

STRUGGLE ★ LA LUCHA

for Socialism | por el Socialismo



Struggle-La-Lucha.org
Vol. 6, No. 9 • May 1, 2023
Suggested donation: \$1
Socialist Unity Party
Partido de Socialismo Unido
Twitter: @StruggleLaLucha
Facebook.com/strugglelalucha
email: info@struggle-la-lucha.org

MAY DAY 2023

Prepare for a long, hot summer of struggle

By Melinda Butterfield

It's May Day – International Workers' Day – and the United States is a tinderbox of combustible material waiting for a spark. Poor and working people who gather in cities and towns across the country on May 1 should prepare for a long, hot summer of struggle against the capitalist regime.

In a single day, April 17, grand juries in Ohio and Virginia let off killer cops who murdered Black men: Jayland Walker and Timothy McCree Johnson.

In 2022, U.S. police killed at least 1,176 people – nearly 100 per month – the largest number ever recorded. But 2023 is on track to bust that gruesome record. The rate of fatal police shootings of Black people far outstrips any other group.

Just days before, on April 14, a 16-year-old Black honor student, Ralph Yarl, was shot by a white racist in Kansas City, Missouri, for the "crime" of ringing his doorbell. Yarl had mistaken the bigot's street address for the location where he was supposed to pick up his younger siblings.

The critically wounded youth ran to neighboring houses seeking help – only to be ignored. Then, finally, a neighborhood resident saw Yarl lying in a pool of blood in a driveway and got help. Fortunately, he survived.

On April 13, in Brooklyn, New York's Bedford Stuyvesant neighborhood, police shot and killed an elderly Black man after they broke into his building and pounded on doors "searching for a robbery suspect." The NYPD claims the man was holding a pistol. He didn't fire at the cops, but Caesar Robinson "was shot numerous times" before he died.

The outrages don't stop there. On April 19, the Dekalb County Medical Examiner released its official autopsy report on Atlanta, Georgia, forest defender Manuel "Tortuguita" Terán, who was shot and killed by Georgia State Troopers during a brutal raid on "Cop City" protesters in January.



BRING MUMIA HOME NOW

- San Diego: **MOBILIZE!**
 - Philly: **SHUT IT DOWN!**
 - White supremacy and Tenn. expulsion
- #LetHerSpeak:**
Rep. Zoey Zephyr
Fred Goldstein
Alton Maddox

The cops claimed Tortuguita shot first. The Medical Examiner's report confirmed what everyone knew – the cops lied. There was no gunpowder residue on the hands of the Latinx-

Continued on page 7

Grand juries issue more licenses to kill Black people: Justice for Jayland Walker & Timothy McCree Johnson!

By Stephen Millies

Two more atrocities prove that police in the United States almost never face any consequences for killing Black people. On April 17, grand juries refused to indict police for the deaths of Jayland Walker in Ohio and Timothy McCree Johnson in Virginia.

Twenty-five-year-old Jayland Walker was a DoorDash driver who the Akron, Ohio, cops chased shortly after midnight on June 27, 2022, for an alleged traffic violation. Walker's real crime was Driving While Black.

After Walker got out of his car and ran, eight police officers fired 94 times at him. Forty-six of the bullets struck the Black man.

Jayland Walker's "body was riddled from his face down to his knees," said the Rev. Roderick Pounds, pastor at Akron's Second Baptist Church, who saw a video of the shooting. After butchering Walker, the cops still proceeded to handcuff him.

Timothy McCree Johnson was executed in Fairfax County, Virginia – outside Washington, D.C.



Akron, Ohio, April 17.

— on Feb. 22. The unarmed Black man got the death penalty for allegedly shoplifting a pair of sunglasses from the Nordstrom department store in a Tyson Corners shopping mall.

Even the police admit that Johnson was fatally shot after he had stopped running. He was complying with the police order to "get on

the ground" when he was killed.

People in Akron took to the streets on April 17 to protest the whitewash of Jayland Walker's killing. Cars converged on the site where Walker was shot so many times.

"I just stood there, thinking, 'Really? Out of 46 shots, it's OK?'"

Toni Weems told the Akron Beacon-Journal. "It doesn't make sense. How can an officer shoot somebody when they're just running away?"

Raina Lasley thought the grand jury let the officers get away with murder. "Now everybody is going to be afraid for their lives," said Lasley. "We can't just let this go or it's going to keep happening."

No justice, no peace!

More protests in Akron followed on April 19. People marched and blocked intersections demanding justice. Cars formed a convoy.

Police viciously used pepper spray and so-called chemical irritants against demonstrators. That's gas warfare against Black people.

One onlooker, William Dancy, held his fist up. "This is to let them know that we're ready for change, we're not going to allow this to keep going on," he said.

People are demanding justice for Timothy Johnson in Fairfax County, Virginia, as well. During the 83-year existence of the Fair-

Continued on page 2

SUP: HANDS OFF UHURU, STOP FBI ATTACKS

- Tucker Carlson and U.S. war on China
- Al-Quds: Capital of Palestine!
- Haitian leader Ben Dupuy

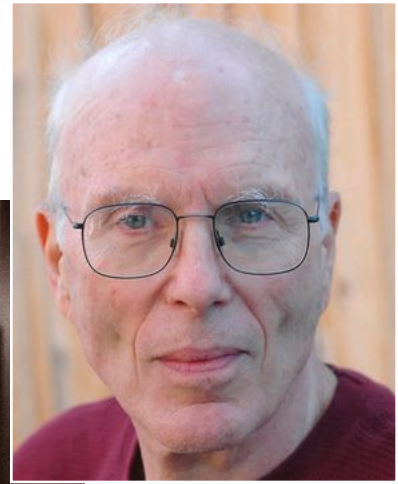
Fred Goldstein ¡presente!

Fred Goldstein, 84, died after a long illness on April 11, 2023. He is survived by his partner of 57 years, Naomi Cohen Goldstein, and their daughter, Lila Natalie Goldstein, as well as a daughter from a prior marriage.

Fred was the author of “Low-Wage Capitalism: Colossus with Feet of Clay,” published in 2008. The book describes in sweeping detail the devastating effect of new technology on the multinational working class, leading to the fundamental and irreversible restructuring of global capitalism in the post-Soviet era. The result, Fred argued, was a “race to the bottom” for workers in all the capitalist countries, creating the material basis for future social upheaval.

“Capitalism at a Dead End: Job Destruction, Overproduction, and Crisis in the High-Tech Era” was published in 2012. The latter work was translated and published in Spanish and Korean.

Fred analyzed political events from a Marxist perspective and authored important essays on the meaning of the collapse of the Soviet Union as well as an analysis of the class character of China. He brought an anti-imperialist per-



Left, Fred Goldstein at a teach-in on Palestine at Columbia University, 1968.

spective to all his work and was passionate about the need to end all forms of capitalist exploitation and oppression.

Fred was invited to speak at a number of international conferences, and a high point of his life was to travel to Cuba in 2008 to address the IV International Conference entitled “The Work of Karl Marx and the Challenges of the 21st Century.” He also wrote countless articles for Workers World newspaper and collaborated closely with Naomi, who read, discussed, and edited all his writings. Some of his works will be submitted for

publication on the Marxists Internet Archive in the coming months.

Part of the revolutionary youth movement of the 1960s, Fred was inspired by the rising liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, as well as the struggle against racism in the U.S. While a student at City College in New York City, Fred was a founding member of Youth Against War & Fascism and in 1962 helped to organize the first demonstration in the U.S. against the war in Vietnam.

He was a dynamic speaker and teacher, as well as a tireless organizer who had a gift for connecting meaningfully with people. In spite of the great difficulties now facing the multinational working class and oppressed in the U.S. and around the world, he remained a revolutionary optimist to the end.

Fred’s interests were broader than simply the politics of the day, however. He studied world history and literature; he loved art and music, drinking coffee, and playing word games. He was an accomplished, self-taught carpenter, designing and building furniture. Fred cooked de-

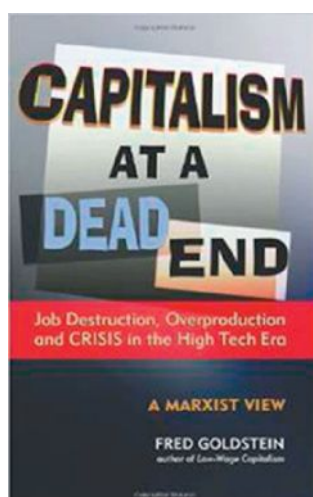
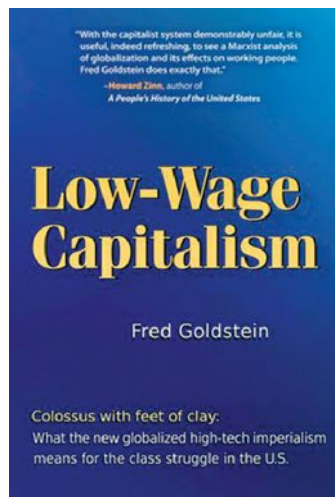
licious, healthy food and, late in life, became a bread baker. “Fred’s bread” was legendary in the family. Cooking and eating together with his daughters and granddaughters was one of the joys of his life.

