

- ▶ En peligro juventud boricua
- ▶ Eventos del Cerro de los Mártires
- ▶ Mujeres en Lucha rechaza hostilidad de EE.UU. y la UE hacia Cuba

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# STRUGGLE ★ LA LUCHA

*for Socialism / por el Socialismo*



# Jail Trump for racism & war crimes

By Stephen Millies

The whole world witnessed the insurrection in the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, that sought to overturn the 2020 presidential election. So why did it take two and a half years to finally indict Trump on Aug. 1 for trying to steal the votes?

Federal prosecutor Jack Smith never lacked evidence. Trump's fingers were all over the attempt to reverse the election.

Secret Service agents close to Trump tried to take Vice President Mike Pence to Andrews Air Force Base to stop the counting of electoral votes. Gen. Charles Flynn, the brother of Trump's first national security advisor Michael Flynn, delayed sending troops to the capitol for 187 minutes.

Trump made calls to state officials demanding changes in the vote totals.

Key to Trump's conspiracy was attempting to steal Black votes in Atlanta, Detroit, Milwaukee, and Philadelphia. Election workers were threatened and harassed by pro-Trump mobs.

Accompanying all of the Trump indictments is the burning hatred of tens of millions in the working class who know the danger that Trump represents. This is particularly so in Asian, Black, Indigenous, and Latinx communities.

For many, it was as if the segregationist former Alabama governor and presidential candidate George Wallace had made it to the White House.

Trump isn't being indicted for his bigotry and encouragement of racist violence. He's not being prosecuted for keeping immigrant children in cages and denying them health care.

No mention is made of Trump's continuing occupation and bombing of Syria. Or his other war crimes, like the assassination of Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani, who was on a dip-



Rally in Niamey, Niger on July 30. See pages 10 and 11.

lomatic peace-making mission when he was murdered in Baghdad by a U.S. drone.

Both Iran and Iraq have asked for Trump's extradition for the murders of General Soleimani, Commander Muhandis, and five others.

### The wealthy scorn democracy

Nobody should think that Trump's behavior is out of the ordinary for the super-rich. Many big capitalists support Trump, including hedge fund operators as well as oil and gas frackers.

That's how he got to the White House in the first place. Many of the 756 U.S. billionaires are just as greedy, crude, and bigoted as Trump.

The "old money" in Philadelphia made the fascist Frank Rizzo Philly's mayor. Their police bombed the MOVE house on May 13, 1985, killing 13 Black

people, including six children.

None of the U.S. billionaires refused Trump's tax cuts. That includes former New York mayor and current Trump critic Michael Bloomberg, whose \$94 billion stash is almost 40 times larger than Trump's.

Bloomberg spent \$250 million to buy three elections as the Big Apple's mayor. That's as corrupt as anything Trump did.

The New York Times attacks Trump. Yet the newspaper endorsed Rudolph Giuliani (the "No. 1 unindicted co-conspirator" in the latest Trump indictment) for reelection as New York City mayor in 1997.

Giuliani should have been jailed decades ago for presiding over a trigger-happy police force whose cops fired 41 bullets at Amadou Diallo, killing the African immigrant.

As Trump's top accomplice, Giuliani bragged that he kicked 640,000 New Yorkers off public assistance.

The wealthy and powerful scorn democracy. They find it repulsive that the vote of a homeless person — or any poor and working people — should count as much as theirs.

Oil billionaire H.L. Hunt wanted a social order in which the wealthiest individuals could cast the most votes. Hunt even wrote a novel entitled "Alpaca" describing this monstrosity.

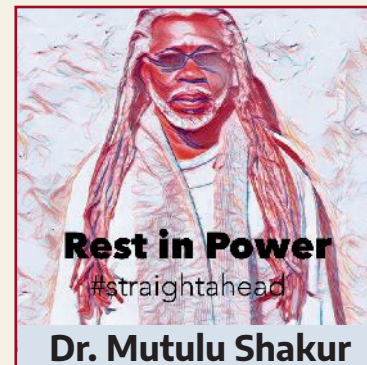
Utah Senator Mike Lee says the United States isn't and shouldn't be a democracy. Reactionary columnist David Harsanyi wants to "weed out ignorant Americans from the electorate."

Wall Street Journal editorial page editor Robert Bartley justified George W. Bush going to the White House de-

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- ▶ Minnie Bruce Pratt, presente!
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Pentagon expands troops for Ukraine



SLL PHOTO: STEPHEN MILLIES  
 Cuban UN Ambassador Gerardo Peñalver

- ▶ NYC salutes Cuban Revolution
- ▶ Women in Struggle solidarity with Cuba
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# The revolutionary spirit of Minnie Bruce Pratt

By Bob McCubbin

Minnie Bruce Pratt died July 2, 2023, in Syracuse, N.Y. See <https://minniebrucepratt.net>

It was a cool sunny morning at a La Jolla Shores outdoor café where I first met Minnie Bruce Pratt. Maybe I should more accurately say “briefly met” since, to avoid any possible distraction from an intense personal/political discussion in the offing between revolutionary communist and transgender warrior Leslie Feinberg and this author, Minnie Bruce, with no prompting from either Leslie or me, almost immediately after some brief introductory chat, smiled and moved with her coffee cup to an unoccupied table some distance from Leslie and me. It was only later, as the three of us found occasions when we were in the same city at the same time for precious, if all too brief rendezvouses, that Minnie Bruce’s brilliance, beauty, and devotion to supporting the struggles of the most oppressed among humanity’s billions, captured my heart.

The love of Minnie Bruce’s life was Leslie Feinberg, and, equally, the love of Leslie’s life was Minnie Bruce. In Leslie, Minnie Bruce saw, expressed in each and all of Leslie’s many contributions to the struggle for social justice (as a journalist, novelist, and Marxist theoretician, as an organizer of many of the most significant political mobilizations of the time, and as a political leader in the front ranks, whose inspiring speeches won many a young trans or gender nonbinary youth to the struggle) ... Witness to these attributes, Minnie Bruce saw Leslie as a bellwether of the future of humankind, when, with the return of communal society at a higher level of technology, all of humanity will be able to regain the autonomous patterns of life lived in harmony with the natural world by our pre-private property ancestors.

In Minnie Bruce, Leslie found the profound sensitivity, understanding, and love that had always been elusive in her previous relationships. (See her semi-autobiographical novel *Stone Butch Blues*.) And Minnie Bruce was herself a courageous fighter, had always been a fighter, had fought the homophobic, transphobic, racist state that took her children from her to punish her for her audacity in coming out publicly at a time and place when and where it was simply outrageous and unacceptable to do so. From the point of view of the racist Southern establishment, she must be punished for being a proud lesbian, a fiercely anti-racist activist, and an outspoken opponent of imperialist war.

I’m unqualified to write about Minnie Bruce’s phenomenal achievements as a revolutionary lesbian poet. Our all too infrequent get-togethers were dominated by the exchange of personal snippets from our own lives and serious discussions about current local, national, and world political developments. In what smacks, to me, of blatant, politically motivated misrepresentation, Minnie Bruce’s *New York Times* obituary (NYT, 7/16/2023) conveniently ignored her longtime active membership in Workers World Party and her active role for many years as a contributing journalist to and managing editor of that Party’s newspaper. This shameless imperialist mouthpiece focused, instead, only on her many literary accomplishments.

But any obituary celebrating her life would be incomplete without acknowledgment of those well-deserved honors. In the *Times*’ article, Penelope Green writes, “Minnie Bruce Pratt, a feminist poet and essayist whose collection ‘Crime Against Nature,’ which mapped her despair, anger and resilience after losing custody of her children when she came out as a lesbian, earned one of poetry’s highest honors and made her a target of hard-right conservatives.” What’s missing here and what clearly stood out among Minnie Bruce’s many personal qualities was her fight-back, struggle spirit. Minnie Bruce Pratt lived her life as a dedicated fighter for all the poor and oppressed of this tortured planet. Long live her spirit! Long live her revolutionary example!

Bob McCubbin, the author of “*The Social Evolution of Humanity: Marx and Engels were right!*” (2019) and “*The Roots of Lesbian and Gay Oppression: A Marxist View*” (1976), is a writer for *Struggle-La Lucha* and a member of the Socialist Unity Party.



Leslie Feinberg and Minnie Bruce Pratt, Boston.

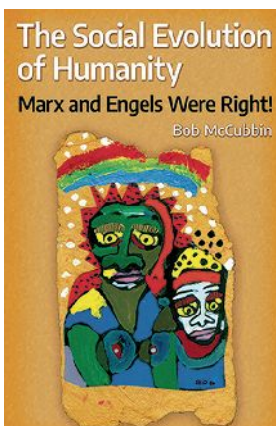
PHOTO: MARILYN HUMPHRIES © 2003

## All That Work No One Knows

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

(From “*Inside the Money Machine*,” 2011, Carolina Wren Press)

We’re not machines, you know. There’s only so much we can take,  
Always more than we can, until we can’t. Today I hold the weight  
Low in my belly and back, guts coiled tight from work at my desk.  
Flat on the mat at the gym, I pull my legs open, my hipbones press  
Down like knives, slicing pain, my estranged being biding out down  
There. Knees up, rocking side to side, the pendulum rhythm, time  
Inside me, belly clock, basket of bone. What else have I carried?  
Two babies, rattling inside a shaking gourd, little fish in a reed creel.  
Each I hauled, both of us, around for months, like an oak-splint  
Laundry basket hiked in front of me with both hands, steady balance  
Until I could pull out the heavy wet baby and hold it up to dry.  
All that work no one knew about but me. I wove sinew, vein, artery,  
Eyes and hair. Night and day. All that work no one knew about but me.  
I was down south when I carried them. Later I came up north to learn  
These cities, these other rivers, the work at the long eddy and curve  
Where rafts of timber waited to float down at Basket-Switch,  
Where the railroad finally came to pick up blue flagstones piled high  
At the dock, the men who mined the mountain ribs by hand and chisel,  
The women packing apples into barrels, into baskets, into wooden lugs,  
A thousand trainloads from orchards they tended that finally rotted  
To the ground, the people gone, the words between gone to the air.  
What’s left now are pyramids of fruit piled up in supermarkets,  
A few saleable kinds, the red of Jonathan, Cortland, Sweet Winesap,  
And the grass giving way to other trees, the valley down river  
Flowing dense as midnight even in mid-day, growing dark again.  
Somewhere, further west, a first woman weaves her Delaware  
Basket again. Somewhere a basket is brought to her grave  
And the weave torn through, or her last pot brought and broke,  
So all her life of work runs out, down and back into the ground,  
Past her head and her hands, her belly, her feet, to where it came.  
The fumbled load we carry, the jumble, our lives unknown,  
We who make and are shaped, we who hold and are held.



