

► Campaña antisindical en Puerto Rico

► Responden organizaciones independentistas Boricuas al proceso de represión



Struggle-La-Lucha.org

Vol. 8, No. 20 • Nov. 3, 2025

Suggested donation: \$1

Struggle for Socialism Party

Partido de la Lucha por el Socialismo

Return of 'Big Stick' Latin America under the gun

By Gary Wilson

The U.S. continues to escalate military pressure against Venezuela – and against Colombia and Cuba as well.

On Friday, Oct. 24, 2025, Secretary of War Pete Hegseth announced the deployment of the aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78) to the Caribbean.

The USS Ford – the most lethal strike platform in the world – joins an already massive U.S. military buildup in the region: 10,000 U.S. troops, at least eight warships, P-8 surveillance planes, and F-35 jets are now deployed under the Trump administration's so-called "counter-narcotics" operation. U.S. troops have also landed in Trinidad and Tobago, just miles from Venezuela, for five days of "joint exercises" seen across the region as a clear act of intimidation.

Colombian President Gustavo Petro called it a violation of international law and Latin American sovereignty. Petro charges Washington with illegal acts of imperialist aggression

Continued on page 14

Voting for Mamdani is voting against racism

Stop the billionaires from stealing the NYC election

On the eve of the Nov. 4 New York City mayoral election, the billionaire class is going all out to defeat Zohran Mamdani.

The chief weapon of the wealthy and powerful is racism against Mamdani, who is Muslim and was born in Uganda.

It's not just Fox News and the New York Post, both owned by the Murdoch family, which are spewing hate nonstop.

Mamdani's chief opponent – former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo – went on Sid Rosenberg's bigoted WABC radio talk show. Cuomo laughed when Rosenberg claimed Mamdani would welcome another Sept. 11, 2001, attack.

Mamdani responded eloquently. "Islamophobia is not seen as inexcusable,"

Continued on page 7

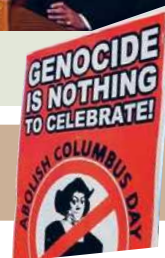


Zohran Mamdani at a union rally

By Stephen Millies

NAT'L DAY OF MOURNING Nov. 27, 2025 12:00 Noon

Cole's Hill (above Plymouth Rock), Plymouth, MA



Two victories for Cuba

Harlem rallies for Cuba, Colombia and Venezuela

Havana conference takes on imperialist propaganda

To publish is to resist' - Díaz-Canel

If people have a right to live, don't they have a right to health care?

No Kings, No Empire: Protest and the war economy



BOB MCCUBBIN
and the untold history
of queer labor solidarity



NADER SADAQA

Banner at
No Kings day
in New Orleans

SLL photo: Gregory E. Williams

A billionaire paying off the troops?

Trump escalates war against Russia

U.S.-backed Israeli forces
keep murdering in Lebanon

Anti-union campaign in Puerto Rico



Harlem rallies for Cuba, Colombia and Venezuela

By Stephen Millies

Oct. 26 – Under the statue of Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., people rallied in Harlem today to say no to Trump's war moves in the Caribbean.

The rally's co-chair – long-time Cuba activist Rosemari Mealy, JD, Ph.D. – pointed across the street to the former Hotel Theresa, where Cuban leader Fidel Castro met Malcolm X in 1960. Mealy, a member of the New York / New Jersey Cuba Sí Coalition, wrote about that famous encounter in her book, "Fidel & Malcolm X: Memories of a Meeting."

Ike Nahem of the coalition also co-chaired the rally. It was held on the eve of the annual vote in the United Nations General Assembly condemning the U.S. economic blockade of Cuba. According to Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, the country has suffered over \$170 billion in losses over the decades because of it.

Just two months of the blockade cost Cuba \$1.6 billion. That's enough money to pay for the imported fuel needed to power all of Cuba's electricity.

The Trump regime is strong-arming countries to vote against condemning the blockade or at least abstain during the roll call. Trump's flunky Secretary of State Marco Rubio wants to avoid last year's humiliating 187 to 2 vote denouncing the vicious blockade.

Speakers at the rally reminded onlookers of Cuba's aid to oppressed people around the world. As the late Pan-African educator and organizer Elombe Brath declared, "When Africa called, Cuba answered."

Thousands of Cuban volunteers died fighting alongside their African comrades, defeating the Nazi armies of then apartheid South Africa invading Angola.

The Cuban people shielded the Black revolutionary Assata Shakur from U.S. bloodhounds despite a \$2 million bounty on her. Shakur, who became a doctor in Cuba, died free there on Sept. 25.

Thousands of people from around the world, including hundreds from the United States, have received free medical education in Cuba. The only condition is that they go back to their countries and help heal the poor.

Defend Cuba, fight ICE

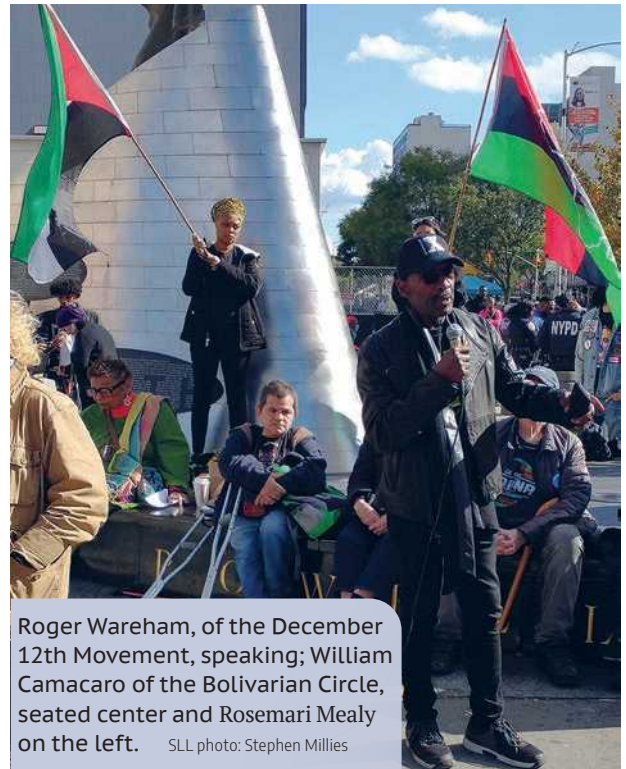
William Camacaro of the Bolivarian Circle denounced Trump's war threats to Colombia and Venezuela. Ten thousand sailors and marines are on an armada of warships in the Caribbean.

Ed Ventura of the Bronx chapter of JUPI – Youth United for Independence – denounced Trump for using Puerto Rico as a staging ground for threatening Colombia and Venezuela.

The human rights attorney Roger Wareham, a member of the International Secretariat of the December 12th Movement, pointed out that Zimbabwe – like Cuba – has been sanctioned by the United States. Zimbabwe's "crime" was to take back land stolen from Africans by European settlers.

Cesar Santos, a co-chair of the National Network on Cuba, urged people to keep on fighting to defend Cuba. Santos also videotaped the rally.

New York State Senator Cordell Cleare, whose 30th district includes Harlem, men-



tioned how the blockade of Cuba harms people in the United States as well. She described how the Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo, New York, is hindered in its collaboration with Cuban scientists to fight lung cancer.

Different artists, including a spoken-word performance from the Harlem Bomb Shelter, gave cultural performances.

Cuba Sí Coalition member Jason Corley urged people to check out books about Cuba.

The rally was held while ICE agents were kidnapping people across the United States. National Lawyers Guild President Suzanne Adely urged people to unite against this terror campaign and connected the struggle with defending Cuba.

Hands off Cuba, Colombia and Venezuela! Stop ICE! #

Struggle-La Lucha

Subscribe
and/or
donate



www.struggle-la-lucha.org

facebook.com/strugglelalucha

twitter.com/StruggleLaLucha

info@struggle-la-lucha.com

CONTACT STRUGGLE-LA LUCHA

Atlanta
Atlanta@struggle-la-lucha.org

Baltimore
Baltimore@struggle-la-lucha.org

Boonville, Indiana
Boonville@struggle-la-lucha.org

Boston
Boston@struggle-la-lucha.org

Denver
Denver@struggle-la-lucha.org

Detroit
Detroit@struggle-la-lucha.org

Los Angeles
LA@struggle-la-lucha.org

New Orleans
NOLA@struggle-la-lucha.org

New York City
NYC@struggle-la-lucha.org

Orlando, Florida
Orlando@struggle-la-lucha.org

San Diego
SanDiego@struggle-la-lucha.org

Washington, D.C.
DC@struggle-la-lucha.org

If people have a right to live, don't they have a right to health care?

By Stephen Millies

The only parts of the U.S. Government that have been shut down are those that are actually trying to help people. Three-quarters of a million workers have been locked out of their jobs by Trump.

Other federal employees have been forced to work without getting paid, including air traffic controllers. That's the sort of stress that they – as well as passengers and crew members – don't need.

Inspectors from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have been told to stay home. Meanwhile, 16 workers were killed in an explosion at the Accurate Energetic Systems munitions plant in Tennessee.

However, the ICE Gestapo agents terrorizing Chicago and the rest of the United States are still getting paid. The U.S. Navy is executing people in the Caribbean while plans for invading the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are going ahead.

The shutdown didn't prevent live artillery shells from being fired from the Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton across Interstate Highway 5, stopping traffic between Los Angeles and San Diego. (Amtrak trains were also halted.) One shell exploded prematurely, showering shrapnel over two vehicles.

The Oct. 18 spectacle was presided over by Vice-Führer JD Vance and Secretary of War Pete Hegseth. It was a not-too-subtle threat to the millions of people demonstrating the same day across the United States in the "No Kings" rallies against Trump.

That's more proof that the real capitalist state is the "deep state" of violence, prisons, cutbacks and war.

We need to organize our own resistance

Almost all Democrats in Congress are refusing to vote for a "continuing resolution" that will fund Trump's regime. It was another story back in March, when Charles Schumer, the Democratic majority leader in the Senate and nine other members of the Democratic caucus voted for a similar measure.

Trump praised Schumer for capitulating. A few days earlier, almost none of the over 200 Democrats attending Trump's March 4 speech to a joint session of Congress did anything to protect Texas Rep. Al Green. The 77-year-old Black congressperson was dragged off the floor for shouting, "You have no mandate to cut Medicaid."



People attend a Healthcare over Billionaires rally at the U.S. Capitol on Sept. 30, 2025.

The reason for Schumer's about-face is that millions of voters are demanding resistance to Trump's march towards fascism. The Democratic Party establishment wants to keep this struggle within the bounds of capitalist elections.

They don't want anti-war and pro-Palestinian slogans raised at the No Kings rallies. The wealthy and powerful are fearful of an even larger struggle than the Black Lives Matter demonstrations in 2020.

The Democratic Party leadership's opposition to the "continuing resolution" is centered against the so-called Big Beautiful Bill that will force millions of people off Medicaid. It will also remove the subsidies for getting health insurance under the Affordable Care Act, which will make monthly premiums skyrocket.

The response of Trump and his Fox News cheerleaders is to claim that Democrats want to provide free health care to undocumented immigrants, who these bigots call "illegal aliens."

No child is illegitimate, and no human being is illegal. Without the absolutely essential labor of undocumented workers on the farms and in the food processing plants, we would starve.

Instead of denouncing this hate mongering, Democratic Party spokespeople are denying they want to give any aid to human beings without papers.

Are people born in other lands supposed to be denied medications and drop dead in front of hospitals? Are immigrant children needing treatment to be left to die?

Health care is a human right!

