

- ▶ Conmemoran Levantamiento en Puerto Rico solidarizándose con la lucha Palestina
- ▶ Puerto Rico ante la ONU en Ginebra

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Palestine solidarity in Oakland, California Port protest stalls U.S. military supplies for Israel

By Lallan Schoenstein

As the sun rose on Nov. 3, protesters began to pour into a site near Berth 20 in the Port of Oakland in California, where the U.S. military vessel MV Cape Orlando was preparing for departure. It is a roll-on/roll-off ship, part of the U.S. fleet that is replenishing military stockpiles in Israel.

After leaving Oakland, the ship's next destination was the Port of Tacoma, in Washington state, where there is a power projection platform* located close to the McChord Air Force Base. The Cape Orlando will be prepared to deliver tanks, armored personnel carriers, and mobile rocket launchers, as well as troop trucks, cargo trucks, and Humvees.

Swelling ranks of protesters occupied Berth 20 and shut it down. The departure of the ship was delayed for more than nine hours.

A group of young Palestinians, their energy fueled by the loss of family and community, breached the Homeland Security Department's MARSEC security perimeter. While they scaled the fence, they must have thought of their siblings shot dead by Israeli forces when they approached the walls bounding Gaza.

Protesters lashed the boat back to its mooring lines on the bollards. Three locked themselves to the ladder leading onto the ship, adding significant delay. They are currently being held in custody by the police.



Photo: Arab Resource and Organizing Center

Protesters at the Port of Oakland blocked Berth 20, where a U.S. military ship was scheduled to leave for Israel. Others breached a barrier and locked themselves to the ship.

The protest was called by the Arab Resource and Organizing Center (AROC) less than 24 hours after the U.S. House of Representatives passed a \$14.3-billion aid package to Israel. Merchant marine workers told AROC about the ship.

"We know that the ship is destined as a military ship to Israel because of the courage of workers," says Lara Kiswani, AROC executive director.

"We're hoping that when it reaches Tacoma, the workers will not load that military cargo, that people of Tacoma will show up to protest this genocide, and that workers around the world will continue to stop ships like this anywhere they may be found," she said.

"We are simply trying to call for an immediate ceasefire and stop the aiding of the genocide of my people."

The protest grew quickly even though there had been little time to organize the action. Speakers denounced President Biden's cruel hypocrisy of talking about a "humanitarian pause" to the epic massacre of Palestinians in Gaza.

Kiswani said: "Today we showed the world: No business as usual while Israel commits genocide against the Palestinian people. This genocide is being funded by our government and they're sending weapons starting from our city."

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SLL photo: Sharon Black

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CALL TO ACTION:**Trans Day of Remembrance 2023****By Coalition to Protect Trans Lives****MOURN THE DEAD,
FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE LIVING!**

The Coalition to Protect Trans Lives calls on trans and queer people and our allies to come out in force for Trans Day of Remembrance events across the country on Nov. 20, 2023. The need to remember our fallen and fight for our future has never been more urgent.

In October alone, at least six of our Black trans siblings were murdered: A'nee Johnson, Skylar Harrison Reeves, Chyna Long, Lisa Love, London Price, and Dominic Dupree. Twenty-six trans people are known to have been killed so far this year, though the real number is likely much higher thanks to misgendering by police and media. This year, like every year, the overwhelming number of victims are Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color.

Anti-trans violence and threats have skyrocketed, propelled by hate campaigns driven by far-right politicians, corporate media, and fascist groups and funded by the super-rich. Laws passed in HALF of U.S. states in 2023 aim to eradicate trans lives, especially targeting youth, with more and worse to come in 2024.

Republican presidential candidates like Trump and DeSantis scapegoat trans people for political gain, while President Biden and Congressional Democrats offer us nothing but worthless "thoughts and prayers" while life-saving health care is ripped away.

Trans people are part of the working class and all marginalized communities under attack by the capitalists across this country. We are part of the movements for Black Lives, for immigrants, for a free Palestine, for unions. We need to reach out and build a united fight-back in the spirit of the Stonewall uprising, AIDS activism, and the Civil Rights Movement.

That's why our grassroots coalition took the fight to the front lines of the fight against fascism in Florida. We organized the Oct. 7 National March to Protect Trans Youth in Orlando, uniting

MOURN FOR THE DEAD

FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE LIVING

TRANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

20 NOV


IN YOUR CITY

IN 2023 26 TRANS PEOPLE, AND MANY MORE THAT WERE NOT REPORTED, HAVE DIED BY TRANSPHOBIC VIOLENCE ENCOURAGED BY STATE-LED HATRED. THE ONLY WAY TO STOP IT IS BY BUILDING A NATIONAL FIGHT BACK MOVEMENT.

PROTECTTRANSKIDSMARCH.COM

hundreds from across Florida and the U.S. to defiantly resist. And we're not stopping there. More acts of resistance are coming in 2024 – get involved to help us plan and organize.

Join us to build a movement to turn back the attacks on trans lives. Let's fight to expand the rights of trans people and all people!

Speak to an organizer, email info@protecttranskidsmarch.org, or sign up at ProtectTransKidsMarch.org. 

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Capitalists behind anti-trans social media barrage

By Sally Jane Black

On Nov. 2, a hate group called PragerU spent what is reported to be a million dollars to promote anti-trans lies on the social media site “X” (formerly Twitter), owned by right-wing billionaire Elon Musk.

Who funds this hate group? It’s unknown where that specific million dollars came from, but the group was originally funded by two hydraulic fracking billionaires, and a quick search suggests those same billionaires are still involved in the group.

Research also shows that other major donors include a right-wing foundation started by people who made their fortune pushing automation in factories, one of whom was a founding member of the infamous anti-communist, racist, sexist, fascist organization known as the John Birch Society.

