

# STRUGGLE★LA LUCHA

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# Marching with Cuba's Cenesex on a historic MAY DAY

By Melinda Butterfield

Havana — May Day in Cuba. Nothing quite like it — even if it takes place a little later than expected.

Havana is renowned for its huge, colorful, and powerful marches every May 1, International Workers' Day. This year was already planned to be different. Because of severe fuel shortages caused by the U.S. blockade, it was decided to focus on local marches in Cuba's provinces and the various municipalities that make up Havana.

Then severe weather struck. Havana's May 1 celebrations had to be postponed. Instead, it was "the First on the Fifth" — the great workers' action was held on Friday, May 5, the 205th birthday of Karl Marx, the founder of scientific socialism.

Another difference: in an additional move to conserve fuel for urgent people's needs, the usual march through the Plaza of the Revolution was changed to a mass rally along the Malecón, Havana's famous sea wall.

I arrived in Cuba from New York City on May 3 to attend the VII International Colloquium on Trans Identities, Gender, and Culture, hosted by the National Center for Sex Education (Cenesex), together with Serena Sojic-Borne, a comrade from the New Orleans chapter of Freedom Road Socialist Organization.

Comrade Mariela Castro Espín, director of Cenesex, invited the international delegates from Mexico, Italy, the United States, and other countries to join the center's delegation in the May Day action, a proposal we gladly accepted.

### Queer youth for socialism

In the U.S., it's impossible to imagine a city full of workers rising well before dawn to defend the system they live under. U.S. workers are exploited by their bosses, lied to by politicians, overworked and underpaid, without universal health care or the right to housing.

How different is Cuba! In Havana, workers from every sector, along with students and other organized groups, began gathering by 4 a.m. As the international delegates walked by the University of Havana, contingents of young people were already starting to arrive, chanting, singing, and drumming.

Across the wide boulevard, workers representing Radio Rebelde (founded by Che Guevara) and other media outlets were gathering around their banners.



'First on the Fifth'



SLL PHOTOS: MELINDA BUTTERFIELD

- U.S. LGBTQ+ delegation travels to Cuba to learn about new Families Code
- Queer Liberation Party for Cuba trip
- Montana Rep. Zooey Zephyr

### SAN DIEGO MAY DAY

- Free Mumia Abu-Jamal!
- Free Leonard Peltier!
- Free Them ALL!

### ► Biden sends troops to border

As we marched down the wide, dark street toward the Malecón, more people streamed into the contingent at each intersection. We took our place among the tens of thousands already gathered beside the sea, while revolutionary songs played over gigantic speakers that reached everyone in the rally.

Dozens of hands of all colors and gender expressions took hold of the massive Pride flag and shook it in time to beat. Beside the Cenesex group were health care workers' unions, unions of the economic ministry, parents holding small children on their shoulders, and portraits of Martí, Fidel, and Che, all awaiting the inspiring words of Ulises Guilarte, general secretary of the Cuban Workers Federation (CTC).

The beautiful sunrise over the sea slowly spread across the massive demonstration — a beautiful symbolic moment.

Together we sang, chanted, and celebrated the triumph of the Cuban Revolution, the achievements of socialism despite the punishing and illegal U.S. blockade, and the continuing struggles of the world's workers and oppressed.

Viva Cuba! El amor es ley! 🇨🇺

As we reached the intersection where Cenesex was gathering, outside a movie theater, comrade Mariela Castro was among the first to arrive — greeting people, keeping the group motivated and excited. Organizers from TransCuba Nacional, the national network of trans women, distributed trans flags to the many young queer people as they arrived and kept folx from wandering too far afield.

At the intersection where we gathered, we witnessed young people organized by the Committees in Defense of the Revolution (CDRs) blocking streets and directing traffic away from the marchers. A CDR leader took time to snap some group photos of our contingent for Mariela.

### 'Love is the law'

The dozens of queer youth who gathered with Cenesex, a majority of them Black Cubans, carried an enormous rainbow flag and a lead banner that read, "Por todas las familias, el amor es ley" — "For all Cuban families, love is the law."

This refers to the revolutionary new Families Code approved last year, which expands the rights of all families, including LGBTQ+ families and chosen families. May is also the International Month Against Homophobia and Transphobia and is celebrated in Cuba much like Pride Month is in the U.S.

For Cenesex and the networks of trans, gay, lesbian, and bisexual people, this is a key time to educate the queer community and the broader Cuban public about the provisions of the new code.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Problems faced by people of color 'are as dire & entrenched as half a century ago'

- Justice for Jordan Neely! ► U.S. judiciary sides against workers ► Biden nukes in Korea, anti-China alliances
- Repression in Puerto Rico ► NNOC brigadistas detained and harassed ► Remember Khader Adnan ► Gaza



# Free Mumia Abu-Jamal! Free Leornard Peltier! Free Them ALL!

By Gloria Verdieu

*Talk given by Gloria Verdieu of the Socialist Unity Party at the May Day rally in San Diego.*

Freeing Political Prisoners is a Working-Class Struggle. Why? It is our class, our families. Our youth, brothers, sisters, aunts, and uncles, are being locked up.

Employed and Unemployed; Organized and Unorganized; Unionized or not! We are the Working Class! It is up to us to Free All Political Prisoners! Our Elders are facing death by incarceration, and our brothers, sisters, and youth are spending decades in prison.

The Power is in the hands of the Working Class.

Freeing All Political Prisoners is our Struggle.

Let me give you an example; in 1999, when Mumia's death sentence was signed for the second time, the

International Longshore Workers Union Local 10 in San Francisco, the most radical union in the United States, shut down all 29 ports on the West Coast to stop the execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal and just recently on Feb. 16 Local 10 shut down 16 bay area ports demanding Judge Clemons to grant Mumia a new trial to prove his innocence. Imagine if all the unions across the nation had taken the same action.

We need a movement of millions of the poor, of workers, women, youth, students, prisoners, and all people dedicated to change, to build independent organizations that can't be bought or sold and will do the work necessary to be free.

We need a movement of millions

that is anti-imperialist, anti-racist, and that unites us, not divides us.

We need a movement of millions in the United States, and we must begin right here.'

Bring Mumia Abu-Jamal and Leonard Peltier home!

Free all Political Prisoners! End Mass Incarceration!

Shut down the Prison Industrial Complex!

What's the Call? Free Them All! 📺



May Day in San Diego.

SLL PHOTOS: SHARON BLACK



## HARRY BELAFONTE

By Gloria Verdieu

Harry Belafonte's album "Calypso," which included Day-O (The Banana Boat Song) and Jamaica Farewell, reached the top of the Billboard album chart shortly after its release in 1956 and stayed there for 31 weeks. It was said to be the first album by a single artist to sell more than a million copies.

His voice stirred hearts, many awakened for the first time to the melodies and rhythms of Caribbean music. The charismatic artist soon became the first Black actor to achieve major success in Hollywood as a leading man.

Belafonte starred in the iconic 1954 movie "Carmen Jones" with Dorothy Dandridge.

His 1957 movie, "Island in the Sun," was a romantic drama that dealt with social inequality and racism on a British-ruled Caribbean Island. That movie challenged the racist policies followed by the film industry. A bill was introduced in the South Carolina legislature that would fine any theater showing the movie.

Almost as soon as Belafonte's meteoric career blossomed, it ran into the wall of racism – a barrier designed to stifle the voices and words of Black and Brown people, to erase images that evoke a dream of equality, justice, and love between people.

Belafonte refused to perform in the South from 1954 until 1961.

When he arrived in Atlanta to appear in a benefit concert for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1962, a popular restaurant refused to serve him.

During the 1960s, Belafonte felt that Hollywood was not interested in the socially conscious films he wanted to make, and in turn, he was not interested in the roles that cast racist stereotypes. He turned to television and his 1960 TV special "Tonight With Belafonte."

"The show begins with images of hard labor while Belafonte belts a viscous version of 'Bald Headed Woman.' The whole hour is just



Harry Belafonte and Cuban President Fidel Castro

*Problems faced by people of color are 'as dire & entrenched as they were half a century ago'*

this sort of chilling: percussive work songs, big-bottomed gospel, moaning blues, dramatically spare sets that imply segregation and incarceration, the weather system that called herself Odetta. Belafonte never makes a direct speech about injustice. He trusts the songs and stagecraft to speak for themselves. Folks — Black folks, especially — will get it. It's their music," writes Peter Keepnews in the New York Times obituary.

The show won an Emmy, the first for a Black performer. However, after the first show, the contract was broken. According to Belafonte, the

sponsor, Revlon, asked him not to feature Black and white performers together.