## 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.

# The Supreme Court has no compassion for working-class families!

By Gloria Verdieu

The following was presented as part of a discussion of the Supreme Court's recent rulings on affirmative action, LGBTQ+ rights, and student loans. The court outlawed affirmative action against racism, endorsed discrimination against LGBTQ+ people, and backed bank usury on student loans.

This was on the WBAI program "Voices of Resistance," hosted by Lucy Pagoda-Quesada and Andreia Vizeu. Listen here: [tinyurl.com/3w4t7p94](https://tinyurl.com/3w4t7p94)

When I heard about the Supreme Court decision on affirmative action, I was saddened but not surprised.

The decision comes amid a gradual rolling back of several laws that protect society's most vulnerable people, including abortion rights, gun safety laws, voting rights, housing, livable wages, and health — mental and physical — as well as climate change — so many issues. But once again, the Supreme Court chose the path that will make it more difficult and miserable for the working class currently facing a huge financial crisis.

This ruling overturns a longstanding precedent that had previously benefited Black, Indigenous, Latino, and Asian students in higher education due to an apparent historic lack of opportunities for those students. The court's decision that considering race as a specific factor in admissions violates the Equal Protection Clause.

Why is race the only factor being scapegoated? There are many forms of admission preferences for affirmative

action, such as athlete scholarships, legacy, and donor admissions.

A study published in the National Bureau of Economic Research found that 43% of white students admitted to Harvard University were recruited ALDC's, shorthand for athletic recruits, legacies (relatives of Harvard Alumni), children of faculty and staff — applicants whose parents or relatives have donated to Harvard.

The study found that 75% of the white students admitted from those categories would have been rejected if they had been treated as white non-ALDCs.

In June 2022, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade — declaring that the constitutional right to abortion, upheld for nearly 49 years, no longer exists.

In August 2022, Biden announced a student loan forgiveness plan. However, this plan was officially ruled out by the Supreme Court in June 2023.

President Biden criticized the decision and responded, "This is not a normal court," and confirmed that discrimination still exists in America. Biden urged colleges and universities to continue to try to achieve diversity on their campuses by considering the hardships that their applicants have faced in their lives.

Even though the Supreme Court's decision is final, they have no power to enforce it. Biden has the power. The people must take it to the streets and fight these oppressive attacks against the working class.

These issues — affirmative action,

women's right to choose, voting rights, reparations, police brutality, mass incarceration, and the whole criminal justice system — are all domestic issues that affect families. The family is the base of society. When families are in crisis, the whole of society is in crisis.

Here is where we look to socialist Cuba, which just recently replaced the Family Code that went into effect on March 8, International Women's Day, creating one of the most basic conditions for the further development of the revolution. The Family Code was approved in a national referendum by nearly two-thirds of voters.

What we need to look at is the process used to pass Cuba's new Family Code in September 2022. All citizens over 16 years of age were eligible to vote in the Families Code referendum. Cubans at home and abroad were involved in the decision-making process. Some 6.5 million people participated, a show of true participatory democracy.

Cuba's Family Code promotes the right to a family life free from violence and unprovoked stress. A life that values love, affection, solidarity, and responsibility.

The Supreme Court has shown no compassion toward working-class families. They are not addressing real issues such as livable wages, guaranteed income, homeless individuals, affordable housing, voting rights and ease of voting, free health care, and free education for all, protecting the environment — issues that contribute to building happy, healthy families.



Gloria Verdieu

The Supreme Court really serves no purpose that is worth preserving. It is time for the people to abolish it. Issues affecting the lives of the working class should be decided by the people through participatory democracy.

Issues like removing Cuba from the list of State Sponsors of Terrorism, ending the U.S. blockade, getting the U.S. out of Guantanamo, and normalizing relations with Cuba must be decided by the people.

We must fight for a stronger affirmative action that is truly for leveling the playing field for Africans and all oppressed people. We all know that regardless of what corporate media says, affirmative action — one way to equalize the playing field for formerly enslaved people — has benefited many oppressed groups, including white women.

For true equality, we need to study socialism. We need a socialist revolution. 📌

## TAMPA 5 SOLIDARITY: 'Protesting is not a crime'

By Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau

New Yorkers answered the call from Students for a Democratic Society for a national day of action for the Tampa 5 on July 12. They gathered during the evening rush hour outside New York City Hall with banners, signs and chants to demand: "Protesting is not a crime, justice for the Tampa 5!"

Last March 6, five students and campus workers at the University of Southern Florida in Tampa Bay — Chrisley Carpio, Gia Davila, Lauren Pineiro, Laura Rodriguez, and Jeanie K — were brutally attacked by campus police during a peaceful protest against Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis's attacks on diversity, equality, inclusion (DEI) and multicultural programs. The five women were arrested on trumped-up felony charges, with three of them facing up to 10 years in prison.

A June 21 update from the Tampa 5 reports: "The state attorney had offered one plea deal to potentially drop the charges in exchange for us admitting guilt for attacking police and writing letters of apologies to the cops. We refused to tell such a lie and sell out the movement, and we now face a deepened legal attack as a result.

"It is clear that the prosecutors want to make an example of us and quell social movements by throwing



SLL PHOTOS: MELINDA BUTTERFIELD

us into prison. We will need all the support we can get to keep our freedom and see justice."

Speakers at the New York rally included Sharif Hall and Michela Martinazzi of New York Community Action Project, Nina Macapinlac of Bayan USA, Raphael Agosto-Miranda of New York Boricua Resistance, Melinda Butterfield of Women in Struggle and Socialist Unity Party, Tony Murphy of Workers World Party, and Jessica Lee of Freedom Road Socialist Organization.

"In Ron DeSantis's Florida, trans people like me can't use public restrooms without facing arrest or receive life-saving gender affirming health care," said Melinda Butterfield. "The Tampa 5 fought for me and all trans people, for immigrants, for students and educators who want ethnic studies, for all of us. And we must fight for them." 📌



# NATIONAL MARCH

## To Protect Trans Youth & Speakout for Trans Rights

### SAT OCT 7 12 NOON

#### HANDS OFF PRIDE!

**Orange & Anderson (near City Hall)**  
**Orlando Florida**

**Reverse DeSantis's bans** on trans healthcare, restroom access, Black and Queer history  
**End attacks on our communities** BIPOC, immigrants, Chinese citizens & LGBTQ+ people  
**Free, legal, accessible abortions** **Stop censorship and attacks on civil liberties** of teachers, students, books and people's history **Demand federal government enforce civil rights** in Florida, Texas, Montana, Tennessee and everywhere **Expand Medicaid and SNAP**  
**Stop voter disenfranchisement** **Drop charges on the Tampa 5**

Add your organization/name **Get involved!** **Sign up at: [ProtectTransKidsMarch.org](https://ProtectTransKidsMarch.org)**

Partial list of endorsers:  
 Women in Struggle-  
 Mujeres en Lucha;  
 Queer Youth  
 Assembly; PRISM,  
 South Florida;  
 Christynne Lili Wrene  
 Wood, 2023 San Diego  
 Champion of Pride;  
 Center for Constitutional  
 Rights; Tampa Bay Community  
 Action Committee; Real Name  
 Campaign, NOLA; Pride At  
 Work Eastern Massachusetts  
 The Queer Notion, Tampa;  
 Transpired Media; Louisiana  
 Women's Rights  
 Action Committee;  
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 Queers; United  
 American Indians  
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 Andre Powell,  
 retd. delegate,  
 Baltimore MD  
 CLCI, AFL-CIO\*;  
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 Peoples Power  
 Assembly;  
 Harriet Tubman  
 Center for  
 Social Justice,  
 Los Angeles.  
 \*for ID only

# A RACIST SCAB

By Stephen Millies

Jason Aldean — whose music video “Try That in a Small Town” is an incitement to racist violence — was born in Macon, Georgia. Macon isn’t a small town, but it has a terrible racist history. The Black man Paul Jones was burned alive there by a white mob on Nov. 2, 1919.

The Bibb Mills was the largest textile plant in the city. One of the Civil Rights Movement’s greatest triumphs was getting Black workers hired in Southern textile mills.

When Ezell Blair, Jr., Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeill, and David Richmond began their sit-in at a Woolworth’s lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, on Feb. 1, 1960, just 3.3% of textile workers were Black. Eighteen years later, in 1978, African Americans “held a quarter of all production jobs in the Southern textile industry.” (“Hiring the Black Worker, The Racial Integration of the Southern Textile Industry, 1960–1980,” by Timothy J. Minchin)

Excluding African Americans from these factories became as necessary as lynching to the white supremacist terrorist regimes that followed Reconstruction’s bloody overthrow. It was the key to manipulating and brainwashing white workers who were so desperately poor themselves.

Rebel yells and cross-burnings weren’t enough to do this. White sharecroppers and small farmers living in poverty could unite with African Americans in similar conditions.

They did so sometimes during the populist movement that shook the South in the 1880s and 1890s. This was noted by Howard University history professor Rayford W. Logan in his book “The Betrayal of the Negro, from Rutherford B. Hayes to Woodrow Wilson.”

In 1895 North Carolina’s state legislature adjourned for a day upon hearing that Fredrick Douglass died. “Fusionists” — Populists and largely Black Republican voters — kept re-electing George H. White, the last Black member in the U.S. Congress.

But in 1898, Black people were driven out of Wilmington, North Carolina, in a bloody massacre. In 1901 George H. White gave his farewell speech in the House of Representatives, declaring that African Americans would “rise-up some day” like a “Phoenix.”

The Bibb Mills in Macon also refused to hire Black workers. The management there was just admitting class truth when they blurted out that “Negroes are more prone to join unions.” (Minchin)

Bibb used the Klan to crush a union organizing drive at their plants during the CIO’s “Operation Dixie” campaign in 1945 and 1946.