There are three kinds of political groups in this country:

1. Those that are kept together with the grit and spit of working-class people and what little we can scrape together to fund resistance to oppression, exploitation, and violence.
2. Those that are funded by rich people who want to push the most anti-worker, oppressive agenda you’ve ever heard of.
3. Those that are funded by rich people who want to push a more liberal agenda in order to keep you from supporting the first kind of group, because they hate the first kind of group since those are the only kind that can make a difference.

The hate group (of the second variety) pushing this anti-trans barrage on social media is not unique. There are many anti-trans hate groups, most of them funded by very similar billionaires (or, in some cases, multimillionaires, as if that makes a difference in their political outlook).

A recent exposé by the Huffington Post went into detail about Joseph Edelman, a hedge fund manager whose business focuses on health care. He funds anti-trans,



High school students in Tampa, Florida, protest Gov. Ron DeSantis’s ban on teaching about gender identity and sexuality in the state’s public education system. Meanwhile, the DeSantis administration has mandated the use of materials from the far-right PragerU hate group.

anti-abortion, and anti-anti-racist (that’s not a typo) groups, including PragerU.

Bosses need scapegoats

You have to ask yourself: Why do they care?

The answer is: They don’t. They don’t care about trans people. They care about making money.

These capitalists make their fortunes destroying the environment, automating factories, and investing in for-profit health care. They make their fortunes intentionally worsening conditions for most of humanity. They profit off human suffering, and they know that right now that suffering has escalated all over the world.

Between the pandemic, climate change, unemployment, new forms of automation, and endless war, it’s pretty grim for workers and oppressed people everywhere.

They know that those conditions breed resistance. They know that people are angry, and that anger has to go somewhere. The best thing they can do to keep that anger from showing up at their doorstep (where it belongs) is to push a scapegoat.

A million dollars to tell everyone that trans people are coming for their kids is a small price to pay to keep justice at bay for another few years.

The fact that this will likely cause many trans people to die – as we lose access to health care ourselves, as we are so demonized that we become targets of violence, as we are driven into the closet

and eventually to suicide – does not matter to them. They might hire people who have been deceived enough to sincerely hate us, but the rich and powerful people pushing this agenda? They don’t care if we die.

And that makes them worse than the true believers. There’s nothing there to convince, to shame, to educate, to grieve, to find compassion, to be debated. The only thing they will ever understand is mass resistance.

They are the source of the problem, not religion, not politics, not misinformed doctors, not terrified parents, not “stupid cis people.” They dangle millions of dollars in front of enough people, and some of those people will sign up to be used to spread hate. Then the religious, political, medical, parental, people out there are gulled by the million-dollar campaigns and constant media barrage.

Without those millions dangled in front of them, most of the opportunists would never even think about trans people, and the deceived would never stop to think about us unless we were part of their lives. The few true believers would be powerless to push their agenda without the money as well.

Pushing ‘de-transition’ myth

The million-dollar campaign from PragerU is pushing the idea of de-transitioners. While many trans people do desist (the proper term for it), most do so due to economic hardship, threats of violence,

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UAW knocks out Big Three

By Stephen Millies

Dumping cutbacks by fighting back

The strike of the United Auto Workers against General Motors, Ford and Stellantis (Chrysler and Jeep) is a big step forward for all workers and poor people. The tentative agreements with these corporations — whose sales total \$500 billion — signal an end to a decades-long retreat of givebacks and wage cuts.

UAW members won wage increases of at least 25%. More importantly, the lowest-paid auto workers will get increases of 150%.

Raising the pay more for those on the bottom largely eliminates the outrageous wage tiers that were implemented in 2008 during the Great Recession. These tiers resulted in big differences of pay for UAW members doing the same work simply because of the date they were hired.

This victory for equality builds solidarity.

Cost-of-living wage increases, to compensate for inflation, have been restored. Pensions have increased. The UAW even forced the reopening of the Chrysler plant in Belvidere, Illinois, near Rockford.

Workers at any future electric battery or car plants will be brought under the UAW Big Three contract.

No wonder former Ford vice-president, Chrysler president and General Motors vice-chairman Bob Lutz hates the union contract. “This is not like other labor negotiations,” Lutz said. “This was a gun to the head from a government-sanctioned monopoly called the labor union.”

The Washington Post — whose billionaire owner Jeff Bezos runs Amazon.com — didn’t like the UAW contract either. Listen up, Bezos: Your \$160-billion stash

won’t stop Amazon workers from getting a union.

Toyota, whose U.S. plants are non-union, promptly announced it was raising wages by at least \$2.94 per hour.

This wasn’t generosity. It’s trying to keep the UAW out of Toyota’s factories.

UAW President Shawn Fain announced that the union is planning organizing drives at Tesla, Toyota and other non-union outfits. Full speed ahead!

Ending a long retreat

Back in 1970, 321,000 UAW members in the United States struck General Motors for 67 days. Another 21,000 workers, now represented by Unifor, struck GM plants in Canada for 94 days.

They won retirement after 30 years on the job (“30 and out”), as well as getting 95% of their pay during layoffs.

During the same period, mass demon-

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Capitalists behind anti-trans social media barrage

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olence, discrimination, or other issues, not because they aren’t really trans. The number of trans people who permanently desist is very low.

(There are reports of anti-trans parents in online forums complaining that their kids “aren’t growing out of this trans phase” — i.e., parents shocked to learn that the lies they have been fed are lies.)

The number of people who regret transitioning is also exceedingly low, and even then, most regret it on the same basis as they desist — because of anti-trans bigotry, violence, or economic hardships.

Furthermore, there’s nothing wrong with de-transitioning. It’s another way of saying, “I explored my gender and figured out that transition wasn’t for me.” In the rare instances this happens, it’s perfectly okay. We should all be allowed to explore our genders without any barriers to doing so.

The problem is, the “de-transitioners” who are being promoted by these hate groups are opportunists using their

stories to spread anti-trans hate. In the last year or so, there have been articles exposing anti-trans de-transitioner spokespeople as frauds. They’re usually paid to tell a story of de-transition, distort or exaggerate parts of it, and do the bidding of these hate groups.