Refusing poor people health care is old news in the United States. Hundreds of Black men were deliberately denied treatment for syphilis in the notorious Tuskegee Study. These experiments lasted from 1932 to 1972.

T. Harry Moore and Harriette Moore were murdered in their Brevard County, Florida home on Christmas Day, 1951, by Ku Klux Klan members who planted a bomb. The Black couple helped tens of thousands of Black people to register to vote.

Both were driven 30 miles away to a Black hospital because the nearby white hospital would have denied them admission. Hundreds of medical facilities refused treatment to Black, Indigenous or Latine people until well into the 1960s.

It's political cowardice for Democratic congressional leaders to say they're against providing health care for the undocumented. It's capitulating to racist Trump.

People's movements, especially the labor movement, need to declare that health care is a human right. Our enemies are the billionaires, not our fellow poor and working people.

#

What's a billionaire doing paying off the troops?

By Stephen Millies

The “anonymous donor” Donald Trump bragged about on Oct. 23 – the one supposedly giving \$130 million to pay U.S. military personnel during the government shutdown – turns out to be billionaire Timothy Mellon, heir to one of the oldest capitalist dynasties in the United States.

The donation from the 83-year-old member of the filthy-rich Mellon financial dynasty amounts to \$100 per member of the Armed Forces.

That's about 2% of the Pentagon's monthly payroll for those wearing a uniform. So what's the point?

Is Mellon's money earmarked for elite units who could be mobilized to attack demonstrators protesting ICE raids? Or to pay off key generals and admirals in some future plot like the Jan. 6, 2021, takeover of the United States Capitol?

The \$130 million payoff is likely illegal and violates the Antideficiency Act. Mellon isn't donating paintings to the National Gallery of Art like his granddaddy, Andrew Mellon, did to get off tax evasion charges.

It goes around Congress, which, in a republic, is supposed to decide where the tax money goes. Mellon's money allows Trump to say to GIs, “I'm the one providing for your families, not the liberals in Congress.”

SNAP benefits – formerly known as food stamps – for 42 million people are going to run out of money on Nov. 1. Why couldn't Timothy Mellon make a donation to food banks?

Even with increasing food prices, \$130 million could still buy a lot of eggs.

This isn't a random act of generosity.

The Mellon family octopus

What the DuPonts are to Delaware, the Mellons are to Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania. For over 150 years, the family has sliced and diced industries while breaking strikes.

Key to Mellon power is their bank, the Bank of New York Mellon, with assets of \$440 billion. Its assets under management – funds be-



Seniors eat hot meals at the Roosevelt Community Center in Charleston, W.Va., as food banks face rising demand during the government shutdown. Billionaire Trump donor Timothy Mellon is paying U.S. troops while SNAP benefits for millions run out.

longing to its wealthy clients, which the bank manages – amount to \$2.1 trillion.

Timothy's grandfather, Andrew Mellon, used the family bank to control a whole series of blue-chip corporations, including Alcoa. Because of its patents, the outfit held a virtual monopoly on U.S. aluminum production for decades.

Interior Secretary Harold Ickes declared that if the United States lost World War II, it would be because Alcoa was holding back on producing aluminum for planes. The federal government had to break Alcoa's patent monopoly.

The jewel in the family crown was Gulf merged with Socal in 1984 to form Chevron in 1985. Andrew Mellon served as Treasury Secretary for three presidents in the 1920s (Harding, Coolidge and Hoover), giving tax cuts to his fellow plutocrats.

Afterwards, he was appointed ambassador to Britain, where he demanded a 50% cut of the British crown colony of Kuwait's petroleum

production for Gulf Oil. Sixty years later, the first U.S. war in the Arab/Persian Gulf began.

Machine guns for the miners

Every generation of Mellons has been at war with the working class. After their Pittsburgh Coal Company crushed a miners' strike in the 1920s, a Senate inquiry exposed the firm's private armies. Richard Mellon, Andrew's brother, coolly told senators that “you couldn't run a coal mine without machine guns.”

Timothy Mellon carried that tradition into modern times. As owner of several New England railroads, he fought union contracts and ran them into bankruptcy, slashing jobs and safety.

His autobiography drips with racist contempt, describing Black people in racist terms. He poured \$1.5 million into defending Arizona's vicious SB 1070 anti-immigrant law, most of which was thrown out by the courts.

No wonder this bigot is a friend of Donald Trump.

The real question

Why should one billionaire decide who gets paid while tens of millions go hungry?

Why can a private fortune fill the gap left by a “shutdown” – but only for the armed forces, never for the poor?

The government will always find money for bullets, never for bread. #



CHINA Celebrating 75 years of liberation

China's revolution, which liberated the nation from feudal oppression and imperialist control. Today, China stands as a global scientific powerhouse, with gains in healthcare, education, and sports as well as pollution reduction, and space exploration. This book aims to illuminate the dangers posed by a potential U.S. war against China and to reveal the real enemies of the working class.



<https://tinyurl.com/USWarChina>

Defending Columbus is an insult to Italian-Americans – and to history

By Gary Wilson

In New York City's mayoral race, Andrew Cuomo has made himself the loudest defender of Christopher Columbus – and of the myths that surround him. Facing Democratic Socialist candidate Zohran Mamdani, Cuomo has doubled down on his long-standing crusade to preserve Columbus statues and Columbus Day, calling them “essential symbols” of Italian-American heritage.

In a series of October 2025 campaign appearances, Cuomo accused Mamdani of “insulting Italian-Americans” for his past criticism of the Columbus statue at Columbus Circle – even pointing to a photo of Mamdani giving the statue the middle finger. Cuomo insists the monuments represent Italian-American struggle and assimilation, not the atrocities committed by the man they honor.

He promises that if elected mayor, Columbus Day will remain untouched, even as he grudgingly acknowledges that “Columbus committed bad acts against Indigenous people.” As governor, Cuomo even had a Central Park Columbus monument added to the State Register of Historic Places to guarantee its preservation.

But defending Columbus in 2025 is more than cultural nostalgia – it's an attempt to weaponize ethnic pride against truth. Glorifying Columbus is no tribute to Italian-American workers and families who faced discrimination – it's an insult to them. Columbus was not their forerunner; he was a mercenary for empire, an agent of enslavement and genocide.

Italian-American legacy – from Sacco and Vanzetti to the labor and anti-fascist movements – stands with the oppressed, not with empire. Honoring that real legacy means telling the truth about Columbus and the system he served.

The myth and the merchant

For generations, U.S. classrooms have glorified Christopher Columbus as the daring mariner who “discovered” a new world. The songs and parades celebrate him as a man of vision and courage – the founder of Western civilization in the Americas. But this version of Columbus is one of history's most successful propaganda campaigns.

When we read his own journals and the eyewitness accounts of contemporaries such as Bartolomé de Las Casas, a very different figure emerges – not a heroic explorer but a royal-chartered merchant of conquest. He was not the first European to reach these shores – and he didn't “discover” anything.

From Africa to the Americas

Before crossing the Atlantic, Columbus had spent years studying the Portuguese system of expansion along Africa's coasts. He saw how it worked: Sail under royal orders, seize land in the name of the crown and the church, and profit from gold, trade, and human lives. Enslavement was built into the plan from the start.

But what Columbus found in the Americas changed everything. Unlike the Portuguese, who had to fight powerful African kingdoms, Columbus met peoples who had no reason to expect invasion – and no defense against European weapons or Old World diseases.

That imbalance gave him a free hand. He didn't bother building trade posts or alliances. He went straight to conquest and plunder – enslaving the Taíno, seizing land, and demanding tribute in gold.

Columbus brought the brutal system the Portuguese had pioneered to the Americas. What began on the African coast as raiding and slaving exploded in the Caribbean into total occupation and genocide.

The human ledger

When Columbus landed in the Bahamas on Oct. 12, 1492, he was greeted by the Taíno people – peaceful, generous, and curious about the strangers from across the sea. Columbus's first recorded observations were not of geography or astronomy but of people as potential labor.

In his own log, he wrote that the Taíno “should make good servants.” Within 48 hours, he was calculating the logistics of enslavement: “With 50 men they could all be subjugated and compelled to do anything one wishes.”

Throughout his journal, Columbus remarked on the people's gentleness and lack of weapons – not as virtues but as weaknesses to

exploit. His words do not read like those of an explorer, but like those of a profiteer taking inventory of assets.

Just weeks into his mission, Columbus began capturing and shipping men and women to Spain as specimens and slaves. Historian José Asensio called it “a trifling act with fatal consequences.”

He enslaved entire communities, forcing them to mine gold, plant crops, and serve the colonizers under threat of mutilation and death.

Conquest and the birth of a new world order

Columbus's voyages were at the beginning of modern European colonialism. His actions helped set in motion a transformation of the global economy. Gold and silver from the Americas flooded European markets, feeding a new money economy. Crops, livestock, and diseases crossed oceans, reshaping entire continents. The Spanish Empire, enriched by plunder, helped fuel the early growth of European banking, trade, and industry.

This was the violent accumulation of wealth that began in Africa and laid the foundations of capitalism – a process built on enslavement, dispossession, and genocide. The destruction of Indigenous societies, the rise of the Atlantic slave trade, and the seizure of land across the Americas created the material base for Europe's later industrial expansion.

The real legacy

The gold ripped from the Caribbean and the lives stolen from Indigenous nations – alongside the centuries of stolen labor and bodies from Africa – formed the basis of the violent accumulation that built European capitalism. Out of that blood-soaked foundation grew a world system that continues to exploit labor and land across the globe. #

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

Thurs ♦ Nov 27, 2025



12:00 Noon

COLE'S HILL

(above Plymouth Rock)

Plymouth, MA

Solidarity with
Indigenous struggles
throughout the world!
From Turtle Island to
Palestine,
Colonialism is a Crime!

United American Indians of New England (decolonizing since 1970) info@uaine.org

Intelligence artificial, profits fictitious

By Gary Wilson

The U.S. economy isn't booming – it's levitating. What keeps it up isn't productivity or innovation, but speculation.

The so-called "AI revolution," hailed as a new industrial dawn, is in reality a massive bubble – a speculative fever driving stock prices far beyond what the technology can actually deliver.

The anatomy of a bubble

A speculative bubble forms when the price of something – like tech stocks – rises far beyond its real, sustainable value.

That real value comes not from market hype or quick profits, but from workers' labor power – their capacity to create more value than they're paid for.

But in a bubble, prices rise not because real production or value creation is expanding, but because investors are chasing promises – each betting that someone else will pay even more for the same asset.

The pattern isn't accidental. It's built into capitalism itself.

Step one: Capital needs to expand

Capitalism runs on an "expand or die" engine. Every firm must grow constantly to survive – outspending, outproducing, and out-innovating its rivals.

When one wave of growth slows, capital hunts for another.

After smartphones and social media stopped generating explosive profits, investors went searching for a new frontier. They found one in artificial intelligence.

The dream of "intelligent machines" became a new gold rush. Investors declared that AI would transform every industry – from health care to law – and didn't care that most promises were decades from reality. The only thing that mattered was that AI looked big enough to sustain the expansion.

Step two: Credit makes it look real

Once hype takes hold, the credit floodgates open. Trillions pour into data centers, chips, and cloud infrastructure – all on the assumption that future profits will justify today's staggering costs.

Marx called this stage "fictitious prosperity" – an expansion of paper claims on future profits that have no immediate basis in the value created by labor. It makes the appearance of growth without its substance.

AI now fills that role. Capital is pouring into technologies that do not yet produce surplus value, but inflate the balance sheets of

corporations through speculation and state contracts.

Stock markets surge, investment booms, and politicians hail the "AI economy" as proof of recovery for an economy still addicted to cheap credit. Beneath the surface, profits are scarce – it's all fueled by expectations and debt.