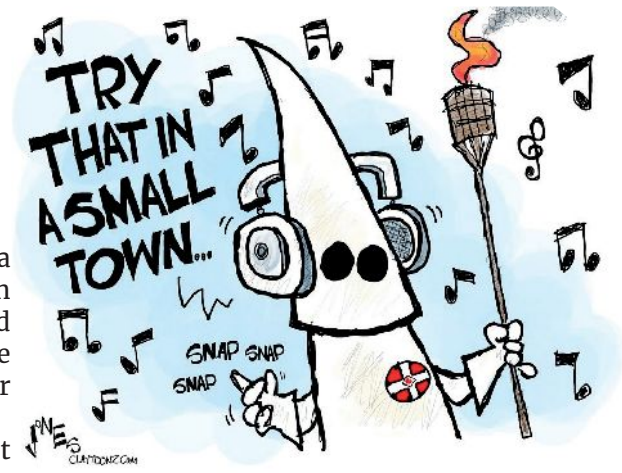
Twenty years later, in 1966, Bibb Mills helped put “Machine Gun” Ronnie Thompson in Macon’s city hall. This mayor got his nickname by handing out submachine guns to local cops.

He used the outline of a Thompson submachine gun in campaign literature and handed out lapel pins in the shape of this weapon. (After all, it was his namesake.)

Police were given “shoot to kill” orders by this racist mayor. In 1968, Thompson even moved a National Guard tank to a playground in a Black community.

The Bibb Mills are now closed. White and Black workers lost their jobs. Macon was devastated by the hundreds of jobs destroyed.

Jason Aldean’s racism doesn’t help



any poor and working people. People in small and big towns will support UPS workers if they strike. Workers at Amazon and everywhere else need union wages, benefits, and protection.

Jason Aldean is just a scab. [X]

## NYC transit fares have risen 58 times since 1948 Transit and rent hikes are wholesale robberies

By Stephen Millies

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority is raising the fare on New York City’s buses and subways to \$2.90 on Aug. 20. Transit fares are also going up in the Washington, D.C. area and on the BART system serving San Francisco Bay communities.

Until July 1, 1948, New York City’s subway fare was a nickel. Since then, the fare will have increased 58 times.

Nobody’s wages have risen like that. Certainly not those of the Metropolitan Transportation Agency’s employees, 177 of whom died of the coronavirus while keeping the region moving.

At the same time, rents are going through the roof across the United States. Despite protests, New York City’s Rent Guidelines Board has authorized 7% rent increases over two years in a million apartments. Gotham’s landlords can charge whatever they want in another million unregulated dwellings.

Median rents have increased over six times in California since 1980, from \$283 per month to \$1,750 in 2021. (Median means half the rents are below these figures and half are above.)

Rent hikes in the Golden State are 43% above the average inflation rate. That’s criminal. No wonder California has 28% of the homeless people in the United States.

Wage increases don’t mean much if your landlord can steal most of it. Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve System banksters are jacking up interest rates on mortgages.

The Fed’s chairperson, Jerome Powell, worries that there are not enough people who are unemployed and living in misery. He actually thinks wage increases cause inflation, not the price fixers in the corporate boardrooms.

So why did President Biden appoint Powell to another term in charge of the country’s central bank?

Dead animal capitalists and other food industry monopolists have taken advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic to raise their prices by 20% since 2020. These rip-offs are the reason 53 million people had to use food banks in 2021.

### Roll back prices, rents and fares!

We need a rollback in prices on everything we need to live. Let’s start with the price of public transportation.

Transit Workers Union founder Mike Quill — who died of a heart attack after being jailed for leading a strike — once called for free fares.

For a worker going to and back from their job five days a week, the new \$2.90 fare is a weekly \$29 wage cut. Making the fare free means a \$29 weekly wage increase or about \$1,500 annually.

Already New York City, Boston, and

Kansas City, Missouri, have experimented with free bus routes. This should be made a national program.

The White House and Congress have spent at least \$77 billion on a bloody war in Ukraine provoked by the United States and its NATO allies. Instead of spending this money to kill people, why not use it to have free transit programs across the United States?

That would be a big help to the lowest-paid workers as well as students and the unemployed. It could create thousands of jobs.

While transit fares in New York City will be 58 times as much as they were 75 years ago, the capital of capitalism is the only city in the world with fewer transit lines than it had in the 1940s.

That’s because elevated lines like the Third Avenue El in Manhattan and the Bronx were torn down without being replaced by subways. Service on some commuter railroad routes — such as the West Shore line along the Hudson River — were abandoned.

Only a tiny portion of a Second Avenue subway planned a century ago has been opened.

In contrast, the socialist People’s Republic of China built 62 new metro lines in 35 cities in 2021.

Despite the conflict in Ukraine, Moscow’s subways are still gleaming. We need peace with the Russian Federation and China and free fares on buses, subways, and streetcars. [X]



SHL PHOTO: STEPHEN MILLIES

## Solidarity in New York with the people of Peru

By Stephen Millies

Twenty thousand people marched into Lima, the capital of Peru on July 19. They are demanding an end to the illegal regime that has crushed democracy and killed over 80 protesters. Thousands more have been arrested or wounded.

On Dec. 7, 2022, Peru’s elected President, Pedro Castillo Terrones, was removed from office and jailed. He’s still imprisoned.

The former vice president, Dina Boularte, is the figurehead for a military dictatorship whose real master is in the U.S. embassy. One thousand five hundred U.S. troops were sent to Peru, supposedly for “exercises” but really to bolster the dictatorship.

On July 22, members of New York City’s Peruvian community and other supporters gathered in Manhattan’s Union Square in solidarity with the struggle in Peru. Speeches described the police terror against peasants, workers, and students.

They demanded the freeing of President Castillo from jail and his restoration to office. Castillo was a teacher and is from the people.

Pictures were displayed in Union Square of those who police and the army had killed. People walking back stopped to listen.

The people of Peru are determined to overthrow the dictatorship of Dina Boularte, the military, and the U.S. embassy. Working and poor people here need to demand: U.S. out of Peru! [X]

# Mutulu Shakur's life & legacy

By the Family of Mutulu Shakur

Dr. Mutulu Shakur, a highly esteemed acupuncturist, healer, revolutionary, and leader in the Black liberation movement, peacefully passed away on Friday, July 7, 2023, at 72 years old. He courageously battled multiple myeloma, a blood cancer that damages the bones and kidneys, since 2019. In December 2022, he was released on parole from federal prison, affording him the opportunity to spend his remaining days surrounded by loved ones. Having endured nearly 37 years of incarceration, his profound legacy will serve as a timeless inspiration for future generations.

Born Jeral Wayne Williams on August 8, 1950, in Baltimore, Maryland, Dr. Mutulu Shakur was raised in Jamaica, Queens, under the loving care of his blind mother. It was within the struggle of helping his mother navigate an unjust social service system that his political consciousness awakened. At the tender age of 16, he joined the New Afrikan Independence Movement, and in the late 1960s, he actively participated in the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM), a Black Nationalist group advocating for Black self-determination and socialist change across the nation.

Driven by his unwavering commitment to the cause, Dr. Mutulu Shakur was a conscious citizen of the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika. He was a leader of the Black Liberation Army (BLA), and worked closely with the Black Panther Party. He was a founding member of the New Afrikan People's Organization (NAPO) and Malcolm X Grassroots Movement (MXGM), acting as a pillar of strength and leadership.

While his revolutionary activism influenced countless lives, Dr. Mutulu Shakur also made groundbreaking contributions as an acupuncturist, affectionately known as "Doc." After receiving training in Canada and China, he obtained his license in California in 1979. Dr. Mutulu Shakur practiced holistic medicine with unwavering dedication, working tirelessly to empower his community. His journey started at Lincoln Detox, an addiction treatment program. The program was founded in 1970 in the South Bronx, by a coalition that included revolutionary healthcare workers, the Black Panther Party, the Young Lords and drug-addicted individuals seeking treatment. Dr. Mutulu Shakur served as executive director and pioneered the use of acupuncture in treating withdrawal symptoms.

His innovative five-point protocol, which remains widely used in addiction treatment today, brought relief and healing to countless individuals. In the late 1970s, he co-founded and co-directed the Black Acupuncture Advisory Association of North America (B.A.A.N.A.) and the Harlem Institute of Acupuncture, both established during a time when acupuncture faced legal challenges in New York. Dr. Mutulu Shakur's influential work in acupuncture continues to resonate in clinics and treatment centers across the globe.

In 1988, Dr. Mutulu Shakur faced a profound legal ordeal. He was convicted for leading a group of revolutionaries involved in a series of armed robberies in New York and Connecticut in 1981. The charges were brought

against him under the conspiracy to violate the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act and included his role in the liberation of fellow activist Assata Shakur from a New Jersey prison in 1979.

While incarcerated, Dr. Shakur was active in various prison programs and was a mentor to many within the system. He prepared a lot of young men on how to handle life in prison and for life after release.

Dr. Shakur was deeply influential in the social and political messaging of his sons' creative output. Ever present as a mentor, even while imprisoned, he was instrumental in developing the Thug Code, which created a framework for the brothers' vision to create a social movement with the group THUG LIFE as the Voice.

Dr. Mutulu Shakur is survived by his six children — Maurice "Mopreme" Shakur [Talia], Talib Shakur [Nichole], Ayize Jama-Everett, Sekyiwa "Set" Kai Shakur [Branden], Nzingha Shakur-Ali, and Chinua Mutulu Shakur. Additionally, he is fondly remembered by his six grandchildren — Nzingha Afeni Shakur, Malik Mutulu Shakur, Cheyenne Kai Harding, Tyrone Campbell, Cameron Rahmell Jackson and Mia Voight, his loving sisters Sharon Howell and Janice Ruth Williams, his



brothers Sekou Odinga and Bilal Sunni-Ali, nieces and nephew — Nicole Howell, Sharon N. Williams, Tyree N. Williams and Chandra D. Williams-Phillips, and his godchildren — Aiyisha T. Obafemi, Chaka Zulu, Zayd Akinshegun Sefu Akinyela, Sulay Majid, Malika Majid, Ayesha Jabbar, Nora Hasna Majid, and Mohammedeen Majid.

