christopher Miller.

Miller had been put at the head of the Pentagon on Nov. 9, 2020, six days after the election, in a departmental "regime change" that embedded three fierce Trump loyalists as top Defense Department officials.

Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser asked Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy — who reports to Miller — for more federal help to deal with the mob that had broken into the Capitol. McCarthy and Miller denied the mayor's request and blocked deployment of the National Guard until hours later, after the insurrection had already been put down.

The New York Times reported: "President Trump initially rebuffed and resisted requests to mobilize the National Guard to quell violent protests at the Capitol, according to a person with knowledge of the events."

"In the end, it was Vice President Mike Pence, defense and administration officials said, who approved the order to deploy. It was unclear why Mr. Trump, who is still technically the commander in chief, did not give the order."

How then was it possible for Pence to deploy the troops, in opposition to Trump? That could only have been done if Trump had been secretly removed as commander-in-chief.

However, Trump and the Pentagon's coup attempt shows that a section of the ruling class supported a presidential dictatorship. This is confirmed by the fact that Trump's actions continue to have the overwhelming support of the Republican Party.

Promoting anti-Trump right wing

The House hearings on the Jan. 6 attack are a media spectacle through which they hope to restore some belief in the U.S. government.

The Democrats have presented a program that's primarily given voice to right-wing opponents of Trump. As one cartoonist put it, these hearings are biased; we've only heard from the Republicans.

At the head of the committee, side-by-side with Representative Thompson, is Wyoming Republican Liz Cheney, who sold out her lesbian sister, opposing gay marriage in order to win the Senate seat.

Previously Liz Cheney held a patronage post in the State Department where she promoted her father Vice President Dick Cheney's lies for invading Iraq.

The hearings have exalted Mike Pence, William Barr, Judge J. Michael Luttig and other Republican operatives.

What about voting rights?

The hearings are about a coup attempt. But they do not confront the grave issue of voting rights that the coup attempt played upon and which continue to be under assault.

Jan. 6 was at root an attempt to

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John Parker's U.S. Senate campaign declares success

By Sharon Black

Los Angeles — With 94% of the vote tallied, John Parker for U.S. Senate won over 97,600 votes in the California primaries on June 7. Campaign workers and the candidate declared this a major victory.

Parker ran openly as a socialist on the Peace and Freedom Party ballot, representing the Socialist Unity Party.

Election results are still being tallied. June 14 is the last day for mail-in ballots to be counted, and voting results will be certified on July 15.

At this writing, Parker is listed in 8th place among 23 candidates. The top two candidates compete in November's general election.

Supporters of John Parker's campaign were elated that so many voters chose to support a revolutionary socialist. This despite the fact that Parker interrupted his campaign for over two weeks for an urgent anti-war fact-finding trip to Donbass and Russia, which made the results all the more outstanding.

Campaign organizer Maggie Vascassenno explained: "We were worried on two levels: first for John's safety at the front line in Lugansk; and second that he took time away from vital local campaign work to travel to Donbass and Russia. But he insisted on the importance of being able to bring back the truth of what was taking place in the U.S./NATO proxy war in Ukraine."

John Parker stated: "The issues in California, such as runaway inflation, evictions and homelessness, the outrageous cost of gas and food, even racism and police terror, are linked to the war. The Biden administration is spending \$80 billion to continue the destruction abroad while people are suffering here at home."



John Parker (center) speaks with visitors to the Socialist Unity Party table at the People's Summit in Los Angeles.

SLL PHOTO: MAGGIE VASCASSENNO

"What I was able to see with my own eyes and document is the role of fascists and neo-Nazis in the U.S./NATO war against the people of the Donbass region. Nazi propaganda is being proliferated by the fascist forces in Ukraine.

"The Azov Battalion's symbol of the black sun was also used by the racist Buffalo shooter, who said that his inspiration came from a person in New Zealand who was in touch with those forces in Ukraine. This is what the imperialist West is propping up in a war not only against the people in Donbass but also aimed at Russia and then China," proclaimed Parker.

Campaign organizers continue to meet with groups and individuals who were inspired by the campaign. Parker and the Socialist Unity Party plan a national speaking tour about his trip this summer and fall.

The campaign still needs your support and donations to cover campaign costs and the upcoming speaking tour. Readers can contribute here: <https://johnparkerforussenate.org/donate/>.



PRIDE
2022

Resist capitalist 'trans panic' strategy

The Socialist Unity Party/ Partido de Socialismo Unido and Struggle-La Lucha newspaper salute the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and two-spirit community as we mark the 53rd anniversary of the heroic Stonewall Rebellion. The spirit of fightback exhibited at Stonewall is needed today as much as ever.

First of all, we offer our solidarity to the Black community of Buffalo, New York, where a white supremacist massacred 10 African American people on May 14. And we extend our hand to the Latinx community of Uvalde, Texas, where the grief from the tragic May 24 school shooting is compounded by Gov. Greg Abbott's attempt to exploit it for his anti-immigrant crusade.

As we enter Pride Month 2022, the United States is in the grip of a "trans panic." Like the "gay panics" that have come before, this is an attempt to divide workers and oppressed people at a time when the capitalist system is in crisis.

The anti-trans campaign is fueled by the rich and powerful, who are desperate to keep us divided by scapegoating the most vulnerable, by convincing those lacking in class consciousness that transgender, non-binary and gender-nonconforming people are the root of their problems – not the profit system that exploits us all.

Among them are "enlightened" oligarchs and companies like Elon Musk and Netflix, Jeff Bezos and Starbucks. They fear the movement of workers to unionize and communities to hold their empires accountable. Queer people play an important role in these struggles.

Trans panic = more violence

State legislatures across the country have taken up more than 300 anti-LGBTQ2S bills so far this year, most of them targeting trans people and especially trans children and youth.



SLL PHOTOS: MELINDA BUTTERFIELD



Brooklyn, N.Y., march for Black Trans Lives, June 2020.

Bodily autonomy, at the heart of trans people's ability to live under this system, is at stake, as courts and legislatures seek to turn back the clock to reinforce patriarchal capitalist norms that treat the bodies of women, children, people of color and LGBTQ2S people as the property of rich white cis men.

When Texas Gov. Abbott failed to get a law passed to criminalize gender-affirming care for trans kids, he issued an executive order to open criminal investigations against parents, healthcare providers, teachers and anyone else who supports trans youth. Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey signed a law to forcibly out and detransition trans children.

In Florida, the "Don't Say Gay" law championed by Gov. Rick DeSantis bans discussion of LGBTQ2S existence in state classrooms. Other states have banned trans youth from participating in sports or using school restrooms. Teachers may be forced to report trans students to their parents or are allowed to misgender and deadname them.

This has led to increased threats and violence against trans people across the U.S., from public transit to social media. In 2021, at least 57 transgender or gender non-conforming people were fatally shot or killed by other violent means, and 2022 is already on track to top that horrific number. The great majority of victims of deadly violence are trans women of color.

Measures attacking gender-affirming care directly contradict the recommendations of medical experts. A recent University of Washington study found that trans youth who got gender-affirming treatment experienced a 60% drop in depression risk and a 73% drop in suicidal thoughts, on average. Access to gender-affirming care saves trans youth's lives.