One recently exposed story was about a trans woman who was encouraged to sue her medical providers for pressuring her into transitioning. When she did this, the medical providers stopped providing her with hormones.

Yes, you read that right — this infamous “de-transitioner” was still transitioning! Cutting off her hormones sent her into a depressive spiral that sent her to a mental hospital. She eventually renounced her de-transitioner status and ties to the hate groups.

While this individual was used by them, she was also willingly involved in their agenda, making her story a clear example of how these groups operate, and more importantly, what empowers them and their agenda: the money behind it.

This is why we have to make it clear

when we stand up for trans rights that our enemy is the super-rich and their willing, knowing pawns, not the ones who have simply been deceived. Once we defeat them, once we defeat capitalism, the power behind anti-trans hate is gone.

This is not to say we should not fight for better conditions and oppose anti-trans hate before we defeat capitalism, but that understanding who is funding and empowering anti-trans hate should inform how we fight.

To defeat the capitalists funding the anti-trans agenda, we need everyone we can get to stand with us, which means remembering that not everyone with a backward idea about trans people is actually our enemy. They’re victims of deception, and it’s to them that we should address attempts at education and persuasion — and also solidarity in their own struggles, which are caused by the same group of rich parasites.

Solidarity with others under attack should be the first step.

The writer is a member of Workers Voice Socialist Movement.

auto companies

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strations demanded an end to the Vietnam War. Access to food stamps, now called SNAP benefits, was expanded. Women and LGBTQ+ people demanded equality.

Despite Richard Nixon in the White House, both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) were established.

On July 24, 1973, two Black workers — Larry Carter and Issac Shorter — had enough of Chrysler's racist management and dangerous working conditions. They turned off the power at the company's Jefferson Avenue assembly plant on the east side of Detroit in the first big sit-down strike in 36 years.

There were 6,074 strikes across the United States in 1974.

The wealthy and powerful counterattacked, taking advantage of recessions and job-killing automation. U.S. corporations make super-profits by exploiting millions of workers in other lands.

Today GM has 170,000 fewer workers in the U.S. than it did in 1970. While 29.1% of all workers belonged to unions in 1970, only 10.3% were union members in 2021.

Wall Street demanded 50,000 New York City public workers be fired during the 1975 municipal debt crisis.

When Chrysler got financial guarantees from the federal government in 1979, the deal resulted in 30,000 workers being fired in Detroit alone. Chrysler's workforce went from 70% Black to 30%.

So much of the burden of 6 million manufacturing jobs being destroyed fell upon Black workers.

White family median income fell in the Midwest by 7.1% from 1978 to 1982. That's a recession.

During those same years Black family median income fell in the Midwest by 35.8%. That's a great depression.

Instead of young workers getting jobs with union wages and benefits, many were railroaded to prisons instead. Two million prisoners are members of the working class, too.

Why aren't Trump and the rest of the billionaire criminals locked up instead? The labor movement needs to demand "jobs, not jails!"



United Auto Workers strike rally in Detroit on Sept. 15.

Palestine needs labor solidarity

The UAW strike and the election of Shawn Fain as UAW president means not only an end to almost 50 years of givebacks. It's also breaking with 75 years of the labor movement knuckling-under to an anti-communist witch hunt that started in the late 1940s.

AFL-CIO President George Meany supported the dirty U.S. war against Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia that killed millions, including 58,000 GIs. Meany's home union, Plumbers' Local No. 1 in Howard Beach, New York City, didn't have a single Black or Puerto Rican apprentice in 1963.

The same year Meany refused to endorse the March for Jobs and Freedom, where Dr. King gave his "I Have a Dream" speech.

In contrast, Shawn Fain announced: "We went to each of the Big Three and proposed an expiration date of April 30, 2028. We did this for several reasons. First, this allows us to strike on May Day, or International Workers' Day."

The workers of Chicago gave May Day to the world in 1886 and their leaders were hanged for it. Even since then capitalists have tried to smother it.

Palestine is also a working-class issue. Just as Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos were bombed, U.S.-made bombs are being dropped on Gaza, killing thousands of Palestinian children.

President Biden is demanding billions of more dollars to kill Palestinians. There's nothing more cynical in U.S. history than the Big Oil government in Washington supporting the Zionist regime occupying Palestine.

U.S. war secretary Henry Stimson refused to bomb the railroad tracks leading to the Auschwitz extermination camp. Anne Frank's family was denied a U.S. visa.

Henry Ford was the biggest Jew-baiter in U.S. history. His car dealers distributed a Ford-owned newspaper that ran a 91-week long lying series called the "The International Jew."

Ford was also a union-buster, whose thugs beat up UAW organizers, including future union president Walter Reuther.

GM's Opel subsidiary was Hitler's biggest truck maker. IBM's punch cards were indispensable to organize the extermination of Jewish and Roma people.

None of this prevents the Israeli regime from allowing Ford, GM and IBM to have facilities in occupied Palestine.

Mark Diamondstein, who is Jewish, is president of the 200,000-strong American Postal Workers Union. At a recent AFL-CIO executive council meeting, Diamondstein urged the council to demand a ceasefire in Israel's attacks.

All of labor should support the APWU president. "Solidarity Forever" means solidarity with all oppressed people, including the children of Gaza. 🇵🇸

U.S. arms shipment to Israel blocked at Port of Tacoma



By Lallan Schoenstein

The Port of Tacoma in Washington state was shut down by a picket line shortly before 5:30 a.m. on Nov. 6. Protesters swarmed the entrance with signs and chants: “No aid for Israel” and “From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.”

Demonstrators parked cars along the road leading into the port, stopping all traffic, including trucking to and from the port. Organizers say their protest delayed the ship’s departure by at least 12 hours.

The action was called to prevent the MV Cape Orlando, part of the U.S. fleet, from transporting military cargo to Israel. On Nov. 3, the ship had been delayed by a last-minute, unpublicized demonstration at the Port of Oakland.