His former wife, Makini Shakur, and his son-in-law, Gregory Jackson (who he named Bahanee Lajah) are also cherished members of his family. Dr. Shakur was preceded in death by his mother, Dolores Porter, his revolutionary and spiritual father, Salahdeen (Aba) Shakur, his son, Tupac Amaru Shakur, godson, Yafeu Fula,

his brothers Lumumba Shakur, Zayd Shakur and Wakil Shakur, his sister Fulani N. Sunni-Ali and his former wife, Afeni Shakur, a remarkable political activist, philanthropist, and Black Panther.

As we honor the life and legacy of Dr. Mutulu Shakur, let us remember him as a healer, an unyielding revolutionary, and an advocate for social change. His contributions as an acupuncturist and his unwavering dedication to the Black liberation movement will forever inspire generations to come. May his spirit of resilience and commitment guide us as we strive for a more equitable and just world.

Source: [mutulushakur.com](http://mutulushakur.com)

## Jail Trump for racism & war crimes

Continued from page 1

spite winning 543,895 fewer votes than Al Gore. Bartley did so because many of the Democratic votes were cast by "union households" and "Blacks."

Did Bartley think Black voters were worth three-fifths as much as white voters? That's how the U.S. Constitution specified how Black people should be counted in the census.

The day after this racist rant was published in the Wall Street Journal, five U.S. Supreme Court justices selected Bush as president on Dec. 12, 2000.

### Trump's attempted coup d'état

The real reason for the latest indictment of Trump is the same one that prevented him from declaring martial law on June 1, 2020. That was a week after George Floyd was murdered, and demonstrations demanding Black Lives Matter! were sweeping the United States.

Trump wanted to invoke the 1807 Insurrection Act — which was enacted to suppress rebellions of enslaved Africans — and send troops to shoot protesters across the country. The rub is that the U.S. Army is 20% Black and almost 18% Latinx.

The Pentagon brass feared that GIs would refuse to follow orders to attack the people demanding justice. Trump's consolation prize was having demonstrators attacked with pepper spray and tear gas in Lafayette Park across from the White House.



Seven months later, Trump was planning to remain in the White House no matter what. He fired Defense Secretary Mark Esper, appointed Christopher Miller as Esper's replacement, and promoted three other officials after losing the election. Wasn't this clear evidence of an attempted coup?

White House Deputy Counsel Patrick Philbin remarked to Jeffrey Clark that there would be "riots in every major city in the United States" if Trump insisted on staying in office.

Clark — whom Trump wanted to make attorney general — responded, "Well, that's why there's an

Insurrection Act."

It's one thing for Kenosha, Wisconsin, police to welcome fascist vigilantes like Kyle Rittenhouse. It's another matter when the Joint Chiefs of Staff is asked to stage a coup d'état to keep Trump in office.

Sections of the ruling class, particularly among their legal and political apparatus, consider Trump to be dangerous. This isn't because he's making phony anti-war remarks about the conflict between Ukraine and the Russian Federation. (Trump wants to concentrate instead on attacking China.)

It's because Trump might incite tens of millions of poor and working people to revolt.

Nobody should put their trust in the capitalist "rule of law." The "rule of law" sent the anti-slavery martyrs of Harpers Ferry to the gallows.

Only the power of the people can stop all the Trumps and overturn the capitalist system, liberating working and oppressed peoples. 📌

### BLACK AUGUST 1619-2019

commemorates 400 years of Black freedom struggle.

This book examines the construction of a racial capitalist venture — slavery — where the histories of African, Native and working people overlapped.

**Black August** celebrates legacy and accomplishments of Black women.

► The book is dedicated to Black, Brown, oppressed, and poor people who have been imprisoned and killed by the U.S. criminal justice system.

Historical series by Matsemela-Ali Odom ► Contributions by Gloria Verdieu

► Carl Muhammad ► Zola Fish ► Mary Lou Finley ► Dennis Childs ► Eusi Kwayana

► Mumia Abu-Jamal ► Curtis Howard ► Poem by Sylvia Cameron Telafaro

[tinyurl.com/vn3qvn5](http://tinyurl.com/vn3qvn5)



# The U.S. 'act of war' against China

By Gary Wilson

The July 12 New York Times Magazine headlined: "An Act of War": Inside America's Silicon Blockade Against China."

The report is about the October 2022 "export controls" against China:

"Last October, the United States Bureau of Industry and Security issued a document that — underneath its 139 pages of dense bureaucratic jargon and minute technical detail — amounted to a declaration of economic war on China. ...

"The Oct. 7 controls essentially seek to eradicate, root and branch, China's entire ecosystem of advanced technology. 'The new policy embodied in Oct. 7 is: Not only are we not going to allow China to progress any further technologically, we are going to actively reverse their current state of the art,' [Gregory] Allen [of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington] says. C.J. Muse, a senior semiconductor analyst at Evercore ISI, put it this way: 'If you'd told me about these rules five years ago, I would've told you that's an act of war — we'd have to be at war.'"

The U.S. export controls (the act of war) on computer chips aim to undermine China's ability to produce or purchase high-end chips, which are crucial for the development of advanced technologies such as supercomputers and artificial intelligence (AI). Some call this a Silicon Curtain in the New Cold War against China.

The U.S. controls (again, an act of war) are not narrowly targeted at curbing Chinese military development, as claimed by the Biden administration. On her recent visit to China, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen seemed openly insincere when she tried to say the controls were not aimed at the broader economy. China's Premier Li Qiang, who met Yellen, told her that she was "overstretching."

The export controls are broad. As the New York Times reports, they seek to undermine China's entire ecosystem of advanced technology, including its AI industry. The semiconductor industry is seen as a means to achieve this goal.

The semiconductor industry is a global industry that the U.S. has domi-



Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen seemed openly insincere when she tried to say the controls were not aimed at China's broader economy. Premier Li Qiang, who met Yellen, responded that she was "overstretching."

nated and controlled, as U.S. Big Oil has dominated the global energy industry.

## Pentagon's semiconductor project

The semiconductor industry began as a project of the Pentagon's Semiconductor Technology Advanced Research Network (STARnet), part of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). The industry in the U.S. was and is, to this day, heavily financed by the Pentagon and the U.S. government.

The CHIPS Act, passed by Congress and signed by President Biden in August 2022, pumped an additional \$280 billion in new funding for the research and manufacture of semiconductors in the U.S. That was followed by a DARPA announcement in January 2023 that it was putting almost half a billion dollars into a project to help advance the semiconductor industry in the U.S.

None of this, by the way, was created or developed by any capitalist entrepreneur. Capitalism does not create anything on its own, it just finds a way to exploit the new technology, to make a profit. And many of the biggest, highest profit-making capitalist industries were created and funded by the government in various ways including most of the technology industry, the internet, the pharmaceutical industry, the automobile industry and even Big Oil.

The semiconductor industry is a knowledge-intensive industry. It is built on shared knowledge and

resources. Initially, semiconductor companies were built on open innovation. Because of its complexity, development and production required the collaboration of research centers, universities, scientists, engineers, and many others to develop the techniques and methodologies required.

The pace of innovation in the semiconductor industry has been incredibly rapid. New chip designs are constantly being developed, and the capabilities of chips are constantly increasing. This is due to a number of factors, including:

- The increasing complexity of chips. Chips are becoming increasingly complex, with billions of transistors packed into a tiny space. This complexity requires the use of advanced manufacturing techniques and the development of new materials.
- New materials and manufacturing techniques. The semiconductor industry is constantly developing new materials and manufacturing techniques to improve the performance and efficiency of chips. For example, new materials, such as gallium arsenide, silicon carbide, and graphene, have allowed for the development of faster and more powerful chips.
- The increasing availability of computing power. The increasing availability of computing power has allowed chip designers to develop more complex and sophisticated chip designs.

## Global means global

• Global means that chips are designed and manufactured in many countries around the world, not just the U.S. This means:

• A global workforce of scientists, engineers, technicians, and other skilled workers. The semiconductor industry requires a large pool of skilled labor. This labor is not evenly distributed around the world. Most of the semiconductor industry is now concentrated in China, Taiwan, and South Korea.

As a global industry, production depends on a complicated matrix of manufacturing, warehousing, shipping, and transportation. This global supply chain is highly interconnected and spans across many countries. Every chip has been produced from parts developed and produced in a dozen or more countries. This necessitates collaboration and sharing to ensure smooth operations and product quality.

The U.S. export restrictions (an act of war) are designed not only to prevent further advances in China's technology sector but also to actively reverse its technological development. The controls are intended to eradicate China's advanced technology ecosystem and hinder its progress in economic growth and development.

U.S. export controls, introduced by the Trump administration and now expanded by the Biden administration, have already had devastating consequences for Chinese companies like Huawei, which was heavily impacted by the chip bans imposed by the Trump administration in 2019. Huawei, once the largest smartphone seller in the world, saw its revenues plunge and its market share drastically decline as a result of these measures.

## Biden expands what Trump started

The Biden administration has continued the Trump administration's campaign against Chinese technology companies, but it has taken a more expanded approach. The Trump administration imposed broad sanctions on Chinese companies, including Huawei, ZTE, and Hikvision. The Biden administration has focused on whole industries, such as telecommunications and semiconductors.

*Continued on page 7*

# Biden sends \$345 million in weapons to Taiwan

## Activists protest U.S.-Australia anti-China war games

By Gary Wilson

The Biden administration announced a \$345 million weapons package for Taiwan on July 28. The package includes a variety of weapons systems, including Reaper drones, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, and TOW anti-tank missiles.

This is the first part of a \$1 billion weapons transfer directly from Pentagon stockpiles to Taiwan this year.

The transfer of weapons from the U.S. to Taiwan is a violation of Chinese sovereignty under international law, which recognizes Taiwan as an island province of China.

The United States does not officially recognize Taiwan as an independent country.

The MQ-9A Reaper is a long-endurance, medium-altitude, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) that is used for surveillance and strike missions. It is equipped with a variety of sensors, including a radar, a camera, and a laser designator. The Reaper can also carry a variety of weapons, including Hellfire missiles and laser-guided bombs.

The drones will be used to gather intelligence and could be used to strike population centers in mainland China, as Ukraine is doing with drone strikes on civilian apartment buildings in Moscow.