Fred loved both telling and listening to stories. A family pastime was finding humor in retelling day-to-day mishaps and misadventures, like when the car broke down at the height of rush hour traffic in the Lincoln Tunnel or when lightning struck on a family canoe trip.

Fred rode his bicycle everywhere and loved to go camping and hiking. He and Naomi took the girls on adventurous trips and enjoyed showing them how to explore the outdoors. He had a great sense of comedic timing and told Jewish jokes like a stand-up comedian. Laughing together with Fred was a joy and made everything better.

Fred loved his family and was proud that, in their own way, all are part of the current struggles for social justice and dedicate themselves to the idea that a better world is not only possible but also urgently needed.

Source: LowWageCapitalism.com



Justice for Jayland Walker & Timothy McCree Johnson!



Continued from page 1

fax County police, only one cop has ever been convicted of homicide.

Officer Adam Torres was convicted of manslaughter after fatally shooting John Geer, who was standing unarmed in the doorway of his Springfield, Virginia, home. Torres spent just 10 months in jail for killing a human being.

Compare that to Timothy Jackson, who is serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole for supposedly shoplifting a \$159 jacket from a New Orleans department store in 1996.

Also serving a life sentence in Louisiana is Ronald Lee Washington, who was convicted of swiping a basketball jersey from a Shreveport store. Paul Lewis Hayes got a life term in Kentucky for passing a \$88.30 bad check.

A total of 3,200 inmates in the United States are serving life sentences for similar non-violent offenses.

Killer cops go free while Omali Yeshitela indicted

The Ohio and Virginia grand juries didn’t operate independently. As former Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals Solomon Wachtler noted, a district attorney can get a grand jury to indict a ham sandwich.

In Virginia, it was police that influenced the grand jury not to indict police Sgt. William Shifflett on manslaughter charges for killing Timothy Johnson.

Under federal law, the police killings of Jayland Walker and Timothy McCree Johnson were

Continued on page 3

Socialist Unity Party condemns indictment of Black liberation activists

The Socialist Unity Party and Struggle-La Lucha newspaper condemn the unjust indictment of seven persons, including members of the African People's Socialist Party (APSP), supporters of the Uhuru Movement and three Russian nationals, announced by the U.S. Justice Department on April 18.

The indictment is a naked attempt by the Biden administration to criminalize criticism and resistance to the U.S./NATO proxy war in Ukraine. It is also a continuation of the FBI's decades-long racist war on the Black liberation movement.

The indictment accuses this long-standing movement based in the Black community of "conspiring to covertly sow discord in U.S. society, spread Russian propaganda and interfere illegally in U.S. elections." The defendants each face up to 15 years in prison.

If allowed to stand, this will set a precedent for U.S. officials – Democrats and Republicans alike – to condemn any act of international solidarity or anti-war opposition and use "foreign influence" as an excuse to crack down on struggles for economic and social justice here at home.

We call upon all left and working-class forces to unite to combat this racist repression.

Violent FBI raids

Last July 29, the FBI violently raided the APSP's Uhuru House in St. Petersburg, Florida, and the Uhuru Solidarity Center in St. Louis, Missouri, as well as the private residence of APSP Chairman Omali Yeshitela using flash-bang grenades.

Chairman Omali is 81 years old, and this unjustified intrusion was amplified by the violence of the FBI. He was never accused of possessing weapons or participating in violent actions to justify this terror against his family.

His supposed crime? Helping to disseminate "Russian propaganda," working with an alleged agent of Russia and taking his direction — not to plant bombs or pass on state secrets, but simply for purportedly having the same opinion and giving a platform to words that counter the U.S. narrative about its wars.

Flimsy excuses like these — criminalizing ideas — were used by the FBI in orchestrating the violent slaughter of members of the Black Panther Party, like Chairman Fred Hampton in Chicago. More evidence recently came out about the culpability of the FBI in the assassination of Malcolm X.

In fact, the history of this country is littered with false accusations, sabotage, and assassinations of Black political organizations. When J. Edgar Hoover led the FBI, his racism-inspired hatred of the civil rights movement and Black people in general, justified with his crusade against anyone he deemed a communist, is well-documented.

U.S. hypocrisy

As organizations dedicated to building social justice in this country, we must especially be in complete solidarity with the Black victims of this latest attack against yet another Black organization by the FBI and reject the use of this newest anti-communism. Despite Russia now being a capitalist country, this Cold War propaganda from the Soviet era utilizes the same big lies and vilifications as an attempted club against solidarity.

These lies attempt to hide the hypocrisy of a government that uses the National Endowment for Democracy, USAID, and others to sponsor regime change worldwide and encourage many to instigate violence against popular movements.

The U.S. capitalist class, which had hoped the trillions spent on war would solve its economic contradictions and growing political isolation, is now desperate to cover itself, threatening anyone mentioning its naked oppressiveness with arrest.

We remain in solidarity with the APSP and others targeted by the FBI and reject this new version of McCarthyism and racist terror.

FBI and the U.S. government, stop your racist targeting of Black organizations! Drop the indictment now!

The people have the right to fight against the U.S. war and for liberation — for social and economic justice!

Donate to the defendants' legal fund at HandsOffUhuru.org/Donate.



Justice for Walker & Johnson!

Continued from page 2


certainly violations of their civil rights. What's more of a right than the right to live?

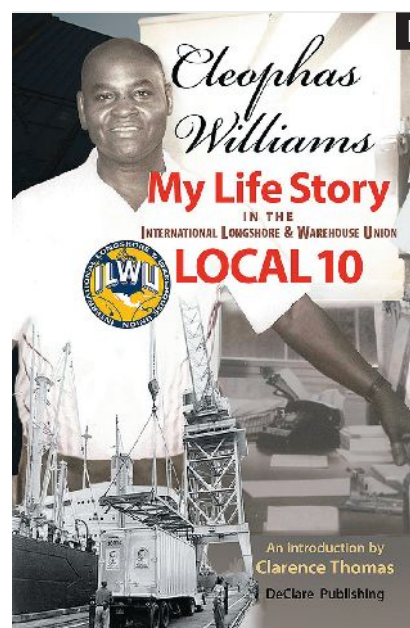
This federal civil rights statute was passed after decades of lynchings, like those who tortured 14-year-old Emmett Till to death, being let free by racist courts.

Biden called the bogus charges of war crimes issued against Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin "justified." Biden's Justice

Department has just indicted African People's Socialist Party Chairman Omali Yeshitela and other activists for opposing the proxy war against Russia.

The 81 million people who voted for Joe Biden didn't cast their ballots to jail the 81-year-old Yeshitela for exercising his right to free speech. The feds should prosecute the killer cops in Akron and Fairfax County instead.

We need to organize the power of the people to make them do it. 



New Book released on May Day 2023

The history of African Americans in the Int'l Longshore & Warehouse Union in San Francisco is indeed worthy of documentation. Such an individual is Cleophas Williams, whose distinguished career as a member of the Local 10 spanned 38 years. Cleophas Williams' election as president of ILWU Local 10 in 1967 made him the highest elected African American to serve as an officer in the entire ILWU.

Born in rural Camden, Arkansas, and part of the Great Migration to the Bay Area, he arrived in Oakland, Calif., in 1942 — seeking to escape the horrors and multifaceted structures of systemic racism and white supremacy.

He was amongst the leaders who placed Local 10 into the vanguard of the labor movement by engaging in civil-rights unionism and other social movements in the 1960s and 1970s.

MillionWorkerMarch.com

Alton Maddox Jr. fought for the people inside and outside the courtroom

By Stephen Millies

"Attorney-at-War" Alton Maddox Jr. has passed. The militant Black lawyer and defender of oppressed people died on April 23, aged 77 years old.

Born in Inkster, Michigan – a suburb of Detroit – on July 21, 1945, Maddox's family moved to Georgia. He grew up in Newnan, Georgia, 33 miles from Atlanta.

