

- **Activista trans cubano dice que las personas LGBTIQ+ en EUA y Cuba deben unirse**
 Cuban trans activist says LGBTIQ+ people in the U.S. and Cuba must unite



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Trump declares war on the Caribbean

By Gary Wilson

The 'drug war' is a war for control of Venezuela's oil

Donald Trump has opened a war in the Caribbean – without Congress, without evidence, and without limits. What was once called "drug interdiction" has been renamed a "non-international armed conflict" by Trump on Oct. 2. The new label hands the White House a blank check to kill, no questions asked.

In the past month, U.S. forces blew apart three small boats, killing 17 people. None were arrested, none put on trial. They were gunned down at sea – and only afterward did the White House declare them "combatants," dressing up executions as acts of war.

To justify it, the administration claims drug shipments themselves are "armed attacks" on the United States. By this logic, smuggling cocaine is the same as launching an invasion – a stretch so absurd it borders on parody.

Of course, this also ignores that Venezuela is not involved in any way with the global drug trade. Pino Arlacchi, former head of the United Nations Office on Drugs

Continued on page 12



Photo: Bill Hackwell
 Assata Shakur,
 May 1992, Havana.

ASSATA SHAKUR
a victorious symbol of resistance

By John Parker

It's not surprising that Assata Shakur is not one of the most well-known names in U.S. history – even though she should be.

That is par for the course when it comes to Black heroes, so we must make sure that this Black woman and her relevance to our movement remain visible.

As Assata said in an open letter to our movement:

'Like most poor and oppressed people in the United States, I do not have a voice. Black people, poor people in the U.S. have no real freedom of speech, no real freedom of expression and very little freedom of the press. The Black press and the progressive media have historically played an essential role in the struggle for social justice. We need to continue and to expand that tradition. We need to create media outlets that help to educate our people and our children and not annihilate their minds.'

Continued on page 2

FREE GAZA FREE PALESTINE



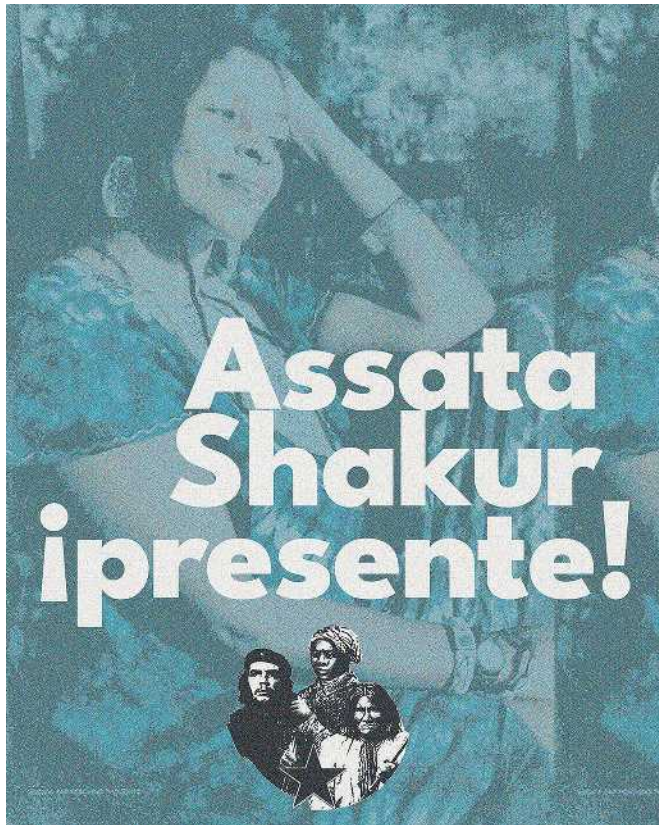
- Protests disrupt cycling races in Europe & U.S.
- ILWU pensioners solidarity fund
- L.A. & Inland Empire join global wave of solidarity
- Trump's U.N. tirade: Cheers for bloodshed
- Netanyahu's imperialist rant protested at UN
- From Ukraine to Gaza, war profit is the policy



CUBA, VENEZUELA & GLOBAL STRUGGLE

- Cuban foreign minister demands that Palestine become a full member of the U.N.
- Colombian President Petro on 'army of justice'

- Say NO to a \$3 NYC transit fare!
- Baltimore needs grocery stores not police
- The enemy within: Trump's class war
- War money & Artificial Intelligence
- SIM card 'threat' a smokescreen



The Struggle for Socialism Party honors the passing of Black revolutionary ASSATA SHAKUR

JULY 16, 1947 – SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

'It is our duty to fight for our freedom.

It is our duty to win.

**We must love each other
and support each other.**

We have nothing to lose but our chains.'

Framed up, criminalized, and demonized by corporate press, the people knew Assata Shakur as a revolutionary fighter for Black liberation as a part of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army.

After her frame-up and conviction for "murdering a state trooper" in 1977 – a crime she did not commit – revolutionary Cuba granted her asylum in a tremendous show of international solidarity.

We all stand on Assata's shoulders.

Assata Shakur, ¡presente!

A symbol of resistance

Continued from page 1

The 1960s and '70s saw frequent frame-ups and assassinations of Black leaders in the liberation movements by the FBI, especially targeting the Black Panther Party, like the assassination of Fred Hampton in Chicago in 1969.

As a Black Panther Party and Black Liberation Army member – frequently threatened by the police -- what happened on May 2, 1973, was due to come.

Zayd Malik Shakur and Sundiata Acoli and Assata were pulled over by troopers on the New Jersey Turnpike, supposedly for a "faulty tail-light."

Assata was told to put her hands up and was then shot in the front and back. In defending Sudiata and Assata, Zayd was killed. One of the troopers, Werner Foester, was dead, and Assata was sentenced to life in prison after being charged with murder

and attempted murder, even after medical evidence showed that she was shot with her hands up.

But in 1979, her comrades successfully helped her escape from prison and by 1984, it was known that she was given asylum by the Cuban people. Their representative, President Fidel Castro, had a history of defending the right of self-defense and self-determination for African people in Angola, with continued solidarity with Black liberation leaders in the U.S.

Assata was able to live her life honored by the Cuban people and remained there as an educational teacher.

After learning of the asylum, the New Jersey police were so upset that they asked Pope John Paul II, who was visiting Cuba, to help get her extradited to the United States. When Assata heard about this, she wrote a letter to the Pope to give the other side.

"Police brutality is a daily occurrence in our communities. The police have a virtual

license to kill, and they do kill: children, grandmothers, anyone they perceive to be the enemy. They shoot first and ask questions later. Inside the jails and prisons, there is at least as much brutality as there was on slave plantations. An ever-increasing number of prisoners are found hanging in their cells.

"The United States is becoming a land more hostile to Black people and other people of Color. Racism is running rampant and xenophobia is on the rise. This has been especially true in the sphere of domestic policy. Politicians are attempting to blame social problems on Black people and other people of Color. There have been attacks on essentially all affirmative action programs designed to help correct the accumulated results of hundreds of years of slavery and discrimination. In addition, the government seems determined to eliminate all social programs that provide

Continued on page 4

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The enemy within: Trump's class war

By Gary Wilson

President Donald Trump's appearance before hundreds of generals and admirals at Quantico was not a routine address. It was a declaration of war – not on foreign rivals, but on the people in the U.S.

At a time of austerity budgets and cuts everywhere, the two-hour special assembly of all admirals and generals in command positions worldwide cost approximately \$6 million, according to the Center for Strategic and International Studies. It could have been done on Zoom for a few thousand dollars.

Flanked by his so-called Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, Trump laid out plans to transform the U.S. military into a domestic instrument of repression, targeting immigrants, Black and Brown communities, unions, women, LGBTQ+ people and anyone who dares resist his agenda.

"We're going to straighten them out one by one," Trump told the brass. "That's a war too. It's a war from within." He announced the creation of a "quick reaction force" to put down civil disturbances, casting protest as an "enemy from within."

He went further: U.S. cities, he suggested, should be used as "training grounds" for the armed forces. The meaning was clear – the normalization of military occupation on U.S. soil.

This was not theater. Trump has already sent National Guard units and Marines to Los Angeles, ordered federal forces into Portland, overseen the occupation of Washington, D.C., and named Chicago, Baltimore, San Francisco, and New York as future targets.

The plan is clear: concentrate military power against the working-class, multinational centers of resistance that anchor U.S. cities.

Building a political guard

Hegseth railed against "woke garbage," vowed to purge dissenting officers, and pushed directives that would gut protections against racism and sexual abuse, including rape. Even seemingly trivial rules – like beard bans – carry a racist edge, aimed at forcing out Black and Muslim soldiers, sailors and marines.

Hegseth has begun an "anti-woke" purge of the officer corps. He has fired dozens of senior officers, including the previous chairman of the Joint Chiefs, other top generals, combat commanders, and other commanders.

The goal in eliminating Black, Latine, women, lesbian, gay and trans officers is to ensure a political guard in the mold of the Waffen-SS.

Trump's demand was explicit: any officer unwilling to join this war on the "enemy within" should resign.

This was no isolated provocation. It is the spearhead of a coordinated, multi-front offensive to consolidate personal rule and unleash a historic assault on the U.S. working class.

This authoritarian offensive reaches far beyond the barracks. Trump has moved to neutralize every potential source of opposition – indicting critics, hounding media outlets, and leaning on corporations and social media platforms to silence dissent. TikTok, newly brought under oligarchic control, is being reshaped as a tool for suppressing digital protest.

Harshest on the most oppressed

As always, the harshest blows fall on the most oppressed. ICE operates as a Gesta-po-like force, detaining tens of thousands without charge and deporting two million, according to Homeland Security, within months – spreading terror in immigrant neighborhoods and leaving families too frightened to leave their homes.