The transfer of the MQ-9A Reapers to Taiwan is a significant development, as it is the first time that the U.S. has sent this type of drone to a country in the Asia-Pacific region. It is clearly a significant increase in the



PHOTO: ALEX BAINBRIDGE

## Stop Talisman Sabre, stop AUKUS.

U.S. military threat against China.

Politico reported: "The package marks the first time the U.S. has used new authority from Congress to transfer military equipment directly from Pentagon inventory to Taiwan. The transfer is done under the Presidential Drawdown Authority, the same mechanism Washington uses to send weapons to Ukraine."

On July 21, the U.S. and Australia

began two weeks of "Talisman Sabre war games" involving more than 30,000 troops and participants from 11 other countries, in a show of force against China, Reuters reported.

"This year will see Germany participate for the first time, with 210 paratroopers and marines taking part as the European nation bolsters its presence in the Indo-Pacific," Reuters adds.

Activists from around Australia joined guests from the Pacific to speak out against the Talisman Sabre war training on July 30 outside the Enoggera Army Base, Green Left reported. The protest heard from guests who addressed the "Calling for Peace in the Pacific" conference, including Indigenous women Naek Flores from Guahan (Guam) and Shinako Oyakama from Ryukyu (Okinawa). 📌

## China

Continued from page 6

In the words of Gregory Allen at CSIS, “The Trump administration went after companies. The Biden administration is going after industries.”

The Biden administration’s actions against China’s technology sector are an attempt to slow down the entire Chinese economy. China is heavily reliant on semiconductors, and the Biden administration’s actions are making it more difficult for China to acquire the technology and components it needs to produce its own chips.

The fact that China spent more on computer chip imports than it did on oil in April is a clear indication of how important semiconductors are to the Chinese economy. Chips are used in a wide range of products, from smartphones to cars to industrial machinery.

But the New Cold War and its Silicon Curtain cannot reproduce the old Cold War.

In the Cold War, the United States and the European imperialist powers in NATO were the biggest manufacturers in the world. This gave them dominance in terms of economic power and military strength.

Now, socialist China has emerged as a major manufacturing power. Today, China is the world’s largest manufacturer, including the semiconductor industry. China is the largest trade partner for 70% of the countries in the world.

This has led to a decline in the United States’ relative power. The United States is no longer the dominant producer in the world.

In addition, the U.S. used to have a significant advantage in the global energy market, due to its control of West Asia’s hydrocarbon resources. However, in recent years, China has become a major player in the global energy market, and OPEC has become less reliant on the United States. The U.S. has greatly reduced oil imports because of domestic shale oil (fracking) and gas production. This means that OPEC is no longer as dependent on the United States as it once was. This has led to a loss of control for the United States in the global energy market. [📄](#)

# In wake of uprisings against racism: French authorities escalate repression

By Lev Koufax

On June 27, French police executed a French-Algerian teenager named Nahel Merzouk in the Parisian suburb of Nanterre. Two Paris motorcycle cops fired multiple rounds at close range into the driver’s side seat of the car that Merzouk was driving.

Initially, the Nanterre prosecutor’s office insisted that the police fired into Merzouk’s vehicle because it was accelerating towards them. To ensure their safety, the two officers opened fire.

Unsurprisingly, the prosecutor’s account was a lie. This is what capitalist police do. They murder, lie, and steal.

A few days after Merzouk’s execution, a video was released publicly that clearly shows that the vehicle was not accelerating towards the officers. They were not in imminent danger. Both officers were standing parallel to the driver’s window when they fired multiple rounds into him.

The 17-year-old pizza delivery driver was dead an hour later.

In the wake of the murder and police lies, protests and rebellions cropped up throughout Paris and the surrounding suburbs, and spread across France. Cars and businesses burned. People fought back against the storm troopers sent in to repress the protests.

Western media coverage expressed sympathy for the Parisian immigrant community, but ultimately condemned the uprising as the act of provocateurs, instead of an expression of genuine rage against racism.

For decades, Black and Arab communities in France have been treated as second-class citizens. Due to dis-

crimination and over-policing, the predominantly North African and Arab immigrants of Paris face cycles of racism, poverty, and crime similar to those experienced by Black and Brown communities in the United States.

This is far from the first oppressed youth that French police have murdered. Parisian cops have a long history of inflicting terror and brutality against immigrant communities. As long as this racist terror continues, so will the rebellions against them.

Corporate media continue to insist that these racist police murders and the corresponding rebellions are isolated events or aberrations. We know otherwise.

We know that these protests are born from decades of murders, socioeconomic discrimination, and exploitation at the hands of French

capitalists and their racist storm troopers. This is how the capitalists maintain order – through brutally repressing the most oppressed sections of the working class.

In support of that goal, President Emmanuel Macron and the French police have attempted to ban anti-police protests, claiming safety concerns. The escalation of state repression is ironic coming from a government that constantly accuses Russia and other countries of free speech violations.

U.S. and European police are real anti-free-speech institutions. The people of France, particularly those in immigrant, Black, and Brown communities must be supported in their struggle against racism and brutal police repression.

Down with racism! Down with Macron! Black Lives Matter! [📄](#)



People protest the police murder of Nahel Merzouk in the Place de la Concorde in Paris, June 30.

## SOLIDARITY STATEMENT FOR PHILIPPINES People’s State of the Nation Address

The people of this country are familiar with a presidential address. And like the people of the Philippines, we know it to be an opportunity for presidents to lie through their teeth.

And like the Philippines, this country has a president that has a little more stage savvy than the last. This is the kind of thing that can lull some parts of the masses into security. But we know better.

The Socialist Unity Party stands with you. We stand with you in this, the People’s State of the Nation Address—in standing up to power and telling the truth to the masses.

We stand with the People’s Democratic Revolution and the mass movement that carries it out, inspiring working-class organizations all over the world.

Working class and activist organizations here in this country do not raise the issue of the Philippines



By Socialist Unity Party

nearly enough. Despite the imperialist relationship between the U.S. and the Philippines, too many could not

point to the Philippines on a map.

This is our call to the left in the U.S.: we must build the anti-imperi-

alist movement in this country. Further, the anti-imperialist movement and the workers’ movement must become one and the same.

This is necessary not only because of the shared knowledge that imperialism must be defeated. It is necessary because we believe in the victory of the People’s Democratic Revolution. And when the national democratic movement wins, we can count on U.S. imperialism to attack.

We should be ready to beat back the imperialists. The working class should be ready to shut down any attempt by the imperialists to intervene.

This we commit to you—we will continue to do everything we can to build a movement with that power.

Onward to a liberated Philippines! Victory to the People’s Democratic Revolution!

From Palestine to the Philippines, stop the U.S. war machine! [📄](#)

# NYC meeting salutes 70th anniversary of Cuban Revolution's beginning

By Stephen Millies

Hundreds of people packed the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center in New York City on July 29 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada barracks in Santiago de Cuba. They came to denounce the cruel U.S. blockade of Cuba and salute socialist Cuba's achievements.

Called National Rebellion Day in Cuba, the courageous action on July 26, 1953, against the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista was the beginning of the Cuban Revolution. It inspired the July 26th Movement led by Fidel Castro that overthrew the U.S.-backed Batista on New Year's Day, 1959.

The meeting opened with the singing of Cuba's national anthem.

Ike Nahem of the New York / New Jersey Cuba Sí Coalition welcomed the large delegation from Cuba's mission to the United Nations.

Nahem and other speakers pointed out that the meeting was held on hallowed ground, where Malcolm X had been assassinated on Feb. 21, 1965. Malcolm X defended the Cuban Revolution and met with Fidel Castro in Harlem at the old Hotel Theresa in 1960.

Rosemari Mealy, J.D., Ph.D., a leading member of the Cuba Sí Coalition, has written a vivid account of this historic meeting in "Fidel & Malcolm X: Memories of a Meeting."

Nahem paid tribute to four remarkable defenders of Cuba who had passed: Frank Velgara, long-time Puerto Rican activist and a founder of the ProLibertad Freedom Campaign; Pat Fry, a member of the Communist Party, the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism, and a union activist in 1199SEIU; Chris Che Matlhako, staunch internationalist and central committee member of the South African Communist Party; and the activist Jane Franklin, author of the classic "Cuba and the United States: A Chronological History."

Co-chairs of the meeting were Andreia Vizeu, educator and Brazilian democracy activist, and Nancy Cabre-ro of Casa de las Américas.



Cuban UN Ambassador Gerardo Peñalver speaking at the Shabazz Center in New York City, July 29.

Vizeu compared the attack on the Moncada barracks to the people power that freed "Lula" (Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva) from jail and brought him back as president of Brazil. Cabrero paid tribute to Fidel Castro's determination and compared his leadership to the spirit of José Martí, the apostle of Cuban independence.

Steve Clark, editorial director of Pathfinder Press, which has published 40 books on Cuba, and a member of the Socialist Workers Party national committee, described the sacrifices of those who stormed the Moncada. While five revolutionaries were killed in the military assault, 56 were murdered after being captured.

Fortunately, Fidel Castro survived. Clark told how Fidel's great speech, "History Will Absolve Me," was smuggled out of prison. Twenty thousand copies were distributed throughout Cuba.

## Cuba's UN ambassador speaks

The meeting's highlight was the talk given by his excellency Gerardo Peñalver Portal, Cuba's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations. Peñalver is also Cuba's Deputy Foreign Minister.

"Dear friends, today, more than ever, the solidarity received from you takes on special significance because Cuba is under heavy siege ... tied to the blockade, [that] continues to be the central element that defines the policy of the United States to Cuba," said the ambassador.

Referring to the lying designation

by the U.S. government of Cuba as a State Sponsor of Terrorism, Ambassador Peñalver said, "The consequences of such a designation are extremely harmful for a small nation like ours."

"It gravely damages international financial and commercial transactions ... in short, it is a measure that ... reinforces the blockade against Cuba. It should not be forgotten that the U.S. government used the COVID-19 pandemic ... in its efforts to increase the siege of Cuba. This included actions aimed at preventing our access to basic medical supplies ... just at a time when the world needed solidarity more than ever."

"We are pleased that Cuba was able to successfully develop three ... COVID-19 vaccines ... we were able to vaccinate more than 90% of Cubans in spite of the blockade," said Ambassador Peñalver.