Maddox graduated from Howard University and earned his law degree from Boston College. He began working for Harlem Legal Services in 1973 and started his legal practice in 1981.

A former National Conference of Black Lawyers Juvenile Defense Project director, Maddox also founded the Center for Law and Social Justice at Brooklyn's Medgar Evers College.

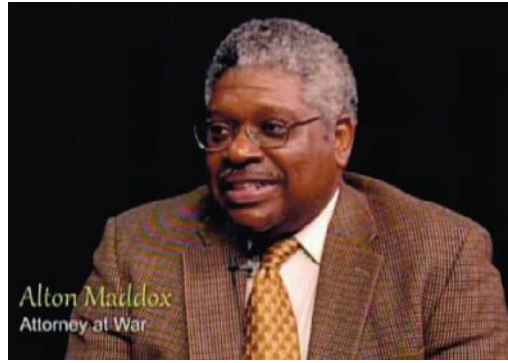
In a series of famous cases, he fearlessly defended his clients. "I feel that every time I go into court, I am trying to dismantle the Dred Scott decision, which says a Black person is three-fifths a human being," Maddox told New York Times reporter Ronald Smothers in 1987. "All my cases are just camouflaged Dred Scott."

"When the accused is a white policeman, suddenly the prosecution acts like the defense lawyer for the police, and we have to become the prosecutors," said the Attorney-at-War.

Maddox was the lawyer for the family of Michael Stewart, a 25-year-old Black artist who was beaten and strangled by police on Sept. 15, 1983. The atrocity was committed in Manhattan's First Avenue L train subway station, with Stewart dying 13 days later.

Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau's office threw the case, and six killer cops went free. But New York City had to cough up \$1.7 million for Stewart's family.

Morgenthau tried to convict Maddox on phony charges of "ju-



dicial obstruction" for shielding his client Willie Bosket and himself from court officers in a courtroom. It took a jury less than two hours to acquit Maddox, who had used his briefcase in self-defense.

Now 60 years old, Bosket is being held in solitary confinement after having spent almost his entire life since early childhood in prison.

Confronting racist mob violence

Maddox had a target put on his back for defending Black youths that the corporate media demonized to whip up racism. In 1981, Maddox won an acquittal for the Black teenager Anthony Davis, who was accused of killing a white teacher.

In a 1987 case, Maddox was the lawyer for Andre Nichols, a Black youth found not guilty of killing a white Catholic priest. One of the jurors, Bill Schleikher, who was white, said that he was impressed by how Maddox presented the case for Nichols.

The Howard Beach neighborhood in Queens, New York, became notorious worldwide after a racist white mob attacked Michael Griffith and Cedric Sandiford in December 1986. Griffith was chased into freeway traffic and killed. Sandiford was severely beaten.

Alton Maddox became the attorney for Sandiford and Griffith's families. The 12 members of the mob were not indicted until Alton Maddox and fellow activist attorney Vernon Mason forced the appointment of a special prosecutor.

Maddox spoke at a labor press conference organized by Black, Latinx, and white unionists to denounce the Howard Beach lynching.

Yusef Hawkins was killed by a racist white mob in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn in September 1989. The Black 16-year-old had traveled there to purchase a used car.

Representing the family of Hawkins, Maddox helped secure some justice.

Maddox's courageous defense of Tawana Brawley led to the racist courts suspending the Attorney-at-War. On Nov. 28, 1987, the Black woman was gang raped by six white men in Wappingers Falls, N.Y., a northern suburb of New York City.

Tawana Brawley was a 15-year-old high school student at the time. Her attackers were part of the local power structure.

One of them was a Dutchess County police officer, Harry Crist. He matched Brawley's description of one of her rapists in a Nov. 30, 1987, interview.

Within 48 hours, Crist was dead. The authorities claim he committed suicide.

If this was true, why did Crist take his own life? Was it out of fear of being exposed? Or was Crist murdered to eliminate a witness?

The pathologist who examined Crist's body – Dr. Alexander Aplasca – listed Crist's death as a homicide. Aplasca never found a self-inflicted wound.

Nor was he shown the weapon Crist allegedly used or any crime scene photos. The autopsy report was suppressed for 11 years.

Attacking Tawana Brawley and her lawyer

Dr. Aplasca was never called to the grand jury conducted by New York State Attorney General Robert Abrams. Instead of seeking justice

for Tawana Brawley, the vile corporate media claimed the Black teenager was lying.

A coverup has been orchestrated for almost 40 years. To this day, the entire capitalist media – whether liberal or conservative – insists that Tawana Brawley was lying.

Here's a link to the real facts on this racist atrocity: [Tinyurl.com/yf42k8bb](https://tinyurl.com/yf42k8bb).

These slimy New York Times headlines for its obituary of Alton Maddox Jr., 77, Lawyer in Tawana Brawley Rape Hoax, Dies ... After the fraud was revealed, he was unrepentant."

The gang rape of Tawana Brawley was no hoax. Alton Maddox was indeed "unrepentant" in demanding justice.

Besides slandering Tawana Brawley, the capitalist power structure sought to silence Alton Maddox. His ability to connect with jurors with his "unblinking large brown eyes" was described in his 1987 interview with the New York Times.

Maddox was suspended from practicing law in 1990.

It was outrageous that the courageous Black lawyer was kept out of the courtroom. This guaranteed more Black and poor people being railroaded to prison without Alton Maddox being able to defend them.

His suspension didn't keep Maddox from fighting for justice. He led the United African Movement.

When racist Judge Albert Sabo tried to have Mumia Abu-Jamal killed in August 1995, the UAM sent busloads of people to Philadelphia to stop the execution.

Maddox's beloved wife, Leola Maddox, passed away in 2017. They are survived by one son, two grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Long live the memory of Alton Maddox Jr., the people's Attorney-at-War! 📧

How to free Mumia? Shut it down!

By Lallan Schoenstein

On April 23, a day before Mumia Abu-Jamal's 69th birthday, protesters marched down 52nd Street in West Philadelphia to a rally at the OneArt Community Center. A glorious mural demanding Mumia's freedom marks the entrance.

Speakers at the rally, representing a coalition of different organizations, spoke with outrage and untiring optimism about the struggle to free Abu-Jamal. He has now been imprisoned for 41 years. Speaking in Mumia's name, they called for the freedom of all political prisoners and an end to mass incarceration.

The movement to "Bring Mumia Home" was dealt a grim setback on



SLL PHOTO: GARY WILSON

March 31 by the corrupt Pennsylvania judicial system. In 2019, boxes of evidence were found to have been hidden in the Philadelphia

District Attorney's office. These boxes contained proof of Mumia's frame-up that had been withheld from him and his attorneys since

the dirty trial in 1982 when he was initially given a death sentence.

The new evidence, finally released after 37 years, should have provided the basis for a new trial. It included documentation that the police bribed key witnesses and that there was deliberate racist manipulation of the jury selection.

After months of hearings and delays, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Lucretia Clemons ruled that she would not allow this evidence to be heard, thus depriving Mumia of his right to a fair trial.

The power of organized Labor

At the rally, Clarence Thomas — a retired leader of the Interna-

Continued on page 5

San Diego mobilizes to bring Mumia home

By Gloria Verdieu

On the weekend of his 69th birthday celebration, the San Diego Coalition to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal and All Political Prisoners held a meeting to honor the world-famous political prisoner, revolutionary journalist, and author. The San Diego Black Panther Party co-hosted the gathering of community organizations at the Malcolm X Library on April 22.

We joined in solidarity with activists in many cities nationally and internationally under the theme of “Mobilizing to Bring Mumia Home.” We demand that the United States government free Abu-Jamal and all political prisoners, prisoners of conscience and prisoners of war. We acknowledge that all prisoners are political prisoners of the corrupt, racist, for-profit prison-industrial complex.

The meeting began with a slide presentation of a partial list of current incarcerated political prisoners, released and exonerated prisoners, and prisoners who have joined the ancestors. Most on the list were compiled by the Jericho Movement.

We encouraged everyone to do some research and learn the names of political prisoners who were organizers in the Black Panther Party, other Black Liberation organizations, the American Indian Movement, and other movements for freedom and justice.

Learn the names of those elders who have spent decades in prison, like Mumia Abu-Jamal, Jamil al-Amin (formerly H. Rap Brown), Ed Poindexter, Kenny “Zulu” Whitmore, Veronza Bowers Jr., Leonard



SLL PHOTO

Honoring Mumia Abu-Jamal, the world-famous political prisoner, journalist, and author at Malcolm X Library on April 22.