Meanwhile, the assault on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is a calculated attempt to roll back the gains of the civil rights movement. Corporations are eagerly complying, weaponizing discrimination to strip workplace rights from Black, Asian, Latine, Indigenous, women, lesbian, gay and trans workers.

Trump's vow to use major cities (all with Black mayors) as "training grounds" makes the racist logic clear. Deployments to Los Angeles, Portland, Memphis, and the occupied capital (Washington) are not about "crime waves." They are military operations designed to crush popular protest and silence resistance.

Purges and austerity

The authoritarian offensive extends deep into the government itself. The administration has purged an estimated 300,000 federal workers, clearing the way to turn the machinery of government into Trump's personal party apparatus.

But authoritarianism here has a class purpose. "Make America Great Again" is not a carnival slogan or nostalgic appeal. It is a program to restructure U.S. capitalism by restoring profitability and global



Generals and admirals at Quantico session with Trump. Hegseth has begun an 'anti- woke' purge of the officer corps.

supremacy. And the chosen method is as old as capitalism itself: the ruthless intensification of exploitation.

Wages must be driven down, unions crushed, with the police and military force unleashed to discipline labor.

Trump's bombast is camouflage; his tantrums are tactics. The real goal is to expand the U.S. government's role in repressing working-class resistance and securing the conditions for renewed profits.

Class war budget

Trump's budget exposes the blueprint: massive tax giveaways to the wealthy, financed through deep cuts to Medicaid, food assistance, and every program working people depend on to survive.

In Marxist terms, this is not mere fiscal policy – it is the government acting as the executive committee of the capitalist class, orchestrating a direct transfer of value from labor to capital. Workers lose the meager social wage they fought to win; capital reaps the reward in the form of subsidies and tax relief.

And this is only the opening salvo. What is being prepared is not one round of cuts but a rolling offensive – a sustained assault on living standards and democratic rights until resistance is broken.

Dictatorship of the bourgeoisie

This is not McCarthyism in the midst of a booming postwar economy, when red-baiting was used to pacify a labor movement still on the rise. What we face today is far more dangerous: repression unfolding in the middle of a crisis economy defined by what capitalist economists call a "K-shaped recovery."

The metaphor is telling. The upward

Continued on page 5

Say NO to a \$3 transit fare!

Fare Ain't Fair campaign goes to Brooklyn's streets

New York City

By Stephen Millies

Sept. 21 – The Fair Ain't Fare Campaign took the struggle against outrageous cost of riding the subway or a bus to Brooklyn today. More than 50 people rallied outside the Parkside Avenue Q and B train station Sunday afternoon to demand a rollback of the current \$2.90 fare.

That's 58 times what it was in 1948. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) wants to increase it to three bucks, a 60-fold increase.

The Fare Ain't Fair Campaign wants a rollback of the fare, which is a transportation tax on poor and working people. The effort was initiated by the December 12th Movement and is supported by other people's organizations.

Speakers at the rally included human rights attorney Roger Wareham, a member of D12's international secretariat. It was pointed out that the MTA shells out \$2.8 billion every year in tax-free interest to the banks and wealthy bondholders.

Those are the real robbers, not poor folk who jump the turnstiles or sneak past a fare box. As the Fare Ain't Fair Campaign



Roger Wareham speaking at the Parkside Avenue rally.

says, the poor won't pay more!

It was because of the campaign and the people's anger that the MTA delayed the planned increase until January 2026. The people can stop it!

Protesters marched on the home of MTA CEO Jenno Lieber, who calls the fare hike a "fare adjustment." Lieber, who hauled in \$400,000 last year, doesn't have to worry

about a \$3 fare.

The activists found plenty of supporters marching down Flatbush and Church avenues. After leaving Lieber's house, they held a final rally in front of the Church Avenue Q and B train station.

You can contact the Fare Ain't Fair Campaign at fareaintfair@protonmail.com

Roll back the fare, coast to coast! #

Assata Shakur *A symbol of resistance*

Continued from page 2

assistance to the poor, resulting in a situation where millions of people do not have access to basic health care, decent housing or quality education."

Yes, history does repeat itself, the Trump Administration makes that clear. It's also clear that the push toward fascism and genocide didn't start with Trump.

Clinton Correctional Facility is where Assata was spending her life sentence. Although it wasn't named after Bill Clinton, the name fits. His administration collaborated in putting political prisoners behind bars, and targeting them with assassinations, while joining the club of Democrats pitching the ball for Republicans like Trump. Assata's time in prison also included torture, abuse and solitary confinement.

In 1979, Jimmy Carter's administration created the bounty against Assata. Bill Clinton increased that bounty to \$1 million. And it was Barack Obama's administration in 2013 that doubled that bounty, with the FBI declaring her the first woman to receive the designation of Most Wanted Terrorist – making the \$2 million bounty to "capture"

– a more likely unofficial "capture and kill" directive. But she fought and she won!

Assata has been and remains an inspiration in our fight against genocide from Los Angeles to Chicago to Gaza and Palestine. In her autobiography, published in 1988, she teaches us the necessity of self-defense and self-determination. She writes about what is most necessary in building a united working class, which especially inspires people of color with her appreciation and study of Ho Chi Minh, Kim Il Sung, Che, Fidel, and Huey Newton, enriching her understanding of Marxism-Leninism.

In 1996 in Cuba Assata Shakur stated: "The liberation of oppressed people in the United States, has to do, not with climbing of some ladder to success, not for asking to be just like Rockefeller or just like DuPont or just like Ford, because that would only continue the oppression and exploitation of oppressed people in the United States and specifically African people, born and raised in the United States.

"Socialism is an integral part of building social justice on this planet. The condition of my people, my history, was very

much connected with other oppressed people. And I began to see that the same foot that was on the necks of the Vietnamese people was on the necks of all oppressed. ...and so I began to understand that imperialism has to go. It is a poison that is killing people all over this world. The priority of this planet has to be completely changed. ...that's what my basic political commitment is at this moment.

And Assata, who knew Cuba would have an effect on the Pope, ended her letter:

"On this day, the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., I am reminded of all those who gave their lives for freedom. Most of the people who live on this planet are still not free. I ask only that you continue to work and pray to end oppression and political repression. It is my heartfelt belief that all the people on this earth deserve justice: social justice, political justice, and economic justice. I believe it is the only way that we will ever achieve peace and prosperity on earth. I hope that you enjoy your visit to Cuba. This is not a country that is rich in material wealth, but it is a country that is rich in human wealth, spiritual wealth and moral wealth." #

Baltimore needs more grocery stores not more police

By Colby Byrd

It has been three months since the public killing of Baltimore Arabber Bilal “BJ” Abdullah by the Baltimore Police Department while he was experiencing a mental health crisis. Since then the city has only intensified the police presence across the city.

Following the deaths of not only BJ but two other Baltimore residents – Pytorcarcha Brooks and Donte Melton Jr. – there were two city council hearings. In these hearings, the community expressed its long-standing concerns and problems with the Baltimore Police Department.

During this period of time, there were two mass overdoses in the Penn-North area of Baltimore, July 10 and 18. Following both of these tragic events, BPD launched brutal raids and intensified its patrols of Black communities. Notably, one raid at Douglass Homes saw apartment doors kicked in and rooms searched and trashed as men, women, and children were forced to line the curb and outer courtyards surrounding the public housing project. The police found nothing in that raid and no arrests were made, but a community was left shocked, uprooted and embarrassed.

The second council hearing took place as the same day a trial was to be held for Baltimore Police officer Curlon Edwards, who is facing many charges, including first-degree rape of a 16-year-old girl. No information has surfaced regarding this trial since the day it was posted to happen. Also, on this day, Aug. 27, the body camera footage of the death of Donte Melton was released. His death was ruled a homicide. The family is currently pressuring the city, demanding justice for their murdered son;

the officers involved are believed to still remain in their roles.

The city claims that its approach to crime and violence is one that treats it as a “Public Health Crisis.” They applaud the use of “community-focused solutions” headed by nonprofits that work with the city government; however, in practice, it is these same nonprofits and services that were thrown under the bus following the deaths of three Baltimore residents.

Also, both city and state officials have sidelined these organizations by colluding to bring state troopers into Baltimore. Far from pursuing community-focused solutions, they have simply increased the police presence.

This move is a slap in the face to Baltimore residents. As the city claims to care for the welfare of its people, it orders in more police to terrorize and occupy the city. If the city was truly treating poverty, violence and crime as a public health crisis, why have they not moved to end the food deserts across the city? It should be noted that all three previously mentioned deaths happened in city council district 9. Within this district sit the Sandtown-Winchester, Upton, and Harlem Park communities, all of which reside in a food desert.

The city’s moves are all to satisfy the fascist Trump regime. Trump has continually threatened Baltimore with Federal occupation and a mobilization of the National Guard. While city and state leaders



Body cam footage shows 70-year-old Pytorcarcha Brooks, who was having a mental health crisis, moments before Baltimore cops shot her in her home while responding to a 911 call.

take online and to the media to bash and “fight back” against Trump, in reality, they will continue to carry out his wishes of “returning law and order” to what he views as “crime-ridden hellholes.”

At all levels of government, elected officials seek to maintain the racist occupation and apartheid of the city and its residents. Nationally, Baltimore’s fate is linked with that of D.C., Los Angeles, Memphis, New Orleans, Portland, and Chicago. All of these cities have been threatened or occupied by Trump and the federal government.

As city and state officials parade the idea that more police in the city, brought by the Maryland State Troopers, will “make communities safer” and “improve the quality of life in our city,” it is obvious that what the people need is not more police. In Baltimore, communities are demanding an end to food deserts, an increase in proper mental health services and crisis response, and an end to the violent and racist practices of the Baltimore Police Department. #

The enemy within: Trump’s class war

Continued from page 3

line represents the soaring fortunes of the asset-owning capitalist class, fattened by imperialist super-profits and speculative bubbles. The downward line marks the opposite reality: a working class pushed into stagnation and decline, with its wages flat and its social wage gutted by austerity.