The taping of a 1968 special with director Petula Clark was interrupted when Clark touched Belafonte's arm. The sponsor, Chrysler-Plymouth, demanded a retake. Later they apologized. Belafonte reportedly said: "The apology came one hundred years too late."

Harold George Bellanfanti Jr. was born on March 1, 1927, in Harlem, N.Y. His father, a chef on merchant ships, was born in Martinique. He changed the family's name. His mother, Melvine (Love) Bellanfanti, born in Ja-

maica, took jobs as a housekeeper. She took her son to Jamaica, where he spent some of his childhood living with relatives.

Belafonte dropped out of high school in Manhattan in 1944 to enlist in the Navy. Black shipmates introduced him to the works of W.E.B. Du Bois and other African American authors and urged him to study Black history.

Returning to New York after his discharge, Belafonte became interested in acting and enrolled at the Dramatic Workshop, where his classmates included Marlon Brando and Tony Curtis.

His lifelong friendship with Sidney Poitier began when both worked at the American Negro Theater in Manhattan. His first job was working as a stagehand.

From early in their careers, Belafonte and Poitier witnessed the unrelenting persecution by the U.S. government of Paul Robeson, the legendary Black freedom fighter who sought to use his enormous artistic talent to fight against racism in the U.S. and Western colonialism in Africa.

In "My Song: A Memoir," Belafonte wrote: My whole life was an homage to Robeson." He recalled, "Paul Robeson had been my first great formative influence; you might say he gave me my backbone. Martin King was the second; he nourished my soul."

Like Robeson, Belafonte fought for freedom at home and overseas. Like Robeson, he was blacklisted during the McCarthy era.

Belafonte emerged from the Civil Rights Movement as a mover and shaker. During the 1963 Birmingham campaign, he bailed King out of the Birmingham, Alabama, jail and raised funds to release other Civil Rights protesters. He contributed to the 1961 Freedom Rides, supported voter registration drives, and helped to organize the 1963 March on Washington.

His New York City apartment of-

*Continued on page 7*



# Justice for Jordan Neely!

By Stephen Millies

Only struggle forced Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg to charge Daniel Penny — the killer of Jordan Neely — with manslaughter. The white vigilante Penny choked to death Neely, a Black homeless man, on a New York City subway train on May 1.

The 15-minute-long strangulation was recorded on video and seen by millions. Even the medical examiner ruled the death of Jordan Neely to be a homicide.

Yet the ex-Marine Penny was let go by the cops at the subway station. New York City Mayor Eric Adams denounced not the killer but those who rightfully described Neely’s death as murder and a lynching.

Why wasn’t Penny taken to Rikers Island prison like the Black teenager Kalief Browder was? Accused of stealing a backpack, Browder spent almost three years in Rikers because he couldn’t afford bail. Browder’s charges were dropped, but he was so traumatized that he hanged himself two years later in 2015.

Jordan Neely’s death by the ex-U.S. Marine Corps sergeant was no accident. The Amsterdam News quoted Bill Doris’ Facebook post:

“Chokeholds kill. Cops are no longer allowed to use them. They stop blood flow to the brain. At 1 minute brain cells start to die, 3 minutes permanent brain damage, 5 minutes death. USMC-trained martial artists know that.”

It took 11 days after Jordan Neely’s death for Daniel Perry to be charged

with second-degree manslaughter. Many people believe that Perry should have been charged with murder.

District Attorney Bragg had to be compelled to bring any charges. So while Jordan Neely’s killer was walking free, police arrested those protesting the attempted cover-up.

The series of demonstrations that demanded justice for Jordan Neely reflected the anger of millions.

These protests included a May 6 action at the Lexington and 63rd Street subway station, where people jumped on the tracks, halting trains. Earlier demonstrations included hundreds of people marching from Brooklyn across the Manhattan Bridge.

### New York no different than Georgia

Labor Against Racist Terror spokesperson Johnnie Stevens compared the killing of Jordan Neely to the 2020 murder of the Black jogger Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia.

“The local Brunswick, Georgia, prosecutor refused to indict the white vigilantes who lynched Ahmaud Arbery,” said Stevens. “It took a long struggle by the local and national movement that forced the authorities to do anything.”

Jordan Neely was killed as homeless people are constantly being demonized by the corporate media. Migrants are being targeted by the super-bigot Texas Gov. Greg Abbott.

Mayor Adams has ordered police to hound poor people on the subways. Cops have attacked homeless encampments.



Meanwhile, the family of Manuel “Manny” Mayi is still waiting for his killers to be indicted. The 18-year-old Dominican honor student was lynched by a white racist mob on March 30, 1991, in Corona, Queens, New York City.

Some of Mayi’s killers may have become police officers.

“The labor movement needs to

take a stand against this racist terror,” said Johnnie Stevens. “We have to stand in solidarity with the migrants and all those being attacked.”

Frederick Douglass was right when he declared that “without struggle there is no progress.” Only mass struggle can stop the lynchings and police killings. [📺](#)

# Not another lynching!

Jordan Neely was lynched because he was Black, poor, and homeless. He was strangled to death in a New York City subway car on the afternoon of May 1.

Neely’s murder is no different than the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis policeman Derek Chauvin, who put his knee on Floyd for 9 minutes and 29 seconds. Or the death of Eric Garner, who cried “I can’t breathe” 11 times as he was choked to death by a cop in Staten Island.

It took 15 minutes to strangle Jordan Neely on the “F” subway line at the Broadway/Lafayette stop in Manhattan. The homicide was recorded on video.

The perpetrator, Daniel Penny, a white ex-Marine sergeant from West Islip, N.Y., wasn’t even arrested by police and was allowed to leave the scene. Nor were the person or persons detained who had assisted the killer by holding down the 30-year-old Black man.

The only arrests were several people demonstrating against this racist atrocity on May 3 in the subway station where Jordan Neely died.

The murder of Jordan Neely is linked to the campaigns against poor and homeless people by New York Mayor Eric Adams and the capitalist media. Homeless people are hounded, and police attack their encampments.

Thousands of cops infest the subway trains and stations, arresting people who can’t afford the \$2.75

fare. But they couldn’t stop the murder of Jordan Neely and refused to arrest his killers.

The U.S. capitalist government claims that its bloody trillion-dollar war machine defends freedom. Meanwhile, this regime can’t even stop lynch mobs in the capital of capitalism, New York City.

Thirty-two years ago, on March 30, 1991, 18-year-old Manuel “Manny” Mayi was murdered by a white racist mob in Corona, Queens, New York City.

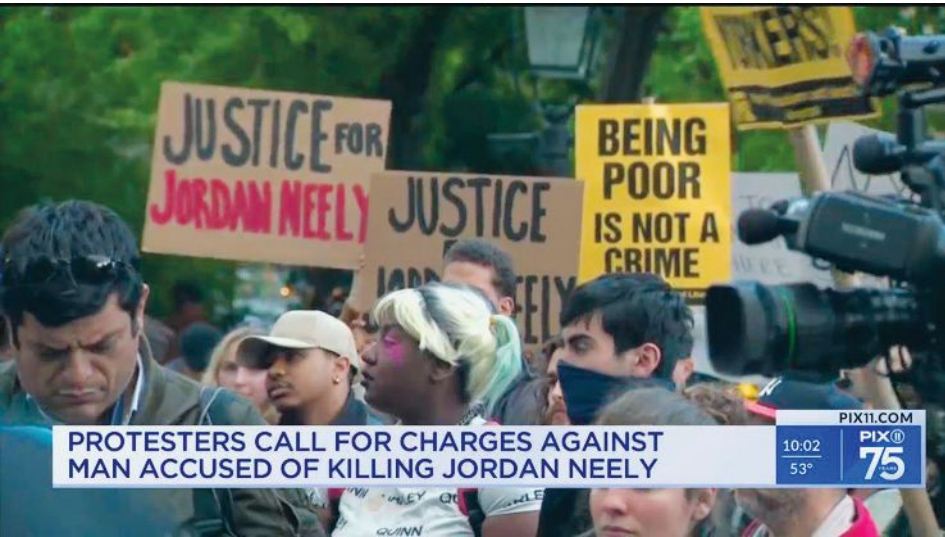
The Dominican honor student who wanted to be an engineer was killed two blocks from the former home of Louis Armstrong, now a museum. None of Manny Mayi’s killers were brought to justice; some may have become police officers.

Jordan Neely was murdered on May Day when millions of workers worldwide marched for their rights. The first workers’ May Day was on May 1, 1886. Hundreds of thousands of workers demonstrated across the United States for the 8-hour workday. Their leaders, the Haymarket Martyrs, were hanged in Chicago on bogus charges on Nov. 11, 1887.