He continued, "Dear friends ... the government of Cuba has expressed its willingness ... to foster civilized ... relations [with the U.S.] based on mutual respect. ... We will continue to promote and facilitate the closest possible ties with numbers of sectors of this country that want to build bridges with Cuba. ... Cuba will never renounce its socialist system of social justice. ..."

"We have the support of many good people in the world like you ... who have been tireless defenders of the lifting of the blockade and the right of our people to live in peace and to decide their own destiny."

The representative of revolutionary Cuba concluded by declaring, "Cuba will not give up and we will continue to

resist and overcome. Long live the Cuban solidarity movement in the U.S.!"

## New York says NO! to the blockade

Andreia Vizeu led the audience in chanting "Cuba sí, bloqueo no!" She introduced Baba Zayid Muhammad of the Malcolm X Commemoration Committee.

Muhammad pointed out the significance of the meeting being held at the Shabazz Center. "This stage was built on Malcolm's blood," he said, referring to the spot of the Black leader's assassination, adding that Malcolm was killed in front of his wife and four daughters.

Baba Zayid Muhammad recited a fiery "praise poem" about Malcolm X and quoted Assata Shakur, a Black revolutionary given asylum by Cuba. The FBI has placed a \$2 million ransom on Shakur's head but the Cuban people protect her.

A stunning demonstration of drumming was given by members of the Mapuche nation, who described their struggle in Chile and hailed the Cuban Revolution. Alegna Cruz from the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party demanded an end to the U.S. blockade of Cuba.

Nancy Cabrero announced a raffle of artwork with portraits of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party leader Pedro Albizu Campos, who was tortured in a U.S. federal prison by radiation experiments.

Speakers commented on the New York City Council, representing over 8 million people, passing a resolution calling for lifting the U.S. blockade of Cuba. Many organizations, including the Communist Party and the Democratic Socialists of America, worked to achieve this.

Ninety city councils and labor unions representing millions of people across the U.S. have passed similar resolutions demanding peaceful relations with Cuba. The National Network on Cuba has helped coordinate much of this work.

Vinson Verdree of the December 12th Movement emphasized the hard work it took to pass the New York City res-

*Continued on page 12*

# Coast-to-coast book tour introduces Cleophas Williams, first Black president of Bay Area dockworkers

By Gary Wilson

Clarence Thomas, a Black labor union leader and third-generation retired member of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 10, published — and wrote an introduction to — a new book called "Cleophas Williams: My Life Story in the International Longshore & Warehouse Union Local 10" (DeClare Publishing, 2023).

Thomas is on a coast-to-coast book-signing tour promoting this historic work.

The book is a collection of Cleophas Williams' writings — selected by Clarence Thomas and edited by Delores Lemon-Thomas, in consultation with Cleophas' widow Sadie Williams — giving a first-hand account of the life and work of the first African American



Chris Silvera, 99-year-old hostess Sadie Williams and Clarence Thomas at the book launch, Black Repertory Theater in Berkeley on July 29.

Below, St Mary's Church in Harlem, N.Y., on August 5. Additional book signing parties were held in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Photos: Delores Lemon-Thomas and Gloria Verdieu



Above, Harriet Tubman Solidarity Center, Baltimore, August 10.

president of ILWU Local 10. Williams was a union leader, civil-rights activist, and community organizer who played a major role in the fight for social justice and economic equality in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The book comes at a time when there is renewed interest in the history of the labor movement, the Black liberation movement, and the fight for social justice.

It provides a rare inside look at working on the waterfront in the San Francisco Bay Area in the mid-20th century. Williams's story is one of struggle and triumph, as he became a powerful voice for working people and for civil-rights unionism.

Williams' writings also illuminate the history of the ILWU, one of the most militant and successful unions in U.S. history.

The book is a valuable contribution to the history of African Americans in the labor movement. Williams' story is a reminder that African Americans have played a major role in the fight for workers' rights, making significant contributions to the labor movement. The book is also a powerful reminder of the importance of fighting against racism and for economic equality.

To get your copy, visit [MillionWorkerMarch.com](http://MillionWorkerMarch.com).



# Hazard pay approved: Pentagon prepares to expand troops in Ukraine

By Gary Wilson

The Pentagon has approved hazard pay for U.S. troops serving in Ukraine, paving the way for a possible expanded presence. Military Times reported July 27 on the new hazard pay policy.

Troops who qualify will get back pay as far back as April 24, 2022.

“Grier Martin, who is temporarily serving as the Pentagon’s top personnel official, approved the change in a July 13 memo, which was posted to the unofficial ‘Air Force amn/nco/snco’ Facebook page,” Military Times says.

The approval of hazard pay is seen as a sign that the Pentagon is preparing for a possible expansion of the U.S. military presence in Ukraine. The Biden administration has steadily increased the number of special forces

“advisers” and trainers in the country. While calling them advisers and trainers, they actively participate in the war.

Washington has a long history of entering wars this way, from Vietnam to Central America to Afghanistan. The U.S. initially claimed it was not sending “boots on the ground” to Vietnam, but eventually, there were over 500,000 U.S. troops in Vietnam. The U.S. also claimed that it was not sending troops to El Salvador, but eventually, over 500 U.S. special forces were operating in El Salvador, commanding the Salvadoran military dictatorship.

Washington won’t say that it is directly involved in combat in Ukraine. It can be expected to stick to euphemisms (advisers or security details)



U.S. troops in Poland, near the Ukraine border. In July, President Biden authorized an additional 3,000 reservists to join more than 12,000 troops in Operation Atlantic Resolve in NATO countries surrounding Ukraine. Is this troop buildup in preparation for ‘boots on the ground’ in Ukraine? Newsweek reported that in July NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg announced a support package for Ukraine that would “result in the U.S. eventually sending soldiers to fight in the war against Russia.”

to describe its activities. The euphemisms are its way of expanding involvement, hoping no one will notice the increasing numbers of troops on the ground. [R]

# JoAnn Watson, beloved Detroit leader, dies

By Cheryl LaBash

Cuba lost a good friend on July 10 when the Rev. Dr. JoAnn Watson joined the ancestors. Watson originated the call “Doctors for Detroit” with the late Rev. Lucius Walker, founder of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization.

The goal of her Dec. 9, 2006, Saturday forum featuring Walker was to utilize her office as a Detroit Councilmember to explore “opportunities for Free Medical Training in Cuba” at the Latin American School of Medicine, known for its Spanish acronym ELAM.

Cuba’s historic leader Fidel Castro offered the scholarships during a Congressional delegation in 2000 when Mississippi Representative Bennie Thompson asked for Cuban doctors to help the people of his state. Every report on U.S. health outcomes ranks Mississippi at 49th or 50th. Black infant and maternal death are still genocidal even beyond Mississippi. In response to Thompson, Fidel doubted the U.S. would allow them to come, but Cuba would commit to training youth from the U.S. to be



doctors at no cost and send them back home.

These scholarships are still available because IFCO Executive Director Lucius Walker forged a way to make it a reality in 2001. The application deadline is August 15 — email [elam-scholarship@ifconews.org](mailto:elam-scholarship@ifconews.org) for more information.

Today more than 220 Cuban-trained, debt-free doctors have returned to enter U.S. residency programs and serve the people throughout the U.S. Currently, three women are in Detroit hospital residency programs, and another is al-

ready providing first-rate, culturally competent, bilingual medical care in this city, plus more are in school now.

Detroit said goodbye to this beloved leader, unapologetically Black and Pan-African, on July 22 at a packed Fellowship Chapel. She was a teacher, mentor, radio host, grandmother, friend. The lifelong neighborhood friendships and ties that impacted her life included Rev. Dr. Wendell Anthony, NAACP National Board Member and pastor at Fellowship Chapel, who concluded the tribute to her life; the late Representative John Conyers, who authored the original reparations congressional resolution in 1989 — HR 40 — to examine the merits of reparations to African Americans for U.S. slavery, putting the issue and systemic racism represented by it squarely on the national table, and the late Honorable Claudia House Morcom, who traveled indefatigably supporting freedom for the Cuban 5.

Watson authored a Water Affordability Plan and testified in defense of demonstrators arrested for blocking the contractors from shutting off water at the order of the appointed emergency manager. After the imposed bankruptcy, she retired from

the City Council, continuing the fight in other arenas.

Ebony JJ Curry, Senior Reporter for the Michigan Chronicle, wrote: “The memorial service for Watson was not merely a farewell. It was a shining beacon, a reflective mirror of the monumental influence this extraordinary woman wielded not only over the city of Detroit but within the pulsating heart of the Black movement in its entirety. Her spirit, her drive, and her unyielding commitment to justice were encapsulated in this gathering, in every tear shed, every fist raised, and every drumbeat that called us back to our roots. For in her passing, we did not lose a leader; we gained an ancestor whose memory will continue to inspire and guide us in the struggle for equality and freedom.”

At the time of her death, Watson co-chaired the Detroit Reparations Task Force initiated by the approval of 80% of Detroit voters for a 2021 ballot measure that called for the creation of a City Council Task force to study and address the issue of reparations for African Americans.

Watson had been scheduled to meet the Cuban ambassador last February during the embassy’s Detroit visit but was prevented from doing so due to a scheduling change at Wayne County Community College, where Watson taught classes.

We will forever hear her clarion call: Wake up, Detroit! [R]

# Women in Struggle rejects U.S./EU hostility to Cuba

From the United States, the members of Women in Struggle-Mujeres en Lucha strongly reject the hostile resolution proposed by the European Union against the Republic of Cuba.

The resolution raised in the European Parliament, which deals with the agreement on EU-Cuba cooperation and political dialogue, reflects once again the imperialist interference of the state that causes most wars and political instability in the world: the United States of America.

We do not doubt that these right-wing European representatives are mere messengers, lackeys of imperialism and its fascist impulse around the world, that feed the lowest and most inhuman political tendencies.



By Women in Struggle

We see it in the resurgence of racist attacks on African immigrants in various countries of the European Union, where their governments have chosen to make the lives of their own population

more expensive to satisfy the cravings of U.S. warmongers.

As people who reside in the United States, we are witnesses to the attacks committed daily against the poor, Black, Latinx and immigrant population.

We stand in solidarity with the people and leadership of Revolutionary Cuba, which instead sends armies of teachers, doctors, firefighters and emergency personnel abroad. A Cuba that overflows with love instead of weapons. That promotes and embraces negotiation, as it has shown very well with our sister country Colombia.