The conclave at Quantico, the ICE raids, the mass purges, and the austerity budget are not disconnected episodes. They are interlocking parts of a single program:

the construction of a dictatorship to wage open war on the working class.

At the U.N. on Sept. 25, just days before the assembly of generals and admirals, Trump laid the groundwork for a U.S. invasion of Venezuela. In the last month, U.S. forces sank three boats off Venezuela’s coast.

Speaking from the podium at the U.N., Trump warned, “We will blow you out of existence / obliterate you.”

Trump is not merely eroding norms. He is actively constructing an apparatus of power designed to crush organized opposi-

tion. His invocation of “the enemy within” is not rhetoric. It is a declaration of class war.

Quantico was a show of force and a statement of intent. The White House is remapping the instruments of state toward political domination. The question now is whether the working class meets this offensive with fragmented outrage – or with collective power strong enough to turn back the billionaire oligarchs who would trample democratic rights to secure their domination. #

Pro-Palestinian protests disrupt cycling races across Europe and North America

By Penny Pinotti

Demonstrations against Team Israel-Premier Tech in cycling races have become common as people around the world reject Israel's public relations attempts to smooth over genocide.

The most disruptive demonstration occurred on Sept. 14 at La Vuelta a España in Madrid, Spain. The final stage of the 21-stage grand tour was set to finish with laps around a finishing circuit in Madrid, but over 100,000 pro-Palestinian protesters flooded the streets and broke through barriers, causing the race to be suspended approximately 56 kilometers from the finish with no stage winner.

Demonstrators used the opportunity to call for a free Palestine, an end to U.S.-Israeli genocide, and for Israel-Premier Tech to be removed from all races. This was the culmination of widespread disruptions throughout the race, with seven of the final 11 stages being interrupted or altered due to protests targeting the Israeli-owned team's participation.

Israel-Premier Tech, a UCI ProTeam, is registered as based in Israel and is owned by a pair of billionaires: Sylvan Adams, a Canadian-Israeli, and Ronald Baron, an American-Israeli.

The demonstrations against this team are justified not only by the fact that the team rides under the flag of genocide as an Israeli-based team, but by the comments made by Sylvan Adams and Benjamin Netanyahu, which irrevocably tie the team to apartheid.

Sylvan Adams has described the cyclists on the team as ambassadors for Israel. The connection between Israel-Premier Tech and Israeli politics was made abundantly clear to the world when Benjamin Netanyahu stated in a social media post: "Great job



Over 100,000 pro-Palestinian protesters flooded the streets and broke through barriers, causing the race to be suspended in Madrid, Sept. 14, 2025.

to Sylvan and Israel's cycling team for not giving in to hate and intimidation. You make Israel Proud!" on Sept. 5 in response to pro-Palestinian demonstrations against the team in Spain.

The connection between team Israel-Premier Tech has caused cycling fans and activists to use their voices to call for a free Palestine and for the "sportswashing" of Israel's genocide to cease.

The final stage of this year's La Vuelta was not the only stage that anti-apartheid activists disrupted. Protesters briefly slowed down the Israel-Premier Tech team on stage 5 during a team time trial, an event that allowed protesters to impact only the Israeli team. Stage 11 was neutralized with 3km to go as protesters gathered at the finish line, ending the stage prematurely without a winner. The race organizers also decided to stop the race on stage 16 with 8km to go due to demonstrations at the finishing line.

The demonstrations at the race, including the neutralization of the final stage, have gained media attention around the world. This attention prompted Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez to call for Israel to be barred from international sporting events. Banning of Israeli teams like Israel-Premier Tech would be similar to previ-

ous actions taken against other nations in conflict by the governing body of cycling, the International Cycling Union (UCI).

Just days after Russian troops arrived in Ukraine in 2022, after eight years of NATO provocation in the Donbass, the UCI took immediate action against Russia. The UCI banned all Russian and Belarusian teams, revoked their team UCI licences, and banned the Russian and Belarusian country names, flags, anthems, and acronyms from all events. The UCI has the power to do the same by banning Israel, but refuses to do so. Basque professional cyclist, Pello Bilbao, has called the UCI's hypocrisy.

Demonstrations against Israel Premier-Tech have not been limited to Spain, a region with a history of political demonstrations intertwined with cycling. The roads along the Giro d'Italia, the grand tour of Italy, were lined with Palestinian flags and had the words "Free Gaza" written on the roads of the most famous climbs in cycling.

A demonstrator wearing a shirt stating, "Israel out of the Tour," disrupted stage 11 of the Tour de France.

Recently, protesters called for the removal of Israel-Premier Tech from the Gran Prix Cycliste de Montréal and the

Continued on page 7



ILWU pensioners expressed their support and solidarity with Palestinians

By Clarence Thomas

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) Pacific Coast Pensioners Association (PCPA) recently held its 56th convention at the Westin Airport Hotel in San Francisco, from Sept. 14 to 17. Delegates from West Coast ports, including Alaska and Vancouver, British Columbia, were in attendance.

During the proceedings, Brother William "Bill" Proctor, delegate from Local 19 of Seattle, introduced the following motion: "That the PCPA donate \$5,000 to the World Central Kitchen designated for Relief of Palestinian Women and Children."

The motion passed unanimously with delegates from the Pacific Northwest, Northern and Southern California speaking in support of the motion.

Unlike many of the younger, active members who are unfamiliar with the ILWU's long history of concern and support for the Palestinian struggle for self-determination, the pensioners were part of forging that history.

The political and social consciousness of the Palestinian struggle is attributable to Local 10's activism regarding the anti-apartheid solidarity actions in not working South African cargo, and observing community pickets against vessels carrying South African cargo.

In the 1980s, members of Local 10, such as Leo Robinson, were drawing a compara-

tive analysis between the apartheid treatment of Black South Africans and Israeli apartheid treatment of Palestinians.

Bill Proctor started his longshore career in Local 10 in the 1960s, before transferring to the Port of Seattle in the 1980s. While a member in Local 10, Bill was quite active in the apartheid activities of the local. He was also one of the founding members of the Southern Africa Liberation Support Committee, organized by Local 10.

As the world is witnessing the Israeli genocide of Palestinians in Gaza, labor must understand that "Peace is Union Business!" It has to take strategic action wherever it can to stop and resist the genocide. Solidarity is not an empty slogan.

— Clarence Thomas,
Executive Board PCPA

Pro-Palestinian protests disrupt cycling

Continued from page 6

Gran Prix Cycliste de Québec on Sept. 12 and Sept. 14.

Activists with the Peoples Power Assembly in Baltimore joined the growing movement of protests against Israel-Premier Tech participating in cycling races by disrupting the team presentation of the Maryland Cycling Classic on Sept. 5, making it clear that genocide complicity is not welcome in cycling.

The demonstrators in Baltimore were met with spectators saying that the team has nothing to do with politics. However, the team, and its ownership, are connected to politics and the genocide Israel is committing in Palestine.

Activists will continue to pressure the UCI and race organizers to ban Israel Premier-Tech from races. O Gran Camiño, a UCI Europe Tour race in Galicia, Spain, is the first race to state that it will not be inviting Israel Premier-Tech to the race in 2026, indicating that public pressure to ban Israeli teams in support of Palestine is effective.

As the U.S.-Israel genocide enters a critical phase in Gaza, these demonstrations of solidarity and resistance are more important than ever. The world must continue to make clear that genocide will not be welcome at international sporting events, or anywhere else. Free Free Palestine! #



Photo: Malaika H. Kambon

A guiding principle of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union is: "The basic aspirations and desires of the workers throughout the world are the same. Workers are workers the world over. International solidarity, particularly among maritime workers, is essential to their protection and a guarantee of reserve economic power in times of strife." In this 2013 photo of South African Consul-General Cyril Ndaba, James Curtis Local 10, Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool, Clarence Thomas, Delores Lemon-Thomas and Chris Silvera IBT, the Nelson Mandela award is presented to ILWU Local 10 as "A symbol of the enduring gratitude of South Africa. ... for without the leadership of ILWU rank-and-file member Leo Robinson, the end of apartheid may not have come as quickly in South Africa. Nelson Mandela would not have been freed as early." More recently, at the 39th International Convention, Cris Cain, National Secretary of the 30,000-member Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union (CFMEU) of Australia, declared: "Peace is union business."

Netanyahu's U.N. speech illustrates imperialist ambitions in Middle East

By Lev Koufax

Every speech Benjamin Netanyahu gives is an exercise in utter evil. At this point, Bibi's evil rantings should shock no one. With that said, the fascist demagogue's recent speech to the United Nations represented a stark display in U.S. imperialist arrogance and Nazi brutality.

Netanyahu ranted for a little over half an hour. His speech was full of the typical lies, racist vitriol, and genocide apologia that have been Bibi's hallmark throughout his political career. The Israeli Prime Minister again repeated accusations against Hamas of rape and beheadings on Oct. 7 – accusations that have been thoroughly debunked. Bibi painted a picture of an aggressive Iran hell bent on the eradication of the Jewish people. Another lie.

One of the largest lies played a central role in the speech, this lie being that the current genocide against Gaza is all an attempt to rescue Israeli hostages from Gaza. If the current genocidal effort against Gaza was remotely related to Israeli prisoners of war, Netanyahu would have made a deal two years ago. Exacerbating the transparency of this lie is the fact that Zionist strikes have consistently killed their own citizens held prisoner in Gaza.