The labor movement needs to speak out against racist killings, like the lynching of Jordan Neely. We need a new Solidarity Day to fight back against hate and cutbacks.

Bring the lynchers of Jordan Neely to trial!

No Justice, No Peace! [📺](#)



# Struggle can bring justice

By Stephen Millies

Poor and working people in New York City are horrified by the lynching of Jordan Neely on May Day. They want justice administered to Daniel Penny, the ex-Marine sergeant who strangled the Black homeless man to death on the subway.

On May 3, militant protesters filled the Lexington/Lafayette subway platform, where the train in which Jordan Neely was killed had stopped. Police arrested several of the protesters.

On May 4, hundreds gathered at the Barclays Center in downtown Brooklyn to express their outrage. Speakers, including Chivona Newsome and Hawk Newsome, co-founders of Black Lives Matter of Greater New York, denounced Neely’s lynching.

Protesters marched across the Manhattan Bridge into lower Manhattan. Drivers honked their horns in support.

On May 5, the Young Communist League organized a protest outside the office of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, who hasn’t

brought any charges against the killer Perry.

Later that Friday, hundreds of people went to Washington Square for a rally called by the Party for Socialism and Liberation; the Audre Lorde Project; ANSWER Coalition; the Palestinian Youth Movement; the People’s Forum; and family members whose loved ones were killed by police.

Many speakers denounced the cops for releasing Neely’s killer. Jordan Neely’s half-brother Queens spoke eloquently, describing his sibling’s talents and burdens.

Eugene Puryear of the Party for Socialism and Liberation ended the rally by calling for people to march. Hundreds of people took to the streets and ended up at Union Square, where another short rally was held.

On May 6, demonstrators courageously jumped onto the subway tracks at the Lexington Ave./63rd St. station to protest Neely’s death. Police, who let the killer of Jordan Neely go free, arrested several protesters.

People are demanding justice for Jordan Neely. [📺](#)



# What’s the matter with Montana? Deindustrialization and political reaction

By Stephen Millies

Why has the ruling class in Montana become so hateful? Transphobic bigots in the legislature banned Rep. Zooey Zephyr from speaking or even entering the chamber of the state’s House of Representatives.

Montana Gov. Gregory Gianforte signed the anti-transgender bills that Zephyr objected to, despite pleas from the governor’s son. “These bills are immoral, unjust, and frankly a violation of human rights,” said David Gianforte, who is non-binary.

The vicious legislation denies gender-affirming care to minors and endangers legal protections for transgender people. Drag shows on public property or anywhere young people might be present will be prohibited. That’s canceling everybody’s First Amendment right to free speech and could even threaten Halloween parades.

Gov. Gianforte is a super-rich thug who should have been jailed for body-slamming Guardian reporter Ben Jacobs in 2017. Jacobs had dared to ask Gianforte, who was running for Congress, a question about health care policy.

Even though Jacobs was hospitalized, Gianforte was sentenced to just 40 hours of community service and 20 hours of anger management therapy. Nobody on Fox News said the judge was “soft on crime.”

Gianforte sold RightNow Technologies, in which he had a large stake, to Oracle in 2011 for \$1.5 billion. That made Gianforte the richest member of the House of Representatives for a while.

Montana Sen. Steve Daines, who was then a RightNow executive, also made millions from the deal. The 100 employees who had their jobs shipped to Texas weren’t so lucky.

The dynamic duo of Gianforte and Daines then pushed in Congress for “cybersecurity” legislation that could result in megabuck federal contracts for Oracle.

Even though Gianforte has a degree in electrical engineering, the moneybags bully is no supporter of science. On the contrary, his tax-exempt family foundation is a big benefactor of the Glendive, Montana, Dinosaur and Fossil Museum.

This misnamed museum claims



the dinosaurs and human beings lived together and even shared space on Noah’s ark. Apparently, none of the humans were eaten or died of the smell.

This junk is being fed to school-children nearly 100 years after the Scopes “Monkey Trial,” in which Tennessee teacher John Scopes was fined for teaching evolution. Yet it’s Drag Queen story hours that are being banned.

## Militant history of struggle

Plenty of people in Montana are disgusted by the bigots in the state legislature. In a state with a population that’s less than half that of Brooklyn, N.Y., a quarter-million people voted against Gianforte in the 2020 election for governor.

The bigots running the state certainly don’t speak for 75,000 Indigenous people living in Montana. State representative Johnathan Windy Boy, a member of the Chippewa Cree Tribal Council, defended Zooey Zephyr. He schooled the legislature about transgender people in Indigenous nations who are often called two-spirit.

The Mountain State’s lurch to the right betrays the militant history of the working class there. The Butte Miners Union was founded in 1878. Butte was known as the tightest union town on earth.

These unions, including the Western Federation of Miners, the Industrial Workers of the World, and the Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers, waged strikes for decades.

IWW organizer Frank Little was lynched in 1917 for organizing a strike against Anaconda Copper.

Future communist leader William F. Dunne carried on the struggle and founded the socialist Butte Miner, which became a daily newspaper.

Dunne, like Zephyr, was elected to Montana’s House of Representatives but was arrested on state sedition charges because of his opposition to World War I. His attorney was future U.S. Senator Burton K. Wheeler. Dunne was convicted, but Montana’s Supreme Court threw out the charges.

Havre, Montana, was the center of the American Railway Union’s 1894 strike against the Great Northern, forcing James J. Hill to rescind wage cuts.

When the former locomotive fireman and ARU president Eugene Debs ran for president in 1912, the Socialist Party candidate got nearly 14% of the vote in Montana. In 1932, Communist presidential candidate William Z. Foster and his running mate James W. Ford got nearly 18% of the vote in Sheridan County, in Montana’s northeastern corner.

Foster had been the organizer of the 1919 steel strike. Ford had been a Black postal worker in Chicago.

The Sheridan County sheriff’s office was decorated with a poster calling for the freedom of union organizers Tom Mooney and Warren Billings. The two were framed for a bombing in San Francisco and sentenced to death by hanging.

There was worldwide outrage and protests. Lenin and the Bolsheviks surrounded the U.S. embassy in 1917. President Woodrow Wilson was compelled to beg California Gov. William Stephens to commute their sentences to life imprisonment. The labor movement finally forced California to free Mooney and Billings in 1939.

## Dispersing the working class

The ruling class always tries to poison public opinion. As late as 1959, Anaconda Copper owned seven daily newspapers in Montana. All of them parroted Anaconda’s lies.

A big reason for the rise of polit-

ical reaction in Montana is the dispersal of the working class. Many of the mines have closed. Unions have shrunk.

Only 1,500 people in Montana still have mining jobs. Butte has a smaller population today than it did in 1920.

Anaconda is exploiting copper miners in Chile instead. The corporation celebrated the bloody overthrow of elected President Salvador Allende on Sept. 11, 1973, in which thousands were killed.

With the help of the CIA and Henry Kissinger, the corporation took back the mines that the people of Chile had taken over.

The massive 90% drop in railroad workers since 1947 particularly hurt states like Montana, which are large in land area with thousands of miles of track but sparsely populated.

The Northern Pacific, now part of Warren Buffet’s BNSF, closed its shops in Livingston, Montana. The tracks of the old Milwaukee Road line to the Pacific Northwest were largely abandoned.

Montana and neighboring Idaho have also attracted a certain number of racists and neo-Nazis. They have a nightmare vision of creating an all-white state in western Montana, northern Idaho, and nearby areas.

Idaho is even more in the grip of reaction than Montana, but it, too, has a history of labor struggles. U.S. troops were sent to crush miners’ strikes in the 1890s.

Idaho Sen. Glen Taylor was the running mate of Presidential candidate Henry Wallace in the 1948 elections. They ran against racism and the Cold War.

For defying segregation laws during the campaign, U.S. Senator Taylor was clubbed by Bull Connor in Birmingham, Alabama. As a result, Taylor was arrested and convicted for violating the segregation laws. Connor would later use dogs and fire hoses against Civil Rights Movement demonstrators in 1963.

We look forward to future struggles in Montana and Idaho as part of an upsurge of workers and oppressed peoples. Walmart employs nearly 5,000 employees in Montana. Organizing drives will win union contracts for Walmart’s workers and thousands of others in Montana and Idaho.

Solidarity with Zooey Zephyr! 🍷

# Migrants not welcome, Biden sends troops to border

By Alejandra Garcia

On March 27, a fire at a migrant center in Juarez City, on the border with the United States, brought the world’s attention back to a problem that has worsened in recent years. Forty undocumented migrants from various countries in the region died in the fire. They are just a small fragment of the thousands who die and thousands more who endanger their lives while seeking asylum in the United States, where they are not welcome.