At its peak, Nvidia's stock traded at roughly 138 times its annual profits – a level of frenzy that made the dot-com era look restrained. Nearly 60% of the 2024 S&P 500 gains came from just seven companies. The AI mania has now surpassed the dot-com madness of 1999.

Step three: When illusion meets limits

Eventually, reality breaks through. Chatbots hallucinate. Image models can't pay their own server bills. Consumers aren't buying AI products in meaningful numbers.

Yet stock prices keep climbing because no one wants to be the first to admit that capital's paper claims have outgrown the value created by labor. That's when the bubble is complete – when financial values are totally unmoored from production and profit.

The new U.S. mirage

AI is the latest chapter in speculative capitalism. Beneath the rhetoric of innovation lies a simple truth: The U.S. economy is being propped up by fictitious capital, not productive labor.

Manufacturing is shrinking. Service jobs are fading. Household debt is climbing. The glittering tech boom hides stagnation everywhere else.

Even figures within the tech establishment – from Eric Schmidt, Google's former CEO, to analyst Selina Xu – admit Silicon Valley's obsession with Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) has bypassed the real opportunities to use the AI that already exists.

AGI refers to a hypothetical machine intelligence that could learn and reason across any task as flexibly as a human being – a kind of "universal mind."

Unlike today's narrow AI systems, which are built for specific functions, AGI would supposedly understand and act in many domains on its own.

In reality, AGI doesn't exist. Its promise serves capital as a speculative frontier – a projection of limitless productivity used to justify vast investment and state subsidies.

From a Marxist perspective, the AGI hype embodies capitalism's technology fetish – the belief that machines, not labor, create value.

The pursuit of AGI is a chase for power and profit, not progress.



"Wait, is the economy A.I.-generated?"

AI as empire

Behind the bubble lies empire. The Pentagon, CIA, and venture capital share the same fantasy: that AI supremacy will guarantee U.S. global dominance.

Massive government contracts – from surveillance software to autonomous weapons – now serve as subsidies for Silicon Valley. Nvidia, Microsoft, Amazon, and Palantir sit at the crossroads of finance capital and the military-industrial complex.

Even Joe Biden, in his farewell address from the White House in January 2025, spelled it out plainly – a rare moment of honesty.

Biden said that "an oligarchy is taking shape in America of extreme wealth, power and influence that literally threatens our entire democracy, our basic rights and freedoms."

He spoke of "a dangerous concentration of power in the hands of a very few ultra-wealthy people."

He specifically talked about the rise of a "tech-industrial complex," deliberately echoing Dwight Eisenhower's 1961 warning about the "military-industrial complex." Biden said this new power bloc is "infringing on Americans' rights and the future of democracy."

The fusion is now complete – a military-tech-industrial complex, edging toward what some have begun calling tech fascism.

Biden compared today's situation to the Gilded Age of "robber barons" – a time when the U.S. economy was dominated by extreme wealth and imperialist expansion into Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. It was also a time when Mark Twain and organizations such as the American Anti-Imperialist League were fighting the expanding empire.

Biden didn't name names. But his remarks landed as Elon Musk, Mark Zuckerberg, and Jeff Bezos aligned themselves with the incom-

Continued on page 7

ing Trump administration, planning to attend Trump's inauguration.

Silicon Valley has metastasized into a merger of big capital, big tech, and big war. The empire's newest weapon isn't a missile – it's the algorithm.

Washington's chip bans on China, its trade sanctions against Huawei, and its AI-driven military pacts – from AUKUS to its defense-tech alliances with Japan and South Korea – all follow the same imperialist logic. Civilian technology and military infrastructure are being fused into a single system of global dominance.

China's different path

China, by contrast, is treating AI not as a casino chip but as a tool. Instead of betting on abstract intelligence for future profit, China applies AI to real sectors – manufacturing, logistics, energy, and urban planning.

Chinese government white papers outline over 400 industrial-AI pilot zones focused on logistics, steel, and energy – showing production-first deployment.

The difference is stark. The U.S. is using AI to inflate a bubble. China is using it to build.

Industrial policy or financial subsidy

Washington insists it's rebuilding industry through the CHIPS and Science Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and new "AI innovation zones." In reality, these are less industrial policy than corporate welfare – government funds funneled into private monopolies.

Billions more flow to Intel, TSMC, and Nvidia – the same firms driving speculation. The state isn't reviving manufacturing; it's financing and guaranteeing corporate profits, socializing risk while privatizing gains. The "AI economy" isn't rebuilding the U.S. productive base; it's inflating the next crash.

While the U.S. bankrolls hype, China retools for production. This isn't just a tech race – it's a clash between two systems: finance-driven capitalism versus planned development.

Breaking the cycle

Real progress means ending the profit system itself – where production serves private wealth, not human needs. Capitalism turns every advance into a new source of profit, not a means to improve life.

Technology should serve society, not capital. The wealth created by human intelligence – through research, education, and labor – shouldn't be siphoned off into yet another speculative frenzy.

Until we take tech out of the casino, every so-called "revolution" will end the same way: the bubble bursts, and workers are the ones who pay – with layoffs, wage cuts, and gutted public services.

The rich walk away richer. Everyone else is left to bear the cost of their crash. #

Voting for Mamdani is voting against racism

Continued from page 1

he said in a video appeal. "Elected officials can sell T-shirts calling for my deportation."

Cuomo visits Trump-loving neighborhoods in Staten Island, where he denounces Mamdani for being against statues of genocidal Columbus.

He's also courting a handful of right-wing synagogues, attacking the Muslim Mamdani for demanding an end to the genocide in Gaza – even as tens of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of Jewish New Yorkers have joined his call for justice for the Palestinian people, against genocide, and are backing Mamdani's campaign.

The Nov. 4 election is a referendum on racism. Voting for Mamdani is saying no to Islamophobia and every form of racism and bigotry.

The big money against Mamdani

More than \$40 million is being spent to defeat the Democratic Socialist Zohran Mamdani, who wants to freeze rents and make the buses and child care free.

These absolutely needed reforms horrify former New York Mayor Bloomberg, who has shoveled over \$8 million into the Stop Mamdani slush fund. That's spare change for Bloomberg, whose fortune is estimated at \$109.4 billion.

During Bloomberg's 12-year reign in City Hall, up to a million people per year were detained by police under "Stop and Frisk" policies. The overwhelming number of people who had their Fourth Amendment rights against illegal searches stolen were Black and Brown.

The money-bags mayor also wanted to close 20 firehouses across the city.

Bloomberg let public housing rot while the average monthly rent for a 691 square foot, one-bedroom apartment in Manhattan has risen to \$5,494. NYC transit fares are scheduled to rise to \$3 in January, 60 times what they were in 1948, when it cost a nickel to take a bus or subway.

But Zohran Mamdani must not be allowed to be elected mayor!

Other donors to the Stop Mamdani campaign include Joe Gebbia, co-founder of Airbnb,



Mamdani speaks in Jackson Heights, June 21, 2025.

nb, who has given \$2 million. Also giving money is Alice Walton, whose \$111.4 billion fortune comes from the poverty wages paid to two million Walmart workers.

Cuomo's rotten record

When he was governor, Andrew Cuomo was forced to resign for being accused of being a sexual predator. He compelled thousands of seniors hospitalized with COVID-19 to go to nursing homes, where the disease spread, killing thousands more.

His daddy, Mario Cuomo, was also governor. The elder Cuomo took \$8 billion in funds meant for affordable housing and used them to build more prisons than any other governor in New York history.

Zohran Mamdani's campaign has become a mass movement against decades of capitalist austerity and cutbacks. Even more so it's a way to say no to anti-Muslim racism that became official policy after Sept. 11, 2001.

It was the struggle of Palestinians against U.S. / Zionist genocide – and all the pro-Palestinian demonstrations – that helped spark Mamdani's campaign.

Mamdani's program of mild reforms may not seem extraordinary. But it gives people a chance to mobilize against capitalism in the capital of capitalism.

It's crucial that revolutionary socialists and all progressive people support Mamdani against racism, against Islamophobia, and against Wall Street's billionaires. For further analysis, please check out "The Mamdani NYC mayoral campaign, 'Which side are you on?'" by Sharon Black. #

Cuba's Queer Rights Revolution

LOVE
IS THE
LAW

- ◆ Presentation by Cenesex director Mariela Castro Espín
- ◆ Discussion with a transmasculine Cuban activist
- ◆ Reports from LGBTQ+ delegation who went to Cuba to learn about new Families Code
- ◆ Leslie Feinberg's **Rainbow Solidarity in Defense of Cuba**



tinyurl.com/Cuba-LoveIsLaw tinyurl.com/Read-LOVEisTheLAW

Bob McCubbin and the untold history of queer labor solidarity

Bob McCubbin (1942-2025) was a pioneering revolutionary theorist and activist. In 1976, he wrote one of the first Marxist analyses of LGBTQ+ oppression. His book “The Gay Question: A Marxist Appraisal,” later expanded as “The Roots of Lesbian & Gay Oppression,” was groundbreaking. The Stonewall Rebellion shaped his politics. He fought for LGBTQ+ liberation for five decades. He stood with the Black Liberation movement. He marched in the streets. He organized strikes. A co-founder of the Struggle for Socialism Party in 2018, he wrote until the end, publishing “The Social Evolution of Humanity, Marx and Engels Were Right!” in his final years. He organized for Palestine at San Diego Pride just months before his death. McCubbin died in August 2025 at age 83.

The following paper is by Dawn Miller. She is a teacher in San Diego and a member of the Association of Raza Educators. She wrote this several years ago. It spotlights Bob McCubbin as a local activist, organizer, and mentor. McCubbin supported the Association of Raza Educators for years. He championed their mission. He embodied what it means to be a teacher of and for the people.

No Pride Without Labor:

The Revolutionary Bond Between Queer and Working-Class Liberation

In the mid-1990s, fresh out of college, I had the unforgettable experience of meeting Leslie Feinberg, managing editor of Workers World newspaper and legendary “Transgender Warrior,” speak at a local event. I was brought there by Bob McCubbin, a close friend of Leslie’s and a fierce activist in his own right and fellow educator. I had never heard anyone articulate the intersections of oppression under capitalism as powerfully and clearly as Leslie did that day.

That moment, and Bob’s subsequent mentorship and writings, fundamentally shifted my own trajectory and politicization as a queer person. He helped me understand that the fight against queer oppression is inseparable from the fight against capitalism, and that true liberation for all oppressed peoples demands the advancement of communism and nothing less.

Tragically, Leslie has since passed, but I’ve had the great privilege of building a relationship with Bob, who is not only part of this paper’s focus but has also been a guiding figure in my ongoing understandings of radical queer and labor histories. Through my interviews with Bob, a pattern has become strikingly clear: Over the last century, there have been deep, deliberate acts of solidarity between the gay liberation movement and the labor movement. These moments of cooperation, though often under-recognized, were mutually beneficial, and in many cases, they created key openings for queer advancement within broader struggles for justice.

Now in his 70s, Bob’s class consciousness was honed at the young age of 10, working as a paper delivery boy to supplement his

family’s income in 1940s Buffalo, New York. Working through high school and college, post-graduation, Bob found himself as part of Local 1199, an independent, progressive union that organized clerical workers at Columbia University. He remarks:

“The pay was terrible, and when we would make wage demands on the administration, their position was that we should be happy with the prestige we gained being associated with such a renowned institution. Our reply was always, ‘We cannot eat prestige.’”