Amidst this crisis, the Supreme Court lobbed another bombshell: the majority's plan to overturn the historic Roe V. Wade decision protecting the right to abortion, and to do it in a way that opens the door to similar attacks on contraception, same-sex marriage, protection from so-called sodomy laws and other rights won through decades of hard struggle.

Why now? The ultra-right politicians and behind them, many of the biggest banks and corporations, are using the attack on trans rights and reproductive rights to fuel the growth of a neo-fascist movement.

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Orgullo Gay 2022: resistir la estrategia capitalista del 'pánico trans'

El Partido de Socialismo Unido/ Socialist Unity Party y el periódico Struggle-La Lucha saludan a la comunidad lesbiana, gay, bisexual, transgénero, queer y de dos espíritus en el marco del 53º aniversario de la heroica Rebelión de Stonewall. El espíritu de lucha exhibido en Stonewall se necesita hoy más que nunca.

En primer lugar, ofrecemos nuestra solidaridad a la comunidad negra de Buffalo, Nueva York, donde un supremacista blanco masacró a 10 personas afroamericanas el 14 de mayo. Y extendemos nuestra mano a la comunidad latinx de Uvalde, Texas, donde el dolor del trágico tiroteo en la escuela el 24 de mayo se ve agravado por el intento del gobernador Greg Abbott de explotarlo para su cruzada contra los inmigrantes.

A medida que ingresamos al Mes del Orgullo Gay de 2022, Estados Unidos se sume en un "pánico trans". Al igual que los "pánicos homosexuales" que se han producido antes, este es un intento de dividir a trabajadores y oprimidos en un momento en que el sistema capitalista está en crisis.

La campaña anti-trans está impulsada por los ricos y poderosos, que están desesperados por mantenernos divididos utilizando a los más vulnerables como chivos expiatorios, convenciendo a quienes carecen de conciencia de clase de que las personas transgénero, no binarias y de género no conforme son la raíz de sus problemas – no el sistema de ganancias que nos explota a todos.

Entre ellos se encuentran oligarcas "ilustrados" y empresas como Elon Musk y Netflix, Jeff Bezos y Starbucks. Temen al movimiento de trabajadores para sindicalizarse y las comunidades que exigen responsabilidades a sus imperios. Las personas queer juegan un papel importante en estas luchas.

Pánico trans = más violencia

Las legislaturas estatales por todo el país han adoptado más de 300 proyectos de ley anti-LGBTQ2S en lo que va del año, la mayoría de ellos dirigidos a personas trans y especialmente a niños y jóvenes trans.

La autonomía corporal, en el corazón de la capacidad de las personas trans para vivir bajo este sistema, está en juego, ya que los tribunales y las legislaturas buscan hacer retroceder el reloj para reforzar las normas capitalistas patriarcales que tratan los cuerpos de las mujeres, los niños, las personas de color y las personas LGBTQ2S como propiedad de los hombres cis blancos y ricos.

Cuando el gobernador de Texas Abbott no logró que se aprobara una ley para criminalizar la atención de afirmación de género para niños trans, emitió una orden ejecutiva para abrir investigaciones penales contra padres, proveedores de atención médica, maestros y cualquier otra persona que apoyara a los jóvenes trans. La gobernadora de Alabama, Kay Ivey, firmó una ley para exponer a la fuerza y retirar el

proceso de transición a niños trans.

En Florida, la ley "No digas gay" defendida por el gobernador Rick DeSantis prohíbe la discusión sobre la existencia LGBTQ2S en las aulas estatales. Otros estados han prohibido a los jóvenes trans participar en deportes o usar los baños escolares. Los maestros pueden verse obligados a informar a los padres y madres sobre los estudiantes trans o se les permite cambiarles el género al llamarles.

Esto ha llevado a un aumento de las amenazas y la violencia contra las personas trans en los EUA, desde el transporte público hasta las redes sociales. En 2021, al menos 57 personas transgénero o no conformes con el género fueron asesinadas a tiros o asesinadas por otros medios violentos, y 2022 ya está en camino de superar esa horrible cifra. La gran mayoría de las víctimas de violencia mortal son mujeres trans de color.

Las medidas que atacan la atención de afirmación de género contradicen directamente las recomendaciones de los expertos médicos. Un estudio reciente de la Universidad de Washington encontró que los jóvenes trans que recibieron tratamiento de afirmación de género experimentaron en promedio una disminución del 60 % en el riesgo de depresión y una disminución del 73 % en los pensamientos suicidas. El acceso a la atención de afirmación de género salva la vida de los jóvenes trans.

En medio de esta crisis, la Corte Suprema lanzó otra bomba: el plan de la mayoría para anular la histórica decisión Roe V. Wade que protege el derecho al aborto, y hacerlo de una manera que abra la puerta a ataques similares contra la anticoncepción, el matrimonio entre personas del mismo sexo, la protección de las llamadas leyes de sodomía y otros derechos ganados a través de décadas de ardua lucha.

¿Por qué ahora? Los políticos de ultraderecha y detrás de ellos, muchos de los bancos y corporaciones más grandes, están utilizando el ataque a los derechos trans y reproductivos para impulsar el crecimiento de un movimiento neofascista. Su objetivo es proteger la propiedad privada y las ganancias destruyendo los derechos de todos los trabajadores. Están dispuestos a sacrificar la vida de niños trans, migrantes y refugiados, personas embarazadas o cualquiera que sea un objetivo conveniente.

La única forma en que los movimientos fascistas han sido derrotados es mediante la unión y la lucha del pueblo. No es suficiente confiar en las elecciones o esperar que los políticos amigos nos salven. No lo harán. El Partido Demócrata está atado por un millón de hilos a la misma clase capitalista que exige estas medidas antipopulares. Joe Biden y Nancy Pelosi seguirán diciendo cosas inofensivas junto a las vías del tren sin hacer nada para detener el tren que se desboca.

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Protesta en el Capitolio del Estado en Austin, Texas, marzo de 2022.

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Pelea como Sylvia Rivera y Marsha P. Johnson

¿Cómo podemos contraatacar? Hay muchos ejemplos recientes de unidad y lucha, especialmente por parte de estudiantes y jóvenes.

En toda América del Norte, desde Salt Lake City, Utah, hasta Des Moines, Iowa, hasta Terranova y Labrador, los estudiantes se han manifestado en gran número para protestar contra las leyes y las medidas represivas dirigidas a las personas trans.

Necesitamos urgentemente una protesta nacional masiva como la Marcha en Washington de 1987 por los derechos de lesbianas y gays, celebrada en medio de la crisis del SIDA cuando la administración Reagan estaba atacando a los hombres homosexuales, o la Marcha en Washington de 1993 por la igualdad de derechos y la liberación de lesbianas, gays y bisexuales de más de un millón de personas.

Pero simplemente salir en grandes cantidades no es suficiente. Debemos aprender del ejemplo de la ocupación del Capitolio del Estado de Wisconsin en 2011 por parte del movimiento sindical y sus aliados en las comunidades. Esta ocupación para resistir la legislación antisindical energizó a los trabajadores de costa a costa, muchos de los cuales viajaron a Madison o recaudaron dinero para apoyar a los manifestantes.