So again we say: Long live Revolutionary Cuba, down with the Yankee empire! [R]

# NIGER: Old Europe on trial

By Geraldina Colotti

Gold, silicon, oil (reserves estimated at 2 billion barrels), and above all, uranium are essential for both French nuclear power plants and atomic bombs. Strategic raw materials for imperialism, which needs to consolidate its domination at the expense of the countries of the South. This is the key to understanding the fibrillation provoked, in the United States and especially in the European Union, by the coup d'état in Niger.

On July 28, General Abdourahmane Tchiani, head of the Presidential Guard, was proclaimed the new leader of Niger and assumed the presidency of the National Council for the Protection of the Homeland (CNSP), after having ousted the Western-backed President Mohamed Bazoum. The communiqué of the rebel military denounces the “lack of measures to face the economic crisis and the deterioration of the security situation,” undermined by the violence of the jihadist groups. Bazoum is accused of having “tried to convince people that everything is going well, the harsh reality is a lot of death, displaced people, humiliations and frustrations. Today’s approach has not brought security despite great sacrifices.”

Niger is, in fact, the first supplier of uranium to the EU, covering 24% of its needs. With its 3,527 tons (5% of world production), it is the world’s sixth-largest uranium producer. A resource from which, however, it does not benefit, considering that, according to World Bank data from 2021, out of a population of 27 million, only 18.6% had access to electricity.

Then there is on the table the large amount of depleted uranium, waste from nuclear power plants also transferred for military use. Nuclear energy multinationals save millions of dollars in safe storage by passing it on to weapons companies, who use it as virtually free “raw material” to produce anti-tank munitions for use in theaters of war.

France directly controls two uranium mines, Akouta and Arlit, through the company Orano, which changed its name in 2018 when Areva was shut down. Akouta, the “largest subway mine in the world”, managed by a French, Japanese, and Spanish joint venture 6 km from the town of Akokan, was closed in 2021, after having extracted 75 thousand tons of uranium in 43 years of activity. Behind it, it left 20 million tons of radioactive sludge, 600 unemployed and cancer-stricken workers, houses without electricity and water, and an area that would need 145 million euros to be recovered.

History reminds us that when the people of Congo decided to regain control of the resources by electing Patrice Lumumba, imperialism unleashed secession in the Katanga mining region and cut short the life of the president in 1961. The pro-Western dictator Mobutu was put in his place, to ensure that Congo’s strategic resources, such as the plutonium that was used for the atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, did not end up in the hands of the people and under the influence of the Soviet Union.



Times change, but the nature of imperialism and its purposes do not.

Paris has threatened military intervention in what U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, during his last visit, had praised as an “example of democracy in the Sahel”. An African region in which Moscow’s influence is advancing. This was made clear at the Russia-Africa summit in St. Petersburg, which brought together 49 African delegations (from 54 nations), 16 of them at the level of heads of state, and gave space to the new anti-imperialist military figures of Burkina Faso or Mali, spokesmen for the growing intolerance towards the Western powers.

## Focus on BRICS

Also, on the African continent, the number of countries oriented to focus on the BRICS is increasing, in particular, Russia and China (two members of the BRICS, together with Brazil, India, and South Africa), which offer military and economic aid not conditional on “structural reforms” or adherence to cultural models different from the local ones. Within this framework, collaboration with the progressive countries of Latin America is increasing after the historically consolidated collaboration with Cuba and Venezuela, supporters of a South-South relationship model based on relations of equality.

Brazilian President Lula da Silva confirmed his intention to strengthen Brazil’s ties with the African continent, as he had already done in his previous periods in power. In the framework of the G7 summit, during a bilateral meeting with the president of Comoros, he said that he wants to support the entry of the African Union into the G20 in order to favor a global diplomatic rebalance. It is in the same perspective of South-South integration, which characterizes Gustavo Petro’s policy, that one should read the trip made in May by Francia Marquez, vice president of Colombia, to Ethiopia, Kenya, and South Africa, three key countries in their respective geographical areas and on the continent.

The governments of Burkina and Mali have responded harshly to threats of military intervention by France and its allies in the region, who do not intend to “recognize” the patriotic junta. The High Representative for European Foreign Affairs, Josep Borrell, considered the coup “unacceptable” and announced, as did the U.S., the interruption of economic aid and the suspension of security cooperation programs. An unprecedented decision

after the end of the “cold war,” which definitively subjected Africa to a new colonialism following the failure of the independence movements.

In June, the EU Council approved the allocation of a further 5 million euros in military aid to support Niger’s armed forces. The measure was financed by the European Peace Facility (EPF), the same fund used to send arms to Ukraine. In Niger, which has remained in the Western orbit, along with Chad, there are about 2,000 soldiers from the French anti-jihadist force Barkhane and those from the European-mandated mission Takuba, in which Italy participates with about 300 soldiers.

However, the failure of a neo-colonial security model for the Sahel shows that it is not the security of the citizens that the European military has gone to guarantee but its own material interests. A further sign is that the rebel officers in Niger had been trained by Western forces....

## Anti-colonial protests

In Niger, the M62 Movement, which includes associations and trade unions, and which has been fighting for years against the colonial presence, has led thousands of people to protest, waving Russian flags and shouting pro-Putin slogans in support of the military junta that seized power. Faced with the spread of radical Islamism, used as a weapon of control by the U.S. and its allies, the Sahel, like the rest of the African continent, has seen the spread of a new colonial occupation through the military missions of multinational forces.

Military insurgents have denounced that, despite having become the “core of the French and Western intervention in the Sahel,” Niger has remained exposed to jihadist attacks in the area of the “three borders” (Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso), which, in 2023 alone, caused more than 400 deaths. The colonial division of Africa was sanctioned by the Berlin Conference (1884-1885), in which, however, the African rulers did not participate.

A fact that marked in a striking way the legitimization of the hegemonic design of European colonialism over the whole continent. Dividing “with the team and the rule” territories, creating forced separations and inclusions, generating borders that unite or separate different peoples who previously lived together, and sowing the seeds of devastating conflicts, disguised as “ethnic” conflicts.

The recent example of Libya confirms the same colonial logic, the

same strategy of “balkanization” of the world (and of brains) that is part of the fourth and fifth-generation wars deployed by imperialism. On May 26, 2011, then-Nigerian President Mahamadou Issoufou, invited to the Deauville summit, was the only one to tell Western leaders that intervention in Libya would transform the country into another Somalia, offering an incredible opportunity for radical Islamism.

“We assessed the Libyan war – he said – as a threat to our country and to the region that will drag on for years to come... We warned the West against the destruction of the Libyan state... We told the West not to lose sight of reality and to

take Libyan society into account.” A voice crying in the wilderness, as was that of the ALBA countries, which proposed, unheeded, a non-asymmetrical negotiation based on peace diplomacy.

The failure of the neo-colonial model in the Sahel presents a scenario similar to that recorded in the Arab world where today, especially among the Gulf monarchies, there is a marked detachment from the American protagonists who, with the Obama Administration, supported the so-called “Arab Spring,” which destabilized or attempted to destabilize the Arab regimes, including many governments friendly to the West.

Niger is also a center of migratory routes, and the issue of Libya, a neighboring country, has much to do with the management of flows imposed by “fortress Europe,” where migrant trafficking is rampant. Into this picture fits the so-called “Mattei plan” that the Italian government of Giorgia Meloni (extreme right) is trying to impose in Africa, and especially in the Sahel, which has great importance in the management of migratory “flows,” relying on rulers friendly to the West.

In recent years, Libya has become a transit point for millions of people of different nationalities trying to reach Europe. Since the signing of the infamous Italy-Libya Memorandum in 2017, more than 100 million euros have found their way into the pockets of the so-called Libyan coast guard in training and equipment. One billion from Italy and the EU for the various missions in Libya and the Mediterranean often used more to counter volunteer rescuers on NGO boats than to save lives. Since 2017, more than 100,000 people have been turned back after being intercepted by the Libyan Coast Guard in central Mediterranean waters.

Italy, like all EU member states, needs oil and gas from Libya, a country that imperialist forces dismembered by killing Gaddafi in 2011 and which now has three “governments.” Meloni recently signed an \$8 billion deal between Eni, the Italian national hydrocarbon company, and the Libyan National Oil Corporation for the exploitation of an offshore gas field off the coast of Tripoli.

To follow NATO and European Union directives, Italy does not recognize the Libyan government legitimized by a duly elected parliament, that of Prime Minister Fathi

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# BLACK ALLIANCE FOR PEACE: Condemn call for ECOWAS-led military invasion of Niger

## Black Alliance for Peace statement:

The Africa Team of the Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) and the U.S. Out of Africa Network (USOAN) condemn the threats of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to lead a military intervention into Niger. We believe this would be an act of subservience to U.S./EU/NATO interests. As Western imperialism seems to be losing its neo-colonialist grip on Africa, it is trying to expand its use of puppets and proxies to undermine resistance.

The military coup in Niger on July 26 deposed President Mohamed Bazoum and installed General Abdourahamane Tchiani as the country's new leader. In power since 2021, Bazoum and his party were reliable servants of French and U.S. imperialism. This may help explain why the United States and its NATO allies seemed overly concerned about this particular coup.

The West's hypocritical claims of standing for "democracy" in Niger fall flat when compared to its response to the military coup in Sudan as well as the political repression faced by the popular movement in that country. The United States (and



its Western partners) has had a hand in orchestrating countless coups in Africa, such as those against democratically elected leaders Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Patrice Lumumba

of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso, to name a few.

The objective of the U.S./EU/NATO Axis of Domination is colonial control of Niger and the Sahel region. France and other EU countries rely on Niger for 15-30 percent of their uranium imports, critical to Europe's nuclear energy sector. Meanwhile, the majority of Niger's population doesn't even have access to electricity. Furthermore, Niger is the last state in West Africa where a large number of Western soldiers are stationed under the U.S. "War on Terror" regime. The \$100 million U.S. base in Agadez, Niger, is where the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) operates its drones, and is just one such AFRICOM facility in that country.