What are the causes of the increasing migratory flows in Latin America? What are the situations faced by those who decide to leave their country? What public policies

are being implemented? These questions are repeated year after year, the answers are almost always the same, and the “solutions” usually exacerbate the problem.

Migration has been increasing since the second half of the 20th century due to the rising inequality, decreasing labor supply, violence, food insecurity, increasingly fierce weather events, and the absence of public policies to help the most vulnerable to escape poverty. In recent years, the COVID-19 pandemic also accelerated the increase of migrants along the shared U.S.-Mexico border.

According to a December 2022 New York Times publication, U.S. Border Patrol agents recorded nearly 2.4 million apprehensions along the entire

southern border in one year. In March of this year, the number of migrants apprehended by U.S. immigration authorities increased by 25% as the Joe Biden administration prepares for a major policy shift this May.

The policy known as Title 42, which allowed for the expedited deportation of undocumented immigrants due to health reasons, will cease to be in effect. The Trump-era order is set to lapse once the national COVID-19 public health emergency expires on May 11. This week, the Homeland Security Department offered a statement to the press on what “solutions” the Biden administration will seek to contain the possible increase in border arrivals now that the nefarious Title 42 will

no longer be in effect.

“After May 11th, our court-compelled use of Title 42 will end, and we will once again process all migrants under Title 8 of the United States code. The return to processing migrants under Title 8 authorities will be swift and immediate,” Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas explained.

But what does this Title 8 mean? First of all, it will not offer a substantial change from the xenophobic policy implemented by former President Donald Trump, so often criticized by Biden during his 2020 election campaign.

In the second place, the regula-

Continued on page 5



# U.S. judicial system's bias against workers

By Lallan Schoenstein

There are various concepts of the law. One often hears reference to “Constitutional Law.” The U.S. Constitution, with the passage of the Judiciary Act of 1789, did not extend equal rights to people kidnapped from Africa, the Indigenous population, women and other oppressed genders, or those without property — only white men with substantial property holdings.

Constitutional law was written primarily to protect the rights of private property. This “Constitutional law” is presented as intractable rules carved into marble, with the upholders as sacrosanct.

At the same time, others call on the law to protect and support the advance of human society.

Recently this concept of the law was affirmed in Cuba by the passage of the 2022 Family Code. In a 2022 referendum, 67% of the vote approved a constitutional reform that provided for the protection of all forms of families, including chosen families; the rights of children, elders, and the right of people with disabilities to independence, dignity, accessibility; the right of gender equality, including for trans and nonbinary Cubans; and a duty to contribute to the family and recognition of the value of domestic labor; and finally the institutional and community responsibility to uphold these rights.

In a debate on the U.S. judiciary, various U.S. Republican and Democratic think tanks raise the difference between elected and appointed judges. While they acknowledge that elections are a more democratic option, they claim that judges and judicial rulings should be based on an “objective interpretation of the law and therefore must not be influenced by public opinion.”

U.S. federal judges, Supreme Court justices, Court of Appeals judges, and District Court judges are nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. State judges are chosen by appointment or an election.

## Corporate lawyers become judges

A study conducted by Emory University found that former prosecutors and corporate lawyers make up nearly 7-in-10 judges in the federal district courts, which consider cases over employment, immigration, the environment, and other topics.

Judges appointed by former President Barack Obama who have a background as prosecutors are most likely to decide in favor of employers. Obama-appointed judges with corporate backgrounds are 36% less likely to rule on behalf of employees.

Further, former President Donald Trump’s judges are overwhelmingly white and male, with one-quarter coming from the country’s 200 biggest law firms.

After an investigation of judicial stock holdings in the U.S., the Wall Street Journal reported in 2022 that 152 federal judges improperly heard 1,076 court cases between 2010 and 2018 in which they or their family members owned shares of companies that were plaintiffs or defendants in the litigation. In two-thirds of those cases, they ruled in favor of the company.

## The Supreme Court

Public opinion on the nature of the Supreme Court has sunk to an all-time low, and in December, Chief Justice John Roberts urged, “We must support judges by ensuring their safety.” However, he notably said nothing about the revelations of the judges’ gross breach of ethics.

A ProPublica report on April 6 centered public attention on Harlan Crow, a Dallas, Texas, real estate magnate who has given more than \$13 million in publicly disclosed political contributions to right-wing political campaigns and judicial appointments.

Featured in the ProPublica report were Crow’s undisclosed contributions to Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and his wife, far-right activist Ginni Thomas. Ginni Thomas co-founded the secretive right-wing strategy group Groundswell with Steve Bannon.



Republican operative lawyers Peter Rutledge, Leonard Leo, and Mark Paoletta are depicted with United States Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and Republican donor Harlan Crow in this painting by Sharif Tarabay. The canvas is both set at Crow’s lavish Adirondacks resort, Camp Topridge, and part of the compound’s decor.

down key provisions of the Voting Rights Act.

The Scalia law school faculty includes Justice Gorsuch, Justice Thomas, and Justice Kavanaugh.

Documents show how Scalia Law has offered the justices academic cocoon, where their legal views can be promoted, where they are given top payouts and treated to “teaching” trips abroad, where their personal needs are anticipated from lunch orders to — in Justice Gorsuch’s case — house hunting.

When the law school courted Gorsuch in 2017, it asked him to help choose the Italian city where he would co-teach a seminar on national security and the separation of powers. A memo offered options including Padua (a “first-tier city in a picturesque setting”), Venice (with a “seven-mile-long-sandbar known as Lido”), and Bologna (“Italy’s most prestigious academic city”).

“Fantastico!” Gorsuch responded.

As a Roll Call report points out, the Supreme Court justices have no formal limits outside the annual financial disclosure requirement. “Other federal judges are bound by the Code of Conduct for U.S. Judges, which places strict limits on honorariums, gifts and political activity. But the code does not apply to Supreme Court justices.”

Justices Gorsuch and Kavanaugh each made salaries approaching \$30,000 for teaching summer courses that generally ran for up to two weeks.

Many justices have augmented their government salaries, roughly \$300,000, by holding classes at schools including Harvard, Duke, and Notre Dame.

Justice Amy Coney Barrett, Trump’s final appointee to the high court, recently felt obliged to say, in a speech at the University of Louisville, “My goal today is to convince you that this court is not comprised of a bunch of partisan hacks.” Barret is a longtime faculty member at Notre Dame.

The Scalia law school creates the perks programs for the justices in far-flung locations. Justice Gorsuch has traveled to Iceland and Italy to teach; Justice Kavanaugh has taught in Britain.

Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Thomas regularly used the employees in their chambers to coordinate their outside academic duties in performing activities for which extra compensation was to be received.

“The school has also been able to entice the court’s liberals: Justice Elena Kagan, who has called for the court’s conservative and liberal wings to rediscover ‘common ground,’ Kagan joined Justice Gorsuch as a distinguished guest when he taught his summer course in Iceland in 2021. Justice Sonia Sotomayor spoke on a Scalia Law panel with him the same year,” the New York Times reported. [\[1\]](#)

ProPublica details trips gifted by Crow in super yachts and private jets for luxurious holidays at properties owned by Crow in Indonesia, New Zealand, California, Texas, and Georgia.

Harlan Crow is also involved in refurbishing and selling a Thomas property in Savannah, Georgia.

The mainstream media reports on the Thomas bribes often contrast them to the “untarnished ethical standards” of the other Supreme Justices.

Chief Justice John Roberts has declined to respond to a Congressional request to investigate Justice Clarence Thomas. Maybe he is overwhelmed with more revelations about the Supreme Court Judges.

For example, Politico reported that Supreme Court Justice Neil M. Gorsuch gained nearly \$2 million in the sale of a 40-acre property on the Colorado River. It was sold to Brian Duffy, chief executive officer of the prominent law firm Greenberg Traurig in May 2017, just one month after Gorsuch was sworn in as a Supreme Court associate justice.

The Greenberg Traurig law office represented the state of North Dakota in a dispute over the Environmental Protection Agency’s authority in regulating carbon emissions as part of the Clean Air Act.

Gorsuch was part of a six-member majority on the Supreme Court that ruled last June in favor of North Dakota and other Republican-led states to cut back the EPA’s authority to regulate carbon emissions from existing power plants.

## Funding a far-right agenda

Scalia Law School at George Mason University in a Virginia suburb of Washington, D.C., was funded with \$30 million by Leonard Leo, an executive of the Federalist Society, in 2016.

Leo’s scheme is to shift the federal judiciary to a far-right agenda. He boasts of significant ties to the Vatican. He has spent millions of dollars in television advertisements attacking schools for teaching “critical race theory” and “WOKE agendas.” His initiatives are financially supported by an opaque, sprawling network of wealthy patrons such as the Koch Foundation, usually through anonymous donations commonly called “dark money.”