Si bien la ocupación no ganó en el corto plazo, sentó las bases para la ola de huelgas de docentes que se extendió por el país en 2018-2019 y el aumento de la organización de hoy en Amazon, Starbucks y otros gigantes antisindicales.

¡Imagínese el poder de las personas LGBTQ2S y sus aliados de la lucha por los derechos reproductivos, el movimiento Vidas Negras

Importan, los inmigrantes y los trabajadores, ocupando el capitolio en Texas, Florida u otro estado que ataca las vidas trans!

También debemos reconocer que las guerras y sanciones reaccionarias de EUA en todo el mundo alimentan los ataques anti-LGBTQ2S en casa.

Cada bomba que el Congreso envía a Ucrania, Israel y Arabia Saudita para las guerras de poder de EUA estalla aquí, como dijo el Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. durante la Guerra de Vietnam. Cuanto más se desvían hacia la expansión del imperio estadounidense en el exterior los recursos desesperadamente necesitados aquí, más nos convierte el sistema en chivos expiatorios para garantizar que los trabajadores permanezcan divididos e impotentes.

Nuestra comunidad no puede luchar eficazmente contra la ofensiva anti-trans y anti-personas en casa mientras apoya la agresión estadounidense en el exterior. Cuando las personas que luchan contra la dominación estadounidense en todo el mundo ganan, nuestros movimientos por los derechos se fortalecen. Cuando extendemos nuestra solidaridad a quienes resisten al imperialismo estadounidense, abrimos la oportunidad de una mayor comprensión y participación de las personas LGBTQ2S en todas partes.

Abracemos el legado de ACT UP, Queer Nation y aquellos que lucharon militantemente contra el “pánico gay” de la década de 1980. Inculquemos nuestro movimiento con el espíritu de unidad que impulsó la Rebelión de Stonewall, un levantamiento liderado por los jóvenes más oprimidos negros y marrones, de clase trabajadora, revolucionarios trans y queer.

¡Resistamos la estrategia de pánico trans del capitalismo! ¡Luchemos por el socialismo, un sistema que prioriza las necesidades de las personas! 📌

Pride Month announcement from Struggle-La Lucha co-editor

By Melinda Butterfield

Following is a special announcement from the co-editor of Struggle-La Lucha, formerly known as Greg Butterfield.



Happy Pride Month! I have some personal news to share with Struggle-La Lucha readers.

I'm proud to say that I am coming out as a trans woman. My name is Melinda. My pronouns are she/her/hers.

There's a particular quote from revolutionary leader V.I. Lenin that has always appealed to me. According to Romanian poet Valeriu Marcu, he said this during a conversation at a cafe in Zurich, Switzerland, shortly before the Russian Revolution began.

Perhaps it's apocryphal or embellished, but it has the flavor of something Lenin might have said: “I don't know how radical you are, or how radical I am. I am certainly not radical enough. One can never be radical enough; that is, one must always try to be as radical as reality itself.”

I have always tried to hold myself to that standard politically. But personally it was another matter. Until last year, I hid the “radical reality” of who I am even from myself. But now I'm finally ready to share it with the world.

Several things converged last year that forced me to seriously reckon with my gender after a lifetime of denial. That denial was rooted in an abused adolescent's attempt to survive in a time and place where there were no words for what I was, and no chance of being accepted. I did such a thorough job of burying the real me that by the time I went to New York in my late teens and was befriended by trans revolutionary Leslie Feinberg, I had no clue that I was trans myself.

What I realized in 2021, after several months of intense introspection and learning, was that I needed to acknowledge my truth – first to myself, and then to the world.

A trans sister and comrade recently told me, “You picked a hell of a time to come out.” It's true. The situation for trans, non-binary and gender-nonconforming people in the U.S. today is grim and increasingly dangerous. But for me, the hardest part has been resisting the urge to shout it from the rooftops during this awful “trans panic” and ongoing legislative attack on trans kids and youth.

I hope that by speaking about this, it might help others like me to see that they are not too old to embrace their own “radical reality,” whatever that may be. More than ever, the world and especially the youth who are under attack need us to raise our voices and organize, organize, organize.

It's always been my conviction that the best way to grow solidarity is to show solidarity, and I believe that is true for LGBTQ2S people in the U.S. Our existence has been exploited by U.S. imperialism as a bludgeon against other countries, while the rulers here fight tooth and nail to deny us every hard-won right.

The truth is, our struggles need each other. We are all part of the same historic, diverse, multifaceted global struggle of the working class against capitalism and imperialism. I'm committed to doing whatever I can to help unite our class in the fight to elevate us all.

I'm very proud to be part of the Socialist Unity Party and Struggle-La Lucha, a communist organization and publication in the tradition of Sam Marcy, Dorothy Ballan and Leslie Feinberg, which has always been in the vanguard of trans liberation and LGBTQ2S solidarity.

My name, pronouns and appearance may change, but my commitment to the revolutionary victory of the workers and oppressed will not.

Thank you for reading.

*Solidarity forever,
Melinda Butterfield*

Solidarity with Cuba, trans people at Queens Pride

By Melinda Butterfield

Thousands of people gathered in the multinational immigrant neighborhood of Jackson Heights in Queens, New York, for the 25th Queens Pride Parade June 5. For the past two years the event was held virtually because of the pandemic.

Significantly, coming during the nationwide “trans panic” aimed at dividing the working class, solidarity with trans, nonbinary and gender-nonconforming people was very visible at the march. This included a contingent carrying a massive Trans Pride flag. Parade organizers also

handed out small trans flags along with rainbow flags to the crowd.

Supporters of the Socialist Unity Party and Struggle-La Lucha marched with the NY-NJ Cuba Si Coalition contingent. The response from those lining the streets was overwhelmingly positive, with many chanting “Viva Cuba!” or running up to take photos with the coalition's banner.

Activists distributed leaflets for the monthly Cuba solidarity caravan calling for the end of the U.S. blockade. On June 25, New York's caravan will be held in Jackson Heights for the first time. For info visit US-CubaNormalization.org. 📌



SLL PHOTOS: MELINDA BUTTERFIELD

The real ‘great replacement’

By Stephen Millies

The most dangerous poison is racism. This toxin filled Payton Gendron’s bloodstream as the gunman went to Buffalo, New York, to kill Black people.

The latest version of this poison is the claim that white people are being “replaced.” Tucker Carlson tells his Fox News audience that they’re being pushed aside by immigrants as well as by all Black, Brown and Asian people.

This lie was emphasized by the murderer Gendron in his 180-page “manifesto.”

It wasn’t immigrants that closed nine of the ten GM plants in Flint, Michigan, destroying more than 70,000 union jobs between 1980 and 2006. Capitalism committed this mega job theft.

Because of the United Auto Workers union, Flint used to have the highest average wages in the United States. Now because of plant closings, 60% of Flint’s children live below the miserably low official poverty level.

To save money, children in the Black-majority city were deliberately lead-poisoned. Heavily polluted water from the Flint river was substituted for the clean drinking water that had come from the Great Lakes.