Peltier, Alvaro Luna Hernandez, Byron Chubbuck (Oso Blanco), Kamau Sadiki, Rev. Joy Powell, longest-held U.S. political prisoner Ruchell Magee, and exiled liberation fighter Assata Shakur.

Justice in the hands of the people

Wolf, organizer with the San Diego BPP and chair of this gathering, welcomed everyone and spoke of the importance of supporting all political prisoners with emphasis today on Mumia Abu-Jamal. “They sacrificed their lives for us – now is the time for us to stand up and fight for their lives. We must not let our freedom fighters die in prison.”

Judge Lucretia Clemons’ recent denial of a new trial for Abu-Jamal to prove his innocence left organizers angry and full of all kinds of emotions aimed at the entire U.S. criminal judicial system.

Some of us were confident that after 41 years, Mumia would finally get his day in court. But over and over we are reminded that justice has to be in the hands of the peo-

ple. It is up to us to free Mumia. We need to go to the streets in the hundreds of thousands, in the millions.

Millions are needed in the U.S. to stand with Mumia and demand that he be released NOW!

Community solidarity

For now, we honor Mumia for his journalism, his commentaries, his support for humanity, his voice. We listened to a recorded update on his case from Johanna Fernandez and heard solidarity statements from representatives from local community organizations.

Sylvia Telefarro of African American Writers & Artists shared some inspiring words and a poem by Alice Walker. Curtis Howard, community organizer and author, spoke of his lived experience in the California prison system.

Roberto Papeda of the Chicano Prison Project read a letter he sent to Judge Clemons encouraging her to do the right thing. He also commented on how important it is to

recognize and honor Mumia on his birthday by sending revolutionary love and birthday wishes.

Matsemela Odom, organizer with the African People’s Socialist Party, spoke on how important it is to support Mumia and all political prisoners. Odom alerted everyone to the attack on the Uhuru Movement. Following FBI raids last year, members of the APSP, including Chair Omali Yeshitela, have been indicted. The attacks on the movement to liberate African people continue to this day.

We ended our celebration with everyone picking up one of Mumia’s books for a group photo in front of the beautiful banner designed by local artist/activist Mario Toro. Participants signed a birthday card to be sent to Abu-Jamal on his birthday, April 24. The card and photo will add to the many birthday greetings Mumia will receive from his supporters nationally and internationally.

Happy birthday Mumia! We love you! 📖

How to free Mumia? Shut it down!

Continued from page 4

tional Longshore and Warehouse Union from Oakland, California, and co-founder of the Million Worker March Movement — told those gathered at the rally: “We need the working class, organized and unorganized, to shut it down. We will be heard. Such an action at the point of production will free Mumia, and it won’t stop there.”

Omali Yeshitela, chair of the Uhuru Movement and African People’s Socialist Party, was one of those indicted on April 18 by the U.S. Justice Department for opposing the U.S./NATO proxy war in Ukraine. He received a universal response of support when he condemned the entire U.S. system of injustice.

Rasakhan Wali from Nation Time talked about the infamous racist atrocities carried out by the Philadelphia administration at the time when Mumia became a brilliant young journalist, reporting for the Black Panther newspaper and other media. He was just 16 when Mayor

Frank Rizzo ordered the brutal strip searches of Black Panther leaders on the eve of their massive Plenary Convention in 1970.

Fearlessly reported attacks on MOVE

In 1978, a police siege of the MOVE headquarters led to the imprisonment of nine African American men and women. Some were held behind bars for 40 years, while two died in prison.

Then, in May 1985, the city of Philadelphia bombed the MOVE house, wiping out 61 neighboring homes in the conflagration. Janine Africa and Janet Africa only learned that their children had been killed in the fire bomb through prison yard conversations overheard from their solitary confinement cells.

Another outrage occurred the following year when a Philadelphia grand jury cleared all city officials of criminal liability for the MOVE bombing that killed 11 people, including five children.

At Mumia’s birthday rally, Michael Africa Jr. spoke as people wrote messages to Mumia. He was

born in Debbie Africa’s prison cell a month after her incarceration. In his presentation at the rally, Mike Africa evoked the name of a child killed in the MOVE bombing, Tree Africa.

He was talking about a grotesque crime revealed in a 2021 video for a Princeton University course, “REAL BONES: Adventures in Forensic Anthropology.” The video was a case study of the remains of MOVE victims.

The children had not been buried, as reported in 1986. The bones of Tree Africa and Delisha Africa had been secretly held at Penn Museum and later Princeton University without the knowledge of their families.

Mumia will be freed

Much of the discussion at Mumia’s birthday rally centered on the drive to win his freedom.

ILWU’s Thomas drew rapt attention when he talked about the potential of the labor movement. He reported on the 1999 West Coast shutdown by dock workers

demanding Abu-Jamal’s freedom when he was threatened with execution. In 2001, under the pressure of a growing International movement, a judge re-sentenced Mumia, a labor union journalist, to life in prison.

On Feb. 16, ILWU locals in San Francisco and Oakland shut down their ports to demand that Judge Clemons allow a retrial. Their action resonated in support for Mumia internationally. South Africa’s National Union of Metalworkers, the Japanese Doro-Chiba railroad workers’ labor union, the German IG Metal Workers, and various English unions applied to the Pennsylvania court to grant a new trial.

Other speakers at the rally included Theresa Shoatz, daughter of political prisoner Russell Maroon Shoatz; Candace McKinley with the Philadelphia Community Bail Fund; and Keyssh from Decolonize Philly. Performers included Cleo, Antonella, New World Warrior, and hip-hop artists Spiritchild. 📖

Lessons for all workers from Tennessee expulsion of Reps. Jones and Pearson

By Sharon Black

The recent ouster of elected Tennessee State Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson, both young and Black, stunned and angered people everywhere, especially in the Black community.

It effectively disenfranchised 200,000 voters in Memphis and Nashville, the state's two largest cities, who elected them – a move reminiscent of colonial relationships between oppressor and oppressed, conjuring up Jim Crow laws.

The ousting of Jones and Pearson by a two-thirds supermajority was in response to their participation in protests organized to demand passage of gun restrictions following the Nashville school shooting. The motion to expel Gloria Johnson, who also participated and is white, failed by one vote.

The storm of protests that followed, particularly in Tennessee, by mostly young, outraged opponents, and the national attention that it garnered, effectively forced the Tennessee legislature to reinstate both representatives.

On April 7, speaking to Symone Sanders-Townsend on MSNBC, Rep. Jones said: "What happened yesterday was an act of violence. It was a public lynching."

He called the state legislature "a body that is so defined by white supremacy, patriarchy and plantation capitalism."

None of this is surprising. Tennessee's history is sordid. The Ku Klux Klan was founded in Pulaski, Tennessee; it is also the state where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

Henning, Tennessee, was the site of the April 12, 1864 Battle of Fort Pillow, also known as the Fort Pillow Massacre, where 300 Black enlisted soldiers were murdered under the direction of General Nathan Bedford Forrest. Forrest was not only a confederate general, he was a wealthy slave trader. He later co-founded the KKK and served as its first "grand wizard."

Julian Bond and Henry McNeal Turner

The racist Tennessee expulsion is not an exception in U.S. history.

There was the case of Julian Bond. On Jan. 19, 1966, the Georgia State House of Representatives, in a vote of 184-12, refused to seat Bond despite his election in 1965.

Their excuse was his endorsement of a statement by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in opposition to the Vietnam War, declaring it was in violation of international law.

The civil rights movement joined Bond during this time and fought back. A lawsuit was filed with the Supreme Court, *Bond v. Floyd*, based on freedom of speech. Julian Bond won the case on December 5, 1966, and was finally seated as



Reps. Justin Pearson and Justin Jones after being expelled from their seats in Tennessee, April 6.

a representative and sworn in on Jan. 9, 1967.

Close to 100 years before Julian Bond, in September 1868, some 33 Black representatives were expelled en masse from Georgia's legislature.

It followed the first election after the Civil War. Former slaves were allowed to vote during this period of Reconstruction, but in Georgia there was no law that allowed Black representatives to hold office.

Henry McNeal Turner, one of those most notable of the 33 representatives, spoke on Sept. 3, 1868. His fiery response on the floor of Georgia's legislature was later recited by Danny Glover:

"Therefore, sir, I shall neither fawn nor cringe before any party, nor stoop to beg them for my rights. . . .

"You may expel us, gentlemen, but I firmly believe that you will someday repent it.