The network has spent nearly \$504 million, including grants to about 150 allied groups. Leo’s efforts have been turbocharged by an unusual \$1.6 billion infusion from Barre Seid, a Chicago electronics manufacturing (Tripp Lite) mogul, in late 2020.

Among the school’s most notorious alumni was William Consovoy, a Supreme Court clerk who helped persuade the high court to strike

# Biden sends troops to border

Continued from page 4

tion would disqualify migrants from asylum if they enter the U.S. illegally after failing to ask for protection in a country other than the one they fled that they traversed to reach American soil. According to CBS News, the rule is likely to be challenged in court by migrant advocates, who have denounced it as a Trump-like effort to gut U.S. asylum laws.

Biden also plans to deploy more than 1,500 military troops to the border to “contain” the flow of undocumented immigrants into the country.

Biden’s desperate and erratic actions and the death of 40 people in the migrant detention center, just a few kilometers from the U.S. border, shows that the Biden Administration is clueless and the crisis is far from being solved. What happened also proves that the fate of undocumented migrants, once they are quickly removed from U.S. territory,

cannot be the sole responsibility of the Mexican government.

“What happened also speaks to the internal political tensions, of Central America and other southern countries, of the caravans and the dissonance between good intentions and reality. The border is a vital and bureaucratic abyss for tens of thousands of people waiting to define their status after a long and dangerous journey through the Darien jungle,” journalist Francesco Manetto described.

There is an urgent need for more diagnostic work and research on the situation of migrants, the “criminalization” to which they are subjected, the closing of borders to vulnerable foreign populations. There is a need to make visible that migration policies based on “national security” can hardly guarantee respect for the rights and needs of migrants who are human beings in the first place.

Source: *Resumen Latinoamericano* – English



# U.S. LGBTQ+ delegation travels to Cuba to learn about new Families Code

By Gregory E. Williams

On May 8, the U.S. Friends Against Homophobia and Transphobia delegation, led by Women in Struggle – Mujeres en Lucha, met with Cuban activists at the National Center for Sex Education (CENESEX) headquarters in Havana. These activists represent multiple LGBTQ+ organizations, including TransCuba, La Red HSH (the Network of Men Who Have Sex with Men), and the Network of Lesbian and Bisexual Women in Cuba. These are autonomous organizations of people from these communities that work closely with CENESEX, which is under the Ministry of Health.

Before departing for Cuba, our delegation began learning about Cuba's revolutionary new Families Code. But it was incredible to be among these activists — to hear about their work, life experiences, and analysis of the ongoing revolutionary process in Cuba. These activists vividly conveyed how far Cuba has come, rising from a legacy of colonialism and patriarchal values, even while impeded by Washington's criminal blockade.

They were completely candid about problems of homophobia and transphobia in Cuba, with resistance to progressive change coming especially from the U.S.-funded evangelical movement. An activist with the Network of Lesbian and Bisexual Women in Cuba explained the problems with these reactionary forces, putting them in historical context. Nevertheless, these problems of backward mentalities in some people are not comparable to the neo-fascist attacks in the United States on LGBTQ+ people, women, people of color, and the working class more broadly. There is a stark difference between the social systems in the two countries, and this accounts for the difference in the political situation.

In the U.S., there is an imperialist capitalist class that can exist only so long as the people are divided. This tiny class of exploiters has a material interest in spreading division and alienation. For them, it is a necessity. They accomplish this task not just through rhetoric — that is,



Cuban and U.S. LGBTQ+ activists have discussion at CENESEX headquarters in Havana.

SLL PHOTO

by talking about divisive issues in the misnamed “culture war” — but by materially carrying out attacks that cost lives. For example, now, the billionaire-funded fascist politicians are cruelly blocking access to gender-affirming care for children, youth, and adults, when this is shown to reduce suicide; these politicians know very well that their policies are a form of violence against some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

By contrast, in Cuba, the working class is in power. There, the government uses all available science to develop its stance toward LGBTQ+ people, as with other social questions. We learned from doctors when visiting a Cuban polyclinic later in the day that CENESEX's work is integrated across all health institutions as part of the Ministry of Health. The Communist Party, the mass organizations of the Cuban people, the autonomous networks, etc., work together to transform society in a progressive way. This is demonstrated by the way that the new Families Code was developed through countless hours of outreach, with people meeting in every part of the island to discuss this important step not only for the Cuban people but for the social evolution of humanity.

### A continuation of the Cuban Revolution

One activist emphasized that this process can't be exported. That is because this is a continuation of the Cuban Revolution, which has stood against imperialist aggression since 1959. In the United States, there is no close connection between the government and the people. We do not have progressive mass organizations that can develop, through ongoing conversation, a shared vision for moving forward as a society. On the contrary, we have a growing crisis of legitimacy in all existing institutions and not just the strictly political ones.

A legal advisor for CENESEX, Sonia Zaldivar, explained to us that this Families Code “was conceived and resulted from many years of fighting and the study of science. ... By combining every type of knowledge — from the streets, from the academy, from other countries — [a Families Code was crafted] that stayed true to our conception of life. After 26-27 versions of the document, which changed with discussions across society, the Code went into effect with over 60% approval.”

While U.S. lawmakers are attempting to prevent discussion of LGBTQ+ life in schools, Cuba is ensuring that schools include lessons about sexu-

al orientation and gender identity in the curriculum. The law affirms that parents have a responsibility to teach their children about these things and to respect their children's identities.

Cuba has redefined marriage and the family structure to include all types of actually existing families, from those with LGBTQ+ parents to households led by grandparents. The patriarchal nuclear family does not capture the reality on the ground, and in Cuba, it is no longer privileged in the legal framework. The new Code even gives more rights to step-parents (including step-fathers or step-grandparents) who have dedicated themselves to the care of a child.

Even though this process cannot be exported, we can learn from the tremendous experience of the Cuban people about how to make a revolution for a humane society. We have to make our own revolution. And we should understand that the blockade is not only an economic one targeting the Cuban people and causing them to suffer. It is also a blockade of knowledge, with people in the U.S. being denied information about Cuba's achievements — not to mention solidarity and material benefit, for example, if U.S. people could access Cuba's lung cancer vaccine.

In the U.S., there is a near-total media blackout on the new Families Code, as with other matters. The imperialists do not want us to know about this achievement. But, as the Biblical saying goes, “you cannot light a candle and hide it under a bushel.” This Families Code is a light, and it is vital that people in the U.S. and other countries learn what is possible in this time when the bourgeoisie and their fascist shock troops attempt to roll back every right we have gained. The Cuban experience teaches us the necessity of struggle. We must and will struggle.

End the blockade! Build solidarity between people in the U.S. and Cuba!



### Los Angeles

A fundraiser was held at the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice in Los Angeles on April 23 to help with travel costs for activist Jordan Slack who will join an LGBTQ+ delegation sponsored by Women in Struggle. This solidarity trip with Cuba will give participants an opportunity to learn about Cuba's revolutionary new family code. Delegates will return to the U.S. armed with the truth about Cuba and what we can learn from their experience.

PHOTO: SHARON BLACK



# Biden nukes Korea, builds anti-China alliances

By Gary Wilson

On April 26, in the “Washington Declaration,” the Biden administration announced that the U.S. would be docking nuclear-armed submarines in South Korea for the first time since the 1980s. The U.S. had withdrawn its open nuclear weapons from South Korea in 1992 with the “Joint Declaration of South and North Korea on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula” treaty.

Although it was widely believed that the U.S. continued to secretly deploy nuclear weapons in Korea, this move by the Biden administration is a blatant violation of the denuclearization treaty.

The deployment of nuclear-armed submarines is an escalation bringing the Korean peninsula to the “brink of a nuclear war,” the Korean Central News Agency reported on May 1.

“So far, the U.S. has staged large-scale combined military exercises and all sorts of war drills against the DPRK [Democratic People’s Republic of Korea],” the Pyongyang daily Rodong Sinmun reported on May 1, referring to the mass flight of U.S. Air Force nuclear-capable B52 bombers over the Korean peninsula on April 5. Now, the U.S. is “deploying strategic nuclear bombers, nuclear carrier task forces and even strategic nuclear submarines near the territorial waters of the DPRK and makes it public.”

The U.S. has not attempted to conceal that the exercises were intended to simulate an attack on the DPRK.

Rodong Sinmun continues, “What is more serious is that U.S. President Biden dared to make frantic and reckless remarks about ‘the end of regime’ [of] the DPRK while becoming vociferous about a ‘swift, overwhelming and decisive response’ at a press conference after the talks.”