That’s a real replacement that Tucker Carlson won’t talk about.

It isn’t Black or Latinx people who are responsible for the inflation-adjusted wages of over-the-road truck drivers falling 55% between 1980 and 2021. It was government deregulation and union-busting attacks against the Teamsters union that committed this crime.

The last 50 years has been one long holiday for the rich. Real average wages rose just 3% between 1979 and 2018. Meanwhile productivity has zoomed. While there are 735 billionaires in the U.S., 40% of people can’t afford \$400 for an emergency expense.

It wasn’t Muslims who forced 60



Heavily polluted water from the Flint river was substituted for the clean drinking water that had come from the Great Lakes. That’s a real replacement that Tucker Carlson won’t talk about.

million people in the U.S. to use food banks and pantries in 2020. Transgender people aren’t responsible for folks being forced to buy food at dollar stores because they can’t afford to shop at supermarkets.

Shoplifters didn’t make meat prices skyrocket by as much as 20% in the last year. It was the greedy meat monopolies that committed the crime.

Even the White House admits that “four large meat-packing companies control 85% of the beef market. In poultry, the top four processing firms control 54% of the market. And in pork, the top four processing firms control about 70% of the market.”

Who’s hurt most?

Poor and working people in the United States are suffering. Capitalism destroyed nearly 7 million manufacturing jobs — many of which were union jobs — between 1979 and 2019.

White workers were hurt by this job destruction. Black people were devastated.

White families in the Midwest saw their median income drop by 7.1% between 1978 and 1982. That’s a great recession.

But Black families in the region saw their median income fall by five times as much. Their 35.8% income drop amounted to a great depression.

Conditions were so bad that the Black median family income in the Midwest dropped below that of the South. (Census Bureau, historical income figures-families) A “reverse migration” began southwards.

This was a real great replacement. The banksters and billionaires were determined to get rid of their dependence on Black labor in heavy industry.

Back in 1968, a quarter of all auto workers and steel workers in the U.S. were Black. That was double the Black percentage of the population. (“Organized Labor and the Black Worker, 1619-1981” by Philip S. Foner.)

Among them were thousands of Black workers employed at Bethlehem Steel’s Lackawanna works located just outside Buffalo. Almost all of these jobs were destroyed. Buffalo’s Black Community never recovered from the loss.

Using a bankruptcy to make a profit of \$300 million, Trump’s Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross robbed Bethlehem Steel retirees of

their medical benefits.

White workers were a majority of those cut off.

Tucker Carlson, who takes home \$35 million per year, won’t mention this robbery.

Capitalism continually replaces workers through automation. The number of railroad workers fell from 1.5 million in 1947 to just 145,000 today.

Black workers are often the first victims of automation. In New York City alone, installing automatic elevators following World War II threw 20,000 workers out of a job.

Throughout the United States, operating elevators was considered a “menial occupation” and was generally reserved for Black men. A. Phillip Randolph attempted to organize them in New York during the early 1920s.

The 1934 organizing drive of building workers in New York City was sparked by African American elevator operator Thomas Young being fired for not saying “down, please.” The two-million-member Service Employees International Union (SEIU) was born in this struggle. (“Local 32B-32J: Sixty Years of Progress”)

The biggest replacements of all time

Telling poor people that they’re being replaced by other poor people is old and stale. In the 1790s, Federalists in Philadelphia blamed Irish immigrants for their election losses. (“Philadelphia — The Federalist City,” by Richard G. Miller)

Catholics were accused of wanting to replace a Protestant majority. In the 1920s, bigots claimed that immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe were replacing “old American stock.”

Italians, Poles, Hungarians and other immigrants were blamed for being union supporters in the strike wave that followed World War I. A special target of the 1924 immigration act were Jewish people. Africans and Asians were entirely excluded.

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Resist capitalist ‘trans panic’ strategy

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It aims to protect private property and profits by crushing the rights of all workers. They are willing to sacrifice the lives of trans children, migrants and refugees, pregnant people, or anyone who makes a convenient target.

The only way fascist movements have ever been defeated is by people uniting and fighting back. It is not enough to rely on elections or hope that friendly politicians will save us. They won’t. The Democratic Party is tied by a million threads to the same capitalist class that demands these anti-people measures. Joe Biden and Nancy Pelosi will continue to say in-offensive things beside the railroad tracks while doing nothing to stop the onrushing train.

Fight like Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson

How can we fight back? There are many recent examples of unity and

struggle — especially by students and youth.

Across North America, from Salt Lake City, Utah, to Des Moines, Iowa, to Newfoundland and Labrador, students have walked out in large numbers to protest laws and repressive measures targeting trans people.

We urgently need a mass national protest like the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, held amidst the AIDS crisis when the Reagan administration was targeting gay men, or the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation of more than one million people.

But simply coming out in large numbers is not enough. We must learn from the example of the 2011 Wisconsin State Capitol takeover by the labor movement and community allies. The occupation to resist anti-union legislation energized workers coast-to-coast, many of whom traveled to Madison or raised money to support the protesters.

While the occupation didn’t win in the short term, it laid the groundwork for the wave of teacher strikes that swept the country in 2018-2019 and today’s upsurge in organizing at Amazon, Starbucks and other anti-union behemoths.

Imagine the power of LGBTQ2S people and allies from the reproductive rights struggle, Black Lives Matter movement, immigrants and labor, occupying the capitol in Texas, Florida or another state targeting trans lives!

We must also recognize that reactionary U.S. wars and sanctions around the world fuel anti-LGBTQ2S attacks at home.

Every bomb Congress sends to Ukraine, Israel and Saudi Arabia for U.S. proxy wars explodes here, as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said during the Vietnam War. The more desperately needed resources are siphoned off for the expansion of the U.S. empire abroad, the more the system scapegoats us to ensure workers

remain divided and powerless.

Our community cannot effectively fight the anti-trans, anti-people offensive at home while supporting U.S. aggression abroad. When people struggling against U.S. domination around the world win, our movements for rights are strengthened. When we extend our solidarity to those resisting U.S. imperialism, we open up the opportunity for greater understanding and participation by LGBTQ2S people everywhere.

Let’s embrace the legacy of ACT UP, Queer Nation and those who fought militantly against the “gay panic” of the 1980s. Let’s imbue our movement with the spirit of unity that fueled the Stonewall Rebellion — an uprising led by the most oppressed Black and Brown, working-class, revolutionary trans and queer youth.

Resist capitalism’s trans panic strategy! Fight for socialism — a system that puts people’s needs first! 🏳️‍🌈

Attempted U.S. coup televised

Continued from page 1

eliminate voting rights. The 2020 presidential election had set the record for the highest voter turnout in 120 years – a massive popular vote to throw out Trump.

That was a real Constitutional crisis. The U.S. Constitution was written by wealthy landlords and bankers, many of them slaveholders, to insure their class rule. The Constitution declares that enslaved peoples are not fully people and excludes the Indigenous Peoples.

At the time, voting rights were given only to white men who owned property. Not until 1919, with the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, women won the right to vote.