This genocidal war is not about hostages or Jewish safety or self-defense. This war is about the imperialist attempt to break all resistance to their ambitions in the Middle East. Bibi's speech highlighted these ambitions in substance and structure. He opened the tirade with not just firebrand anti-Palestinian rhetoric, but with a complete condemnation of the entire Muslim world. The Prime Minister bragged that Israel had assassinated so many religious and political leaders in countries like Yemen, Iran, and Lebanon – as if this should be a source of pride.

At full froth, Netanyahu displayed a map identifying "The Curse." The map is marked in red: Gaza, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, and Yemen. While Israel is the face of imperialist war in the Middle East, there is importance in understanding that all these countries are enemies of Israel because they are enemies of the United States.

Yemen, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and Iran all represent two core problems for U.S. imperialism. One, they provide vary-



During Benjamin Netanyahu's racist rant at the UN, more than 10,000 New Yorkers protested this hired killer for U.S. bankers and war-profiteers.

ing levels of resistance against U.S. / Israeli military rule in the region. Two, all five of these places have been historically or currently are markets closed to the U.S. on some level. In the present day, Western billionaires can't make a profit from Gaza's beaches, Iran's oil, or southern Lebanon's agriculture. And in the imperialist mind, if they can't profit, then they would rather destroy completely.

That is not to say all these places are politically homogeneous or share the same form of government. However, at one period or another, one way or another, these "curses" have represented a problem for U.S. imperialist economic and political domination of the region. Imperialism in its current phase is not willing to accept loss of profit or influence, no matter how small.

This is exactly why Israel has so aggressively waged war against the people of the entire region for daring to assert any self-determination. Netanyahu said as much:

"You know deep down that Israel is fighting your fight. I want to tell you a secret. Behind closed doors, many of the leaders who publicly condemn us, privately thank us. They tell me how much they value Isra-

el's superb intelligence services that have prevented time and again terrorist attacks in their capitals. Time and again saving countless lives."

Netanyahu may be a liar, but here he's telling somewhat of a truth. Many European leaders have publicly criticized or denounced Israel for their actions. However, the criticism has often proven to be performative as those same leaders approved new weapons sales to Israel. It isn't hard to believe that these same leaders would thank Netanyahu privately for his country's fascist service on behalf of imperialism.

Netanyahu's speech is a reminder of the role Israel serves. Israel's role is not to avenge the Holocaust, or protect the Jewish people, or to preserve democracy in the Middle East. Israel's role is to carry out brutal and asymmetrical warfare on behalf of Western billionaires while they sit safely in New York, Washington, London, Berlin, and Brussels.

To fight the enemy, that enemy must be identified. Luckily, Benjamin Netanyahu has consistently done the work making obvious who the true enemy of the working class and the Global South is: U.S. imperialism. #



Thousands took to the streets of Manhattan to protest Benjamin Netanyahu's genocidal speech at the U.N.

Thousands march in NYC to protest Netanyahu's U.N. hate speech

By Stephen Millies

New York, Sept. 26 – Over 10,000 people marched through Manhattan this morning, condemning Zionist leader Netanyahu's appearance at the United Nations. They demanded that the war criminal be arrested.

People gathered at Times Square, where speakers denounced the U.S.-supplied and financed genocide that has killed at least 20,000 children in Gaza.

Many organizations helped build the protest, including the Palestinian Youth Movement, ANSWER Coalition, The People's Forum, PAL-Awda, Nodutdol, and the Party for Socialism and Liberation.

There were contingents of Koreans, anti-Zionist Jews and people from the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island. Buses came from a number of towns and cities in the Northeast.

Environmental activists, who were in New York for U.N. climate week, including a contingent of Native people from Alaska, joined the march.

Protesters marched uptown in the streets, with the protest extending several blocks in length. People chanted "Free, free, free Palestine!" while drums were played. Colorful banners were carried.

Some marchers carried Colombian flags and a large banner supporting Colombian President Petro's call for the nations of the world to send a multinational protective force to Gaza to physically stop the genocide.

Speaking to the General Assembly this week, the Colombian President Gustavo Petro called on the body to invoke its "unite for peace" power to circumvent U.S. veto power on the Security Council.

Marchers filled Dag Hammarskjold Park, located across from the U.N. After the rally and a Friday prayer and sermon, people gathered in the plaza, where they were surprised by a personal visit from President Petro and musician Roger Waters. Petro, speaking over a megaphone, repeated his call for an international liberation army to go to Palestine. He also called on U.S. soldiers to refuse illegal

orders to fire on humanity. In retaliation, the Trump regime, in violation of the U.N. charter, cancelled the visa of the president of 53 million Colombian people.

The night before, six people were arrested in a midnight noise protest outside the Loews Regency hotel where Netanyahu was staying.

Inside the United Nations, dozens of delegations, representing the vast majority of humanity, walked as Netanyahu began to speak, leaving him to address a nearly empty hall.

The world says: Stop the genocide! #



Trump's U.N. tirade: Threats, invasion plans, and cheers for bloodshed

By Gary Wilson

President Donald Trump used his U.N. speech to boast about the use of U.S. military power in recent actions, threatening nations with war and celebrating the criminal actions of his administration with unvarnished glee.

Trump indicated that Washington will act alone when it wants and won't let international law get in the way. The message was that the U.S. will deploy threats, tariffs, and military force at will.

In a nearly hour-long tirade, Trump mocked the U.N., saying it creates problems instead of solving them. The message was that global institutions only matter when they back U.S. goals.

Trump sneered that "your countries are going to hell," branding migration an "invasion" and urging governments to replicate Washington's brutal policy of mass detention and deportation, disrupting and ruining people's lives.

Dismissing climate efforts as the "greatest con job," he attacked clean-energy plans, giving protection to Big Oil's profits and asserting U.S. control.

Trump shrugged off the genocide in Gaza – unsurprising from the man who armed Israel to the teeth and pitched Netanyahu on his "Riviera of the Middle East" plan, a thinly veiled blueprint for ethnic cleansing.

As Israel cut off food, bombed neighborhoods, and stormed Gaza City to level it, Trump fixated on denouncing Palestinians, ignoring the U.S.-funded carnage on the ground.

He bragged loudly about last June's joint U.S.-Israeli assault on Iran. After luring Tehran into sham "peace talks," Washington and Tel Aviv launched massive strikes



U.S. President Donald Trump has deployed an armada of warships, above, and other military assets to the waters off Venezuela in an operation aimed at Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro. One of the largest U.S. military deployments in Caribbean waters ever, Pentagon officials privately call the operation "Noriega Part 2" – a reference to the 1989 invasion of Panama that toppled Manuel Noriega.

on civilian nuclear facilities. Trump gloated: "Today, many of Iran's former military commanders, in fact, I can say almost all of them, are no longer with us. They're dead."

For Trump, the empire's bloodshed is just another applause line for his bloated ego.

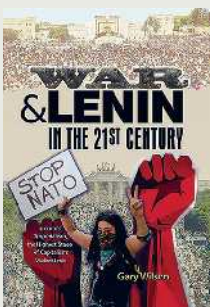
Targeting Venezuela

At the U.N., Trump laid the groundwork for a U.S. invasion of Venezuela – part of Washington's bid to overthrow the popular Venezuelan government, seize Venezuela's oil and push back China's influence in South America.

In recent weeks, U.S. forces sank three boats off Venezuela's coast, killing at least 17 people on baseless drug-trafficking claims. Even if that were true (there's not even an attempt to present any evidence because there is none), no state – least of all an empire – has the right to carry out summary executions on the high seas.

Trump didn't bother with excuses. He flaunted Washington's violence, warning from the General Assembly: "We will blow you out of existence / obliterate you,"

For the empire, murder is policy – and Trump holds much of the world, especially Venezuela and Cuba, under the gun. #



WAR & LENIN in the 21st Century

Included in Gary Wilson's new book is VI Lenin's pamphlet: **'Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism'**

Vladimir Lenin, the revolutionary leader of the Soviet Union and a key contributor to Marxist theory, wrote "Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism" in 1916, more than a century ago. It remains an influential critique of imperialism. As in Lenin's time, the conclusion is that socialist revolution will end imperialist war, enabling workers to meet their needs.



Paperback or kindle
at tinyurl.com/LeninAndWar

Cuba and the global struggle against imperialism

By Penny Pinotti

Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, the Foreign Minister of Cuba, delivered a powerful message calling for “all human rights for all human beings,” as the keynote speaker at “Cuba and the U.N.: A Fight for the Global South.”

The event was held at the SVA Theater in New York City on Sept. 27. Rodríguez called for a new world order free of blockades and exploitation, both in Cuba and in Palestine. His speech echoed the words of Assata Shakur, “It is our duty to fight for our freedom. It is our duty to win. We must love each other and support each other. We have nothing to lose but our chains.”

His speech began in solidarity with Palestine. Rodríguez strongly proclaimed that it is the U.N.’s duty to condemn the genocide committed by Israel. He continued that the global community cannot accept that the U.N. has no responsibility to the Palestinian people. The foreign minister further demanded that Palestine become a full member of the U.N., with the borders established before 1967. The opening speaker of the program also highlighted Cuba’s continuous history of solidarity with Palestine. From when Cuban leaders took the first steps in the 1960s by visiting Gaza and establishing relations to this week, when Cuba opened in the U.N. by speaking of how 2.2 million people in Gaza face a blockade and genocide, Cuba has demonstrated solidarity with Palestine.

Rodríguez’s speech continued with the struggle against imperialism by discussing the U.S. military presence in the Southern Hemisphere. Fighting drug trafficking is the excuse the United States uses to assert military rule and dominance as an imperial power in Latin America. Recently, U.S. naval forces have been deployed in the Caribbean and have committed strikes on Venezuelan ships, killing civilians. The Cuban people and the Cuban government reject the U.S. militarization of the Caribbean and targeting of Venezuela.