At that protest, Lara Kiswani, executive director of the Arab Resource and Organizing Center, said: “We’re hoping that the workers in Tacoma will not load that military cargo, that people of Tacoma will show up to protest this genocide, and that workers around the world will continue to stop ships like this anywhere they may be found.”

In fact, at the Tacoma Port located near McChord Air Force Base, workers could not load the vessel. As members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), they are bound not to cross picket lines. It is a clear violation of their union principles and potentially dangerous as well.

Clarence Thomas, a retired longshore worker and former secretary treasurer of ILWU Local 10 in Oakland, remarked that protests are more powerful when workers at the point of production become involved.

It was reported that members of the U.S. military had been ordered to attempt to load the ship using water taxis.

Commenting on the success of the demonstration, protester Alon Lapid told KOMO News: “This turnout is incredible. The people here are all showing up to support Palestinian liberation, to stop an ongoing genocide, and to call out all U.S. military aid to this genocide of the Palestinian people in Gaza.



Top right, trucks backed up, unable to cross the enormous picket line that blocked the Port of Tacoma. Above, protesters shut down the port of Tacoma on Nov. 7 to prevent a new U.S. military shipment of weapons of mass genocide to Israel.

“We know that we have a responsibility and a duty to shut down this port because the military is literally going to be loading weapons and bombs that are

going to be sent to the Israeli occupation regime to commit genocide today. We’re all out in force for Palestine,” Lapid concluded. [📍](#)

Port of Oakland Port protest

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ILWU solidarity with Palestine

Clarence Thomas, a retired longshore worker and former secretary treasurer of International Longshore Workers Union (ILWU) Local 10, spoke to the rally. He called out to the merchant marine crew of the military cargo ship to let them know that longshore and maritime workers in Gaza could not get work.

As an African American worker, he said he had experienced the scourge of apartheid in the U.S. — the inability to find a job, the theft of land and homes, as well as genocide.

Bishop Tutu, Nobel laureate, criticized Israeli policies toward the Palestinians as “humiliating,” and said those policies were familiar to all Black South Africans under apartheid.

“ILWU Local 10 has had a long record of solidarity with the Palestinians. In 2014 they blocked an Israeli ship after Israeli commandos launched a murderous attack on a flotilla bringing aid to Pales-

tine. During another assault on Gaza in 2021, longshore workers refused to unload Israeli cargo in Oakland, Seattle, Tacoma, and Vancouver, British Columbia.”

Thomas added that he wasn’t surprised to see this demonstration just a week after dockworkers in Belgium pledged not to work any ships destined for Israel.

Sharif Zakout, speaking for AROC, said: “Israel’s ability to commit genocide against the people of Gaza is entirely dependent on U.S. military aid. We are here to sound the alarm on this U.S. military ship bound to Israel, to disrupt this war machine, and to do whatever we can to stop the killing of our loved ones in Gaza.”

AROC reported that as many as a thousand people joined in the demonstration against U.S. military support for Israel. Communities in the Pacific Northwest have already called for more protests to block the military supply vessel.

* A power projection platform is an Army installation set up to mobilize and generate forces and project those forces anywhere in the world at any time.

New Orleans port protest: CUT TIES WITH ISRAEL!

SLL photo: Gregory E. Williams

By Gregory E. Williams

Nov. 3, New Orleans – About 100 pro-Palestine protesters gathered on Canal Street downtown, outside the Sheraton Hotel, where the annual State of the Port address was happening. This is an elite event for business people and politicians.

Activists demanded that the Port of New Orleans, the city and state governments, along with the police forces, cut all ties with the Zionist state, which is currently carrying out a genocide of Palestinian people with Washington's full backing. Protesters rallied, passed out literature, formed a picket line, and then marched during the lunch rush.

Connecting the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico, the Port of New Orleans is a major economic hub for the United States, responsible for a nationwide economic output of \$29.8 billion. The port has established collaborations with Israel's Port of Ashdod in Tel Aviv, launching an "Innovation Embassy" this year.


The U.S. Census Bureau says that 28.3% of people in New Orleans live in poverty. While working-class people struggle to make ends meet, U.S. capital-



ists – including in Louisiana – continue to get richer by collaborating with Zionist Israel. These business leaders have blood on their hands.

Friday's protest action was called by Freedom Road Socialist Organization - New Orleans, Students for a Democratic Society, and other groups. Speakers indicated that this is the beginning of a campaign focused on the port authority. They promised to continue disrupting meetings, luncheons, and other functions until the port ends its relations with Israel.

Speakers included Tulane students facing charges after they were attacked by Zionist students during a peaceful protest for Palestine on that New Orleans university campus. Since the incident, they have faced harassment by university police and disinformation campaigns accusing them of antisemitism.

As with all other pro-Palestine protests in New Orleans, anti-Zionist Jewish activists played a leading role on Friday. Jewish Voice for Peace has been a driving force in the movement, showing that anti-Zionism is not antisemitism. 

Joint statement of Palestinian resistance: 'We hold U.S. fully responsible'

Statement issued by the Palestinian resistance forces: Hamas (Islamic Resistance Movement), Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command (PFLP-GC):

The five Palestinian powers held a leadership meeting, in Beirut, today, Saturday, October 28, 2023, to discuss the course of Al-Aqsa Flood Battle with the Zionist enemy and its brutal aggression against the Gaza Strip.

In their statement, the five powers saluted the martyrs of our Palestinian peo-

ple and our steadfast and proud people in the Gaza Strip who are facing an organized campaign of extermination, stressing that they are the people of pride, dignity and steadfastness and that they are the people of victory who are loyal to their cause and their homeland, and [the Palestinian forces] pledged to them to continue on the path of resistance until victory is achieved over the Zionist enemy.

The attendees affirmed the following:

- This heroic epic is the battle of the entire Palestinian people, which they are waging in defense of their land, their sanctities, their existence, and their right to freedom, against a barbaric enemy that

does not spare any of our people from its crimes. It targets hospitals, mosques, churches, universities, and ambulances, and cuts off electricity, water, fuel, the Internet, and cellular communications for our besieged people.