To protect the slavocracy, the Constitution imposed an Electoral College that chooses the president, not the popular vote. The slavocracy's Electoral College was a form of voter suppression that's continued to this day. In fact, the coup attempt used the legal vagaries of the Electoral College as part of its tactics.

Why has there been no call by the Democrats to abolish the anti-democratic Electoral College?

While staging of the House hearings has been an engrossing TV show, Congress is doing nothing about the crises of war, racism, racist police murder, sexual and gender repression and immigrant oppression. The economy is in crisis, with the threat of a recession or worse.

The hearings appear to have no goal other than to expose what is already known about Trump. They are devised to distract from the failure to implement any of the mildest solutions promised by the Biden campaign in the struggle for food, housing, healthcare, reproductive rights, education, livable incomes and the right to organize workers' unions. ■

'Replacement'

Continued from page 4

The Tucker Carlsons of the 1930s weren't usually attacking Islam. They were instead fighting to keep Jewish refugees out of the United States. Anne Frank died in a Nazi concentration camp because her family was denied a visa to come to the United States.

Never forget that land belonging to Indigenous nations was stolen by one massacre after another, started by the Pilgrims. That's a real replacement.

Joe Biden needs to replace Leonard Peltier's jail cell with freedom. The American Indian Movement leader has spent 45 years in jail.

The African Holocaust is a centuries-long replacement that along with the Indigenous Holocaust jump-started the capitalist world market. Wall Street became the financial center of the United States because it was the banking house of the slave masters.

Capitalism is cooking the earth. We need to replace it with socialism.

The first step towards a revolution is to replace the lies of Tucker Carlson and every other racist with working class truth. ■

Capitalist profit drive fuels war, inflation, wage loss

By Gary Wilson

President Joe Biden used the phrase "Putin's price hike" again in a reaction to the June 10 Consumer Price Index report revealing continued high inflation. Biden isn't a comedian, like that guy Zelensky in Kiev was before taking on the role of president, so Biden really needed a laugh track played after he said it.

"Make no mistake about it: I understand inflation is a real challenge to American families. Today's inflation report confirms what Americans already know: Putin's price hike is hitting America hard," Biden said.

It was funny because, of course, Putin can't raise prices on anything in the U.S. Only U.S. businesses can do that.

Also, when he imposed sanctions on Russia in February, with a lot of bull and bluster, Biden declared: "Defending freedom will have costs, for us as well and here at home." He got that last part right. It's costing a lot. So really it'd be better to call it "Biden's price hike," even if that's only part of the inflation.

Prices started to escalate more than a year ago. In fact, the Federal Reserve suggested last December, with inflation at a 40-year high then, that inflation had peaked.

Of course, you probably knew even then that it wasn't true. Inflation hasn't peaked yet and no one (including the Fed) knows how many peaks are ahead.

The U.S. sanctions on Russian natural gas, oil, grains and fertilizers have allowed U.S. companies to raise prices. The sanctions are designed to stop trade from Russia and turn the trade over to U.S. corporations, which can demand premium prices because of the sanctions.

Natural gas is a primary energy source in the European Union and is the dominant source for home heating and cooking. The EU imports 40% of its natural gas from Russia. Natural gas from Russia can be piped into Western Europe at a relatively low cost, while natural gas from the U.S. must be liquified – liquified natural gas or LNG – then shipped by sea to Europe.

Sanctions cutting off natural gas from Russia was a big bonus for the U.S. oil oligarchy.

Gas and oil prices are rising because supply has been restricted. Supply dropped during the pandemic, raising prices, and now Russian exports are sanctioned by the U.S. and NATO, sending prices ever upward.

Wage and price crisis

But the inflation crisis isn't just about rising energy prices. Prices across the board, but especially in energy, food and housing, are rising, while real wages have sharply fallen. Price rises are outstripping wage growth nearly everywhere.

Wages are not driving prices up. No, it's profits that have risen sharply.

Josh Bivens of the Economic Policy Institute noted that while "it is unlikely that either the extent of corporate greed or even the power of corporations generally has increased during the past two years ...



The workers who have the best chance of fighting inflation and stopping falling wages are those in a union.

the already-excessive power of corporations has been channeled into raising prices rather than the more traditional form it has taken in recent decades: suppressing wages."

In an article on "greedflation," New York Times business reporter Lydia DePillis says: "There is not much disagreement that many companies have marked up goods in excess of their own rising costs. This is especially evident in industries like shipping, which had record profits as soaring demand for goods filled up boats, driving up costs for all traded goods. Across the economy, profit margins surged during the pandemic and remained elevated. ...

"Consider the supply of fertilizer, which shrank when Russia's invasion of Ukraine prompted sanctions on the chemicals needed to make it. Fertilizer companies reported their best profits in years, even as they struggle to expand supply. The same is true of oil."

The Fed goes after workers

Biden, the politicians in Congress and the corporate-controlled media have all agreed on one answer to the inflation monster: the U.S. Federal Reserve System. Capitalism's central banking system is supposed to come to the rescue. Except that it hasn't, so far.

The chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve, Jerome Powell, announced May 4 that the Fed will be raising interest rates by half a percentage and implementing policies aimed at reducing inflation in the United States. The goal is "to get wages down," he said. There's no way reducing wages would stop inflation, though reducing wages does boost profits.

According to a transcript published by the Wall Street Journal, Powell blamed the inflation crisis, which is global, not on U.S. and NATO sanctions on Russia, but rather on U.S. workers allegedly making too much money.

"Employers are having difficulties filling job openings, and wages are rising at the fastest pace in many years," Powell said.

"Wages are running high, the highest they've run in quite some

time," the Fed chairman lied.

Wages falling fast and faster

The U.S. federal minimum wage is just \$7.25 per hour, and has remained at that level since 2009, despite significant increases in inflation.

In 1968, the U.S. federal minimum wage peaked at \$1.60, which would be equivalent to \$13.29 in 2022 dollars. When you adjust the minimum wage for inflation, you'll see that it's been going down every year since 1968.

As the April 12 Wall Street Journal reported, "Unfortunately, inflation-adjusted wages are falling faster than they have in 40 years. Inflation ran 8.5% in the year ending last month, while nominal wages grew only 5.6%, a decline in inflation-adjusted wages of 2.7%."

Got that? Wages across the board are down 2.7% this year.

So if wages are already decreasing (and inflation is increasing), how could the Fed's plan to "get wages down" be a way to stop inflation? If that sounds confusing, that's because the Fed's Powell is talking nonsense about wages and inflation.

Raising interest rates, on the other hand, is the standard Fed response to inflation. The only problem there is that experience shows that raising interest rates means businesses cut back on everything, especially jobs.

Fewer jobs means decay, unemployment and recession – an economic bust. The World Bank warns that the economy appears to be heading into stagflation – high unemployment combined with runaway inflation.

No matter what policy the Fed chooses, what's coming does not look good.

But labor unions can be part of the answer. The workers who have the best chance of fighting inflation and stopping falling wages are those in a union.