Despite its anti-Vietnam war stance and massive mobilizations around social issues of the day, the union remained silent on sexual minority rights. Bob said he felt others knew and accepted his sexuality as a gay man, and he described the chapter as having an uncommonly large LGBTQ membership; however, the push for anti-discriminatory practices and clauses in contracts for queer unit members were not topics on the table yet.

Queer people have always been part of the labor movement: paying dues, organizing strikes, holding the line, and fighting tooth and nail as some of labor’s most outspoken organizers against capitalist exploitation. But for decades, their identities were buried, forced into silence by the same systems that demanded their labor while denying their humanity.

In the 1930s, the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union of the CIO deliberately organized gay workers and promoted them into union leadership, but this was an anomaly. There are a few documented examples of labor’s push for LGBTQ rights peppering the ‘50s and early ‘60s, but most unions remained complicit in erasing queer members, offering little protection as these workers faced surveillance, firings and blatant violence simply for

existing.

It wasn’t until the rebellion at Stonewall in 1969, an uprising led by working-class, Black and Brown trans and queer people, that the labor movement began to feel the pressure to confront its own failures and step up. Queer workers demanded that labor reckon with the truth: There’s no liberation for the working class without queer liberation, and there is no revolution worth fighting for that leaves anyone behind.

Bob told of life as a gay man in 1970 New York, where police would come regularly to the gay clubs, which were then illegal, and, “with pure hate in their eyes,” harass, defile, assault, and arrest the men at their whim.

In one incident, Bob recalled the police shooting of a young gay man who was hospitalized with life-threatening injuries. When gay activists approached the young man about organizing a picket and protest against police brutality, he pleaded against it with great desperation for fear of further retaliation in the community at the hands of the cops. He did request help with his mounting hospital bills, and so Bob and friends organized a fundraiser dance, and the only venue that would hold their event was the meeting hall of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union of San Francisco.

Bob recalled sitting with the union leadership that night, all white, older men, “You could tell that although they were a bit surprised by the crowd that flitted around them, they were committed to their progressive philosophies and belief in solidarity with all workers in pursuit of a more just world.”

What began as a single meeting grew into a long-standing relationship rooted in mutual support and collaboration. It also underscores an often-overlooked historical truth: During a time when civil rights struggles were gaining traction, gay liberation remained deeply stigmatized, and unions were often one of the few, and sometimes the only, institutions willing to stand in solidarity with queer people and their struggle for justice.

In the mid-1970s, the gay community in California initiated a boycott of Coors Beer Company because it had fired a number of gay workers and forced new hires to submit to lie detector tests that questioned them about their sexual orientation. The boycott quickly spread to the East Coast and gained momentum as gay bars and gay-owned businesses bi-coastally refused to sell Coors products.



Bob McCubbin, holding “Free Mumia” placard, with members of the Association of Raza Educators in an undated photo in San Diego.

Teamsters, who had also been planning a boycott because of unfair employment practices at Coors, approached gay organizers, specifically Harvey Milk and Howard Wallace, wanting to support and merge together to form a larger boycott. Milk and Howard insisted that the union be open to hiring gay folks as truck drivers; the union agreed, and a great moment of coalition building began.

With the backing of the nation’s largest union, not only was the boycott ultimately successful, but discriminatory employment tactics against gays and lesbians became part of the larger societal conversation around labor rights and civil rights for the LGBTQ community. The union went on to support Harvey Milk in a successful bid for San Francisco supervisor. Ultimately, the successes were evidence of the power of collaboration and the need for interdependence between labor and queer movements.

Back at Columbia, in the wake of Stonewall, Bob and fellow gay workers were ready for action. In the ensuing protests that followed Stonewall, the call to action from gay liberation leaders for the gay community to rise up, was heard loud and clear by Bob and his comrades. During a larger strike at Columbia University for wage increases, the gay contingent insisted the union also push for contract protection for “sexual minorities.” Having been originally organized by the Communist Party, the Columbia University chapter of Local 1199 was tolerant of its gay contingent, but had yet to push for specific rights.

As Bob recalled, “As progressive as it was, the Communist Party organizer and bargaining chair was rather cynical about our rank-and-file demand that protection for our LGBTQ members be included in the contract we were negotiating. At the ratification meeting, I asked him directly if we’d won inclusion of the clause. ‘Yes,’ he replied with a smirk,

‘we won protection for gays, bisexuals, trisexuals. ...whatever.’”

Bob believes that this clause in the contract may in fact have been one of the first times such a labor right for the queer community was won, but lamented that, “the only place it’s documented would be in a dusty file cabinet somewhere on West 43rd Street.”

Gay rights activists and labor continued in collaborative struggle in 1978 with the introduction of the Briggs Initiative (Proposition 6) in California, which would have banned “homosexuals” from teaching in the public schools. The AFL-CIO came out in full support to defeat the proposition, spending large amounts of money and sending out massive amounts of anti-6 literature.

Importantly, during this campaign, the AFL-CIO pushed for a federal law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation. Although this legislation was never realized, and LGBTQ workers today still lack federal protection, the labor-gay alliance was successful in defeating the Briggs Initiative and further bolstered the relationship between the groups that laid ground for future successes.

As Gerald Hunt elaborates in his book “Laboring for Rights: Unions and Sexual Diversity Across Nations,” “During the 1990s, as with California’s Briggs Initiative in 1978, union backing at the national, state and local levels was critical in defeating anti-gay initiatives and amendments in Oregon, Washington and Idaho” (82). He goes on to tell of anti-gay campaigns that were successful in places where labor was absent or late to respond to calls for support.

Throughout the history of the gay community’s struggle for liberation, labor has often been its strongest, loudest and most consistent ally. Alliances in times of struggle, on both sides, have proven advantageous, and principles of solidarity have advanced success

silent as labor unions and workers’ rights are systematically decimated.

Author Jerame Davis writes, “If we cannot stand in solidarity with one of our oldest supporters, what is the message we are sending to the myriad of allies we’re creating today? Are we simply opportunistic friends whose relationship depends on what the other side has to offer and nothing more? Solidarity isn’t transactional, it’s transformational.”

It was Bob’s early experiences in both union work and the emerging gay liberation movement that launched him into a lifelong path as a radical organizer, prolific writer and dedicated comrade in the Workers World Party. For Bob, the solidarity he witnessed in the labor and queer movements was a political awakening. It shaped his fundamental understanding that race, gender, class and sexuality aren’t separate issues; they’re deeply entangled fronts in the same war against capitalist oppression. His analysis exposes the systems designed to divide us and insists that only through collective, intersectional struggle can liberation be won.

During one of our conversations, Bob cried as he recalled listening to the execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg on the radio as a child. He wept not only from the memory of that brutal, largely forgotten attack on the labor and leftist movements of the time, but from having lived long enough to see many of the hard-fought victories for labor and queer rights now being eroded before his eyes. And yet, despite having witnessed both monumental gains and devastating setbacks, Bob remains resolute.

“I’m humbled to have once seen a bright light shining, to have known and lived the meaning of true revolutionary solidarity,” he told me. “I was ready then, and I remain ready now, to tackle oppression, in all its forms, at every turn.” #

No Kings, No Empire: Protest and the war economy

By Gary Wilson

Millions filled the streets on Oct. 18.

The “No Kings” protests erupted in more than 2,700 locations across all 50 states – the largest coordinated action against Donald Trump since his return to office, and perhaps one of the biggest mass mobilizations in recent U.S. history.

Crowds surged through New York, Washington, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Boston. But resistance spread far beyond the major cities. Workers marched in Birmingham, Alabama. Demonstrators filled the streets of Billings, Montana.

The protests were against the authoritarian actions of the Trump administration, ICE operations, federal program cuts, and for constitutional rights.

Yet the leadership of the “No Kings” campaign is firmly rooted in the Democratic Party.

Groups like Indivisible and MoveOn – both pillars of the Democratic establishment – were listed as official sponsors. Their involvement shaped the movement’s limits, especially around foreign policy: the U.S.–NATO proxy war in Ukraine, the genocide in Gaza, and Washington’s escalating confrontation with China.

The color of empire

The official No Kings website encouraged participants to wear yellow, referencing the pro-NATO Yellow Ribbon Movement in Ukraine and the anti-China Yellow Umbrella protests in Hong Kong. Whether coincidence or design, the symbolism signals alignment with U.S. imperialist foreign policy.

Since 2016, Democratic opposition to Trump has often focused not on his attacks on workers or the poor but on his supposed “softness” toward Russia and China. His first impeachment, in 2019, wasn’t for caging migrants or gutting health care programs – it was for delaying weapons to Ukraine.

Biden continued that trajectory. From day one, his administration poured billions into NATO and armed Ukraine to the teeth, even as it funded and defended Israel’s campaign of mass genocide in Gaza. At the same time, it intensified the tech and trade war with China, maintaining Trump-era tariffs while launching new measures to block Beijing’s access to advanced semiconductors. Washington also deepened military alliances: forming AUKUS, strengthening the Quad, and integrating Japan and South Korea into its Indo-Pacific war plans. The strategy is clear – to build a NATO-style

military bloc aimed at containing China. (“Containing China” is what Obama said).

By adopting the color yellow, the “No Kings” organizers effectively tried to merge domestic opposition to Trump with support for U.S. wars abroad. But anti-imperialism is not a distraction from the struggle against authoritarianism – it is central to it. A movement that fails to challenge empire cannot defeat Trumpism, because empire is the source of its power.

The war that never sleeps

From Gaza to Ukraine, from Haiti to Venezuela, from Somalia to Yemen, and across the South China Sea, Washington’s war machine never rests.

Secretary of War Pete Hegseth has vowed to wage a “war on woke.” Every progressive cause, from Black Lives Matter to reproductive rights, from trans liberation to union power, is recast as a threat to national security. “Making America Great Again” now means silencing dissent at home and expanding war abroad.

Whenever U.S. imperialism goes on the offensive, it demands unity – and obedience. Behind the MAGA slogan lies the same order as always: Shut down the class struggle.

Every bomb dropped on Gaza, every missile launched from a U.S. destroyer, every naval drill off China’s coast is not only an attack on people abroad – it’s an attack on workers here. War budgets drain the public purse; social programs wither. The empire wears different faces, but the engine beneath never changes.

The Biden–Harris years presided over drone wars and unconditional backing for Israel’s genocidal siege of Gaza. Trump’s second term has intensified those same policies with open brutality. On Oct. 15, his administration authorized a new round of covert CIA operations in Venezuela – including lethal “paramilitary action” aimed at regime change.

While claiming to end “endless wars,” Trump surrounds himself with defense contractors and private mercenaries. Pentagon deployments in the Caribbean – including at least eight U.S. warships, a submarine, B-52s, F-35s, and thousands of troops – are an escalation of war, not a withdrawal.

Democrats, for their part, denounce Trump’s rhetoric but fund the same war budgets. They compete over who can arm Israel, Ukraine, or Taiwan faster. Their unity is bipartisan – the unity of capital.

Meanwhile, the war economy expands.

In munitions plants across Tennessee and Texas, production lines run nonstop. Workers



Despite Nobel Prize aspirations, Trump is still Warmonger in Chief. Every bomb dropped on Gaza is an attack on the working class – not only abroad but here at home. The struggle against fascism is a struggle against empire.

die in preventable explosions while inspectors are furloughed under budget freezes. Defense CEOs cash in on record stock options. This is not “national defense.” It is organized theft – the conversion of public wealth into private profit.

Lessons of the past

We’ve seen this pattern before.

A century ago, President Woodrow Wilson – a Democratic demagogue and open white supremacist – promised to keep the U.S. out of war. Many progressives believed him. They abandoned the independent workers’ movement to back the “peace candidate.”