- Adhering to national unity is a main pillar in confronting the Zionist war of genocide against our people, as well as rejecting the enemy's attempts to divide our people or monopolize any part of it. We stress unifying efforts and closing ranks in this fateful battle.
- We call on the masses of our Arab and Islamic nation and the free people of

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Hands off Rashida Tlaib!

Defending Palestinians is courageous

By Stephen Millies

The House of Representatives voted 234-188 to censure Rashida Tlaib — its only Palestinian member — for condemning the U.S. / Israeli genocide in Gaza. Over 10,000 Palestinians have been murdered so far in Gaza by U.S.-made and U.S.-paid-for bombs and shells. Four thousand have been children.

The Nov. 7 resolution is as racist as was the expulsion of Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr. in 1967. Powell had earlier been ousted from chairing the House Education and Labor committee, where he battled discrimination and fought for all poor people.

It's reminiscent of Georgia's state legislature refusing to seat Julian Bond in 1966 because of his opposition to the Vietnam War. Bond was among the first Black people elected to Georgia's legislature since the bloody overthrow of Reconstruction.

What was Rashida Tlaib censured for? According to Politico, "Rep. Rich McCormick (R-Ga.) had moved to censure Tlaib for what he called 'promoting false narratives' about the Palestinian militant group Hamas' attack on Israel and for 'calling for the destruction of the state of Israel.'"

So Rashida Tlaib was punished for her opinions, just as Julian Bond was prevented from taking his legislative seat for what he said about the dirty U.S. war against Vietnam. "Freedom of speech" was never meant for the oppressed.

Tlaib's censure follows the expulsions earlier this year of Justin Bautista-Jones and Justin Pearson, two Black members of Tennessee's House of Representatives. The Montana House of Representatives prevented Zoey Zephyr, its only transgender member, from speaking or even entering the legislative chamber.

All these elected legislators were punished for expressing their opinions. The real "cancel culture" is capitalist reaction trying to silence any genuine opposition.

An earlier Nov. 1 vote to censure Rashida Tlaib narrowly failed. Its sponsor was the reactionary Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, who believes "Jewish

space lasers" caused California forest fires.

Twenty-two Democrats shamelessly voted with Republicans to censure Tlaib. Along with the one Democrat who was counted present, their votes were the margin of victory to try to silence the lone Palestinian voice in Congress.

Refuses to censure Israeli racism

Prominent Democrats like Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer refuse to condemn racist statements made by Israeli officials and media. Israeli Minister of Heritage Amichay Eliyahu called for dropping an atomic bomb on Gaza.

Prime Minister Netanyahu ostensibly kicked Eliyahu out of the cabinet. Nobody is supposed to admit that "little Israel" has nukes. The thousands of bombs dropped on Gaza have twice the equivalent of TNT compared to the atom bomb the U.S. used to incinerate Hiroshima.

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant ordered a "total siege" on Gaza. "No electricity, no food, no water, no gas — it's all closed," Gallant said. "We are fighting animals and are acting accordingly."

Israel's President Isaac Herzog proclaimed there are no innocent civilians in Gaza, meaning that any child or adult can be killed.

U.S. Congressperson Brian Mast also denied that Gaza lives matter, comparing the civilians there to Nazis. Yet Democrats pulled their censure resolution of the Florida Republican.

The Israeli daily newspaper Hayom demanded that the time had come to "send Gaza back into the Stone Age."

Retired Israeli general Giora Eiland said a "total war" was necessary to defeat Palestinians. Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels also demanded a "total war" after the German defeat at Stalingrad.

Eiland, the former head of Israel's National Security Council, called for creating "a terrible humanitarian crisis in Gaza, because this kind of pressure might be the most effective one."



Rashida Tlaib

Israel's National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir doesn't want to allow any humanitarian aid into Gaza.

This barbarism is intended to drive the Palestinian population out of Gaza as well as the West Bank. Zionist leaders want a new Nakba — Arabic for catastrophe — like what happened in 1948. "Israel" was born with 15,000

Palestinians murdered and 531 Palestinian villages destroyed.

Palestine extends from river to sea

All the big capitalist media are supporting the ruthless Zionist invasion of the Gaza ghetto. "Freedom of the press" is for those who own one.

Palestinian freedom fighters are being labeled "terrorists" just like the slave masters called Nat Turner — who led a revolt of enslaved Africans in Virginia — a "monster."

Neither the media nor the Biden administration nor Bernie Sanders are calling for a ceasefire. Refusing a ceasefire is endorsing the continued bombing of 2.3 million Palestinians in an area that's as densely populated as New York City.

The Zionist military and its Pentagon advisors are deliberately targeting hospitals, schools and other shelters. Hundreds of children are guaranteed to be killed every day.

The same House of Representatives that censured Rashida Tlaib voted five days earlier to give another \$14.3 billion to Israel for killing Palestinians. At the same time, \$3 billion has been cut from SNAP benefits (formerly called food stamps) every month since March.

Rashida Tlaib was censured for supposedly "calling for the destruction of the state of Israel." What's wrong with destroying a racist apartheid state that even restricts Palestinians from traveling on certain highways?

It's anti-racist, not anti-Jewish, to chant "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!" Thousands of Jewish people have demonstrated in support of Palestinians.

The people of Zimbabwe wiped racist Rhodesia off the map and took back their land. So will the people of Palestine.

Hands off Rashida Tlaib! 

Los Angeles rallies in solidarity with South Korean workers

By Struggle-La Lucha
Los Angeles bureau

“Down with Yoon Suk Yeol — Workers united will never be defeated,” was one of the many chants resounding through this busy intersection in Koreatown, Los Angeles, on Nov 4. The spirited rally was organized by the Korean American Labor Solidarity Association (KALSA) in coordination with protests in South Korea sponsored by the militant Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU).