In fact, every worker already knows that instinctively. That consciousness is part of the union organizing upsurge across the country from Amazon to Starbucks to Apple to REI and on and on. A strong union movement can fight back. ■

Peoples Summit opens with a resurgence of solidarity

By Bill Hackwell

On its first of 3 days, the Peoples Summit for Democracy in Los Angeles opened by surpassing expectations in numbers attending and unity. The significant organizational challenges of the event being held at the LA Trade Tech College went smoothly thanks to a committed group of mostly young volunteers who organized everything from the 9 panels that were presented to a large tented area set up to accommodate many of the over 250 organizations that represented social justice groups, veterans, students, community-based artisans, unions, women's rights, Latin American solidarity groups and many more.

Organizers reported that of the 1,000 people who had registered over 750 showed up on the first day. In the opening plenary entitled, "Democracy for Who" it was obvious that this was a serious crowd who had come to learn and connect with others. The urgency connected to the decline of the U.S. in the eyes of the world and its inability to meet even the most basic of needs of the majority of people was obvious. Monolo De Los Santos, a key organizer of the Peoples Summit, reminded the crowd that, "this cannot be a one-time event. We have to keep in mind that we must forge unity with all those who are oppressed, exploited and victimized by this system whose time is up."

Cuba who, like Venezuela and Nicaragua was not invited to Biden's Summit of exclusion was brought up time and again as an example of a collective society that, despite the over 60 years of blockade and a mountain of sanctions that are now Biden's responsibility, continues to stand up to empire unified and never wavering dignity. In most panels, the dignity of Cuba was intertwined in the discussion regardless of the topic.

In the panel entitled, Let Cuba Live: Young Voices against the Blockade, moderated by Cheryl LaBash, co chair of the National Network on Cuba, 3 young women who had recently returned from Cuba

explained not only how heartwarming their experience was but how much they learned. There was a separation of belief from everything that they had been told from the official U.S. narrative against Cuba their entire lives and the rich experience of cooperation in sharing and commitment for the common good that they witnessed on the island. The forming of this critical view will now extend to everything else they have been told about the so-called greatest democracy ever.

Danaka Katovich, national co-director of Code Pink expressed the sentiment of the panel by pointing out, "The U.S. never consults with me about my rights as a woman, I

can't even vote on it, where in Cuba women are involved on every level. The whole point of the U.S. blockade against Cuba is based on cruelty so the U.S. has no right to lecture us about human rights and democracy."

Perhaps the area where the most discussion and organizing was taking place was on the informational tables outside where people were signing up and getting into lively conversations about activism and strategies. On our Resumen Latinoamericano table, people were signing up eagerly as one woman said, "I just need to get information from new sources."

Source: Resumen Latinoamericano – English



Cuba panel at Peoples Summit.

PHOTO: BILL HACKWELL

Storms at the Summit of the Americas

By Rosa Miriam Elizalde

June 7 was a bad day for Luis Almagro, secretary-general of the Organization of American States (OAS). During the ninth Summit of the Americas, a young man declared to him what he is: an assassin and puppet of the White House, instigator of the coup in Bolivia. He said that Almagro cannot come to give lessons on democracy when his hands are stained with blood. In another room at the summit in Los Angeles, Secretary of State Antony Blinken seemed to be doing no better: several journalists rebuked him for using freedom of the press to provide cover for the murderers of journalists and for sanctioning and excluding certain countries from this meeting. "Democracy or hypocrisy?" could be heard over the loudspeaker that day.

In reality, this stormy summit began with a large diplomatic stumble for the United States, when several Latin American presidents announced that they would not participate in the summit because of the exclusion of Cuba, Venezuela, and Nicaragua, as dictated by the White House, while the U.S. State Department still claims the open and unrestricted nature of the meeting's call. Its website says, "Throughout, the United States has demonstrated, and will continue to demonstrate, our commitment to an inclusive process that incorporates input from people and institutions that represent the immense diversity



of our hemisphere, and includes Indigenous and other historically marginalized voices."

Hypocrisy seems to be the glue of this summit, and mainstream U.S. media and analysts declared the June 6-10 meeting a failure before it even started. On June 7, the Washington Post assured readers that "This week's Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles will be remembered for its absences rather than its potential agreements," focusing its attention on Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, who was the most mentioned political figure in U.S. networks and media on June 7 and 8, even more than U.S. President Joe Biden, according to statistics from Google Trends. Richard N. Haass,

who was the adviser to former Secretary of State Colin Powell and director of policy planning for the State Department, summed up the disaster superbly in a tweet: "The Summit of the Americas looks to be a debacle, a diplomatic own goal. The U.S. has no trade proposal, no immigration policy, and no infrastructure package. Instead, the focus is on who will and will not be there. Unclear is why we pressed for it to happen."

As can be expected of a meeting for which the invitation list had not been declared just 72 hours before it began, apathy seems to dominate the debate rooms, to which almost no one goes, according to witnesses. Even so, the United States government did not miss an opportunity

to secure the appearance of participation by the civil society groups on which it bets, and it met with the envoys from Miami, paid for by US-AID, and awarded them with more money. During the summit, Blinken promised a new fund of \$9 million to support "independent journalism" to those who already receive \$20 million a year for promoting "regime change" in Cuba.

This political pageantry is happening in what is essentially a bunker, because the Los Angeles Police received more than \$15 million to police the summit and militarize a city famous for its homelessness and belts of poverty. The U.S. Democratic Party elite, meanwhile, remain out of touch with the reality of their own country, shaken by daily massacres, increasingly powerless to meet the expectations of citizens, and with most decisions and legislative projects stalled. They are replicating the clichés of the Monroe Doctrine—America for the Americans—and demonstrating what appears to be a commitment to isolationism with respect to Latin America.

The United States rarely takes into account the differentiating features of its Latin American neighbors: cultural, linguistic, religious, and traditional—in short, those that grant and promote a genuine way of understanding life and its miracles. It might seem incomprehensible at this point, but the U.S. foreign policy

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BLACK ALLIANCE FOR PEACE:

Oppose the imperialist Summit of the Americas

By Gloria Verdieu

On June 5, the Black Alliance for Peace hosted a powerful panel discussion on the topic of “Defending Our America: Building Resistance to Imperialism and Militarism.” The event was held at the Harriet Tubman Social Center for Social Justice in Los Angeles.