North Korean leader Kim Yo Jong said Biden’s threat should not be dismissed as simply a “nonsensical remark from the person in his dotage.”

She said, “When we consider that this expression was personally used by the president of the U.S., our most hostile adversary, it is threatening rhetoric for which he should be prepared for far too great an af-

ter-storm.”

The more the U.S. is “dead set on staging nuclear war exercises, and the more nuclear assets they deploy in the vicinity of the Korean peninsula, the stronger the exercise of our right to self-defense will become in direct proportion to them.”

### Third-largest U.S. military occupation

According to data from the Pentagon, about 30,000 U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea, the third-largest military presence outside the country after Japan and Germany. In addition, U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) operates about 90 combat planes, 40 attack helicopters, 50 tanks, and some 60 Patriot missile launchers.

The “Washington Declaration” was part of a summit between President Biden and South Korea’s far-right President Yoon Suk Yeol.

“According to the New England Korea Peace Campaign, Boston Candlelight Action Committee, and Massachusetts Peace Action, which are preparing to hold a protest on Friday, April 28, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, during Yoon’s visit to Harvard, ‘Since entering office, Yoon’s right-wing administration has expanded costly and provocative U.S.-ROK military exercises, heightened tensions with North Korea, rolled back workers’ rights, threatened to abolish the ministry of gender equality, and has taken many other actions to undermine struggles for peace and justice in South Korea,’” Simone Chun reports.

“Yoon’s state visit comes at a time when South Korea is experiencing unprecedented crises on the political, economic, and national security fronts as a consequence of the Biden administration’s unrelenting pressure on South Korea to join the U.S. anti-China bloc,” Chun adds.

The joint statement issued by Biden and Yoon Suk Yeol did not explicitly mention China, but it did make several references to the “free and open Indo-Pacific,” which is seen by many as a code phrase for “containing” China.



The statement also declared, “The Presidents reiterated the importance of preserving peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait as an indispensable element of security and prosperity in the region.”

### Ending ‘One China’ policy

The U.S. is now targeting Taiwan, virtually ending the “One China” policy that recognizes that Taiwan is part of China. In recent years, the U.S. has increased arms sales to Taiwan, sent high-level officials and Congressional delegations, and conducted joint military exercises with Taiwan. In addition, the U.S. has quadrupled the number of U.S. troops on the island.

Washington is building a system of alliances throughout the Indo-Pacific as part of its war build-up against China. These alliances include the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) — Australia, India, Japan, and the U.S. — and the AUKUS pact made up of Australia, Britain, and the U.S.

On April 11, Al Jazeera reported that the U.S. and the Philippines began their largest-ever military drills, including a live-fire exercise on a ship in the South China Sea.

The drills, known as Balikatan, have about 12,200 U.S. troops, 5,400 Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) members, and representatives from other countries, including Australia. Balikatan means “shoulder to shoulder” in Tagalog.

The Philippines recently agreed to allow the U.S. access to more military bases under the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA). Nine EDCA bases are planned, with four directly facing Taiwan. The Philippines is also increasing military ties with Japan.

Biden has persisted in his aggressive rhetoric on Taiwan. He told CBS News last September that he would send U.S. troops to “defend” Taiwan. Then, in a significant break with the long-standing U.S. “One China” policy, he added: “Taiwan makes their own judgments about their independence... That’s their decision.”

Of course, Taiwan is part of China and not “independent.” Any U.S. military invasion to “defend” Taiwan would be an act of war against China.

### China not an imperialist power

As Foreign Policy magazine noted recently, “China is not a superpower.” The report uses the term superpower to avoid the more direct and accurate phrase imperialist power, which the U.S. tries to deny.

“The United States is undoubtedly a superpower, with a worldwide network of alliance agreements and overseas bases enabling it to deploy and move forces rapidly between various theaters,” FP reports. “China, however, is only a regional power. It wields global economic power and influence, but the geographic reach of its military is largely limited to the Asian and Indo-Pacific theaters.”

The United States has direct and unhindered access to the Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic oceans. China has limited access to the Pacific and is mostly hemmed in by major island chains it does not control.

Imperialist “gunboat diplomacy” requires boats, and airplanes need airfields to operate in far-flung regions. China has none of them, either.

China has only one overseas base — its naval facility in Djibouti, staffed with 400 Chinese marines.

While the U.S. Navy plows the world’s oceans daily, the Chinese navy conducts missions only in its own Indo-Pacific area.

A superpower means military and economic dominance over other countries, which China has never had. The U.S., in contrast, has hegemonic dominance over countries in every continent because no other state is in a position to challenge its dominance, FP concludes. [E]

## HARRY BELAFONTE

Continued from page 2

ten served as a headquarters for the Civil Rights Movement. Belafonte wrote that Dr. Martin Luther King “wrote the outline to his 1967 anti-war speech denouncing the Vietnam War in my apartment.”

Belafonte described a trip with Sidney Poitier in Freedom Summer 1964 to deliver the desperately needed funds he had raised to the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in Greenwood, Mississippi. The Ku Klux Klan threatened them from the moment their small plane touched down.

Belafonte was a longtime critic of U.S. foreign policy. He made statements opposing the U.S. embargo on Cuba; praising Soviet peace initiatives; attacking the U.S. invasion of Grenada; praising the Abraham Lincoln Brigade; honoring Ethel and Julius Rosenberg; and praising Fidel Castro.

Belafonte was active in the anti-apartheid movement. He was a board member of the Trans Africa Forum and the Institute for Policy Studies. He helped organize a cultural boycott to end apartheid in South Africa.

In 2005, Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez initiated a program to provide cheaper heating oil for poor people in the United States. Belafonte supported this initiative. He was quoted as saying during a meeting with Chávez, “No matter what the greatest tyrant in the world, the greatest terrorist in the world, George W. Bush says, we’re here to tell you: Not hundreds, not thousands, but millions of the American people support your revolution.”

The comment ignited a great deal of controversy. Hillary Clinton refused to acknowledge Belafonte’s presence at an awards ceremony. AARP (American Association for

Retired Persons), after naming him one of its 10 Impact Award honorees in 2006, released the statement: “AARP does not condone the manner and tone which he has chosen and finds his comments completely unacceptable.”

Belafonte and Danny Glover met with Chávez in January 2006 when they led a delegation, including activist/professor Cornel West, to meet with the Venezuelan president.

When the people of St. Denis, France, named a street for U.S. political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal in May 2006, Harry Belafonte recorded a video message to be presented at the ceremony.

Speaking about Haiti in 2011 on Democracy Now, he noted that the U.S. has a pattern in looking at the devastation that takes place in regions where they have great interests. And they move in, first and foremost, to look at how to use the moment of distress to further those interests.

In 2013, Belafonte was named a grand marshal of the New York City Pride Parade alongside Edie Windsor and Earl Fowlkes. Windsor won a legal victory for the same-sex marriage rights. Earl Fowlke is the President/CEO of the Center for Black Equity (formerly the International Federation of Black Pride - IFBP).

Harry Belafonte wrote a New York Times opinion article in 2016 urging people not to vote for Donald J. Trump, whom he called feckless and immature, a flim flam man. “What Langston Hughes so yearned for when he asked that America be America again was the realization of an age-old people’s struggle, not the vaporous fantasies of a petty tyrant. Mr. Trump asks us what we have to lose, and we must answer, only the dream, only everything.”

Harry Belafonte, born Harold George Bellanfanti Jr., joined the ancestors on April 25, 2023. He was 96 years old.

Lallan Schoenstein contributed to this article.



# Remember Khader Adnan, martyr of freedom

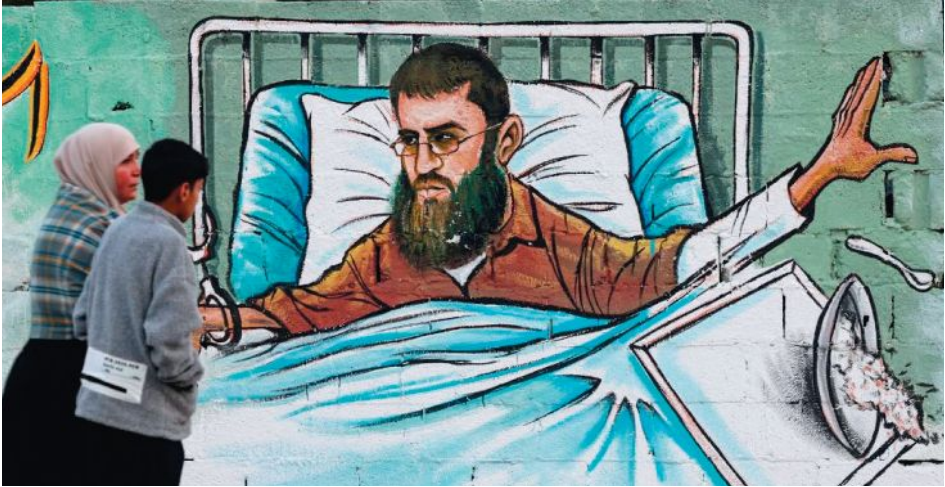
By Lev Koufax

On May 2, Palestinian resistance leader, rights activist, and prisoner Khader Adnan died at the age of 45 after an 87-day hunger strike. He leaves behind his spouse Randa Adnan and nine children, who are now without their father. Adnan came to international prominence as a symbol of Palestinian human rights due to his continued hunger strikes against the inhumane practice of administrative detention common throughout Israel-occupied Palestine.