David Yun of KALSA said: “Workers struggle anywhere in the world is a global struggle for all peoples living under capitalism. Right now, while American workers struggle for fair wages and access to health care, Congress is sending billions and billions of dollars to fund a genocide in Palestine. And for the past 78 years, South Korean workers have been living under U.S. military occupation.

“The workers revolution that took place in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea [North Korea] resulted in Korean workers getting 8-hour work days, a standardized wage scale, two week annual vacations, and the right to collective bargaining. This was in 1946! These are rights that workers in South Korea and America are still fighting for to this day.

“The situation for workers in South Korea is dire,” Yun explained. “To feed



Los Angeles, Nov. 4.

Photo: KALSA

their families, workers have to work multiple jobs and work over a hundred hours a week. The past year over 2,000 Korean workers died on the job due to unsafe working conditions and over exhaustion. That’s six workers a day!

“The current Yoon Suk Yeol administration in South Korea fervently opposes workers interests and is offering Korea as an imperialist playground for the U.S. Empire. For this, we the people demand he step down!”

Tsukuru Fors of Asian Pacific Nuclear-Free Peace Alliance said: “I consider it to be of paramount importance for me to express my solidarity with my Korean brothers and sisters. Japan’s decision to dump radioactive water during the month of August, the A-bomb memorial month, was a grave insult and betrayal to the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As a child of Hiroshima, I found that to be absolutely horrendous and sickening.

“I want to acknowledge that under the colonization of Korea by Japan, so many Korean people suffered, and many resistance fighters were imprisoned. I also want to acknowledge that 5 million Koreans were killed in the Korean War, which no one wants to talk about in this country.

“In the light of what’s happening in Palestine right now, I thank all of you for standing up for Palestinians. As a descendent of the colonizer Japan, it is my duty to stand with the Palestinian people and all who are victims of imperialism and colonialism.”

Members of the ANSWER coalition and the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice also gave solidarity remarks. Maggie Vascassenno of HTC closed the afternoon picket with these words: “It is especially important now, when global capitalism is unleashing terror and repression against workers and against the global south, that the world’s progressive and working-class forces stand together in support of all those around the world that are fighting back – from Palestine to South Korea, from Venezuela to Syria.

“Down with Yoon Suk Yeol, down with the Chaebols and their U.S. banking partners! Down with U.S. and Japanese imperialism! Long live the Korean people’s militant struggle.”

Palestinian resistance

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the world to continue their movements to stop the American-zionist aggression, open the border crossings, bring in humanitarian aid and fuel, and remove the wounded from the Gaza Strip.

- We salute the resistance forces in our nation, especially in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Iran, and we affirm that our Palestinian people are not alone in this battle.
- We hold the United States of America fully responsible for the war of genocide against our people as it chose to

support, escalate, and participate in the war of genocide against our people, which requires a strong response from the Arab and Islamic countries as well as countries friendly to our people to stop this ongoing massacre of our Palestinian people.

- We demand the opening of the Rafah crossing and the entry of aid, humanitarian needs, fuel, and medical and relief teams to our people without delay, allowing the wounded to be transported to Egypt and the Arab and Islamic countries, without interference from the occupation or any of the aggression countries.

- We call on the masses of our people throughout occupied Palestine to escalate all forms of resistance and struggle against the zionist enemy, targeting its soldiers and settlers, and strengthening popular initiatives of struggle in the face of settler attacks and the encroachment of enemy forces.
- The enemy’s cutting of all access to Gaza, besieging it, and cutting off communications and the Internet completely is a cover for a major crime of genocide that the enemy does not want witnesses to, and we stress breaking

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The class character and political origins of Zionism



Abram Leon

By Lev Koufax

On Oct. 28, as the Israeli occupation forces began their brutal ground offensive into Gaza, Defence Minister Yoav Gallant declared in earnest, “This is a war where there is no choice: either them or us.”

Translated as: We are justified in our genocide of the Palestinian people.

This sort of false paradigm has been at the core of Zionism ever since its inception in Europe around the turn of the 20th century: Palestine is the true Jewish homeland; only we Israelis have the right to it, and anyone who dares thwart our genocidal aspirations will be deemed an anti-Semite and terrorist.

As Israel intensifies its genocidal war against Palestine, now is as good a time as ever to examine the true nature of Zionist ideology, its class character, and its benefit to imperialist powers. By understanding Zionism’s origins, we can better challenge the mythology that leads to the sort of fascist lunacy that Gallant and many like him consistently spew.

According to the Zionist narrative, Palestine is the long-lost homeland of the Jewish people. Under this fallacy, because one community of Jews was predominant in the land called Palestine several thousand years ago, my community now has the right to colonize this land on behalf of the Western powers. Now, if you ask a Zionist, they will tell you that Israeli apartheid isn’t colonial but the only way to guarantee Jewish survival.

However, revolutionary socialist Jews and anti-Zionists polemicized against this mythology before Israel even existed. In particular, one of these Jewish revolutionaries, Abram Leon, wrote prolifically about the state of the Jewish community in the mid-20th century.

As European Jewry faced pogroms, exile, and eventually, the Holocaust, Leon hoped to direct his community toward building socialism as the main method for the defeat of Nazism and the liberation of not just Jews but all oppressed people.

A Marxist interpretation

At that time, Leon could not write on this topic without addressing a fringe, but

growing, petit bourgeois ideology at the time, known as Zionism. After the outbreak of World War II, Leon was forced to flee his homeland of Poland for Belgium, where he was communist organizer.

While participating in the Belgian underground and on the run from Nazi forces, Leon wrote “The Jewish Question: a Marxist Interpretation.” In this piece, he details the history of the Jewish community, the need for Jewish support of socialism, and the dangers of embracing Zionism.

To adequately understand the threat Zionism posed to the entire Middle East, as well as the Jewish people, Leon analyzed the origins of the ideology that eventually grew into the fascist state of Israel.