"The Black man cannot protect a country, if the country doesn't protect him; and if, tomorrow, a war should arise, I would not raise a musket to defend a country where my manhood is denied."

The latest white supremacist attack on the right of Black people to representation has deep historical roots, but it also has special meaning in today's context, following the Jan. 6, 2021, attempted coup and the danger from the far right.

Attacks on transgender people

Tennessee leads the country in anti-LGBTQ2S legislation. Fourteen new bills are already signed into law, ranging from the criminalization of drag performances to cutting off gender-affirming medical care for trans youth.

The stoking of hatred and bigotry, which has been described as a "trans panic," is a tactic in the arsenal of fascist proponents, regardless of their names — whether you call them Christian nationalists, white supremacists, TERFs, neo- or not-so-neo Nazis, or the election campaigns of Donald Trump and Ron DeSantis.

The intent is to sow division and

divert attention from unemployment, low wages, inflation, imperialist war and climate catastrophe.

The outcome is too often death for transgender people. According to a study done by the Williams Institute at UCLA Law, trans people are four times more likely to experience violent victimization. Lack of access to gender-affirming care has been shown to sharply increase suicide rates among trans youth.

The far right was quick to seize on the recent Nashville school shooting, allegedly carried out by a trans man, pumping up false narratives despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of mass shooters in the U.S. are cisgender.

The war on trans people, the reversal of women's reproductive rights, and the continuous attacks on any vestige of democratic rights for Black and Brown people, are linked to the decay of monopoly capitalism.

This agenda is ultimately aimed at crushing workers' rights broadly and is both linked to and intensified by imperialist war.

Dr. Walter Rodney, author of "How Europe Underdeveloped Africa," explained it best: "Fascism is a deformity of capitalism. It heightens the imperialist tendency towards domination which is inherent in capitalism, and it safeguards the principle of private property.

"At the same time, fascism immeasurably strengthens the institutional racism already bred by capitalism, whether it be against Jews (as in Hitler's case) or against African peoples (as in the ideology of Portugal's Salazar and the leaders of South Africa).

"Fascism reverses the political gains of the bourgeois democratic system such as free elections,

equality before the law, and parliaments; it also extols authoritarianism and the reactionary union of the church with the state."

Democratic establishment unwilling to fight

Tennessee is not an outlier. This has been part of the strategy of the right wing since Jan. 6, 2021, and earlier. The far rightists have buried themselves in local campaigns, conspiring to overturn voting rights, and in areas that they feel are strategic, systematically rolling back LGBTQ2S, women's and workers' gains.

The war on "woke" culture has been their noisy battle cry. Social media algorithms and the capitalist-dominated Internet have spread their message far and wide.

The cynical response of the mainstream Democratic Party establishment is to not-so-surreptitiously send aid to the farthest fringe right-wing candidates, based on the dubious strategy that the further right the candidate, the easier for Democratic candidates to win.

A prime example is Maryland, where the Democratic Governors Association spent more than \$1.16 million on TV ads for QAnon conspiracist candidate Dan Cox to beat mainstream Republican Kelly Schultz in the primaries.

Democratic Party leaders have used abortion rights as a political football. Rather than organizing a furious fight in defense of reproductive rights, their preference is to kick it down the road to use as an electoral asset. Now they are using the same playbook as LGBTQ2S rights are stripped away.

Regardless of electoral outcomes, it is a dangerous strategy that gives the far right a broader platform to spread its ideology, and even more importantly, to organize and strengthen itself. And it immediately hurts workers and the poor, particularly the most oppressed, whose lives hinge on gains lost to the right. Further, it engenders confusion and apathy in the population.

It will take independent, in-your-face mass action to push these rats back into the sewer.

Every struggle, especially those of the most oppressed for the basic democratic right to vote, deserves full action and support of those fighting for the working class — particularly those who consider themselves revolutionary socialists. 📌

**TRANS PEOPLE
WON'T BE ERASED**

**BIGOTS SAY GET BACK
WE SAY FIGHT BACK!**

**Women in Struggle /
Mujeres en Lucha**



#LetHerSpeak: Rep. Zooney Zephyr and supporters defy anti-trans bigots

By Melinda Butterfield

On April 26, the far-right-dominated Montana state legislature in Helena censured the state's first elected trans representative, Zooney Zephyr, after silencing her for several days and threatening her with expulsion.

Zephyr will not be allowed to enter the chamber or speak for the remainder of the legislative session, disenfranchising her 11,000 constituents from Missoula.

The unconstitutional, transphobic, and misogynist silencing of an elected representative by the Republican majority follows in the footsteps of the Tennessee legislature's recent expulsion of two young Black representatives, and the censure of Oklahoma Rep. Mauree Turner, who is Black, Muslim, and nonbinary, after they defended a trans rights protester from police abuse.

Zephyr was attacked because she dared to condemn state legislation restricting gender-affirming care for trans youth. "You will have

blood on your hands," she said, referring to the greatly increased suicide risk for trans people who don't have access to care and the stoking of anti-trans violence by similar bills across the U.S.

Zephyr's stand was in stark contrast to national Democratic Party leaders like Joe Biden, who have refused to condemn, much less take action against, increasingly Draconian anti-trans measures.

House Speaker Matt Regier first silenced Zephyr, refusing to acknowledge the representative or turn on her microphone during discussions. Republicans threatened and misgendered her in official documents.

Days later, on April 24, when protesters responded by chanting "Let her speak!" from the gallery, Zephyr symbolically raised her silent microphone. Montana State Troopers in riot gear marched onto the floor of the legislature in front of Zephyr, then arrested seven people in the gallery. The Republican majority canceled the next day's session.

When they resumed on April 26, the right-wing majority voted to punish Zephyr (and those she represents) with censure for the show of people power in their "hallowed hall." The charge was "breaching decorum."

Among those who spoke in support of Zephyr was Indigenous Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy: "The community that I represent does have trans. Some tribes, we call them two-spirit people. My late uncle, one of my teachers in my way of life ... told me no matter who you are, we are all equal under the eyes of the almighty."

The ACLU and other groups plan to challenge the censure in the courts.

Right to representation under attack

The attacks on Zooney Zephyr in Montana, Justin Jones and Justin Pearson in Tennessee, and Mauree Turner in Oklahoma go far beyond the scope of electoral politics. They are attacks on the right of oppressed people to be represented or even speak on matters that directly affect their lives.

It's vital to see these anti-democratic measures in the larger context of the capitalist anti-trans panic. Missouri's attorney general ordered a ban on all gender-affirming care, including for adults. Texas, Florida, and other states are poised to enact similar bans.

At the direction of presidential hopeful Gov. Ron DeSantis, Florida's legislature has passed bills allowing the state to kidnap trans



Rep. Zooney Zephyr

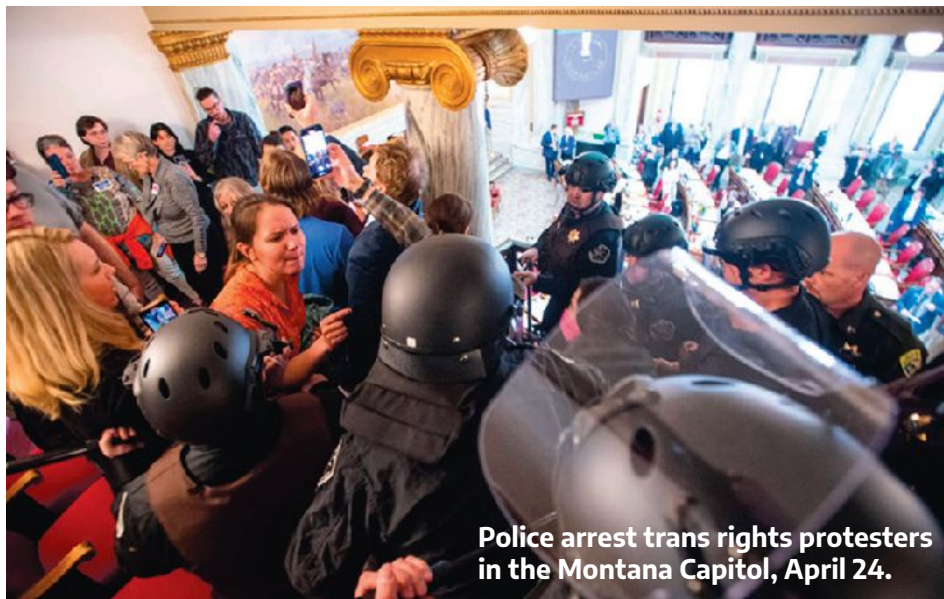
children from their parents and the children of trans parents and threatening to ban Pride parades and celebrations.