Within three years, Wilson plunged the nation into imperialist slaughter in World War I – and jailed socialists who opposed it. Eugene V. Debs, who urged workers to fight their real enemies at home, was imprisoned for speaking the truth.

The lesson endures: Every promise of “peace with honor,” from Wilson to Biden to Trump, conceals the same reality – a capitalist state beholden to Wall Street and the Pentagon. Both parties serve the same system, even as they trade places in power.

Failure to build unity against racism

The early socialist movement made another tragic error. It fought courageously for labor rights, but too often neglected the central question of racism. Many believed socialism

Continued on page 12

The thousands who rally against Trump in New Orleans could have taken the streets

By Gregory E. Williams

New Orleans, Oct. 18 – Thousands came out to the “No Kings” rally, joining protesters in some 2,700 locations across the country. The crowd filled up a large section of the Lafitte Greenway. And lest anyone say that people only came out to voice opposition to Trump in “liberal” New Orleans, rallies were also held in the on the northshore of Lake Pontchartrain, Baton Rouge, Lafayette and Shreveport.

For those of us who really want to take on Trump and the racist, decaying capitalist system he defends, we should be encouraged that so many came out, just as they did in earlier mobilizations this year. To stop Trump, we’re going to need more people in the streets – a lot more.

It was the huge movement for Black Lives that pushed Trump back during his first term, not the Democratic Party, whose “resistance” centered around Russiagate conspiracy theories. (Really, they were pushing for war with Russia. That became a reality and “Trump the Peacemaker” is continuing it.)

Here in New Orleans, the No Kings leadership decided not to march. The excuse passed among the crowd is that they were either unable or unwilling to get a permit. But groups march in the



Photo: Gregory E. Williams

New Orleans

city without a permit all the time. Contingents of only 30 to 100 people do it regularly.

The thousands who came out to this rally could have easily taken the streets, permit or not. We could have marched through the French Quarter to gain the support of the hospitality workers, who have the power to bring the tourist economy to a screeching halt. We could have marched on Orleans Parish Prison like we did in the summer of 2020. On that night, people locked up in the jail came to the windows and raised their fists in the air.

Many things were possible. The organizers squandered an incredible opportunity to show the strength of the masses. How else are we going to give Trump and Gov. Landry a run for their money?

But the Democratic Party-aligned organizations that initiate protests like these will never lead a genuine movement against fascism. For that, we need independent organizations of the oppressed and the working class.

Aside from the numbers, there was another bright spot at today’s rally. Local Palestinian organizers were actually able to take the stage. They explained the connections between what the people are facing here in the United States and this government’s imperialist assault on Palestine and others resisting domination.

The leaders of the Democratic Party are 100% complicit in the U.S.-Israeli genocide. (Remember how they totally shut out Palestinian voices from the 2024 party convention?) But the resistance of the Palestinian people – which is bolstered by a global solidarity movement – has transformed peoples’ consciousness. That’s evident in New Orleans. Throughout the crowd people held Palestinian flags or wore keffiyehs. The rich leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties have not been able to squash this movement.

Today showed that many people already understand that all these struggles are connected. And they’re ready to fight. So, let’s actually hit the streets to bring down wannabe King Trump. There’s no other way. #

Madison Wisconsin



October 30, 2025

Photo by: Wisconsin Bail Out the People Movement

Baltimore





Nader Sadaqa after his release.

NADER SADAQA: The Samaritan warrior who shatters Israel's myths

By Lev Koufax

The United States and Israel don't want you to know about Nader Sadaqa. He was a commander for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He spent 21 years in apartheid Israel's prisons. Sadaqa is a Palestinian. He is a Marxist. He is a PFLP leader. He is also a Samaritan.

The Samaritan community is an ethnoreligious group. They descend from the ancient Semitic-speaking Hebrew people. Their homeland is the northern half of the West Bank in occupied Palestine. They are not Jewish. They practice a monotheistic religion similar to Judaism that developed alongside Judaism.

The core difference is that Samaritans believe that the Temple Mount, a sacred symbol of ancient Abrahamic religions, was located at Mount Gerizim, near modern-day Nablus.

The Samaritans hold the oldest copy of the Torah in the world, over 3,500 years old. They follow the teachings of this ancient Torah and consider themselves religious descendants of Moses. They simply believe Moses received the 10 commandments on Mount Gerizim, not Mount Sinai. Samaritans observe their own version of holidays like Passover. Their sa-

cred texts are written in ancient Hebrew and Aramaic, similar to those of Judaism. The Samaritan faith is a valid and parallel tradition to Judaism.

Today, Samaritans identify as Palestinian and speak Arabic colloquially. Israel does not want the world to know of this reality. The Zionist movement and its imperialist backers wish for the world to believe they have a monopoly on Jewish history and religious tradition. They do not.

Nader Sadaqa was raised in the Samaritan community. He remained a devout follower of its Hebrew-descended religious tradition his entire life. He also fought for Palestinian liberation from Zionist apartheid. His faith fueled his desire to see his community and all Palestinian people liberated from Zionist mythology. He was a commander in the PFLP's armed wing, the Abu Ali Mustafa Brigades. He led operations against the terrorist Israeli Occupation Forces after the Second Intifada.

For this courageous resistance, Zionist Israel imprisoned him for 21 years. He endured physical torture. He suffered psychological torment. He faced starvation. He never broke. After 21 brutal years, he walked free in the recent round of prisoner exchanges.

To be abundantly clear, Israel and the United States fear Nader Sadaqa. They fear people like him. His identity is a potent threat. He is a Samaritan, from a faith parallel to Judaism. He is a Palestinian resistance commander. This combination inspires a dangerous idea. It could mobilize Jews worldwide to reject Zionism. It could rally them to fight for Palestine.

They hid him for two decades. They now ban him from returning to his home in Nablus. They fear his homecoming. They fear he could lead a whole new movement of cultural and literal resistance.

But, enough with the history. The most powerful point to be made about Sadaqa came in his own words after his release. Upon his freedom, reporters asked him one question: "What is your message to the resistance?" He responded:

"My response is that the resistance is the one who speaks, the one who attacks, and the one who prevails. It is the one who wills, the one who excels, and the one who acts.

"No voice rises above hers; rather, there is no voice except hers. And no statement except her statement, and no shadow except her shadow, and all that is required of us, the free people of the world, is to listen and obey."

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

No Kings, No Empire: Protest and the war economy

Continued from page 10

would come first, and liberation later.

But socialism without an active struggle against white supremacy was – and remains – an illusion. That failure fragmented the working class. Employers exploited racist divisions to crush strikes, exclude Black, Mexican, Asian, and Indigenous workers from unions, and sustain the hierarchy that capitalism requires.

Marx and Engels recognized the revolutionary role of the Black freedom struggle during the U.S. Civil War. They saw that slavery was not an aberration but the foundation of U.S. capitalism itself. Yet much of the socialist movement refused to learn that lesson, and it disintegrated under the twin pressures of racism and imperialist war.

The war economy and the working class

Today, the movement resisting Trump's authoritarian project cannot repeat those mistakes.

A real resistance must be anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-transphobic and anti-imperialist. The fight for liberation is one struggle with many fronts.

Look at the economy.

Manufacturing for civilian needs continues to decline, while militarized production surges – aircraft, missiles, drones, surveillance systems. Every major product from Silicon Valley ends up under a Pentagon contract. AI firms design targeting algorithms. Cloud companies build "battlefield networks." Energy corporations secure war profits while ordinary households face shutoffs and rent hikes.

This is capitalism in its imperialist stage – a parasite that survives by producing destruction.

Workers feel it directly. Union jobs vanish while defense firms boom. Inflation erodes wages. Public services collapse. But the stock prices of Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, and Northrop Grumman soar.

The same machine that bombs Gaza and threatens Beijing is the one that closes hospitals, guts schools, and evicts tenants.

That's why fighting against war is inseparable from the fight against King Trump.

War dominates all issues. But it also unites our struggles – because every front, from Gaza to health care, from trans rights to housing, leads back to the same system. In that unity lies the power to change it. #

Trump approves war escalation against Russia

By Lev Koufax

The so-called “peacemaker” president is at it again. Donald Trump talks peace while preparing war.

Much has been made in the media in recent weeks about whether Donald Trump would deliver Tomahawk cruise missiles to Ukraine. It is without question that sending such missiles would represent a significant escalation in NATO’s proxy war against Russia.

Tomahawks now join a long list of military equipment touted as the game-changer for Ukraine in the war with Russia. Narratives that a particular weapon will turn the tide of war have saturated the news and social media since the war began in 2022.

If it wasn’t the F-16 fighter jet, it was Germany’s “Leopard” tank. If it wasn’t German tanks, it was cluster munitions, or the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System or Patriot missile systems. And every time, the propaganda was the same: Ukraine just needed one more piece of crucial equipment to achieve its victory.

This narrative was a lie from the beginning, and an intentional one. Ukraine has already deployed all these so-called game-changing weapons. None of them has led to the reversal or even the slowing of Russia’s steady advance.

The ‘silver bullet’ myth

From the beginning, this “silver bullet” narrative was just a smokescreen to justify spending millions upon millions of government funds on a U.S.-NATO war to drain Russia strategically.

Just like the rest of the equipment now burning on the war’s long front, Tomahawks will make little difference in the grand scheme of the war’s progress. While these are powerful weapons intended to decimate enemy logistical infrastructure and supply hubs, the math doesn’t add up.



Manufactured by Raytheon, the Tomahawk missile costs about \$2.2 million, with the launcher having a \$6.2 million price tag. Pictured above, a Tomahawk missile launched from the USS San Jacinto in the Red Sea flies toward Iraq, March 25, 2003.

The Tomahawk illusion

Currently, the Trump administration has proposed sending 50 Tomahawks to Ukraine. Military analysts note that the number under discussion – just 50 missiles – would barely dent Russia’s vast energy infrastructure. Further, the missiles are wildly expensive to produce.

To make any significant difference in the outcome of the war and have any chance to overcome Russia’s advantage in mobilization and war industry over Ukraine – the U.S. would have to send thousands of Tomahawk missiles. And even that could be futile.

The U.S. would likely exhaust its entire arsenal of an estimated 4,000 missiles without seeing real deterioration in Russia’s military capabilities.

The real motive: profit

So why the push for Tomahawks? It’s not strategy – it’s profit.

The U.S. and European arms industries have made record gains from the war in Ukraine. Each new shipment guarantees new government contracts to replace what’s sent. When Washington ships 50 Tomahawks abroad, it must order 50 more – using state funds diverted from social needs to corporate profit.

That’s how the system works. The government transfers the public wealth to the monopolies of war. Every missile fired means another

payday for Raytheon, Northrop Grumman, and General Dynamics.

Even with the limitations of the Tomahawk missile and the motivation having more to do with profit than with the actual prosecution of a war, the shipment of such missiles to Ukraine for strikes deep in Russia would still represent a dangerous escalation.

Such missiles would allow Ukraine to strike major Russian cities like Moscow and St. Petersburg. There is no other way for Russia to interpret U.S.-supplied Tomahawks to Ukraine than as a signal of escalation from NATO.

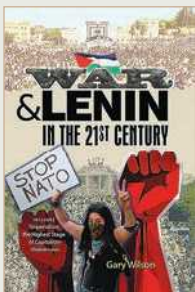
For now, Donald Trump has seemingly decided that he isn’t prepared to publicly provide Ukraine with the capability to strike deep in Russian territory via Tomahawks. But in the same stroke as publicly declining to send Tomahawks, Trump’s State Department lifted key restrictions on Ukraine’s use of missiles provided by European allies.

Even with Trump’s bluster, the escalation is apparent, dangerous, and terrifying.