At the core of Zionist ideology is the assertion that Palestine has always been the ancestral Jewish homeland. Zionist history asserts that return to this homeland has been the sole focus of the Jewish community since the Babylonian expulsion of the vast majority of Jews from Palestine in the 6th century BCE and the destruction of the Second Temple of Jerusalem by the Romans several hundred years later.

This narrative also pushes the idea that the only way to guarantee Jewish security and safety is not only to return to this supposed homeland but also to establish a secular Jewish state.

The problem is, this narrative is almost entirely based on a false version of history.

In fact, Zionism is a particularly young ideology. While there was always a certain romanticization of the Holy Land within the Jewish community, the idea that the only way to secure a Jewish future was to build a colonizer government in Palestine did not crystallize as a political tendency and school of thought until the late 19th century.

In 1896, Theodore Herzl wrote his Zionist treatise, “The Jewish State,” where he argued that the only reasonable response to mounting pogroms and anti-Semitism in Europe was a mass migration of Jews to Palestine. Herzl’s crowning fascist work came only two years removed from the anti-Semitism of the Dreyfus Affair,

where a French army officer was prosecuted for his Judaism.

Required backing of European powers

Herzl didn’t stop with Jewish emigration to Palestine. He openly asserted that the key to achieving this dream would be backing from European powers. This sentiment is at the core of the growth of the Zionist movement over time. Herzl was not the only affluent Jew in Europe who was concerned about growing anti-Semitism.

Across Europe, Jewish tradespeople, business owners, and academics were tired of living under the specter of anti-Semitism. For Jewish businesspeople, Zionist ideology presented an opportunity for rapid investment from the West and their own share of imperialist profits. For this reason, the Zionist ideology grew rapidly among the wealthier portion of the Jewish community between 1896 and 1918, when Abram Leon was born into an affluent Zionist Polish Jewish family.

As Leon grew and delved deeper into socialism and the struggle against all forms of oppression, he grew to reject his parents’ Zionist ideology based on the same history and analysis reviewed above. At this same time, Nazism was also growing in Europe. Fascism and anti-Semitism spread like wildfire, deepening the crisis for the Jewish community and Leon himself.

However, even with the rise of fascist movements and governments throughout Europe in the 1930s, Zionism still did not become the predominant ideology in the Jewish community until after the horrors of the Holocaust. During the political struggles of the 1930s and World War II, most of the Jewish community lined up with the international left. Jews were labor union leaders, Red Army soldiers, and anti-fascist organizers.

One such anti-fascist organizer was Abram Leon. In 1940s Nazi-occupied Belgium, Abram was a communist who helped lead one section of the militant Belgian resistance. Leon never stopped fighting. This is exactly why, in 1944,

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Millions protest worldwide against U.S.-Israeli genocide in Gaza

By Stephen Millies

Genocide Joe: Ceasefire now!

People around the world are demanding that the Zionist apartheid regime stop murdering Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Over 11,000 Palestinians have been killed, including 4,500 children.

Three hundred thousand people marched on the White House in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 4. They demanded that “Genocide Joe” Biden stop the massacre being carried out by the U.S. client state of “Israel.”

This was the biggest march in defense of Palestine in U.S. history. Many Palestinian organizations helped organize it, along with the ANSWER coalition.

Activists in the Black Lives Matter movement have rallied to defend Palestine. So have Indigenous nations and organizations defending immigrants.

Marches took place the same day across the United States. Five thousand people took to the streets in Minneapolis. The Minnesota Anti-War Committee also or-

ganized a busload of people who traveled 1,400 miles to join the Washington protest.

Hundreds of thousands marched in London and other British cities for Palestine on Nov. 4. The Tory government wants to stop a demonstration in London on Nov. 11, since that’s the anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I.

As former Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn pointed out, wasn’t that armistice a ceasefire? What better day to demand peace for Palestine?

Corbyn said “the Palestinian cause will never go away.”

Thousands have also marched in Berlin and Paris. Italians are demanding a ceasefire. “Peace with Gaza” has been painted on Italian railroad passengers cars.

Thousands marched in Mexico City. They rightfully called Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a war criminal.

Massive marches to stop the killing in Gaza have taken place in both Istanbul and Ankara in Türkiye. Demonstrators tried to storm the U.S. air base at Incirlik in southern Türkiye.

Nelson Mandela supported Palestine

An estimated 2 million people marched in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia.

The 278 million people of Indonesia have been politically smothered since the CIA-orchestrated massacres of a million communists, workers and peasants in 1965-66. The mass marches for Palestine are helping to break through decades of reaction.

The people of South Africa are heart and soul with Palestine. Nelson Mandela said in 1997 that “we know too well that our freedom is incomplete without the

freedom of the Palestinians.”

Marches have been organized in both Cape Town and Johannesburg. People remember how Israel supplied rifles and other military hardware, including nuclear weapons, to the old apartheid regime.

They also remember Ruth First, a Jewish South African communist who was murdered by a bomb sent by the apartheid secret police. Thousands of Jewish people around the world have marched to demand freedom and peace in Palestine.

But in “democratic Israel” nobody is allowed to march for peace and to stop murdering Palestinian children. Zionist police chief Yaakov Shabtai has threatened to arrest anti-war protesters and bus them to Gaza.

On Nov. 9 people in the U.S. took to the streets again. At least 10,000 people demonstrated in New York City.

Among them were thousands of high school and college students who walked out of class earlier in the day. Struggle-La Lucha’s Bill Dores reported they marched from the New York Public Library down Fifth Avenue, across 34th Street through Herald Square, then up Eighth Avenue to the New York Times.

Hundreds of writers and journalists were sitting in there to protest the Times’ support of the war on Gaza. People then marched through Times Square back to the library.

Earlier in the day, activists at the People’s Forum took over the lobby of the BlackRock financial octopus that has assets of over \$9 trillion. Among its holdings are war profiteers like Lockheed.