Meanwhile, on Elon Musk's Twitter app, the billionaire's fanbase is openly calling for public executions of trans people, their families, and their health care providers.

People are organizing and fighting back from Montana to Nebraska, from Ohio to Tennessee. Women in Struggle-Mujeres en Lucha has announced plans for a National March on Florida to Protect Trans Youth and Trans Lives. It's a fight for the whole working class and progressive movement.

The fascist right and its capitalist backers are already expanding the attack to include the entire LGBTQ community, Black and Brown communities, women, and all workers – even pushing to roll back child labor laws from Iowa to Alabama.

If you haven't spoken up, if you haven't joined a protest, if you haven't paid attention – the time to change that is now. [📌](#)



Police arrest trans rights protesters in the Montana Capitol, April 24.

MAY DAY 2023: Prepare for a long, hot summer of struggle

Continued from page 1

Indigenous nonbinary activist. Their hands were raised when their body was riddled with 57 police bullets.

The Biden administration and Senate's Democratic Party majority have joined the Republican House majority and right-wing state and local governments to fork over additional billions of funding to police agencies.

Remember how Biden rode to victory over bigot Donald Trump on the coattails of the massive Black Lives movement following the police murder of George Floyd in 2020? Since taking office, Biden has only done the bidding of the bosses frightened by the Black Lives uprising.

War at home, war abroad

The police war on Black and Brown people at home is an extension of U.S. wars for empire abroad. In the last year, Biden and Congress

have spent well over \$100 billion funding the U.S./NATO proxy war in Ukraine against Russia and the people of Donbass.

As this is being written on April 28, a Ukrainian strike on the city of Donetsk has killed at least seven people and wounded 19 in a busy shopping area – the latest in hundreds of similar war crimes committed against civilians in the Donbass region since the U.S.-backed coup in Kiev in 2014.

Ukraine's war on civilians had already claimed more than 14,000 lives before the escalation of the conflict in February 2022. It's unclear how many more have died since Russia was forced to intervene to protect the population of Donbass and eastern Ukraine last year, but it's certainly in the tens of thousands on both sides, if not more.

As the conflict drags on, bringing direct U.S. military conflict with Russia ever closer, Washington is also gearing up for war with

the People's Republic of China. In fact, this is the war favored by the Republican far right and the most overtly pro-fascist factions of the U.S. ruling class. But there is bipartisan agreement on the dangerous buildup in the Pacific and Asia.

From Cuba and Venezuela to Iran and Zimbabwe, people continue to suffer the effects of U.S. sanctions and blockades – another form of warfare. U.S. wars, both proxy and open, continue to kill from the Horn of Africa and Syria to Palestine and Yemen.

For workers here, the costs of U.S. wars have been devastating – not only robbing funds from desperately-needed social services to pay Pentagon contractors and U.S. proxy regimes but providing the rationale of out-of-control price-gouging by capitalist profiteers.

The cost of fuel, food, rent, utilities, and health care continue to rise as wages stagnate, and the Democrat/Republican axis removes

all of the meager protections put in place during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, the unaddressed climate crisis devastates swaths of the country, upending lives with startling regularity.

The increasingly desperate conditions have inspired powerful strikes coast-to-coast. The bosses have taken note of the upturn in labor organizing and strike activity – led by young workers – and are positioning their politicians to crack down, even passing measures to roll back laws against child labor from Alabama to Iowa, following in the wake of Biden's attack on railroad workers.

Trans lives, abortion rights under attack

The first big battles of summer 2023 may come during June – LGBTQ2S Pride Month.

Florida, Tennessee, and other states have passed or will pass

Continued on page 10

Tucker Carlson and the U.S. war on China

By Gary Wilson

Why was Tucker Carlson fired from Fox News? Not for any of his known offensives, even though that's a very long list.

Carlson is the millionaire (net worth \$420 million) son of the director of the CIA's Voice of America and Radio Marti directed at Cuba as well as the U.S. Information Agency, whose racist, misogynist, homophobic, anti-immigrant views take 27,407 words to chronicle on Wikipedia. Obviously not a friend of the working class.

Glenn Greenwald, the journalist who started his career as a lawyer for a white supremacist and has been a second banana on Carlson's Fox News show in recent years, suggests that Carlson was fired because "the removal of Tucker means the elimination of the only real, sustained dissent on U.S. militarism." Greenwald claims Carlson "opposed the U.S. proxy war in Ukraine."

If Greenwald was honest, he wouldn't say that Carlson dissented on U.S. militarism; he dissented only on the U.S. proxy war on Russia.

What Carlson says is: "Russia is not America's main enemy ... Our main enemy is China. The U.S. ought to be in a relationship with Russia, aligned against China".

In another broadcast, Carlson said: "The biggest threat to this country is not Vladimir Putin; that's ludicrous. The biggest threat obviously is China."

When Jack Teixeira, the 21-year-old in the Air National Guard's 102nd Intelligence Wing at Otis Airbase, released top-secret Pentagon documents, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene praised him as "white, male, christian, and antiwar ... he told the truth about [U.S.] troops being on the ground in Ukraine and a lot more."

Really? This guy, who was known for his racist and anti-Semitic postings, was never antiwar, though he may have opposed the U.S. proxy war on Russia. That's what Tucker Carlson said, that Teixeira's leaks "prove U.S. troops are fighting in Ukraine."

Actually, that part is true. The U.S. and NATO started training Ukrainian forces to fight in Donbass in 2015, and while the training is now done in other countries, NATO provides six-month training courses to all of Ukraine's forces.

The leaked Pentagon documents revealed that in addition to military trainers and "consultants" in Ukraine, the U.S. has about a hundred special forces personnel operating there, including 14 who are part of a special forces unit made up mostly of "elite" British SAS soldiers.

The leaked Pentagon documents also show a buildup in Pentagon operations targeting China, including assessments that could be used for a U.S. military intervention in Taiwan.



Divisions in U.S. ruling class

The documents also reveal what the Washington Post calls "the U.S.'s gloominess on the war in Ukraine."

"The [Washington Post] admits that Western media audiences have been misled about the course of the war, that essentially what mainstream media has been reporting about Ukraine has been a pack of lies: namely that Ukraine is winning the war and is poised to launch an offensive that will lead to a final victory," reports Joe Lauria in Consortium News.

"Instead, the second paragraph of the piece makes clear the leaked documents show the long-planned Ukrainian offensive will fail miserably — 'a marked departure from the Biden administration's public statements about the vitality of Ukraine's military,' Lauria continues.

"In other words, U.S. officials have been lying about the state of the war to the public and to reporters who have faithfully reported

their every word without a hint of skepticism," he concludes.

The documents show there are sections of the U.S. ruling class who are worried about the disastrous proxy war in Ukraine. The death toll has been rising steadily, and the economic costs of the war are mounting.

The war is also having a destabilizing effect on the global economy, with the price of oil and gas rising sharply and inflation spiraling in the U.S. and Europe. It could disrupt the U.S. war buildup against China.

That's the fear being voiced by Tucker Carlson, Glenn Greenwald, Representative Greene, the Pentagon leaker, and their kind.

The U.S. war on China is dominant in Washington now. As Financial Times columnist Gideon Rachman noted on April 24: "Visiting Washington last week, it was striking how commonplace talk of war between the U.S. and China has become. That discussion has been fed by loose-lipped statements from American generals musing about potential dates for the opening of hostilities. ...

"They are a reflection of the broader discussion on China taking place in Washington — inside and outside government. Many influential people seem to think that a U.S.-China war is not only possible but probable." [📄](#)

Al-Quds is the capital of Palestine!

By Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau

Hundreds of people came to New York City's Times Square on April 14 to commemorate Al-Quds Day. Also known as Jerusalem, Al-Quds is the eternal capital of Palestine.

The holy city has been a special target of the Israeli apartheid regime that occupies Palestine. Homes of Palestinians are torn down to make way for settlers, many of whom were born in the United States.

A call to mark Al-Quds Day in solidarity with Palestinians was made in 1979 during the Iranian Revolution. Since then rallies and demonstrations have been held worldwide on the last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan.

This year, even more than usual, Israeli cops and troops have viciously attacked worshippers in Al-Aqsa mosque, the third holiest site in Islam. Tear gas was repeatedly used against Palestinians who were praying.