The gathering started with a poster and banner making session in preparation for the mobilization against the Ninth Summit of the Americas. A special film screening of a documentary on SouthCom (the U.S. Military Command in Central America and the Caribbean) opened the forum, which was followed by a powerful panel that addressed the expansion of U.S. military bases worldwide, working class struggles, connecting our struggles, and building international solidarity specifically with Cuba, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Haiti and other nations

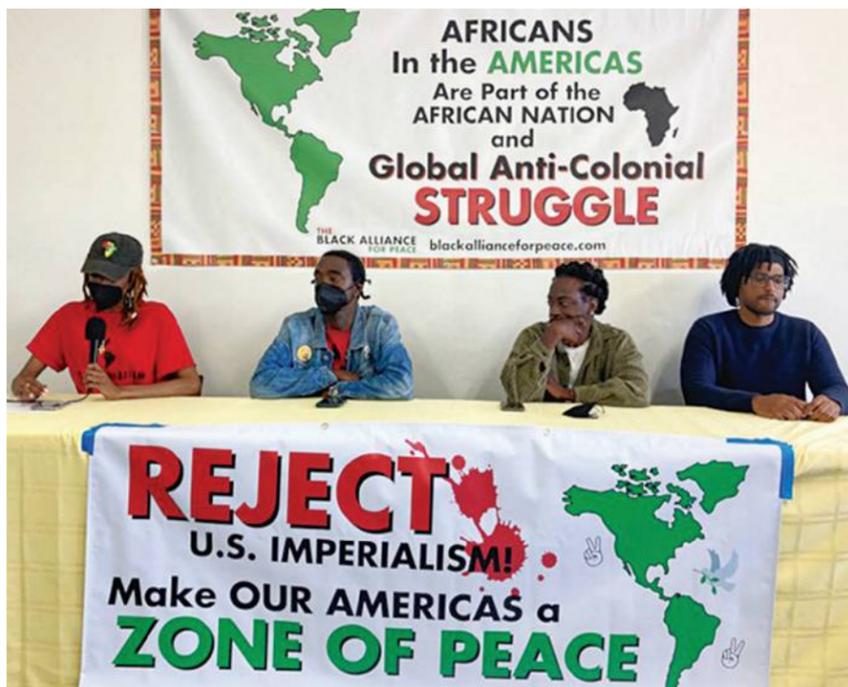
occupied by SouthCom.

Carlos Sirah of the Black Alliance for Peace chaired the discussion and Dr. Jemima Pierre, Black Alliance for Peace’s Haiti and Africa Coordinator, introduced the panelists.

In closing, John Parker, coordinator of the Harriet Tubman Center and on the ballot for U.S. Senate on the California Peace and Freedom Party ticket, emphasized that the purpose for running in the primary election is to raise awareness, to address issues that are not talked about by the Democratic or Republican parties, and to give the people an alternative. The increasing numbers of people who choose socialist candidates shows our movement is moving forward and people are developing an understanding of socialism.

Videos of the program may be viewed on Black Alliance for Peace Facebook at tinyurl.com/2p8c4dha.

No compromise! No defeat! 📌



(Left to right) Erica Caines, Baltimore, organizing committee member of the Antiwar Coalition and BAP; Dedon Waciuri, Greenfield, North Carolina, Black Alliance for Peace Coordinator; Satifu, BAP and All African Peoples’ Revolutionary Party; and Chris Bernadel, BAP Haiti and the Americas Committee.

Celebrating African liberation in Brooklyn

By Stephen Millies

Frederick Douglass Square in Brooklyn, New York, celebrated African Liberation Day on May 28. People gathered outside Sistas’ Place to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the historic 1972 ALD marches in San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

As many as 60,000 people marched in Washington, while thousands demonstrated in San Francisco.

Fifty years ago much of Africa was still under white minority rule. Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger worked overtime to keep Black people in South Africa and Namibia in chains under apartheid.

The white settler “Rhodesia” regime occupying Zimbabwe was given a life line by the segregationist Strom Thurmond and his fellow U.S. senators. They voted to allow chrome to be imported from “Rhodesia”— in violation of United Nations sanctions — to retaliate against African countries that voted to admit the People’s Republic of China to the U.N. Africans had picked up the gun and were waging guerrilla war against Portuguese colonial rule in Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau.

African Liberation Day became another front in this freedom struggle. War criminal Kissinger later



admitted that the U.S. couldn’t send troops to Zimbabwe.

Speaking to the people

The December 12th Movement organized the Bedford-Stuyvesant rally. D12 chairperson Viola Plummer was a key organizer of the 1972 mobilizations for African freedom. The late Coltrane Chimurenga, Field Marshal of the December 12th Movement, helped initiate African Liberation Day in San Francisco.

Roger Wareham, a member of the December 12th International Secretariat and a human rights attorney fighting for reparations, chaired the event.

Starting off the rally were drummers, two of whom were from Côte d’Ivoire. A large banner proclaimed “Pan-Africanism Rising!” Of the 13 freedom fighters whose photos were featured on it, six had been assassinated.

A recording was played of the Honorable Marcus Garvey speaking. The Black leader and immigrant who led millions was framed, imprisoned and then deported to Jamaica by the U.S. government.

A wonderful video was shown of the African Liberation Day marches in 1972. It was produced by Roy Campanella Jr., son of the legendary baseball catcher for the Baltimore/Washington Elite Giants as well as for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

The historian Walter Rodney, author of the classic “How Europe Underdeveloped Africa,” was shown speaking in San Francisco. Rodney was assassinated in 1980, a rubout that had CIA fingerprints.

Also shown on the video was the late Pan-African teacher, organizer and D12 leader Elombe Brath, Black Panther Party member Elaine Brown

and the revolutionary poet and playwright Amiri Baraka.

The rally’s first speaker was D12 member Abdul Haqq, who gave a fiery talk about the need to fight.

Other speakers attacked Black elected officials who are being used in the anti-Russia crusade. Among them is representative Gregory Meeks from Queens, chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

There was also sad news to report. Former political prisoner James Haskins announced that his friend Thomas “Blood” McCleary, who had been a member of SNCC, the Black Panther Party and Black Liberation Army, had passed. ¡Presente!

This writer for Struggle-La Lucha newspaper spoke of how African liberation fighters also brought freedom to Portuguese workers, who had lived for decades under a fascist regime.

Zayid Muhammad of the Malcolm X Commemoration Committee reminded people how in 1998 former Mayor Rudy Giuliani had police helicopters attack the Million Youth March in Harlem. Zayid Muhammad was given a plaque to honor his longtime work.

Frederick Douglass declared that “without struggle, there is no progress.” Brooklyn’s African Liberation Day rally points the way forward. 📌

A un año de la mafiosa Luma Energy

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Buenos días audiencia,
Esta semana se cumplió un año desde que la privatizadora estadounidense-canadiense Luma Energy tomara el control de la Transmisión y Distribución de la energía en Puerto Rico. Esta compañía fue impuesta por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos y su Junta de Control Fiscal que vino a gobernar a Puerto Rico, con la indignante colaboración del gobierno de Pedro Pierluisi.

Y esto hay que tenerlo muy claro como un ejemplo de la falta absoluta de soberanía de una colonia que permite imponerle al pueblo entidades incompetentes y mafiosas como Luma a pesar del rechazo popular.

Los desastres causados a negocios, industrias y residencias del pueblo por la incapacidad de esta compañía no tienen precedente aquí y ya el pueblo está verdaderamente harto.

Por eso el primero de junio se realizaron manifestaciones alrededor de la isla en repudio a este contrato leonino.

Quisiera darle a la audiencia sólo algunos datos que ilustran lo mafioso de esta compañía.