Trump’s administration lifted these restrictions a day after Ukraine used a British-supplied Storm Shadow missile to strike a Russian chemical plant in Bryansk, deep behind the front lines. The message here seems clear: “Keep it up, but get what you need from Europe.”

This has been Trump’s strategy since he took office. The right-wing demagogue claims to be a peacemaker while pushing the war through European allies and enacting new sanctions against Russia.

The world doesn’t need another “peacemaker” who feeds the war machine. The working class of the United States – and everywhere – needs those vast public resources now wasted on war redirected to human needs: housing, healthcare, education, and rebuilding communities, not destroying them. #



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.

Available in paperback or kindle at tinyurl.com/LeninAndWar



Return of 'Big Stick' Latin America under the gun

Continued from page 1

driven by economic motives rather than genuine counter-narcotics efforts.

Petro has condemned the U.S. missile strikes on vessels in the Caribbean and Pacific as “acts of tyranny” and “extrajudicial executions.” He charged that U.S. forces violated Colombia’s sovereignty, describing the attacks as “murders” carried out in territorial waters.

The Colombian leader highlighted the case of Alejandro Carranza, a Colombian fisherman allegedly killed when his small vessel suffered engine failure and raised a distress signal.

“They committed a murder and violated our sovereignty in territorial waters,” Petro said, stressing that the victims were not drug traffickers but “poor young people from Latin America.” He confirmed that at least one Colombian vessel was struck and that Colombian citizens were killed in the attacks.

Cuba is also a target in Washington’s expanding war drive.

Havana’s Foreign Ministry denounced the U.S. military buildup in the Caribbean as “an aggressive show of force” that threatens peace and stability across the region. Cuban officials warned that U.S. maneuvers near the island represent “a real and imminent danger,” aimed at intimidation and destabilization.

Venezuela’s history as a battleground of empire

Venezuela’s long history shows how U.S. imperialism evolved from Teddy Roosevelt’s “big stick” diplomacy to today’s mix of sanctions, economic strangulation, and ‘big stick’ warfare. Oil made Venezuela a prize for foreign capital a century ago; it still makes the country a strategic battleground between imperialist control and national sovereignty. The Bolivarian Revolution, led by Hugo Chávez, tried to break that pattern – and Washington has treated that challenge as an existential threat.

The oil-looting era

In the early 20th century, U.S. oil barons – anchored to Rockefeller’s Standard Oil – carved out vast concessions from the colonial puppet regime that ruled Venezuela on behalf of Wall Street. By the 1920s, companies like Standard Oil of New Jersey (later Exxon) and Royal Dutch Shell dominated production. The profits flowed north; Venezuelan workers remained poor under repressive regimes that enforced foreign concessions.

By mid-century, oil accounted for over 90% of Venezuela’s exports, but ownership, technology and pricing power stayed in foreign hands. The state’s courts, ports and pipelines served Wall Street; infrastructure and social



Supporters of President Nicolás Maduro during a rally in Caracas, Venezuela.

of sovereignty – and Washington’s determination to push back.

Sanctions and war

investment lagged, producing sharp inequality and long dependence on external markets.

The 1976 nationalization and the creation of PDVSA altered ownership on paper, but Big Oil’s control remained deep. Technical links, commercial contracts, and international financing meant that de facto control – and much of the profit – remained tied to U.S. and European oil giants.

Big stick imperialism

Teddy Roosevelt turned the Monroe Doctrine into a license for U.S. policing across the Americas – asserting the right to intervene whenever Washington judged instability a “threat.”

Roosevelt’s gunboat diplomacy forced Venezuela to satisfy European creditors and put U.S. naval power at the center of Washington’s imperialist domination of the Americas.

The pattern never changed: U.S. coups and invasions – in Guatemala, Chile, Grenada, and Panama – were sold as defending “democracy” but served Wall Street and the Pentagon.

The Bolivarian Revolution

Elected in 1998, Hugo Chávez launched the Bolivarian Revolution to reclaim national control over oil and redirect its revenue toward social programs. His government expanded free health care, education and food programs, cut poverty, and deepened Latin American solidarity through ALBA and Petrocaribe.

Oil revenues funded mass literacy drives, subsidized food distribution, new housing and broadened health care – material gains that changed millions of lives and built grassroots organizations that anchored the revolution.

A U.S.-backed coup briefly removed Chávez in 2002; mass popular mobilization returned him to power within 48 hours. That moment crystallized Venezuela’s turn toward a politics

After Chávez’s death in 2013, the U.S. escalated economic pressure. Sanctions aimed at oil, banking and trade were tightened under successive administrations and intensified under Trump. These measures froze assets, choked imports of medicine and spare parts, and restricted Venezuela’s access to global finance – turning sanctions into a tool of collective punishment.

Trump said recently, “When I left [after his first term], Venezuela was ready to collapse. We would have taken all the oil.”

Beyond sanctions, Washington has funded opposition groups, backed parallel leadership claims, and deployed disinformation campaigns in an attempt to erode the Bolivarian Revolution.

Despite interference, Venezuelans have repeatedly defended their institutions at the polls. International delegations and regional observers have documented consistent mass participation and contested the phony U.S. claim that Venezuelan democracy lacks popular support.

Sovereignty and resistance

Millions remain mobilized – in communal councils, unions and militia structures – defending the Bolivarian Revolution in the streets and at the ballot box.

Venezuelans have shown repeatedly they will resist recolonization – by voting, organizing and arming for self-defense when necessary.

Across Latin America, Africa and Asia, states and movements have condemned U.S. sanctions and military threats. Venezuela, Colombia and Cuba’s struggles have become a symbol for the Global South’s resistance to imperialist domination.

The U.S. cannot recolonize Venezuela, only destroy it. The Venezuelan people will fight back, and the world will support them. #

Building a people's media: The antidote to imperialist disinformation

By Lev Koufax

On the second full day of the third annual International Meeting of Theoretical Publications of Left-wing Parties and Movements (Encuentro Internacional de Publicaciones Teóricas de Partidos y Movimientos de Izquierda) in Havana, the participants from over 40 countries broke into various political education workshops at the Nico Lopez University of the Communist Party of Cuba.

This session featured Dr. Rosa Miriam Elizalde facilitating and Miguel Angel Perez Pirela as the featured speaker. Miriam Elizalde is a Cuban journalist and editor with a doctorate in communications who teaches at the University of Havana. Perez Pirela is a Venezuelan philosopher and writer. He is also the coordinator of the Network in Defense of Humanity, an alliance of progressive writers, thinkers, artists, and social movements.

Perez Pirela opened the discussion with a framing of the current struggle between the Global South and the increasingly aggressive imperialist powers like the United States and Britain. There is no doubt Venezuela and Cuba face difficult times. Venezuela faces potential U.S. military action against its coast under the pretext of “narco-terrorism” and Cuba faces an increasingly tightening economic blockade.

The leading PSUV philosopher analyzed that literal, political, and economic battlefields are not the only places where this struggle is being fought. Information warfare through social media has become a crucial tool for the imperialist narrative. Algorithms for social media magnates like Meta, Twitter, and TikTok are used to disseminate right wing-propaganda and push false narratives about the enemies of the U.S.

Perez Pirela analyzed that the key to information warfare isn't actually a battle of ideas, but a battle to gain attention in the first place. All western social media algorithms are designed so the imperialists can win this battle. According to Perez Pirela, Donald Trump is establishing a dictatorship of attention through social media and news media. All of Trump's bombast and sound bites transfer well to social media formats that promote short, snappy videos. Further, Trump has used military action against boats off the Venezuelan coast in recent weeks effectively in promoting his information war.

Drone strikes on innocent fisher people and migrants is not just about the literal military action but about communicating to the



At an international meeting in Havana, Cuba, Venezuelan philosopher Miguel Angel Perez Pirela (left) speaks about building a people's media to fight Washington's disinformation campaigns conducted on behalf of the rich. On the right is Cuban journalist and academic Dr. Rosa Miriam Elizalde, who facilitated this discussion.

SLL photos: Lev Koufax

world how far the U.S. is willing to go. This is a form of communication meant to sow fear and dissuade resistance. Perez Pirela insists that destruction left in the wake of the U.S. military campaign in the Caribbean is not the end itself but a means to an end. Short social media clips of exploding ships draw tremendous amounts of attention, allowing Trump to shape his false narco-terrorist narrative.

Military strikes against Venezuela pose severe difficulties for the U.S. both in terms of logistics and public opinion. The U.S. public is exhausted of war and unlikely to support another pretext for invasion similar to the false accusations of “weapons of mass destruction” in Iraq. If the imperialists can't win through outright force, they push lies and sensationalism through social media in the hopes of fostering regime change.

Due to this mounting aggression, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has had to embrace all forms of resistance. Not only has President Maduro and the PSUV mobilized the people in preparation for imperialist aggression, but the Venezuelan government has also promoted images and videos of this mass mobilization widely on social media. These images have even penetrated some corporate media like the New York Times and BBC. This is also a form of communication, making the imperialists aware that any incursion or bombing campaign will be met with the fiercest resistance of the Venezuelan people.

Due to Venezuela's clear message of resistance, Donald Trump and his cohorts were forced to find validity in a formerly irrelevant fascist Venezuelan opposition leader, Marina Machado. In Venezuela itself, Machado is viewed as a joke. She has no basis in the popular masses who openly supports U.S. intervention in Latin America while also being a cheerleader for the genocide in Gaza.

Machado's Nobel prize has backfired severely. The people of Venezuela are more resolved than ever that the U.S. does not have their best interests at heart – quite the opposite. If they genuinely cared about the Venezuelan people, the imperialists would not push a figure who would almost certainly open the country to imperialist pillaging and exploitation.

The PSUV philosopher outlined how the rest of the world has also seen through Machado's peace prize. Social Media algorithms that constantly push Machado's former statements and activities were meant to endear Venezuela and people around the world to the opposition. Because of her fascist ideology, the opposite has occurred. The Nobel Peace Prize has lost all validity and to some extent exposed Trump's pretext for intervention against Venezuela.

About halfway through the presentation, the facilitator and speaker paused for questions. A Struggle - La Lucha reporter, Lev Koufax, asked Perez Pirela to analyze how the information has evolved since the last serious regime change attempt in Venezuela in 2019. The Venezuelan analyzed the history and current situation in depth.

In 2019, right-wing Venezuelan opposition, with the backing of the U.S., attempted to supplant Nicholas Maduro and the PSUV with Juan Guaido. There is no doubt that Guaido was a U.S. puppet who would sell out his people for the interests of corporate America. In 2019, the media narrative was pushed to create a parallel government to the legitimate administration of Nicholas Maduro. At that time, social media began circulating content presenting Guaido's coup plotters as newly appointed government officials. This culminated in a fascist assault on the Venezuelan

Continued on page 16

Despite ceasefire, U.S.-backed Israeli forces keep murdering in Lebanon

By Lev Koufax

Another U.S.-enforced “ceasefire” is turning out to be the opposite in southern Lebanon. Roughly a year ago, then-President Joe Biden announced a “cessation of hostilities” between Hezbollah and “Israeli” forces. In his announcement, Biden promised that Hezbollah infrastructure would be completely destroyed and would remain destroyed.

Since that announcement, Zionist military forces have launched over 500 airstrikes against southern Lebanon, claiming to be targeting Hezbollah military infrastructure. This number does not include the dozens of Israeli ground incursions into Lebanon.

Many of these attacks have struck civilian targets – government buildings, farms, schools, and private homes. Hundreds of people, including many children, have been killed. The reality is clear: U.S.-negotiated “ceasefires” are not ceasefires at all. “Israel” continues to bomb Gaza, Lebanon, or Yemen whenever it pleases, acting on behalf of the same imperialist power that pretends to enforce the peace.