This brutality was the backdrop for the Times Square rally. Speakers, including a rabbi, attacked the Zionist regime. Other speakers included representatives from Al-Awada NY, the Palestine Right to



SLL PHOTO: STEPHEN MILLIES

Return Coalition; Within Our Lifetime; the ANSWER Coalition; and the International Action Center.

Speaking for Struggle-La Lucha newspaper and the Socialist Unity Party, Steve Millies said that "working and poor people in the United States have no interest in

supporting the apartheid regime that occupies Palestine. While Zionist police attack worshippers in the Al-Aqsa Mosque, New York City cops just murdered a 78-year-old Black man in Brooklyn.

"The racist state of Israel wouldn't even exist without the

\$158 billion it's gotten from the U.S. government," said Millies, a retired railroad worker and union member. "Meanwhile 30 million people in the U.S. have had their food stamps cut.

"We need an Intifada right here against rising rents, skyrocketing food prices and trigger-happy cops! Not billions to oppress the Palestinian people.

"Two million poor people are locked-up in prisons from coast-to-coast. All the Trumps and bankers should be jailed instead. The Zionist state and its ghetto walls are a prison for the Palestinian people.

"We need jobs and peace. Not a trillion-dollar Pentagon budget. The Zionist regime is a police force that Wall Street and Big Oil uses to preserve their empire.

"A little more than 40 years ago, if you looked in a Rand McNally Atlas, it would show a country in Southern Africa that they called 'Rhodesia.' The people of Zimbabwe — through years of armed struggle — wiped that racist ob-scenity off the map.

"The people of Palestine will wipe the Zionist state off the map. Long live Palestine!" Millies concluded.

Long live Palestine! Al-Quds is the eternal capital of Palestine! [📄](#)

Ben Dupuy, quintessential Haitian revolutionary leader, dead at 91

By Kim Ives

Benjamin Dupuy, arguably Haiti's greatest communist leader and ideologue from the 1970s to the 2010s, passed away in a Miami Beach nursing home on April 23 at the age of 91. He had been extremely ill and bedridden for many months, suffering from emphysema and suspected lung cancer.

A journalist, photographer, filmmaker, diplomat, organizer, and political party leader, Dupuy was a model Marxist theoretician and man-of-action, unwavering in his life-long pursuit of socialist revolution in Haiti.

Born in Cap-Haïtien on Sep. 30, 1931, the fourth of eight children, Ben grew up in many cities – Gonaïves, Aux Cayes, Port-au-Prince, St. Marc – as his father, Georges Dupuy, a high-ranking Haitian Army officer who once was in line to head the Armed Forces, was stationed in different posts around the country.

His mother, Anna Therese Anduoar Dupuy, was Dominican, making him virtually fluent in Spanish.

Having once considered becoming a priest, Dupuy instead became a civil engineer, working on projects like irrigation canals in the Artibonite Valley and a butter factory near Aux Cayes. In the latter city, an army officer commandeered his work jeep to pursue the “Jeune Haiti” anti-Duvalierist revolutionaries who had landed near Jérémie in 1964.

Fidel Castro's successful insurgency in Cuba's Sierra Maestra mountains just across the Windward Passage had inspired that ill-fated guerilla incursion just as it inspired Ben and many others of his generation.

Dupuy also worked on the U.S. government-sponsored Geodesic Survey, mapping Haiti's topography, which took him to all corners of the Maryland-sized country and fired his imagination about the possibilities of recreating a Cuban-style July 26th Movement.

A ham radio enthusiast, Dupuy would spend hours listening to broadcasts from revolutionary Cuba, while also working in Port-au-Prince's Radio Haiti with people like famed journalist Jean Dominique and Ben's best friend at the time, Herby Widmaier.

He also had several brushes with death. Tonton Macoutes, Duvalier's infamous paramilitary corps, almost executed him and a friend when they were stopped driving a car similar to that of François Benoît, an army marksman, whom François “Papa Doc” Duvalier suspected of trying to kidnap his son, Jean-Claude, from school in 1963.

Finally, a Tonton Macoute, who was later killed by Duvalier, told Ben he had better leave the country because he was marked for arrest for his role in organizing striking

workers at the Reynolds Metals bauxite mine in Miragoâne, where he also worked.

Revolutionary in exile

In 1965, Ben fled to New York, later bringing his wife and three of his four children. He alighted first in Elmhurst, Queens, then moving with his family to White Plains.

Quickly he became involved in New York's growing anti-Duvalierist Haitian exile politics.

Passing through a series of coalitions and organizations, he worked, often contentiously, with many prominent figures of the anti-Duvalierist struggle, including Wilson Désir, Paul and Franck Laraque, Fathers Antoine Adrien and William Smarth, Edouard Petit-Homme, Paul Adolphe, Ludovic Dauphin, and Julien Jumelle.

During the early 1970s, Dupuy also worked closely with brothers Raymond and Leo Joseph, publishers of the leading anti-Duvalierist weekly, *Haïti Observateur*. The paper had a major cover story on the testimony Ben gave to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1974.

In one testy exchange between Dupuy and Sen. Edward Brooke (R-MA), Brooke sternly asked Dupuy: “Are you advocating the violent overthrow of the Haitian government?” After a short pause, Dupuy replied: “I think you should have posed that question to George Washington about his struggle in 1776.” The witty come-back delighted Haitians.

Indeed, Dupuy by then had formed the Haitian Liberation Movement (MHL), which infiltrated many militants into Haiti and carried out several spectacularly successful clandestine operations, especially after Jean-Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier succeeded his father as Haiti's “President-for-Life” in 1971.

During the late 1960s, Dupuy worked as an engineer on the building of Route 684 through Westchester County, N.Y., where he met Jill Ives, who became his long-time partner. After divorces, the two merged their families and moved to various homes during the 1970s and 1980s in upstate New York's Dutchess and Rockland counties.

Each home became a collective household, with young and old revolutionaries of many nationalities engaged in political work, from secret missions in Haiti to leafleting and tabling demonstrations from Poughkeepsie to Washington, D.C.

They formed the Friends of Haiti, a group which raised political and financial support for the MHL by doing audio visual presentations, speaking engagements, and fundraisers at churches, community groups, and universities, as well as publishing a newsletter, animating radio and television shows in New York City, and organizing demonstrations.

Ben became a pilot, flying out of Stormville Airport and working in concert on some intrigues with another Haitian airman, Frantz Gabriel, who flew out of Poughkeepsie Airport and later would become Aristide's pilot and de facto chief of security.

For some years, the Dupuy/Ives commune became a branch of the Canada-based Liberation Support Movement (LSM), which argued that the leading edge of world revolution was the national liberation struggles then raging throughout the Third World, particularly in Africa.

In 1976, Ben then tasked his first lieutenant and Jill's son, Kim Ives, to produce a 16mm film which could be internationally distributed and explain Haiti's national liberation struggle. Seven years later, the feature documentary *Bitter Cane* was released, winning festivals and acclaim worldwide. Prominent artists like Mano Charlemagne, Georges Vilson, Nicole Levy, and Jean-Claude “Koralen” Martineau all contributed to the film. Dupuy's historical, political, and economic analysis provided the film's backbone.

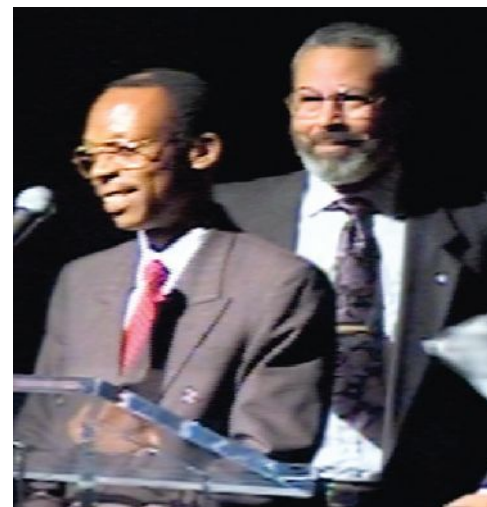
Birth of Haïti Progrès

As the film project finished in 1983, Dupuy launched the weekly newspaper *Haïti Progrès*, whose slogan was “The paper which offers an alternative.” Unlike *Haïti Observateur*, *Haïti Progrès* had a trenchantly anti-imperialist stance and attracted the participation of the cream of Haiti's revolutionary intelligentsia, including the Laraque brothers, Cauvin Paul, Father Gérard Jean-Juste, Anthony Phelps, Frantz “Fanfan” Latour, Guy Roumer, Marie Célie Agnant, Jean Brière, Carl Gilbert, and Raymond Philoctète.