- Un contrato que dura 15 años con un valor de 1,500.00 millones de dólares que puede hacer lo que le venga en gana porque no está supervisado.
- Que despidió a 4,000 trabajadores boricuas con experiencia para destruir un sindicato de clase como la Utier.
- Y por eso se ve obligada a subcontratar trabajadores de afuera sin experiencia en nuestra geografía montañosa.
- Que se ha excedido por millones en gastos para contratistas a quienes les paga viviendas, hoteles, transportación y comidas de lujo. Y estos incluyen a decenas de vicepresidentes que no se sabe ni qué hacen, y a ingenieros sin licencia, lo que está prohibido bajo las leyes locales.
- Y a todo esto, no tiene que invertir ni un centavo.
- Desde que comenzaron prometiendo que no subiría la tarifa de la luz, han pedido ya 6 aumentos. Han ocasionado cientos de apagones y explosiones por falta de



Protesta contra Luma Energy, 1 de junio.

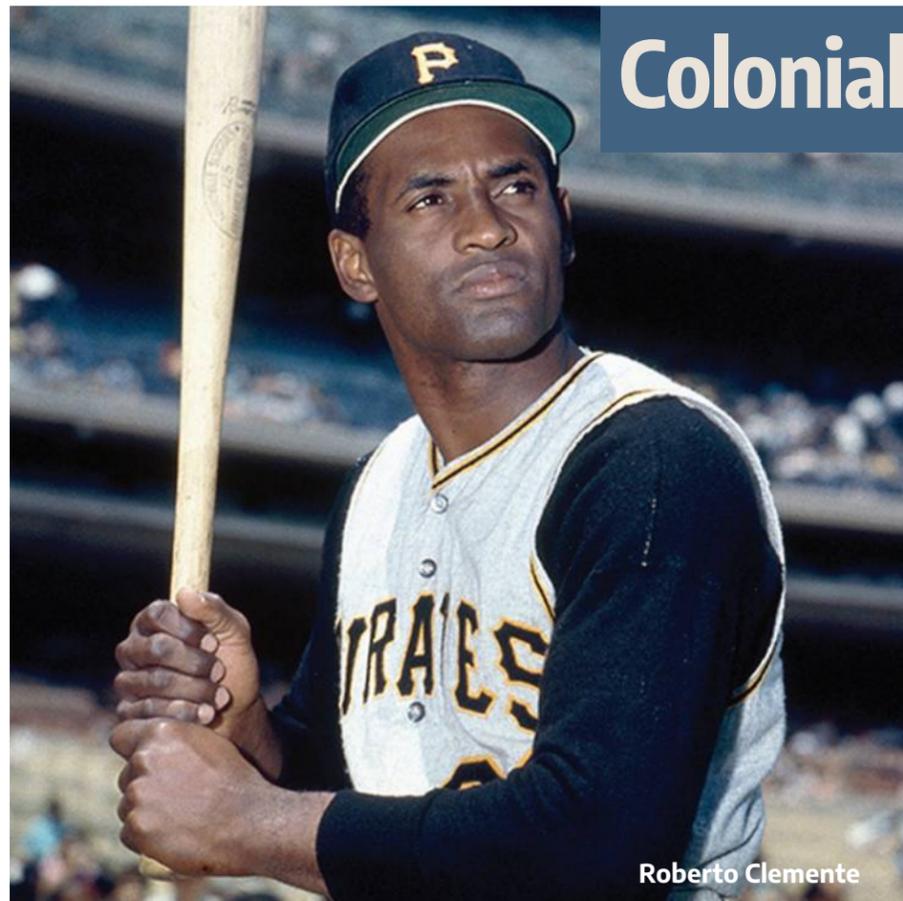
mantenimiento, lo que ha redundado en daños de equipos y pérdidas millonarias para negocios, industrias y al pueblo en general.

Esto y mucho más son las agresiones de Luma y las organizaciones entre las que se destacan la Ruta de la Verdad, Jornada se Acabaron las

Promesas, la membresía de la Utier, Mujeres contra Luma y el pueblo en general seguirán insistiendo en la anulación de este contrato leonino.

¡Fuera Luma mafiosa! 📢

Desde Puerto Rico, para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci.



Roberto Clemente

Colonialismo e identidad nacional

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Buenos días audiencia,

Hoy quiero comentar sobre un aspecto fundamental del colonialismo que intenta transformar la población en seres sin identidad ni orgullo patrio para así facilitar su dominio y explotación. Este aspecto es el de borrar o transformar a personajes importantísimos de nuestra patria, restándoles su valor histórico como entes altamente honorables, defensores de la independencia, con gran calibre humano y con repercusión internacional.

Esta semana, después de cincuenta años del fallecimiento de Roberto Clemente en un accidente aéreo cuando se dirigía a Nicaragua el 31 de diciembre del 1972 para llevar ayuda luego del devastador terremoto, es que el gobierno de PR anuncia que se convirtió en ley la celebración del Día de Roberto Clemente cada 18 de agosto. Lo peor del caso es que este tardío reconocimiento lo anuncian con bombos y platillos, no por el gran gesto de humanidad de Clemente, ni por su elocuencia al denunciar el racismo en los Estados Unidos, ni por su ejemplo de dignidad para la juventud, sino porque hace 50 años rompió el récord de los 3000 hits en el juego de pelota estadounidense.

Así es como tratan a todas las figuras insignes de nuestra historia,

ocultándoles su verdadero valor, silenciándolas, omitiendo sus referencias en la educación pública. Un ejemplo sumamente vergonzoso es lo que han hecho con el Padre de la Patria, Ramón Emeterio Betances, conocido como EL Antillano por haber luchado por la unión de las Antillas. Gestor del Grito de Lares por la independencia de PR frente a España en 1898 y colaborador en la lucha por la independencia de Cuba. Fue abolicionista y médico que luchó contra la epidemia del cólera del 1856. Saber sobre sus contribuciones durante ese mismo trabajo salubrista nos ayudaría mucho ahora, porque se podrían poner en práctica medidas por la pandemia del Covid.

Gracias al constante trabajo de historiadores e intelectuales independentistas, esta historia queda recogida en libros, documentos y videos. Sin embargo, el gobierno rehúsa utilizar y promoverlos.

Esto, compañeras y compañeros de la audiencia, es uno de los obstáculos que tenemos que librar constantemente.

📢



Desde Puerto Rico, para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci.

Storms at the Summit of the Americas

Continued from page 6

toward Latin America is articulated and carried out from exclusively ideological approaches, with simplistic decisions that end up harming everyone—including and especially the United States itself.

Defying the storm, the People's Summit for Democracy has been installed at the doors of the meeting of the friends of the White House. Sponsored by some 250 organizations, most of which are local unions, the counter-summit is marching through the streets of Los Angeles on June 10, whether or not the authorities, who have done everything possible to silence the alternative meeting, give permission. But the media blockade is not having

the expected success. Almagro and Blinken have gone viral on social media for reasons beyond their control, and they will not be the last to prove firsthand what the outrage of the excluded looks like.

This article was produced by Globetrotter and was first published on La Jornada. Rosa Miriam Elizalde is a Cuban journalist and founder of the site Cubadebate. She is vice president of both the Union of Cuban Journalists (UPEC) and the Latin American Federation of Journalists (FELAP). She has written and co-written several books including *Jinetes en la Habana* and *Our Chavez*. She has received the Juan Gualberto Gómez National Prize for Journalism on multiple occasions for her outstanding work. She is currently a weekly columnist for *La Jornada* of Mexico City.

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