Cuba has been a target of an asymmetrical war of attrition by the U.S., with an aim to conquer Cuba by isolating it with a blockade to cut off international trade. This year alone, the U.S. blockade on Cuba has cost the Cuban people 7.5 billion USD. The goal of the U.S. blockade is not hidden; in April 1960, a U.S. memorandum



SLL photo: Penny Pinotti

New York City, Sept. 27 – Cuba’s Foreign Minister spoke about his country’s solidarity with the Palestinian struggle and against U.S. imperialist aggression against the broader Global South, including Venezuela.

stated that the only means to stop Cuban support for Castro was to cause such great financial and life hardship that the people would turn against the government, so that it could be overthrown.

This blockade continues today, resulting in blackouts, threatening the water supply, and restricting access to essential health and medical supplies. The U.S. propaganda campaign asserts that Cuban socialism is the cause of these hardships, when in reality, the cause is the U.S. blockade. The blockade has not stopped Cuba from persisting; Cuba is investing in solar power to decrease the economic deficit and provide the people with energy.

Despite the U.S. propaganda campaigns against Cuban medical programs, Cuba will continue its commitment to medical cooperation. Currently, there are approximately 24,000 Cuban medical practitioners providing services in 56 countries

‘Imperialism cannot cause Cuba to stray from the path of socialism... Together, no empire can hold back the change that is coming.’

worldwide. Rodríguez asserted that imperialism cannot erase Cuba’s economic and social accomplishments.

The speech ended with a strong statement: Imperialism cannot cause Cuba to stray from the path of socialism. In a call to action, he concluded by speaking of how Fidel Castro believed a better world is possible, and that the only way to achieve this is for the oppressed and exploited to struggle. Together, no empire can hold back the change that is coming.

¡Cuba Sí, Bloqueo No! #

President Gustavo Petro calls for 'army of justice' to aid Palestine

By Draco Qaddafi

New York City, Sept. 26 – In a powerful gathering, activists and organizers convened at the New York Society for Ethical Culture to condemn the unfolding genocide in Gaza, to expose all those complicit, and to call for direct action against the Zionist regime and the capitalist-imperialist governments that are funding, arming, and providing the colonial infrastructure necessary for the genocide to continue.

The keynote address was given by Colombian President Gustavo Petro, who made connections between the resistance struggles against colonialism from Haiti to Venezuela to Palestine. Other speakers included Nadya Tannous of the Bay Area Palestinian Youth Movement and organizer of the Mask off Maersk movement, Palestinian-American human rights attorney Noura Erakat and journalist Rula Jebreal.

The Hague Group was formed in order to coordinate international action against the apartheid government of Israel and expose those who remain complicit in these atrocities. South Africa, which represents the co-chair of the group, has charged the government of Israel with genocide at the International Court of Justice.

Before attending this meeting, President Petro joined pro-Palestine demonstrators



Colombian President Gustavo Petro at a rally calling for an end to the genocide in Gaza.

outside the U.N. He has called for the formation of an army of justice whose first mission would be the liberation of Palestine. In response to these efforts, the U.S. government has revoked his visa, highlighting its lack of commitment to international justice and human rights. In response, Petro has called for the UN General Assembly to be moved from the U.S. due to its lack of respect for international law.

We must continue to defend Palestine and the leaders brave enough to resist the

path of colonial-imperialism. Now is a time for action, and President Gustavo Petro is showing all of us the way of international solidarity. We must continue to stand firmly against the threat of fascism, and if we must pick up arms in order to defend the rights of the oppressed, then we will join the masses of the world to defeat the Zionist regime once and for all.

"Our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians."

– Nelson Mandela

Trump declares war on the Caribbean

Continued from page 1

and Crime (UNODC), says that decades of annual reports on drug trafficking never once mention Venezuela, because it doesn't exist.

Pino Arlacchi continues: "Yet Venezuela is systematically demonized, contrary to every principle of truth. In his memoir following his resignation, former FBI Director James Comey revealed the unspoken motives behind American policies towards Venezuela. Trump told him that Maduro's government was 'sitting on a mountain of oil that we have to buy.' This is not about drugs, crime or national security. It is about oil that the U.S. would rather not pay for."

The Quantico show of force

On Sept. 30, Trump and his handpicked "Secretary of War," Fox host Pete Hegseth,

ordered every four-star in the country and around the world – more than 800 generals and admirals – to Marine Corps Base Quantico.

On the surface, it was staged like a pep rally. But while the brass gathered, U.S. warships piled up off Venezuela's coast, and military spotters tracked waves of U.S. jets and refueling tankers heading toward the Middle East. The movements looked almost identical to the days before Trump's June strike on Iran.

On June 22, Trump launched Operation Midnight Hammer. Undetectable warplanes flew into Iran and dropped the most powerful non-nuclear bombs in existence, the GBU-57A/B, on Iranian facilities.

Former CIA officer Larry Johnson suggested the Quantico spectacle was a cover for a smaller, closed-door war council. If

Trump is gearing up for simultaneous action against Venezuela and Iran, he'd need his top commanders in the room – and away from prying eyes.

Venezuela in the crosshairs

To sell the escalation, the White House has begun hyping Venezuela's Tren de Aragua gang as a "terrorist organization." ("Tren de Aragua" isn't a tightly organized gang but rather a brand name for a loose network of criminals who operate without any structure.) Yet the official memo never even names who the U.S. is supposedly at war with. That's by design. Trump picks the enemy, hands himself kill authority, and brushes Congress aside.

Meanwhile, Navy ships linger off Venezuela, and leaks suggest plans for strikes

Continued on page 13

L.A., Orange County & the Inland Empire join global wave of solidarity with Gaza

Los Angeles, California, Sept. 22 – Twenty-one organizations participated in a protest for Gaza outside the federal building in Westwood.

By Lizbeth Antonio

Port workers are striking all over the world for Gaza. And in Los Angeles, 21 organizations from L.A., Orange County and the Inland Empire came together to protest in front of the federal building in Westwood. Just months ago, this same federal building was occupied by the National Guard.

The protest was just a mile away from UCL.A. and the West L.A. Veterans Affairs

Medical Center, and received a lot of attention and support from cars driving by the busy Westwood intersection. One woman who happened to be driving by even decided to grab her Palestine flag from her trunk and join the protest.

All speakers brought their hearts and humanity into their speeches, creating a community space filled with bravery and determination to put a stop to this genocide. They reminded us of the dire situa-

tion in Gaza created by the Zionist occupation and funded with U.S. tax dollars.

Together we stood in solidarity with the Global Sumud Flotillas and the port workers around the world. Support for Gaza continues to grow in the U.S., and protests like these remind us that there is power in numbers. Now, our presence on the street is even more important as the fascists in the U.S. government try to silence our voices by any means necessary. We cannot let them. #

Trump declares war

Continued from page 12

inside the country itself. Semafor reported, “The Trump administration isn’t ruling out launching military strikes inside Venezuela ... a senior Trump administration official confirmed.”

On Oct. 3, Venezuelan Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino López denounced the presence of five U.S. fighter jets flying near Venezuelan territory, specifically north of the country’s central Caribbean coast, El País reports. “It is a provocation, a major threat against the nation’s security,” the general declared.

This isn’t about narcotics. It’s about expanding U.S. domination – and using the “drug war” as the excuse.

The real target is not drugs but regime change in Venezuela, home to the largest proven oil reserves globally. Trump administration officials privately call the Naval operations in the Caribbean “Noriega Part 2” – a reference to the 1989 invasion of Panama that toppled Manuel Noriega. Last August, the U.S. Justice Department issued an arrest warrant for Maduro.

The drug war has always been a tool of empire. Now the mask is off. Trump’s doctrine is blunt: call anyone a “combatant,” move the battlefield wherever he wants, and keep Congress out of it.

This is not a war on drugs. It’s a war for domination. A war to turn the Caribbean and Latin America into live-fire zones. A war to normalize summary executions as U.S. foreign policy. #



War money, tech profits: The real history of Artificial Intelligence

By Gary Wilson

We are told, endlessly, that we live in the age of the entrepreneur. You know the story: a lone genius tinkering in a garage, pulling miracles out of solder and silicon, eventually conquering the world with nothing but grit, brains, and a half-dead Macintosh. This is the catechism of Silicon Valley.

However, if you follow the wires backward, the story is entirely different. The most significant technologies of our time – the internet, GPS, touchscreen devices, and even artificial intelligence – were not born in garages. They were incubated in government laboratories, nourished on Pentagon contracts, and carried into the world on the shoulders of public universities.

From the Cold War's sprawling defense labs to the current supremacy of Google's AI empire, the state has been the real venture capitalist: planner, financier, and enforcer. It was the government that absorbed the risks, that spent billions on projects whose payoff might take decades, or never arrive at all. And when those gambles produced results, private corporations were waiting to privatize them.

The working class supplied the brains and the labor, as graduate students, engineers, and technicians, often underwritten by public grants. The capitalist class reaped the profits. Innovation, in other words, was socialized. Wealth was privatized.

The marriage of state and monopoly

There is an enduring myth that big business and big government stand on opposite ends of U.S. life. But if you look at Wall Street bailouts or Big Tech's entanglement with the Pentagon, you see something closer to a marriage.

The pattern is consistent: subsidies for research and development, bailouts when markets collapse, regulations drafted to suit monopolies, copyright and patent law weaponized to keep rivals at bay, and defense contracts that run into the tens of billions. The state doesn't just oversee the game – it bankrolls the team.

Monopoly capitalism has never meant a weakened state. It has always meant a stronger one: imperialist powers fusing state resources with corporate power, ensuring their "national champions" can outgun competitors abroad. The more ad-



To accelerate military decision-making, the Pentagon began developing AI and machine learning systems.

vanced the technology – especially in the case of artificial intelligence – the clearer this fusion becomes.