Just days ago, “Israeli” troops, armored vehicles, and drones entered the town of Blida. The fascist troops proceeded to raid the town’s city hall and murder a sleeping municipal employee, Ibrahim Salameh.

Even the current Lebanese President and Prime Minister, who have historically been hesitant to resist Israel or the United States, denounced the terrible attack. President Jo-



seph Aoun went as far as to instruct the Lebanese military to confront any further “Israeli” incursion into southern Lebanon.

Donald Trump and Joe Biden may seem to disagree on many things, but one thing they don’t disagree on is the full prosecution of imperialist war against any who would dare resist. Hezbollah is one of such groups that would dare to resist.

Trump’s administration, through his special envoy to Syria, Tom Barrack, has placed immense pressure on the Lebanese government and military to completely disarm Hezbollah by the end of 2025. Just recently, the

U.S. approved \$230 million in military assistance to Lebanon with the specific purpose of fighting Hezbollah.

U.S. imperialism truly has no shame. The Trump administration talks about and demands disarmament while directing its attack dog, known as “Israel,” to continue to smash southern Lebanon.

Working-class people and progressive movements around the world must continue to stand with the people of Lebanon, with Hezbollah, and with the broader resistance against U.S. imperialist aggression in West Asia.

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

A people’s media: Antidote to imperialist disinformation

Continued from page 15

embassy in Washington, D.C. Ultimately, this attempt failed.

So, what has changed? Perez Pirela says that now, the U.S. isn’t just trying to create a parallel Venezuelan government, but a parallel Venezuela. Under this narrative, the only “real” Venezuelans are the right wingers and ex-pats who live in the United States. The idea is to erase the genuine culture and people of Venezuela as to dehumanize the country and make easier justification for intervention. If the people who actually live in Venezuela are universally viewed as drones and monsters, the U.S. may have an easier time convincing the world to follow along their path of aggression.

Rounding into the last part of his lecture, Perez Pirela posed a question: Is all lost? His

answer was absolutely not! It’s true that the imperialists have the edge because they created and control the largest social media platforms. Venezuela doesn’t even have control over the satellites that make social media available in their country. The U.S. completely tramples on Venezuela’s digital and information sovereignty. However, Perez Pirela insists the Global South and all the working class can punch through their advantage using the ingenuity of people in countries like Cuba and Venezuela.

PSUV activists and the government of Venezuela are seriously studying social media algorithms to develop messaging, methods, and aesthetics that punch through slanted algorithms. Breaking through these algorithms allows progressive forces to redirect attention to socialist and anti-imperialist media and away

from imperialist propaganda. Silicon Valley, Musk, and Zuckerberg are not going to do the work of the Global South and the broader anti-imperialist movement. Those who would challenge U.S. hegemony must innovate to use Western social media to direct attention to other forms of media.

Perez Pirela continued that audio visual political content and high quality aesthetics have been very useful in breaking through U.S. propaganda in Venezuela itself. The goal now is to broaden that effort and connect with other progressive forces across the world. Perez Pirela finished his talk with a simple message: While the imperialists have more resources and control much of the digital world, what they don’t have are the people of Venezuela and Cuba. The session ended with thunderous applause. #

Two victories for Cuba, for life

By Elson Concepcion Perez

Hurricane Melissa has left a trail of devastation through the Antilles, with over 30 deaths in Haiti and Jamaica to date. The Eastern part of Cuba was also slammed by Melissa, the strongest hurricane to hit in the last 150 years. As of now, no lives have been lost in Cuba, thanks to its national unity and preparedness, which enabled it to evacuate over 700,000 people and their belongings out of harm's way before the storm arrived. – editorial

Oct. 30 – “Our triumph is life itself, that the population of the eastern provinces was able to protect itself from the blow of Melissa, and it is also the life of the entire nation defended without fear in the face of a deceitful and cynical empire,” said Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, President of the National Defense Council, at the meeting of this body broadcast on the television program Mesa Redonda.

“These days have been very challenging, very tense, but also very instructive and very illustrative of the power of unity and the mobilizing and unifying capacity of our Party at the forefront of the Revolution.”

“The danger has not yet passed. The strong winds and heavy rains left behind by the hurricane, the overflowing rivers, the fallen trees and poles, the pollution generated in these circumstances... all of this can lead to further damage, disease, and even the loss of human lives and material goods that were preserved at the worst of times. We could lose them if there is negligence, if there is inaccuracy.”

“Now it is important to carry out the survey that has been directed of all the damage; to clean up and control the epidemiological situation; to restore energy, communications, and drinking water services; to ensure a responsible and orderly return of evacuees to their



Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel, inspecting the damage from Hurricane Melissa.

places of residence when directed; to immediately resume health and education services at all levels; to guarantee food production and distribution; save whatever can be saved from the sugar and coffee harvests (...); restore services to the population and begin the rescue of damaged infrastructure, especially housing.”

“Today we are all Fidel and Raúl. Today we are all the Party of unity defending life. Our greatest recognition at a time like this goes to those in the eastern provinces who faced Melissa and those at the United Nations who faced the empire.

“Winning these battles is only the obligation to continue winning those that are yet to come.”

Another no! From the world to the blockade

Cuba was once again supported by the overwhelming majority of the countries that make up the United Nations, 165 of which voted on

Wednesday to lift the economic, commercial, and financial blockade imposed by the United States government against the archipelago.

However, it was not just another victory on the same terms as in previous years, because, as never before, the White House instructed the deployment of a campaign of discrediting, pressure, and direct blackmail against several governments in exchange for an adverse vote or abstention, in the futile aspiration to deny the genocidal nature of that core of economic warfare that is the blockade.

Nevertheless, the resistance of the Cuban people has also been unprecedented, and it is to them that the triumph of reason belongs, which imposed the favorable vote of 165 countries against seven and 12 abstentions: a Pyrrhic result of the dirty diplomatic maneuvering that characterizes the Washington leadership, in collusion with its usual allies and cronies of the moment.

In the vote count, of course, the United States and Israel, at the head of a lineup bought or forced to demand that the longest policy of economic suffocation against any nation continue to be tried against Cuba. But no one is surprised that the same people who finance and fire the missiles that exterminated 70,000 Palestinians in Gaza are the leading promoters of this other genocide by attrition to kill through hunger, disease, and deprivation.

It is an overwhelming figure that certifies another colossal defeat for imperialist arrogance and exposes the ridicule of that great power that sought to legitimize the crime of the blockade of the largest island of the Antilles in the UN, using its best tools: intimidation and political extortion.

Source: Granma, translation Resumen Latinoamericano – English

Once again, an overwhelming U.N. vote against U.S. Blockade of Cuba

A/80/L.6. - Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba											
AFGHANISTAN	ALBANIA	ALGERIA	ANDORRA	ANGOLA	ANTIGUA-BA...	ARGENTINA	ARMENIA	AUSTRALIA	AUSTRIA	AZERBAIJAN	BAHAMAS
BAHRAIN	BANGLADESH	BARBADOS	BELARUS	BELGIUM	BELIZE	BENIN	BHUTAN	BOLIVIA	BOSNIA-HER...	BOTSWANA	BRAZIL
BRUNEI DAR...	BULGARIA	BURKINA FASO	BURUNDI	CABO VERDE	CAMBODIA	CAMEROON	CANADA	CENTRAL AF...	CHAD	CHILE	CHINA
COLOMBIA	COMOROS	CONGO	COSTA RICA	COTE D'IVOIRE	CROATIA	CUBA	CYPRUS	CZECHIA	DEM PR OF K...	DEM REP OF ...	DENMARK
DJIBOUTI	DOMINICA	DOMINICAN ...	ECUADOR	EGYPT	EL SALVADOR	EQUATORIAL...	ERITREA	ESTONIA	ESWATINI	ETHIOPIA	FIJI
KIRIBATI	KAZAKHSTAN	KENYA	KUWAIT	KYRGYZSTAN	LAO PDR	LEBANON	LESOTHO	LIBERIA	LIBYA	LIECHTENSTEIN	LITHUANIA
LUXEMBOURG	MADAGASCAR	MAI...	MAURITANIA	MAURITIUS	MEXICO	MICRONESIA...	MONACO	MONGOLIA	MONTENEGRO	MOROCCO	MOZAMBIQUE
MYANMAR	NAMIBIA	NAURU	NEPAL	NETHERLAN...	NEW ZEALAND	NICARAGUA	NIGER	NIGERIA	NORTH MAC...	NORWAY	OMAN
PAKISTAN	PALAU	PANAMA	PAPUA NEW ...	PARAGUAY	PERU	PHILIPPINES	POLAND	PORTUGAL	QATAR	REP OF KOREA	REP OF MOL...
ROMANIA	RUSSIAN FED...	RWANDA	SAINT KITTS...	SAINT LUCIA	SAINT VINCE...	SAMOA	SAN MARINO	SAO TOME-P...	SAUDI ARABIA	SENEGAL	SERBIA
SEYCHELLES	SIERRA LEONE	SINGAPORE	SLOVAKIA	SLOVENIA	SOLOMON IS...	SOMALIA	SOUTH AFRICA	SOUTH SUDAN	SPAIN	SRI LANKA	SUDAN
SURINAME	SWEDEN	SWITZERLAND	SYRIAN ARA...	TAJIKISTAN	THAILAND	TIMOR-LESTE	TONGA	TRINIDAD-TO...	TUNISIA	TURKIYE	TURKMENIST...
TUVALU	UGANDA	UKRAINE	UNITED ARA...	UNITED KING...	UNITED REP T...	UNITED STAT...	URUGUAY	UZBEKISTAN	VANUATU	VENEZUELA	VIET NAM
YEMEN	ZAMBIA	ZIMBABWE									
IN FAVOUR: 165				AGAINST: 7				ABSTENTION: 12			

'People's knowledge is people's power': Havana conference takes on imperialist propaganda

Encuentro Internacional de Publicaciones
Teóricas de Partidos y Movimientos de Izquierda

By Lev Koufax

Nico Lopez was born on Oct. 2, 1932, in Havana, Cuba. Just over 24 years later, the Batista regime murdered Lopez and four of his comrades after they landed in Cuba along with the rest of the Granma's crew. Lopez gave his life for Cuban socialism and the liberation of the Cuban people from U.S. proxy rule.

Thus, it is fitting that the third annual International Meeting of Theoretical Publications of Left-wing Parties and Movements (Encuentro Internacional de Publicaciones Teóricas de Partidos y Movimientos de Izquierda) opened in the theater of the Nico Lopez University of the Communist Party of Cuba. The conference's goal is to continue building political communication and solidarity among the world's progressive movements in Cuba, as the country and the world navigate a new era of imperialist aggression.

Hundreds of progressives and left-wing activists piled into the auditorium.

A panel on geopolitical relations and international analysis of global tensions and their impact on the left movement opened the conference. The panel consisted of four contributors:

1. **Anil Cinar**, member of the Communist Party of Turkey and manager of the Party's magazine, *Gelenek*;
2. **Chen Yiming**, the Director General of the Chinese Communist Party's Bureau of Latin America and the Caribbean publication of the *People's Daily*;
3. **David Gomez Rodriguez**, the Vice President of Formation and Ideology for the United Socialist Party of Venezuela, and
4. **Jorge Hernandez**, Director of the Center for Hemispheric and U.S. Studies at the University of Havana.

The discussion was moderated by Elier Ramirez Canedo, a member of the Cuban Communist Party's central committee.

All four speakers analyzed the problems facing the global working-class movement in the face of imperialist aggression from their own unique perspectives.