As Ezra Otieno, member of the Revolutionary Socialist League in Kenya and BAP's U.S. Out of Africa Network Steering Committee, says: "For all of these factors, France, the EU, and the U.S. are keen to maintain control over Niger. They aim to push the new authorities to restore their puppet Bazoum or to reach an arrangement with General Tchiani to maintain his predecessor's pro-Western stance. If these preparations fail within the next few days, Western imperialists want to intervene militarily with the support of their foot soldiers in the Nigeria-dominated ECOWAS bloc."

It is clear that the United States and France have decided to draw a line here before France is expelled and U.S. interests are threatened. Without NATO, the United States or France, ECOWAS would not be able to intervene. It is telling that, of all the coups in Africa, ECOWAS is ready to intervene militarily in Niger. This is because their masters in the West demand it. Apparently, ECOWAS member states have chosen servitude to imperialism over the people's will.

In Haiti, the imperialists use Kenya and the Caribbean Community (CAR-

ICOM) as cover for their intervention. To do the same for the coup in Niger, they have the President of Nigeria, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, and ECOWAS. Now they are facing a united front composed of Burkina Faso and Mali, whose leadership has all expressed support for Niger's sovereignty. While the CNRD of Guinea, Comité national du rassemblement et du développement (National Committee of Reconciliation and Development) is not part of the front, their spokesperson, Aminata Diallo said that if "... requested by ECOWAS to send troops that we would refuse..."

ECOWAS is working as a comprador structure, along with the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), which has levied financial sanctions against Niger and the coup leaders. The situation in Niger demands an African response, not the imperialist-led and anti-people militarized one suggested by members of ECOWAS.

The Black Alliance for Peace October 2023 International Month of Action against western militarization of the African continent, demanding that the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) is shut down, will be more important than ever before. The annual Month of Action is an opportunity for political education and action that links the domestic war being waged against African peoples in the United States with the war that the United States wages on the continent of Africa and globally.

From Haiti to Niger and beyond, we must build an understanding of Pan-Africanism and illuminate the interdependent geo-political and economic interests among African/Black people in Haiti, the Americas, the African continent, and among those domestically colonized in the enclaves of the imperialist countries.

No to imperialism in Black face. Yes to Pan-African self-determination. U.S. out of Africa! 📌

## Niger: Old Europe on trial

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Bashagha, who controls most of Libya's territory and energy resources, and who operates on a parallel track from the cities of Syrte and Benghazi because Dbeibah government militias prevent him from entering Tripoli. Bashagha would be willing to offer Italy, whose Libyan gas imports have fallen from about 8 billion cubic meters per year before 2011 to about 2.5 billion in 2022, gas and oil at low prices. Italy, however, refuses.

In addition, it is estimated that from 2015 to 2022, the European Union spent between 93 and 178 million euros to reinforce Tunisia's land and sea borders. To this must be added a final tranche of 105 million. A trend that will certainly not diminish with the rhetoric of the so-called "Mattei plan" for the development of Africa, launched by Meloni with a new intention of "colonialism in disguise."

As Immanuel Ness, author of the book "Migration as Economic Imperialism" rightly explains, neoliberal capitalism and economic imperialism in its present form cannot survive without Third World migration. If we examine – says Ness in an interview to El Salto – the demographics of most rich countries, migrant labor, mostly temporary migrants, represents more than 10% of the population.

In Qatar, foreign migrant labor makes up 90% of the population without citizenship rights. They are integral to the satisfaction of a whole range of needs of the capitalist class: from agricultural products, housing, and manufactured goods, to domestic

and welfare services. Benefits that, without workers from the global periphery, would not be possible.

But these migrant workers, who serve to ensure that capitalist profitability is not reduced and the working class in the North continues to maintain a high standard of living, cannot enter and remain in the Global North permanently but are considered temporary or "illegal" in most of Western Europe and North America, as well as in other rich states and economic centers; and are under relentless threat of detention, imprisonment, and deportation. It is a central feature of the depravity of 21st-century economic imperialism, says Ness.

In Niger, the military rebels issue a precise warning: "Any external military intervention, whatever its origin, would risk having disastrous and incalculable consequences for our populations and would be chaos for our country." Words that echo those of the Ghanaian revolutionary, a leading figure in the history of decolonization and pan-Africanism, Kwame Nkrumah, born in 1909 and died in 1972: "Dedicated as I am to the total destruction of colonialism in all its forms, I do not support any colonial government of any kind. The British, French, Portuguese, Belgians, Spanish, Germans and Italians, at one time or another, have ruled parts of Africa or continue to do so. Their methods may have been different, but their objectives were the same: to enrich themselves at the expense of their colonies."

Source: Cuba en Resumen

# En peligro juventud boricua

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

PR es un país donde la inestabilidad económica y política hace migrar a su población, sobre todo a la más joven. Un país-colonia donde la administración local es meramente el servidor del verdadero gobierno, que es la Junta de Control Fiscal impuesta por el Congreso estadounidense. Y ambos, Junta y gobierno local, han obliterado la esperanza de un futuro a nuestros jóvenes al dar prioridad al capital, sobre todo el extranjero, a costa de las necesidades del pueblo boricua. Por eso se han cerrado escuelas, se han privatizado servicios esenciales como la salud y en gran medida la educación. Se ha dificultado el tener una vivienda y un trabajo digno, mientras se le abren las puertas a los inversionistas millonarios extranjeros que compran miles de edificios para convertirlos en alquileres de corto plazo para turistas.

Y para añadir, esta semana la Organización Kilómetro Cero ha develado en un artículo una realidad que se ha ocultado por más de 15 años: y es que en PUERTO RICO se protege más a las armas que a los menores. Aquí, las armas de fuego son la primera causa de muerte en menores de edad.

Casi a diario nos enteramos de muertes violentas donde menores de edad están involucrados. Porque además, por la falta de recursos y de interés del gobierno por el bienestar de nuestra juventud, estos jóvenes, niños y niñas de hasta de 12 años o menos, son reclutados por el Narco. Y no se puede dudar que PR es ahora un Narcoestado.

Si hay una poderosa razón para descolonizar ahora mismo a Puerto Rico, para obtener nuestra independencia y nuestra soberanía, es precisamente esa: ¡nuestra juventud! 📌



## Eventos del Cerro de los Mártires

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Esta semana se ha conmemorado en Puerto Rico el horrendo crimen de estado perpetrado contra dos jóvenes independentistas el 25 de julio de 1978 durante el aniversario de la invasión estadounidense. En ese entonces, un agente encubierto de la policía se había infiltrado en un grupo pro independencia para incitar a cometer un acto terrorista en una montaña al sur de la isla. La acción sería volar una torre de comunicaciones. Al final, los jóvenes independentistas Arnaldo Darío Rosado y Carlos Soto Arriví, víctimas de una emboscada de la policía, fueron cobardemente asesinados cuando agentes de la policía les dispararon por la espalda.

Cada 25 de julio, las fuerzas independentistas acuden a ese lugar, el Cerro Maravilla bautizado como Cerro de los Mártires, para honrar la memo-



ria de estos jóvenes y renovar el voto por la lucha de liberación.

Este año fue dedicado a la gran activista Rita Zengotita, socialista e independentista, luchadora por los derechos humanos.

pequeñas luchas separadas.

La lucha en Puerto Rico tiene que ser la transformación radical del país en beneficio del pueblo. No hay términos medios.

¡Unidas y unidos Venceremos! 📌

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

El orador principal fue el profesor Félix Córdova Iturregui, quien exhortó a reflexionar seriamente sobre la enorme crisis actual del país donde los movimientos de resistencia se encuentran divididos ante la avanzada del ataque de la derecha colonial local y la imposición de las fuerzas derechistas del imperio yanqui.

Recalcó la importancia de poner en contexto la lucha por la independencia dentro del marco capitalista donde las enormes fuerzas del mercado intentan destruir y pulverizar la resistencia, la solidaridad y las luchas colectivas sustituyéndola por el individualismo y las

## Mujeres en Lucha rechaza hostilidad de EE.UU. y la UE hacia Cuba

Desde los Estados Unidos, la membresía de Mujeres en Lucha-Women in Struggle rechazamos contundentemente la hostil resolución propuesta por la Unión Europea en contra de la República de Cuba.

La resolución elevada en el Parlamento Europeo, y que trata sobre el acuerdo de cooperación y diálogo político UE-Cuba, refleja una vez más la injerencia imperialista del estado que más guerras e inestabilidad política provoca en el mundo: los Estados Unidos de América.

Porque no dudamos que estos representantes europeos de derecha son meros mensajeros, lacayos del imperialismo y de su impulso fascista alrededor del mundo que alimenta las más bajas e



Por Mujeres en Lucha

inhumanas tendencias políticas. Lo vemos en el resurgimiento de ataques racistas a inmigrantes africanos en varios países de la Unión Europea. Donde sus gobiernos han optado por encarecer la vida de

su propia población por satisfacer las ansias guerristas de EUA.

Como personas que residimos en EUA, somos testigos de los ataques cometidos diariamente en contra de su propia población pobre, negra, latina e inmigrante.

Nos solidarizamos con el pueblo y dirigencia de esa Cuba Revolucionaria que sí envía ejércitos: ejércitos de maestros, de médicos, de bomberos y de personal de emergencias. Una Cuba que desborda amor en vez de armas. Que promueve y abraza la negociación como muy bien ha demostrado con nuestra hermana Colombia.

Así que de nuevo decimos: ¡Viva Cuba Revolucionaria y Abajo el Imperio Yanqui! 📌

## NYC salutes 70th anniversary of Cuban Revolution

Continued from page 8

olution. It was important, he said, that it demands Cuba be taken off the bogus State Sponsors of Terrorism list.

Council member Charles Barron played a key role in pushing the resolution through the council. Barron rightfully wants the United States on a list of terrorist countries.

Verdree paid tribute to Cuba's aid to African liberation. Over 2,000 Cubans died alongside their African comrades in defeating the fascist armies of apartheid South Africa.

Several people, including Gail Walker, Executive Director of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization, were recently arrested for merely asking to speak to U.S. Senator Robert Menendez about Cuba. Menendez is chair of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee and a hardline supporter of the cruel blockade of Cuba.

One of those arrested was Calla Walsh, a co-chair of the National Network on Cuba, who spoke at the rally. Walsh said that when she and the others were released from jail on

June 22, one of the first things she heard was that the New York City Council resolution condemning the blockade of Cuba had passed.

Across the United States, the struggle is heating up. Hands off Cuba! 📌

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

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