Forget the garage

The myth of the tinkering genius is fictional; the reality is blunt.

- **The Internet** began life as ARPANET, a Pentagon communications project designed to survive nuclear war.
- **GPS** was conceived and maintained by the U.S. Air Force before being transferred to the U.S. Space Force.
- **Radar, microwaves, composite materials** – all poured forth from wartime research budgets in the 1940s and 1950s.

The sequence rarely varies: The state socializes risk, spending billions on long-horizon research. Once the technology proves viable, it is delivered into the hands of private corporations, which harvest the profits while the government is left with the costs.

It is, arguably, the largest wealth transfer in modern history. But it is disguised under the genteel euphemism of "innovation."

The University-Industrial Complex

The state's role extends far beyond the Pentagon. Public universities, lubricated by federal grants, train the engineers and computer scientists who are quickly absorbed into the orbit of companies like Google, Microsoft, and Amazon. Faculty labs – often government-funded – produce breakthroughs in algorithms and hardware that are then patented, licensed, or outright purchased by private firms.

The result is a vast ecosystem: the military, public universities, government research agencies, and corporate monopolies locked together. Far from being "foot-loose" or stateless, Silicon Valley's firms are firmly tied to the U.S. empire, rooted in infrastructure and research pipelines subsidized by the public.

Google is not Google without DARPA. (the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) Microsoft is not Microsoft without the National Science Foundation. Amazon Web Services is not AWS without Pentagon contracts.

Case study: Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence is the purest distillation of this system.

- **Military birth.** From the Cold War onward, the Pentagon poured money into AI for logistics, surveillance, and battle management. DARPA kept the field alive during its lean decades.
- **Government-funded breakthroughs.** The intellectual backbone of AI – machine learning and neural nets – emerged from university labs funded by the state. Today, the government remains the single largest customer for AI applications, from predictive policing to drone warfare.
- **Privatized profits.** Tech monopolies scoop up researchers trained at government expense, buy the data infrastructure, and commercialize algorithms whose foundations were laid with federal money.

The result is a textbook demonstration of monopoly capitalism: costs socialized, profits privatized.

Empire, not entrepreneurship

AI isn't a triumph of the free market. It's proof that big government and big business still move in lockstep, working for empire.

The state remains the ultimate venture capitalist, underwriting research, guaranteeing markets, and shoring up monopolies when they falter. Innovation is steered not toward public needs – such as clean energy, public health, and accessible housing – but toward war, surveillance, and corporate control.

The history of U.S. technology isn't about daring entrepreneurs. It is the story of monopoly capital and the imperialist state, marching in lockstep. Until that bond is broken, technology will remain what it has been for more than half a century: a servant of empire, rather than of people. #

From Ukraine to Gaza, profit is the policy: Trump's wars enrich defense conglomerates

By Lev Koufax

The State Department recently updated its list of wars that Donald Trump allegedly ended. Trump now claims that he has brokered a peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Trump would have the world believe that this is another feather in his cap as a peacemaker. Previously, Trump and his State Department have taken credit for six other conflicts: India and Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda, Serbia and Kosovo, Egypt and Ethiopia, Israel and Iran, Thailand and Cambodia.

We have previously reported on the patent factual inaccuracies of these claims. India and Pakistan have both denied that any third party played a role in mediating the Kashmir-centered skirmishes of 2025. The last war between Egypt and Ethiopia ended in 1876. Trump started the war between Israel and Iran, which he also claims to have ended. Does an arsonist really deserve credit for dousing the fire they started?

Even where Trump and his administration have played some role in mediating conflicts, there is still an inherent Western arrogance in claiming complete credit for any brokered peace. This arrogance is compounded when considering the continued U.S.-funded genocide in Gaza and the U.S.-NATO proxy war against Russia in Ukraine.

Just three days before Trump's claim that he was "the President of Peace," his administration approved \$6.4 billion in weapons sales to apartheid Israel. That is \$6.4 billion to bomb hospitals and murder children – some President of Peace.

While claiming to be a peacemaker, Trump simultaneously announced a strategy that ensures NATO's war in Ukraine continues indefinitely. Three hours before his seven wars ended claim, Trump ranted on Truth Social that "with the support of the European Union it is in a position to fight and WIN all of Ukraine back in its original form. With time, patience, and the financial support of Europe and in particular, NATO, the original Borders from where this War started, is very much an option."

Trump's latest rant makes the U.S. imperialist strategy in Ukraine even more apparent. As we wrote in March, Trump and his cohorts never planned to end the war in Ukraine. U.S. imperialism had no inten-



Just three days before Trump's claim that he was "the President of Peace," his administration approved \$6.4 billion in weapons sales to apartheid Israel. That is \$6.4 billion to bomb hospitals and murder children.

Trump's war across the planet is not a matter of one man or a Republican majority in Congress.

The goal of the imperialist escalation against the Global South is to break all resistance

tion of ending its NATO war in an attempt to bleed Russia of resources and political will. Burden shifting the Ukraine war to Europe is an imperialist strategic decision aimed at refocusing for war on China. The Republican Party effectively used war weariness to parlay a 2024 election victory over the deeply unpopular Joe Biden. However, rhetoric is not the same as policy.

Outright U.S. military aid to Ukraine may have ended, but the Trump administration has continually arranged for Ukrainian purchases of U.S. weapons with NATO funds. In the end, the result is the same. The war rages on, and with it, so do massive profits for U.S. defense conglomerates.

Donald Trump is nothing more than an imperialist war monger. The proof is

in the pudding. Trump's first fascist administration murdered Qassem Soleimani in cold blood. Just a few months ago, Trump ordered strikes on Iranian nuclear sites. Strikes on Iran followed a several-week-long naval and air campaign against Yemen. With Trump's approval, Israel has launched its largest-ever ground offensive into Gaza. Bloodshed has not been limited to the Middle East. The U.S. military destroyed multiple small boats off the coast of Venezuela under the pretext of fighting "narco-terrorism." These extrajudicial executions have accompanied an unprecedented U.S. naval buildup across the Caribbean Sea.

To be clear, the fascist demagogue is not acting alone. He is supported by a whole circus of generals, DOD staffers, the defense lobby, and fascist demagogues like Pete Hegseth. Trump's administration unleashing war across the planet is not a matter of one man or even a Republican majority in Congress. Imperialist escalation against the entire Global South is a reflection of the imperialist goal to break all resistance.

Trump's continued war drive is a threat to the entire working class across the globe. Workers everywhere face a literal fight for survival. The only way forward is global working-class resistance against the global billionaire class. #

SIM card 'threat' a smokescreen for Trump's war talk

By Gary Wilson

While Donald Trump was delivering a war rant at the United Nations, the New York Times was reporting: "Cache of Devices Capable of Crashing Cell Network Is Found Near U.N."

The Times reporting reads like a spy thriller.

The Times says: "The Secret Service discovered more than 100,000 SIM cards and 300 servers, which could disable cellular towers or be used to conduct surveillance."

The Times even manages to suggest that there are "only a handful of countries could pull off such an operation, including Russia, China."

Like so many slick thrillers, it dresses a flimsy premise in technobabble, counting on the reader's gaps in knowledge – and a willingness to be swept along by the fantasy.

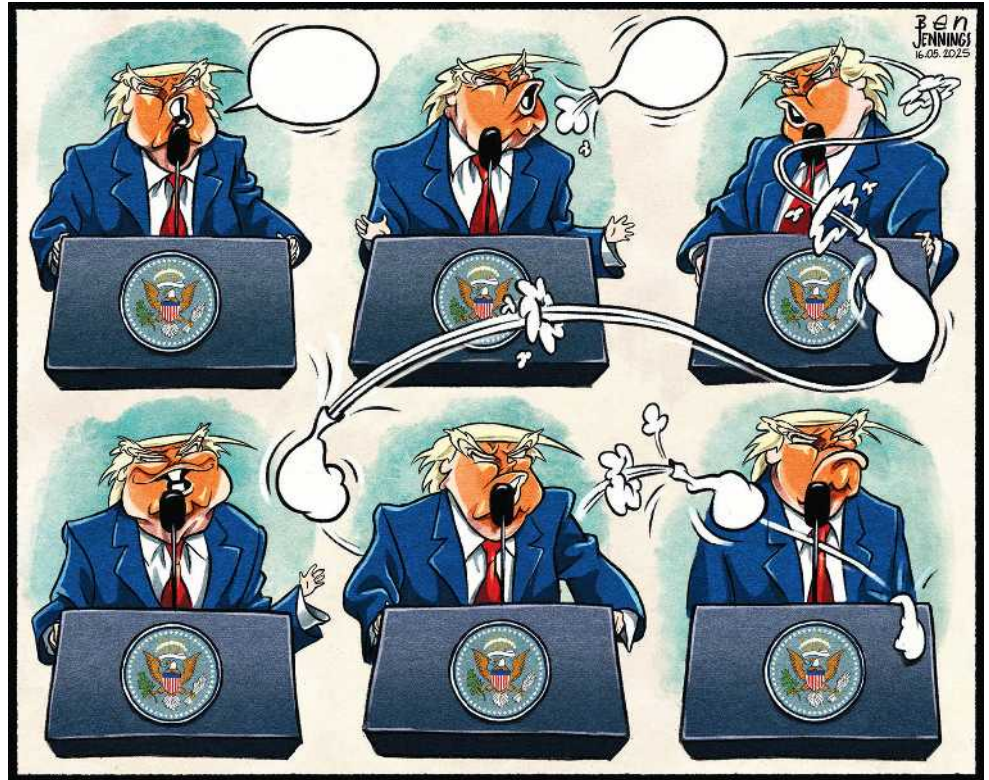
The Secret Service's SIM-card narrative doesn't add up

The idea that hoarding SIM cards is the key ingredient for "taking down" a cellular network doesn't align with how mobile systems actually fail. Localized outages are usually driven by radio-layer disruptions – interference, spoofing, or misconfigured infrastructure – rather than by placing calls from thousands of numbers.