Anil Cinar opened the panel with a speech about the imperialist strategy to sow lawlessness across the planet. The imperialist United



From left: Elier Ramirez Canedo, Anil Cinar, Chen Yiming, David Gomez Rodriguez, and Jorge Hernandez.

States creates this chaos through sanctions, covert operations, and war. Cinar asserted that this strategy can be seen through not just the horrific genocide in Palestine, but in the continuing campaigns against Venezuela, Cuba, Yemen, and Iran.

The speaker insisted that all these struggles are not just fights for national independence but also fronts in a growing global class struggle. Cinar concluded his talk by touting Cuba's insistence on socialism as an example for the world. He asserted that the struggle in Turkey will continue until a new system rises that refuses to play facilitator for Western capital. He called upon the audience to push the socialist struggle around the world in unity to defeat imperialism.

Director General Chen Yiming spoke next. He said the world is under strain, but the Global South is gaining economic power. China, he affirmed, is part of the Global South and committed to unity among its nations – including Cuba, Russia, Venezuela, and Vietnam. Chen emphasized that Cuba and China have built socialism together through economic, political, and cultural cooperation. He announced plans to expand trade with Cuba and to distribute Cuba's socialist newspaper, *Granma*, more widely in China.

Next, **Dr. David Gomez Rodriguez** took the stage to loud applause. The crowd's response reflected both the imperialist aggression against Venezuela and the resistance of its people, led by President Nicolás Maduro.

Rodriguez declared that Che and Fidel live on – in Cuba and in the global struggle against imperialism. He hailed the shared achievements of Venezuela and Cuba in eradicating illiteracy and defeating U.S.-backed coups.

But he warned that unity between nations like Venezuela and Cuba is now more vital than ever. A bloody struggle is coming, he said – a fight against the rise of fascism to ensure the working class of the planet not only survives but builds a new socialist world.

Rodriguez cited Russia's war against NATO-backed Ukraine and the Axis of Resistance's refusal to bend to U.S. pressure in West Asia as examples of that global resistance. He ended with a call to action:

Only the unity of socialist states and anti-imperialist movements can secure the working class's victory over imperialism.

Professor Jorge Hernandez was the final speaker. His message was direct: Today's wars do not exist in isolation.

He analyzed the war in Ukraine and the genocide in Palestine as U.S. proxy wars – bent on smashing resistance and increasing profits. He urged every left-wing publication present to keep exposing the truth. Progressive newspapers, websites, books, social media, and magazines all play a role in breaking down the myths of imperialism. Simply put, people's knowledge is people's power.

Hernandez closed his talk acknowledging that while the process of fighting the empire is unfinished, it is by no means impossible. Quoting the founder of Bolivarian Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, he ended: "Community or nothing."

Through these four speakers, the defiance of the Global South against imperialism was unmistakable. The conference closed with a firm anti-imperialist direction that will shape the debates and resolutions ahead. As long as leaders like these continue the struggle, hope for working-class victory over exploitation, racism, and genocide remains alive and strong. #

DÍAZ-CANEL:

'To publish is to resist' in fight against imperialism

By Lizbeth Antonio

Havana, Oct. 19 – Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez addressed the Third International Meeting of Theoretical Publications of Left-wing Parties and Movements (Encuentro Internacional de Publicaciones Teóricas de Partidos y Movimientos de Izquierda) with a call to confront the global resurgence of fascism and imperialism.

His presence at the conference was a testament to the importance of left publications and movements that tell the truth and dismantle imperialist manipulation. He motivated everyone in the room by reminding them that publishing from the left is an act of resistance in these times.

"To think is to fight, to publish is to resist, and to communicate is to liberate," he told

participants. "We must all be committed to this battle."

The gathering brought together writers, scholars, and activists from across the world.

Speakers discussed urgent global crises – the genocide in Palestine, U.S. aggression against Venezuela, and the ongoing blockade of Cuba.

Díaz-Canel urged participants to build a coordinated network of socialist and anti-imperialist publications that promote critical thinking and tell the truth about the dangers of imperialism.

Truth-telling and ideological unity will be the left's tool against the imperialism we face today. The conference gave participants an opportunity to build relationships



Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel speaking at the Third International Meeting of Theoretical Publications of Left-wing Parties and Movements.

and create unity in order to go back to our respective corners of the world and continue our fight for liberation. #

Anti-union campaign in Puerto Rico

By Berta Joubert-Ceci

The intensification of the neoliberal and colonial model manifests itself in Puerto Rico in many ways, in collusion with political figures and the press subordinate to those interests.

This week we have seen the proliferation of terrible lies and defamation against the Puerto Rican working class in the media, especially in the energy industry. These workers served our people for years, often risking their lives to bring light to even the most remote corners of our archipelago. Many lost their lives in the attempt.

But now, with the privatization of energy, those same workers have been displaced from their jobs, replaced by foreigners who are unfamiliar with our territory of mountains and bodies of water that are difficult to access. Worse still are the corrupt and mafia-like privatization companies that generate and distribute energy: the foreign company Genera, whose parent company is New Fortress, which, incidentally, is bankrupt, and the incompetent Luma Energy for transmission and distribution.

Privatization was justified on the grounds that it would lower costs. However, since they began, there have been continuous increases.

The last straw was that years ago, the government stopped paying its mandatory share of the pensions of the workers of the former public Electric Power Authority, now privat-



Ricardo Santos Ramos

ized. So, with the pension payment fund decapitalized, the privatizer, with the government's endorsement, has imposed a surcharge on the bill for the payment of pensions, further increasing electricity payments.

The Utier union has submitted proposals to finance pensions, but the government has ignored them. It preferred to mount a hate campaign against workers using the television and radio media that have lent themselves to this, trying to divide the people so that they blame the workers and not the corrupt government.

But this week, one of those programs that invited Ricardo Santos Ramos, former president of the UTIER union, received a surprise when he courageously told the truth about corruption and the media's collusion in demonizing workers. He gave a master class on what to do with these media outlets. It was an act of dignity to which the program's host had no honest way to respond, exposing the complicity of the media.

Long live the Puerto Rican working class! Privatization has failed! Cancel the contracts now!

Translated with DeepL.com (free version)

Responden organizaciones independentistas Boricuas al proceso de represión

Continúa de página 20

rida tanto por los medios como por las organizaciones. Como conferencia mediática fue un éxito. Pero más importante que eso, fue una manifestación de mucha solidaridad entre todo el movimiento independentista que acudió. Y a mi juicio, eso tuvo más valor para nuestra lucha. Porque cuando el fascismo azuza los vientos de división y protagonismo, que intentan menoscabar la lucha emancipatoria, lo que prevaleció en ese espacio fue pura hermandad.

Porque les debemos un gran agradecimiento a esas y esos jóvenes que lideran y militan en esas organizaciones. Que no se han ido como tantos y tantas a buscar "una vida mejor" en el extranjero, sino que se han quedado en este archipiélago donde la vida es cada vez más difícil. Que luchan cada día a pesar de las amenazas, de los arrestos y del riesgo a sus propias vidas.

**¡Viva la juventud que lucha!
¡Viva Puerto Rico Libre!**

Desde Puerto Rico, nos dirigimos a la Comunidad Internacional por medio de Radio Clarín de Colombia. Les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci



Campaña antisindical en PR

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

La intensificación del modelo neoliberal y colonial se manifiesta en Puerto Rico de muchas formas, en contubernio con figuras políticas y de la prensa subordinada a esos intereses.

Esta semana hemos visto en los medios la proliferación de terribles mentiras y difamaciones en contra de la clase trabajadora boricua, especialmente de la industria energética. Esos trabajadores que por años sirvieron a nuestro pueblo, en muchas ocasiones arriesgando sus vidas para brindarle al pueblo luz hasta en los rincones más recónditos de nuestro archipiélago. Muchos perdieron sus vidas en ese intento.

Pero ahora con la privatización de la energía, esos mismos trabajadores han sido desplazados de sus puestos, sustituidos por extranjeros que no conocen nuestro territorio de montañas y cuerpos de agua difíciles de acceder. Pero lo peor, son las compañías privatizadoras corruptas y mafiosas que generan la energía y la distribuyen: las extranjeras Genera cuya matriz es New Fortress, que por cierto está en bancarota, y la incompetente Luma Energy para la transmisión y distribución.



Ricardo Santos Ramos

Se privatizó con la excusa de que abarataría el costo. Sin embargo desde que comenzaron, los aumentos han sido continuos.

El colmo ha sido que el gobierno hace ya años, dejó de pagar su parte obligada a las pensiones de los trabajadores de la que fuera Autoridad de Energía Eléctrica pública, ahora privatizada. Así que al descapitalizarse el fondo de pagos de pensiones, la privatizadora, con

el aval del gobierno, ha impuesto un recargo a la factura para el pago de las pensiones, aumentando aún más los pagos de luz.

El sindicato Utier ha sometido propuestas para financiar las pensiones, pero el gobierno las ha ignorado. Prefirió montar una campaña de odio hacia los trabajadores utilizando los medios televisivos y radiales que se han prestado, intentando dividir al pueblo para que culpen a los trabajadores y no al gobierno corrupto.

Pero esta semana, uno de esos programas que invitó a Ricardo Santos Ramos, representante del sindicato UTIER recibió una sorpresa cuando éste valientemente le contó las verdades sobre la corrupción y el contubernio de los medios al satanizar a los trabajadores. Dio cátedra de lo que hay que hacer con estos medios. Fue un acto de dignidad al cual el presentador del programa no tuvo forma honesta de contestar, quedando en evidencia la complicidad de los medios.

¡Viva la clase trabajadora boricua!

¡La privatización fracasó!

¡Cancen los contratos Ya!

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



Responden organizaciones independentistas Boricuas al proceso de represión

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Las consecuencias nefastas de las políticas del imperio, para nuestra lucha por la independencia no son algo nuevo. De hecho, ningún imperio libremente acepta las luchas emancipatorias de sus subyugados. Y aquí ya hemos pasado por varias etapas: Desde cuando se nos prohibió exhibir nuestra bandera con la Ley de la Moraza y no podíamos expresar oposición al régimen invasor estadounidense, hasta cuando se nos comenzó a perseguir, fichar y abrir records, proceso conocido como el Carpeteo, que hizo perder empleos, exilar y hasta asesinar personas sospechosas de ser independentistas.

Así que ahora cuando el Trumpismo irrumpe con amenazas de terminar con el supuesto terrorismo interno en los Estados Unidos, esas mismas amenazas se extienden a Puerto Rico, donde la actual gobernadora Jeniffer González, es una ciega seguidora.



Hace par de semanas, muchas organizaciones acudimos al llamado del grupo Jornada se Acabaron las Promesas para esbozar estrategias a seguir ante el avance de la persecución política en este contexto actual de fascismo promovido por la Casa Blanca. Como resultado, se escrib-

ió un documento avalado por todas y todos los asistentes que sirvió para llamar a una rueda de prensa días después.

El principio de la Declaración pública en repudio y denuncia a represión política en Puerto Rico lee así: "De acuerdo con un informe periodístico publicado en The Latino Newsletter, el Buró Federal de Investigaciones (FBI) y la Policía de Puerto Rico se habrían reunido desde de 2018 hasta el presente para discutir posibles amenazas de 'terrorismo interno,' señalando como tales a las agrupaciones Jornada se Acabaron las Promesas y a la Colectiva Feminista en Acción."

La Rueda de prensa estuvo muy concur-

Continúa a página 19

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

Vol. 8, No. 20

Nov. 3, 2025

Vol. 8, Núm. 20

3 de noviembre 2025