The administrative detention procedure allows Israel to detain people for renewable periods of 6 months without filing charges or a trial. The IDF and other Israeli security forces use the procedure to indefinitely detain Palestinians for “activities that threaten regional security.”

The IDF arrested Adnan for the 12th time on February 5. This was far from Adnan’s first hunger strike, but it would tragically be his last. Unfortunately, the IDF’s use of administrative detention to repress Palestinian life came to define Adnan’s own life.

For the past 20 years, the IDF has constantly harassed and arrested Adnan for alleged political activity with the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine. The Jihad Movement is a militant organization dedicated to freeing Palestine from Israel’s apartheid clutches. From all accounts, Adnan stopped his in-



Palestinians walk past a mural depicting Khader Adnan in Gaza City on 2 May 2023.

volvement with the Jihad Movement in 2005 after serving as their spokesperson for five years.

The IDF and the Palestinian National Authority arrested Adnan five times previously. These detentions and corresponding hunger strikes were relatively short compared to the stint in 2005 and those that followed. The IDF held Adnan for 15 months without charge in 2005. In response, Adnan held a 12-day hunger strike in support of all Palestinian prisoners. This was the beginning of his more prominent hunger strikes against Israeli apartheid.

In 2011, the IDF arrested Adnan again, even though it was 100% confirmed that Adnan was no longer the Jihad Movement spokesperson. The IDF raided Adnan’s home in the

middle of the night and arrested his entire family, including Randa Adnan, who was pregnant, and their young children. One cannot help but be reminded of the Chicago Police Department’s midnight raid that resulted in the execution of Fred Hampton and injury to Akua Njeri, who was pregnant.

While detained in 2011, IDF soldiers beat Adnan, deprived him of sleep, and made sexual-laden threats against Randa Adnan. When Randa was finally allowed to visit him in 2012, she found him starved, dirty, and shackled to a hospital bed after a 50-day hunger strike.

This is the true face of the enemy that the Palestinian people face every day. This is the real Israel – sexism, racism, brutality. The interrogation

itself lasted 18 days. At the time of Adnan’s 2011 detention, Israel held over 300 Palestinians in administrative detention, including 21 members of the Palestinian legislative body.

Through all this, Adnan was never formally charged or tried. Safe to say, even if Adnan organized militant resistance against Israeli forces, he would have been justified.

Adnan was detained again in 2014, 2015, 2017, and 2021 – every time without charge or trial. And every time, Adnan refused to take the repression quietly. He never stopped fighting for the liberation of all Palestinian people. Hunger strike after hunger strike, many lasting a month or more, Adnan persisted in his cause to stand in solidarity with all political prisoners and demanded an end to Israeli apartheid.

Mainstream media may call Adnan a terrorist or a dangerous criminal even as he no longer walks this earth. However, the Palestinian people know the truth. Anti-Zionists know the truth. We all know the truth. Adnan was neither a criminal nor a terrorist. He was a liberation fighter. He is now a martyr for the ongoing struggle for Palestinian liberation. That is how we will remember Khader Adnan.

Khader Adnan presente! Down with Israel! From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

# Israeli occupation forces launch brutal attacks on Gaza

By Lev Koufax

Since Khader Adnan died on May 2 after 86 days of refusing food in protest of his detention in an Israeli prison, the apartheid government’s terror campaign against Gaza has only escalated.

Beginning May 9, the Israeli Air Force launched a series of brutal attacks against densely populated Gazan residential areas. The Israeli attacks across the Gaza Strip have killed 30 people, including six children. In addition, more than 90 Palestinians have been wounded, including many elderly.

As part of this terror campaign, Israel assassinated senior Al-Quds Brigades commander, Iyad Al-Hassani. This is the sixth Al-Quds Brigades commander assassinated in their homes by Israel in as many days.



The IDF martyred Al Hassani in a

massive strike against the Al-Nasr neighborhood in western Gaza City. Several children were killed as well. Al-Hassani has led Palestinian resistance operations in Gaza City on behalf of Palestinian Islamic Jihad for 26 years, including operations against illegal Israeli settlements during the Second Intifada.

The Israeli strategy is clear, cut the head off of Palestinian militant resistance no matter the cost. No matter how many children are killed or orphaned — no matter the overall cost of human life.

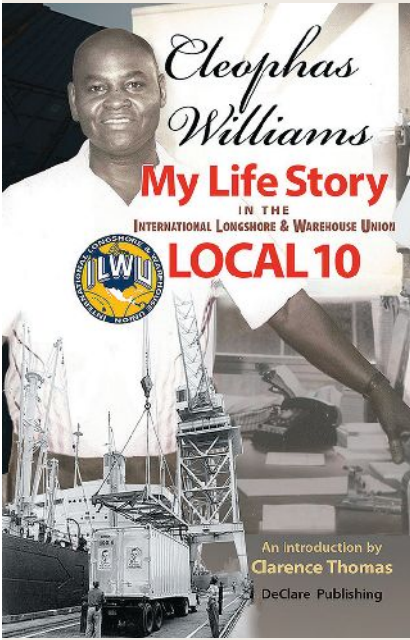
Absolute brutality is the only way for Israeli apartheid to survive. Consequently, militant resistance is the only way it will fall. CNN, MSNBC, and Fox News will continue to spread the lie that Palestinian resistance against Israeli occupation is criminal or terrorist. Israel is not the victim in this situation. The Zionists are the aggressor at the behest of their imperialist backers in Washington, D.C.

It’s as if the Palestinian people are supposed to take their genocide lying down. History demonstrates that they will and should do no such thing.

From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

## New Book released on May Day 2023

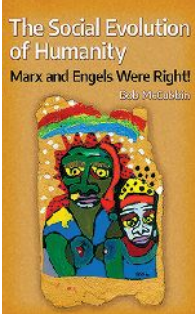


The history of African Americans in the Int’l Longshore & Warehouse Union in San Francisco is indeed worthy of documentation. Such an individual is Cleophas Williams, whose distinguished career as a member of the Local 10 spanned 38 years. Cleophas Williams’ election as president of ILWU Local 10 in 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



Paperback or Kindle? <https://tinyurl.com/vwarcv7>

## The Social Evolution of Humanity Marx and Engels were right! by Bob McCubbin

This study of the evolution of humanity focuses on human social/sexual relations and, in particular, the changing social status of women. It offers a selection of scientific evidence that updates and augments the viewpoint expressed in Frederick Engels’ masterful work, ‘Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State.’

McCubbin is the author of ‘Roots of Lesbian and Gay Oppression: A Marxist View.’ Published in 1976, during the first wave of the modern LGBTQ2S movement, McCubbin’s unparalleled achievement was to offer a historical analysis of how LGBTQ2S oppression developed.

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# TSEUA niega acceso a información de la Junta de Control Fiscal

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Si el Primero de Mayo arrestaron a 3 líderes de la lucha boricua por intentar llegar camino del Banco Popular, hacia la meta final: el edificio que alberga a la Junta de Control Fiscal, una reciente decisión del Tribunal Supremo de Estados Unidos, definitivamente ha encendido la mecha de un verano de resistencia en este archipiélago.

El pasado 11 de mayo, ese Tribunal gringo reafirmó la condición colonial de este país, al negar el acceso a información de la Junta dictatorial al pueblo boricua.

Una Junta que desde su imposición en el 2016 bajo la Ley PROMESA del Congreso estadounidense, se ha convertido en el más cruel verdugo del pueblo, eliminando derechos y leyes, promoviendo la privatización y el encarecimiento de los servicios públicos, y tantos crímenes más contra la población que han causado una migración forzada de nuestra gente.

Y encima, ahora ni se les puede cuestionar bajo una supuesta Inmunidad Soberana bajo la Constitución de EUA. Pero es que para unas cosas es una entidad estadounidense donde les rigen sus leyes, pero para otras que le convienen para imponer

políticas en contra del pueblo, le rigen las leyes del gobierno de Puerto Rico.