The world is with Palestine. Ceasefire now! Palestine will be free! 🇵🇸

Origins of Zionism

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Nazi forces raided an anti-fascist meeting and captured Leon. Several months later, he died after prolonged torture while interned at Auschwitz concentration camp.

It is unknown when Leon wrote “The Jewish Question: a Marxist Interpretation,” but it was presumably while he was on the run in the late 1930s and early 1940s. Even though Leon died before the horror of Israel began, he condemned Zionism as an ideology of the few and the oppressive. He wrote that a Western-backed Jewish state in Palestine “would do nothing to improve the situation of international Jewry.”

Today, he is more right than ever.

As Leon did, all Jews must reject the poisonous ideology that has turned us against our Palestinian siblings. Zionism is an ideology meant to benefit the United States and its partners in imperialism. It will never benefit the Jewish people. 🇵🇸

Palestinian resistance

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this siege with an “official and popular” Arab position.

- We adhere to the right of our people to resist, and its confidence in the victory of our people in this battle, as we fight this battle in defense of our land, our people, and our sanctities, and for the sake of liberation, return, self-deter-

mination, and the establishment of the Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Glory to the martyrs.

Healing for the wounded.

Freedom for the prisoners.

Victory to our people and their valiant resistance.

Saturday, October 28, 2023

Source: Resistance News Network on Telegram

Conmemoran Levantamiento en Puerto Rico solidarizándose con la lucha Palestina

Protesta en solidaridad con Palestina en San Juan, Puerto Rico, 17 de octubre.



Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Este pasado lunes 30 de octubre, el movimiento de independencia de Puerto Rico conmemoró como todos los años en esta fecha, la Insurrección de Jayuya del 1950 liderada por el Partido Nacionalista.

Si bien es más conocido fuera de Puerto Rico el Grito de Lares del 1868, la importancia del Levantamiento de Jayuya, es que fue el primer alzamiento armado en contra del invasor yanqui. Los hombres y mujeres nacionalistas combatieron en varios pueblos de la isla, pero fue en Jayuya donde se proclamó la República de Puerto Rico, libre del dominio gringo. Allí

las fuerzas independentistas lucharon y mantuvieron el combate, aún con armas rudimentarias, por tres días antes de que les reprimieran las fuerzas militares estadounidenses junto a la policía local.

Los actos de conmemoración este año fueron muy especiales, porque se daban en un contexto mundial muy doloroso. El genocidio por Israel y Estados Unidos del pueblo palestino. Y para nosotros y nosotras en Puerto Rico, la lucha palestina siempre ha sido una lucha hermana. Ambos somos colonia y a nuestros pueblos se les ha querido desplazar de nuestras tierras, en Puerto Rico con un carácter menos cruento, pero con el

mismo fin de adueñarse de nuestra patria.

Por eso este año la conmemoración de la insurrección de Jayuya fue no solo la expresión de un pueblo que sigue luchando de diversas formas por nuestra liberación, sino un acto de solidaridad también con esas hermanas y hermanos que están siendo masacrados por la misma mano criminal que intenta robarnos de nuestro futuro. Solidarizándose con la lucha y resistencia palestina. Así lo demostraron los discursos y hasta una canción escrita por nuestro cantor Tony Mapeyé en honor al pueblo palestino.

¡Viva Puerto Rico Libre!
¡Viva Palestina Libre! 🇵🇷 🇵🇸

Puerto Rico ante la ONU en Ginebra

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

La lucha por nuestra soberanía e independencia, aunque cada vez más cuesta arriba, se hace cada día desde diferentes escenarios: en la agricultura donde jóvenes intentan rescatar la tierra para asegurarnos de un futuro con soberanía alimentaria; en las comunidades que pelean



contra el desplazamiento forzado por grandes intereses millonarios extranjeros que reciben beneficios del gobierno local; en los defensores del medioambiente que luchan sin cesar contra el despojo y destrucción de nuestras costas y reservas naturales; en la lucha contra la privatización que el proceso neoliberal ha intensificado, haciendo de cada servicio público una fuente de ganancias millonarias para compañías mafiosas, mayormente extranjeras que a la vez que se lucran, deterioran los servicios necesarios para la población, servicios como la energía, la salud, la educación, la transportación pública.

Además, están los partidos y organizaciones políticas de izquierda e independentistas que luchan desde sus

diversas plataformas ideológicas en contra del colonaje y el nuevo gobierno impuesto por el Congreso estadounidense, la Junta de Control Fiscal, que vino, con la excusa de “arreglar las finanzas”, y se ha convertido en un verdadero centro que ha propiciado el de lavado de dinero extranjero.

Por otro lado, está la lucha a nivel internacional, donde representantes de nuestras organizaciones elevan la protesta, sobre todo en los organismos de las Naciones Unidas.

Y es en ésta, en su oficina de Ginebra, que esta semana se mostró al mundo la verdadera cara de los Estados Unidos en la ONU.

La Unión de Libertades Civiles Americanas en Puerto Rico y el Instituto Puertorriqueño de Relaciones Internacionales presentaron dos informes detallados sobre la necesidad de descolonización de Puerto Rico y la incompatibilidad del colonialismo con los Derechos Humanos.

El Licenciado Fermín Arraiza, director de la ACLU-PR fue a decir que “Puerto Rico no es simplemente un territorio; es una nación con pleno derecho a la autodeterminación”, y que la ONU tiene la obligación de atenderlo, y “Estados Unidos podría enfrentarse ante la Corte Internacional de Derechos Humanos y la asamblea general de la ONU por malinterpretar el estatus colonial de Puerto Rico”.

Como respuesta, la representante de los EUA, se negó a contestar. Así que ante esa negativa, la delegación boricua y delegaciones de otros países, se pararon en protesta silente y le dieron la espalda en solidaridad con Puerto Rico.

La lucha tendrá que continuar en todos los niveles, y si la ONU y sus tribunales se niegan a considerarla, serán los pueblos unidos quienes logremos al fin la victoria.

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



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