In its heyday, it was edited by the French internationalist former school teacher Jeanie Loubet and made possible by a dedicated core including Maude Leblanc, Georges Honorat, François Pierre-Louis, Georgina Montreuil, and former Duvalierist political prisoner Jacques Magloire.

Over the same years, Dupuy's network spawned a radical Haitian student network and publication called *Idées*, a Haitian workers' and tenants' organization called the Association of Haitian Workers (ATH), the demonstration-organizing mass organization called the Committee Against Repression in Haiti, as well as numerous radio shows and coalitions. In the early 1980s, all these undertakings functioned mostly out of offices based on Flatbush Avenue in Brooklyn.

However, after Duvalier's fall in February 1986, operations began to shift to Haiti. In April 1987 at St. Jean Bosco (the church of then-Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who



Jean Bertrand Aristide and Ben Dupuy (right) at the 1997 New York City premiere of ‘Rezistans.’

delivered the opening speech), Ben organized a conference which founded the National Popular Assembly (APN), a nationwide “popular organization” (the U.S. Embassy called it a “pressure group”) which trained hundreds of young militants and established dozens of chapters nationwide.

The APN militants projected the French/Kreyòl version of “Bitter Cane” (“Canne Amère”) with a movie projector on walls and bedsheets in Haitian slums and countryside hamlets, as well as distributed *Haïti Progrès*, whose arrival by plane from New York thousands of young Haitians anxiously awaited every week for news and analysis of the chaotic post-Duvalier years.

In early 1990, Dupuy held an APN press conference at the Hotel Oloffson where he proposed Aristide to be president. A group of thugs broke up the press conference, but, like a genie, the idea was now out of the bottle, and indeed, a few months later, just weeks before the national election, the National Front for Change and Democracy (FNCD) unceremoniously dumped their first candidate and chose Aristide, which sparked an historic outpouring of voters that became known as “the flood” or Lavalas. Aristide was elected on Dec. 16, 1990 with 67% of the vote when they stopped counting, stunning U.S. election engineers.

Dupuy then became Aristide's Ambassador-at-Large, traveling to countries worldwide to solicit support for the beleaguered nation. He particularly focused on African nations, of which many Haitians are descendants but which had never established diplomatic relations with Haiti. Dupuy also sought to get support from Libya, which more timorous members of Aristide's Foreign Ministry feared would anger Washington.

However, the U.S. had already begun planning a coup d'état since the upstart president announced Haiti's “second independence” in his Feb. 7, 1991 inaugural speech, and on Sep. 30, 1991, Dupuy's 60th birthday, the Haitian Army ousted Aristide in the first bloody coup d'état against his government.

(To be continued)

Source: *Haiti Liberté*

En Puerto Rico, la lucha continúa contra privatización de energía

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

El plan para destruir a un PR que tenga la posibilidad de desarrollarse para el beneficio de las y los boricuas es verdaderamente siniestro. El mensaje de Don Pedro Albizu Campos de que los EUA quieren la jaula pero no los pájaros se está evidenciando cada vez más claro por la nueva invasión yanqui por millonarios mayormente corruptos que desplazan a la población nativa y por el avance de la privatización de todos los servicios esenciales que ayudan al pueblo.

Por ejemplo la energía. Ya la privatizadora Luma Energy que administra la distribución y transmisión, ha probado su ineficacia criminal hasta el extremo de que en estos días, en víspera del comienzo de la época de huracanes, ha suspendido dicen ellos que por falta de dinero, los traba-

jos de poda de árboles, que aquí es la causa mayor de interrupciones del servicio. Aparte de los apagones continuos y el alza del costo de la luz.

Por otro lado, parte de ese plan nefasto, es eliminar los sindicatos que se opongan a esos planes. Eso han hecho con la UTIER, que ha sido el sindicato más militante y exitoso del país en su defensa de los derechos laborales y en su solidaridad con las luchas del pueblo. El plan es quitar ese obstáculo de lucha por una energía pública, impidiéndoles que se honren sus derechos laborales adquiridos al pasar a la privatizadora.

La Utier es uno de los pocos que no pertenece a ningún sindicato estadounidense y por tanto tiene independencia de acciones para que se beneficie el pueblo y no a las uniones foráneas que vienen a PR para imponer sus visiones pro-



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

imperialistas y no para beneficiar a su matrícula boricua.

Pero, precisamente porque no está atada a uniones yanquis, la Utier sigue luchando por expon-

er la verdad ante el pueblo. Cada miércoles sus jubilados siguen esa batalla, esta vez directamente frente a la Junta de Control Fiscal que ahora es el gobierno de facto. [📌](#)

Gobierno de PR, lacayo sumiso del neoliberalismo

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

El gobierno de Puerto Rico liderado por Pedro Pierluisi y su partido que quiere la estadidad con los EUA, el Partido Nuevo Progresista, está corriendo como locomotora desbocada tratando de implantar todos los proyectos neoliberales posibles, antes de que finalice su cuatrienio el próximo año.

Sobre todo, las privatizaciones a mansalva.

Y lo más perturbador, es que las empresas que escogen para ser las privatizadoras, no solo son extranjeras, sino que son las más incompetentes y mafiosas. Empresas que si ya existían, venían con un probado desprestigio. Otras em-

presas, las crean al momento unas compañías matrices extranjeras, poniéndole nombres locales, como Luma o Genera PR en el sector energético.

El mayor peligro es que sustituyen a la compañía que se había nacionalizado en el 1945 para poder en ese entonces, electrificar todo el archipiélago, desafiando nuestras difíciles condiciones montañosas.

Ahora, por disposición de una Junta de Control Fiscal dictatorial impuesta por el Congreso estadounidense, pretenden volver a Puerto Rico a la situación de pobreza y retraso de principios del siglo 20.

Es indignante que el gobierno local y su partido sea un lacayo



Organizadores laborales y comunitarios anuncian planes para acciones del Primero de Mayo contra el colonialismo y la austeridad en San Juan, Puerto Rico, el 26 de abril.

tan sumiso a esta ignominia que ya ha sumido a condiciones de sufrimiento a gran parte de nuestra población, y por la cual miles de boricuas han tenido que abandonar su patria.

Por eso, estos días los reclamos de Fuera Pierluisi y Fuera la Junta, cobran más fuerza.

Desde Puerto Rico, para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci. [📌](#)

MAY DAY 2023: Prepare for a long, hot summer of struggle

Continued from page 7

broad measures to crack down on Pride celebrations. In Florida, some corporate-sponsored Pride events have already been called off before the measure takes effect for fear of legal liability.

We face the possibility of mass arrests at Pride events, especially targeting trans people and drag artists. A barrage of more than 500 state bills in nearly every U.S. state since the start of this year is attempting to drive trans people out of public life – cutting off life-saving gender-affirming health care for both youths and adults; banning people from using restrooms or playing on sports teams corresponding to their gender; and even making it illegal to be trans in public.

Across the country, astroturfed “parents groups” are working

with right-wing politicians to ban books that tell the truth about queer lives, Black history, and any aspect of U.S. history. Libraries are being defunded, and teachers silenced. Even elected officials who dare to challenge the far right from Montana to Tennessee are being targeted with illegal sanctions that disenfranchise the people who voted for them.

Anti-trans legislation has been accompanied by growing threats and violence on social media and in the streets. Drag story hours and queer events of all kinds are targeted by far-right bigots from the Proud Boys to TERFS and Christian nationalists, often working side-by-side. In response, queer communities and allies from coast-to-coast have mobilized to push back the fascists.

Increasingly, the cry is heard: Pride is a protest! Stonewall was a riot! Pride 2023 is guaranteed to swell the movement of recent years that has demanded a return to the spirit of the Stonewall Rebellion and for cops out of Pride.

After robbing women and other people who can become pregnant of their right to abortion last year, allowing many states to ban the essential medical procedure, the U.S. Supreme Court may soon ban access to the abortion pill nationally.

Make no mistake: the situation is dangerous. Members of oppressed communities are dying. Millions of workers are living on the edge of disaster.

But the workers and oppressed, the masses of the people, have not yet been heard from. The working class has the power to turn the situation around – not only to halt the fascist advance but to reverse the setbacks and expand people's rights. It is the job of revolutionary communists and socialists to seize every opportunity to aid the masses in exercising their power.

Yes, it will be a long, hot summer – and not just because of capitalist-fueled climate change. The bosses and their political stooges are asking for it. Let's give them hell. [📌](#)

STRUGGLE ★ **LA LUCHA**
for Socialism | por el Socialismo