Mass SIM inventories are far more consistent with high-volume criminal schemes, such as spam, fraud, or call-center-style operations, where disposability and rotation are crucial. They are not, on their own, evidence of a credible plan to deny service.

In reality, degrading connectivity in a limited area hinges on equipment and expertise at the RF layer – specialized radios and know-how – not warehouses of SIM cards. While any such activity is likely illegal, it underscores why invoking "lots of SIMs" as the linchpin of a terror plot reads like a misunderstanding of telecommunications, not a plausible threat model.

If investigators truly found mountains of SIM cards, the likelier explanation is profit-motivated call volume – not a scheme to knock out cellular service.



The SIM-card scare is nothing but a spy-thriller plotline dressed up as news. By hyping ordinary criminal phone farms into a "national security threat," the Secret Service and Trump are peddling fear to grease the wheels for more war.

'Story is bogus'

Robert Graham at the Cybersect Substack headlined his commentary: "That Secret Service SIM farm story is bogus."

"What they discovered was just normal criminal enterprise, banks of thousands of cell 'phones' (sic) used to send spam or forward international calls using local phone numbers. Technically, it may even be legitimate enterprise, being simply

a gateway between a legitimate [internet-based phone service] provider and the mobile phone network.

"The backstory is a Secret Service investigation into threats sent to politicians via [text] messages. ...

"The Secret Service is lying to the press. They know it's just a normal criminal SIM farm and are hyping it into some sort of national security or espionage threat. ...

Graham does a complete breakdown of the hardware that's reportedly being used in the SIM farm and how that might be used. Then adds:

"The Secret Service hypes this as some sort of national security threat that can crash cell towers. The reality is that this is just a normal criminal threat that sometimes crashes cell towers. ...

"The point is: while criminals do sometimes crash or overload cell towers, an actual foreign threat can do this much easier than using SIM farms. In any event, there are thousands of cell towers around New York City satisfying 10 million subscribers, so crashing a few won't make much difference." #

‘We will blow you out of existence,’ Trump’s Caribbean spectacle

By Carlos Ron

On 23 September 2025, U.S. President Donald Trump delivered a dramatic address, explicitly threatening those allegedly involved in drug trafficking to the United States with being blown “out of existence”. This statement, taken as a blatant disregard for international law and due process, made reference to the latest escalation in the decades-long U.S. War on Drugs, a campaign historically used to justify U.S. foreign intervention in Latin America, and now, prominently aimed at Venezuela.

For the last 26 years, Venezuela has undergone a profound political transformation successfully asserting sovereignty over the world’s largest proven oil reserves primarily by using revenues to attack decades of poverty and social exclusion through social programs. It also embarked on ending Washington’s historical political influence.

Venezuela has crafted an independent foreign policy aimed at building a multipolar world, forging closer ties with countries like Iran, Russia (with whom it has just approved a strategic partnership) and China, with an “All-Weather Partnership” signed in 2023. It has also promoted regional alliances free of U.S. dominance such as the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA); promoting South-South cooperation with renewed participation in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the Non-Aligned Movement; and leading the formation of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Charter.

These shifts prompted the U.S. to declare Venezuela an “unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States” in 2015. This opened the door for a comprehensive campaign of unilateral sanctions – rather, coercive measures – that has continued across the Obama, Biden, and both Trump Administrations. This campaign has damaged the Venezuelan economy, contributed to the loss of lives, and fueled migration to the U.S. and to neighboring countries.

As the U.S. seeks to reassert its influence in the region in its global competition with adversaries like China, this policy on Venezuela represents not just as a tool to modify



Photo: Prensa Latina

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel congratulates Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro for his victory in the presidential elections. In August, the U.S. State Department raised its bounty for Maduro’s capture to \$50 million.

conduct but as an instrument of a broader, sustained regime change operation—a goal that has remained unsuccessful.

This objective is reinforced by domestic pressures, particularly from Latin American ultra-right factions with close ties to the Venezuelan American community. According to the Pew Research Center, there are approximately 120,000 U.S. registered voters of Venezuelan descent, with the largest concentration—about 57,000—in Florida, where in 2018, less than 32,000 thousand votes decided the 2018 Governor’s race. In a state where the 2018 Governor’s race was decided by fewer than 35,000 votes, the political weight of this community is considered significant.

The current U.S. military posture is a continuation of Trump’s earlier “maximum pressure” campaign. Recent weeks have seen a significant deployment of U.S. naval assets to the Caribbean Sea, including a nuclear submarine, a squadron of F-35 planes, 7 warships, and at least 4,500 marines. The real intention of this deployment is not to curb drug trafficking but to destabilize the Venezuelan government.

To justify the military presence, the U.S.

has undertaken operations against alleged drug-trafficking. However, available data, including from sources such as the United Nations and even the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), indicates that approximately 87 percent of drugs reaching the U.S. pass through the Pacific Ocean, while only about 5 percent attempt to pass through the Caribbean Sea, where the entire Venezuelan coast lies.

On September 2, President Trump publicly announced a lethal attack on a boat allegedly carrying drugs and tied to the Tren de Aragua, an extinct Venezuelan criminal gang that the U.S. government claims is still active and operating on U.S. soil. The U.S. Intelligence Community reportedly denied ties between President Nicolas Maduro and these claims. Nonetheless, these allegations have been used to justify the invocation of the Alien Enemies Act of 1798 for the third time in history—the first during the War of 1812 and the second during World War II, now targeting Venezuelans living in the U.S. during peacetime. This led to the depor-

Continued on page 18

‘We will blow you out of existence’ – Trump

Continued from page 17

tation of 252 Venezuelans, without due process, and to their imprisonment and torture in a concentration camp in El Salvador. Some were even separated from their children.

Trump’s rhetoric has also linked Venezuelan immigrants to criminality and mental illness, aligning with the nativist agenda in his own base. Driven by his policy of immigrant expulsion, the U.S. migrant population dropped by 1.4 million between January and June of 2025, according to the Pew Research Center, causing the immigrant share of the population to decrease from 15.8 to 15.4 percent. After breaking diplomatic and consular ties in 2019 over the recognition of a self-proclaimed President, direct deportations were halted until February 2025, when the U.S. allowed Venezuelan planes to repatriate migrants. Venezuela had already been implementing its Return to the Homeland (Vuelta a la Patria) program since the pandemic, but its airline was banned from the U.S. by sanctions. The Trump Administration also increased its internal persecution of Venezuelans by ending temporary migratory measures set under the Biden Administration.

In the weeks leading up to the UN address, Trump claimed that at least two more lethal attacks on boats were carried out, posting videos that only showed people being killed by aerial bombardment, with no independent verification of the drug trafficking claims or the victims’ nationality. The Venezuelan government has also denounced the harassment of

Venezuelan fishermen by U.S. military officers. During his UN speech, Trump boasted that “there aren’t too many boats that are traveling on the seas by Venezuela,” suggesting that all sea vessels are now under threat. Furthermore, he also openly claimed that President Maduro was leading “terrorist and trafficking networks”, without presenting any evidence. In August, the bounty for Maduro’s capture was raised to \$50 million despite earlier intelligence community reports reportedly disregarding the claim.

Venezuela, its government, and its citizens are currently under threat from the most powerful military power in the world. Yet Venezuela has continued to seek a peaceful resolution. President Maduro sent a letter to Trump in the first week of September via an intermediary, calling for dialogue and refuting the drug-trafficking claims. The historical precedent of Operation Brother Sam in 1964 – where the deployment of U.S. warships near Brazil catalyzed the military overthrow of democratically-elected president João Goulart is a parallel that hints at a regime change operation. The difference is that this time, there have been no anti-government defections.

The Tricontinental Institute’s study *Addicted to Imperialism* argues that for over 50 years, the War on Drugs has been a mechanism to promote U.S. military expansion, the forced displacement of rural communities, the criminalization of popular organizations, and further political interventionism. In contrast, despite massive military spending, U.S. drug con-

sumption has not declined; conversely, the U.S. remains, both the main consumer of drugs, and the main provider of weapons to the drug cartels.

Minister Diosdado Cabello denounced a DEA coordinated false flag operation seeking to provoke the Venezuelan Bolivarian Armed Force into direct confrontation with the U.S. military. But the Venezuelan government has established a National Council for Sovereignty and Peace where the unlikely combination of pro-government and opposition forces have joined in rejecting foreign intervention. Many Venezuelans even enlisted in the national militias and are ready to act in defense of the nation in the case of U.S. invasion or a targeted attack such as those carried out months earlier against Iran.

What is being carried out against Venezuela, is not an operation against drug trafficking but rather, a regime change operation. Yet Venezuelan morale is high. People continue to carry on with their daily lives in a state of caution, and enthusiastically defend of their national project by reminding anyone that Venezuela is spelled with a V – like Vietnam – and that the national liberator, Simon Bolívar once wrote to a U.S. diplomat: “Fortunately, we have often seen a handful of free men defeat powerful empires!”

Carlos Ron is Co-Coordinator of the Nuestra America office of the Tricontinental Institute for Social Research. He is a former Venezuelan diplomat who served as Vice Minister for North America (2018-2025).

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CHINA Celebrating 75 years of liberation

October 1, 2024, marked the 75th anniversary of China’s transformative revolution, which liberated the nation from feudal oppression and imperialist control.