Por ejemplo, desde el 1982 el gobierno de PR no posee inmunidad en cuestión al acceso de información, así que bajo esa ley, deberíamos tener la información que requerimos.

Pero la determinación del la Corte Suprema en esta demanda puesta por el Centro de Periodismo Invesigativo a nombre del pueblo de PR no se va a quedar en el limbo. Tanto en la corte



como en la calle se seguirá insistiendo hasta que saquemos a la maldita Junta.

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

# 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 trabajos de poda de árboles, que aquí es la causa mayor de in-

terrupciones 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 imperialistas y no para beneficiar a su matrícula boricua.

Pero, precisamente porque no está



atada a uniones yanquis, la Utier sigue luchando por exponer 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.

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

# Repression in Puerto Rico

By Berta Joubert-Ceci

This week the priorities of this government have been very clearly exposed: on the one hand, the unjustified arrest of three well-known leaders of the union and people's struggle during the May 1st demonstrations; and on the other hand, the false charges against Mariana Nogales, a legislative representative who is well known for her fight for the environment, for LGBTQ+ rights, and against government corruption.

There are many details in both cases, but what is really important is to know what these cases represent, which involve a police force that is under investigation for its unjustified attacks against demonstrators and a "justice" system that opens a so-called judicial process through the questionable Office of the "Special Independent Prosecutor" at the request of two complainants from the Legislature who, in themselves, are the ones who should be in the

public eye accused of misogyny and corruption.

This pro-statehood NPP government, in collaboration with the pro-statehood Popular Party, has begun a campaign of hatred against protesters and their leaders and any leader like legislator Nogales, who represents a threat against their corrupt governments. In this case, Nogales belongs to the Movimiento Victoria Ciudadana, which, together with the Puerto Rican Independence Party, is advancing a joint effort to defeat the bipartisanship that has done so much damage to our country in the 2024 elections.

But, contrary to the government's goal, what is happening is that despite the media submissive to the government's corporate interests, there are many sectors of the people who are learning about the mafia-like and corrupt affairs of the government and its cronies, and as they say, "the tables will turn" on the government.



Police arrest Eva Ayala on May Day in Puerto Rico.

PHOTO: XAVIER J. ARAÚJO BERRÍOS

All our solidarity to these people who do represent us: Mariana Nogales, Eva Ayala from EDUCAMOS, Jocelyn Velázquez from Jornada Se Acaban Las Promesas, and Josué Mitjá, president of UTIER.

*From Puerto Rico, for Radio Clarín de Colombia, Berta Joubert-Ceci*

Translation: Resumen Latinoamericano – US



# Represión en Puerto Rico

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Esta semana se han expuesto muy claramente las prioridades de este gobierno: por un lado, arrestan injustificadamente a tres conocidos líderes de la lucha sindical y del pueblo durante las manifestaciones del 1ro de mayo; y por el otro, le someten cargos fatulos a Mariana Nogales, una representante legislativa que es muy conocida por su lucha por el medioambiente, por los derechos LGBTPlus, y en contra de la corrupción del gobierno.

Hay muchos detalles en ambos casos, pero lo que verdaderamente es importante, es saber qué representan estos casos que atañen a una policía que está bajo sindicatura por sus ataques injustificados contra manifestantes, y un sistema de “Justicia” que abre un proceso dizque judicial a través de la cuestionada Oficina del “Fiscal Especial Independiente” a pedido de dos querelantes de la Legislatura que de por sí,

son los que deberían estar en la pal-  
estra pública acusados de misoginia y corrupción.

Este gobierno PNP estadista, en colaboración con los estadolibristas Partido Popular, han comenzado una campaña de odio contra manifes-  
tantes y sus líderes y cualquier líder como la legisladora Nogales, que represente una amenaza contra sus gobiernos corruptos. En este caso, Nogales pertenece al Movimiento Victoria Ciudadana, que junto al Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño, está avanzando un esfuerzo conjunto para que en las elecciones del 2024, se derrote el bipartidismo que tanto daño le ha hecho a nuestro país.

Pero, contrario a la meta del gobierno, lo que sí está sucediendo, es que pese a los medios sumisos a los intereses corporativos gubernamentales, hay muchos sectores del pueblo que están conociendo los asuntos mafiosos y corruptos del gobierno y sus secuaces, y como se dice, “se le volteará la tortilla” al gobierno.



PHOTO: RAMÓN "TONITO" ZAYAS

Parte de los manifestantes marchan por la Avenida Ponce de León este lunes, 1 de mayo.

Toda nuestra solidaridad a estas personas que sí nos representan: Mariana Nogales, Eva Ayala de ED-UCAMOS, Jocelyn Velázquez de Jornada se Acabaron Las Promesas, y Josué Mitjá, presidente de la UTIER.

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



# Detenidos y acosados los brigadistas del NNOC

Por National Network on Cuba

Varios de nuestros brigadistas del Primero de Mayo fueron detenidos, acosados, amenazados con ir a la cárcel y la Patrulla Fronteriza de Aduanas de EE.UU. les confiscó sus aparatos electrónicos al regresar hoy de Cuba. Ante la persecución, reafirmamos nuestro derecho a viajar a Cuba. LA SOLIDARIDAD NO ES UN CRIMEN – ¡EL BLOQUEO DE EEUU LO ES!

Esta es una arremetida contra el activismo de solidaridad con Cuba. NNOC está con los miembros de @peoplesassembl\_ y @ushandsoffcuba detenidos al regresar de Cuba esta semana; así como @APSPusa, @Puentesdeamor1, Puerto Rico CSC y activistas de Oklahoma que han sido blanco del gobierno de EE.UU. este año.

Los EE.UU. dicen que Cuba es un estado policial represivo, pero en realidad, experimentamos la libertad por primera vez en Cuba, y cuando pusimos un pie de nuevo en los EE.UU., nos encontramos inmediatamente con la represión estatal, interrogatorios hostiles, confiscación de bienes personales y amenazas ilegítimas.



SLL PHOTO: CHERYL LABASH

No olvidemos que nuestro viaje a Cuba fue completamente autorizado y legal. Este acoso por parte del gobierno de EE.UU. intenta asustar e intimidar al pueblo de EE.UU. para que no viaje a Cuba y se solidarice con el pueblo cubano. Pero sabemos que nuestra solidaridad nunca puede ser bloqueada.

Desde las primeras brigadas de EE.UU. a Cuba, hemos sido seguidos, acosados y confiscados por la Patrulla Fronteriza y el FBI. Hoy, fuimos interrogados claramente en una naturaleza política, con preguntas diseñadas para obstruir nuestro movimiento contra el bloqueo.

Por encima de todo, esta reacción

nos recuerda por qué nuestro trabajo es tan importante. Unidos, ¡nunca retrocederemos! Únete a nosotros para pedir a Biden que levante el bloqueo, saque a Cuba de la lista de “Estados patrocinadores del terrorismo” y devuelva Guantánamo a Cuba. 📌

# NNOC brigadistas detained and harassed

By National Network on Cuba

Several of our May Day brigadistas were detained, harassed, threatened with jail time & had electronics taken by U.S. Customs/Border Patrol on return from Cuba today. In face of persecution, we reaffirm our right to travel to Cuba. SOLIDARITY IS NOT A CRIME – THE U.S. BLOCKADE IS!

This is an onslaught against Cuba solidarity activism. NNOC stands with @peoplesassembl\_ & @ushandsoffcuba members detained returning from Cuba this week; as well as @APSPusa, @Puentesdeamor1, Puerto Rico CSC & Oklahoma

activists who have been targeted by the U.S. government this year.

The U.S. says Cuba is a repressive police state, but in reality, we experienced freedom for the first time in Cuba, & when we stepped foot back into the U.S., we were immediately met with state repression, hostile interrogation, seizure of personal property & illegitimate threats.

Let's not forget that our trip to Cuba was completely licensed & legal. This harassment by the U.S. government attempts to scare & intimidate the U.S. people out of traveling to Cuba & building solidarity with the Cuban people. But we know that our

solidarity can never be blockaded!

From the very first U.S. brigades to Cuba, we've been followed, harassed & had our personal possessions seized by Border Patrol & the FBI. Today, we were interrogated clearly in a political nature, with questions designed to obstruct our movement against the blockade.

Above all, this backlash is a reminder of why our work is so important. United together, we'll never back down! Join us in calling on Biden to LIFT the Blockade, take Cuba OFF the list of “State Sponsors of Terrorism,” and give Guantánamo BACK to Cuba. 📌