Under the leadership of Mao Zedong, the Communist Party of China achieved what many deemed impossible – inspiring not just China but working and oppressed peoples worldwide.

The revolution brought an end to China’s ‘Century of Humiliation,’ which began with British imperialism’s First Opium War in 1839. Over the past 75 years, there has been significant progress for the masses and China’s working class.

Today, China stands as a global scientific powerhouse, boasting achievements in pollution reduction, and space exploration. The People’s Republic has made significant strides in healthcare, education, and sports.

At no point has U.S. monopoly capitalism adopted a hands-off approach toward the development of socialism in China or elsewhere. The maneuvers by U.S. imperialism have been increasingly more dangerous and now point in the direction of war.

This book aims to illuminate the growing dangers posed by a potential U.S. war against China and to reveal the real enemies of the working class.

Cuban trans activist says LGBTQI+ people in the U.S. & Cuba must unite

The following talk by Verde Gil Jiménez was presented on July 29 at the ICAP (Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples) Friendship House in Havana, Cuba, with the participation of the Venceremos Brigade and LGBTQI+ activists from the U.S., along with members of community networks linked to Cenesex (National Center for Sexual Education), among other guests.

This event was the Cuban launch of the book published in the U.S. by Struggle-La Lucha, "Love is the law: Cuba's queer rights revolution." Gil Jiménez is the General Coordinator of Grupo Trans Masculinos de Cuba and a contributor to the book.

Transcribed and translated by Gregory E. Williams and edited by Verde Gil Jiménez

By Verde Gil Jiménez

We are members of the Trans Male Group of Cuba (Grupo Trans Masculinos de Cuba). It's always very exciting to see the U.S. and Cuban people unite for social justice.

I think that, if we talk about some of the limitations or difficulties we've encountered with the Family Code, these are more related to cultural and technical barriers that still exist. The Family Code still has great potential to improve the quality, well-being, and happiness of families in Cuba. But this requires changing people's education and mentality, which happens more slowly than enforcing a law.

I think it's prudent to point out that my colleague Maité [in the previous intervention] mentioned the approval of more than 3,000 assisted reproduction techniques; however, it's good to clarify that these are [administrative] approvals, not specific implementation data. This is, evidently, a technological and logistical limitation that

our country has [structural deficiencies in the health system], not only with LGBTQI+ people, but with any family or citizen who requires this type of technique. I say this [in response to the questions that were asked] to specifically point out a limitation because, although we already have a revolutionary Code, it has not been able to materialize quickly [nor with all its potential] in the life of Cuban society.

Regarding the question of how the U.S. and Cuban people can unite in these struggles for social justice and activism, I think it's very important to share our experiences, especially from a more holistic perspective, which allows us to gain awareness of all the forms of oppression that impact us.

I wanted to thank the solidarity of the groups that have come to this space to listen, to learn, and also to give us some donations to the LGBTQI+ community, which are a great help to us, because the U.S. blockade also affects our populations' access to these types of products, which are important for our gender affirmation.

I also wanted to point out that we, as activists, are also greatly influenced by the U.S. imperialist persecution of Cuba, of the Cuban government. They often deny us aid, refuse to listen to us and refuse to include us in spaces for dialogue within international activism, simply because we're in Cuba. They judge the politics of the Revolution.* It's important for people in the U.S. to know that we also live our activism under this constant blockade. It's something we're also fighting against.

- Larian adds an example : We have occasionally tried to participate in online debates using platforms like Zoom, but have been unable to do so because they are blocked in our country.

We are incredibly grateful that these spaces for counter-hegemonic dialogue exist and hope they continue to be sustained over time. It's important for us to be aware of how much an exchange like this can transform the culture of the societies in which we live.

- Larian adds in closing : It is the way we have to change the dominant system.

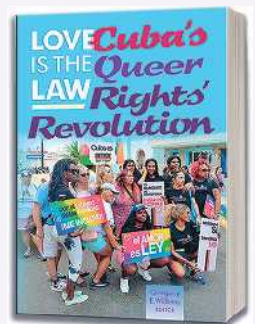
* There is a tendency to favor LGBTQI+ activist projects that openly oppose the Cuban government and socialism. Some international organizations are even prohibited from providing funding to activist groups that are in any way linked to Cuban institutions, under the pretext that Cuba is included on the (false) list of state sponsors of terrorism. #

LOVE
IS THE
LAW

What you'll find in this book

- A chronicle of Trump's return, presenting the incredible danger of fascist rule. This is the government that cruelly keeps Cuba on the terrorist list and under economic blockade. Together with its Zionist appendage, it is committing genocide against the Palestinian people. Cuba doesn't bomb anybody. Cuba sends doctors.
- The process of winning approval of the Families Code referendum. Cuban writers are included and a webinar discussion on: "What We Can Learn from Cuba's 'Code of Freedom' for Families;
- Reports from the U.S. Friends Against Homophobia and Transphobia delegation to Cuba;
- Reports from Cenesex – the National Center for Sex Education / Centro Nacional de Educación Sexual director Mariela Castro Espín
- Cenesex has been at the center of gender and sexual liberation in the country, an international hub, facilitating exchanges between activists, academics, researchers and progressive religious groups.
- The full text of Leslie Feinberg's 'Rainbow Solidarity in Defense of Cuba' and more.

Cuba's
Queer Rights
Revolution





Dos activistas del Grupo Trans Masculinos de Cuba comparten sus ideas: Verde Gil Jiménez a la izquierda, y Larian Arias a la derecha.

Activista trans cubano dice que las personas LGBTIQ+ en EUA y Cuba deben unirse

La siguiente charla de Verde Gil Jiménez se presentó el 29 de julio en la Casa de la Amistad del ICAP (Instituto Cubano de Amistad con los Pueblos), en La Habana, Cuba, con la participación de la Brigada Venceremos y activistas LGBTIQ+ de EUA, junto a miembros de las redes comunitarias vinculadas al Cenesex (Centro Nacional de Educación Sexual), entre otros invitados.

Este evento marcó el lanzamiento en Cuba del libro publicado en EUA por *Struggle-La Lucha*, “El amor es la ley: la revolución de los derechos queer en Cuba,” (Actualmente solo disponible en inglés.) Gil Jiménez es Coordinador General del Grupo Trans Masculinos de Cuba y es colaborador del libro.

Transcrito por Gregory E. Williams y editado por Verde Gil Jiménez

By Verde Gil Jiménez

Nosotros somos miembros del Grupo Trans Masculinos de Cuba. Siempre es muy emocionante ver escenarios donde el pueblo norteamericano y el pueblo cubano se unen por causas de justicia social. Creo que, si hablamos de algunas de las limitaciones o dificultades que hemos tenido con el Código de las Familias, estas están relacionadas más con barreras culturales y técnicas que aún existen. Todavía el Código de las Familias tiene muchas potencialidades de mejorar la calidad, el bienestar y la felicidad de las familias en Cuba. Pero para ello es necesario cambiar la educación y la mentalidad de las personas, que es algo que ocurre más lento que aplicar una ley.

Creo que es prudente señalar que mi colega Maité [en la intervención anterior] mencionaba la aprobación de más de tres mil técnicas de reproducción asistidas, sin embargo, es bueno aclarar que se trata de aprobaciones [administrativas], no datos de implementación concretamente. Esto es, evidentemente, una limitación tecnológica y logística que tiene nuestro país [carencias estructurales del sistema de salud], no solo con las personas LGBTIQ+, sino con cualquier familia o ciudadano

que requiera de este tipo de técnica. Digo esto [en correspondencia con las preguntas que se hacían] por señalar puntualmente alguna limitación pues, aunque tenemos ya un Código revolucionario, no logra materializarse rápidamente [ni con todas sus potencialidades] en la vida de la sociedad cubana.

Sobre la pregunta de cómo el pueblo norteamericano y el pueblo cubano pueden unirse también en estas luchas de justicia social y de activismo, creo que es muy importante retroalimentar las experiencias que tenemos sobre todo desde una visión más integral, que nos permita ganar conciencia de todas las formas de opresión que nos impactan.

Quería agradecer la solidaridad de los grupos que han llegado a este espacio a escuchar, a aprender y también a entregarnos algunas donaciones a la comunidad LGBTIQ+ que nos generan gran ayuda, porque el bloque norteamericano también afecta el acceso de nuestras poblaciones a este tipo de productos que son importantes para nuestra afirmación de género.

Además, quería señalar que a nosotros como activistas también nos influye muchísimo la persecución

que [el imperialismo norteamericano] tiene hacia Cuba, hacia el gobierno cubano. Muchas veces nos niegan ayudas, no nos quieren escuchar ni incluir dentro de los espacios de diálogo del activismo internacional, por el hecho de estar en Cuba. Por juzgar la política de la Revolución*. Es importante que el pueblo norteamericano sepa que vivimos también el activismo bajo ese bloqueo constante. Es algo contra lo que también luchamos.

- Larian añade un ejemplo: En ocasiones hemos intentado participar en debates online mediante plataformas como Zoom pero no nos ha sido posible, porque están bloqueadas para nuestro país.

Estamos súper agradecidos de que existan espacios de diálogo contrahegemónicos y esperamos que se sigan sosteniendo en el tiempo. Y es importante que seamos conscientes de cuánto puede transformar un intercambio como este para la cultura de las sociedades en las que estamos inmersas.

- Larian añade en el cierre: Es el camino que tenemos para cambiar el sistema dominante.

* Existe la tendencia de favorecer a proyectos de activismo LGTBQ+ que se opongan abiertamente al gobierno cubano y al socialismo. Incluso, algunas organizaciones internacionales tienen prohibido entregar fondos a grupos de activismo que estén de alguna manera vinculados con las instituciones cubanas, con el pretexto de que Cuba está incluida en la (falsa) lista de países patrocinadores del terrorismo.

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