

Carta : Cesar Chavez y el patriarcado que domina la sociedad capitalista de los Estados Unidos

▶ Ocho millones de personas se manifiestan en 'No Kings 3' mientras la política antibélica surge desde la base



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How do we get from 'No Kings Day' to no billionaires?

By Stephen Millies

Eight million people demonstrated across the United States on March 28, against Trump in the third "No Kings Day." There were protests in 3,300 communities in all 50 states and Washington, D.C.

Some were huge, like in New York City, where as many as 200,000 protested (and more than 300,000 marched for Minneapolis earlier this year). Tens of thousands also turned out in Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Philadelphia's march stretched a mile.

These millions represent the vast majority of the working class that hates Trump and opposes Big Oil's war against Iran. Many sympathize with the Palestinians.

Outrage against the ICE kidnapers helped fill the streets. That was certainly the case in Minneapolis, where Renée Good and Alex Pretti



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New York City "No King" demonstration, March 28.

SLL photo: Stephen Millies

Supreme Court & conversion therapy

The revolutionary Bob McCubbin

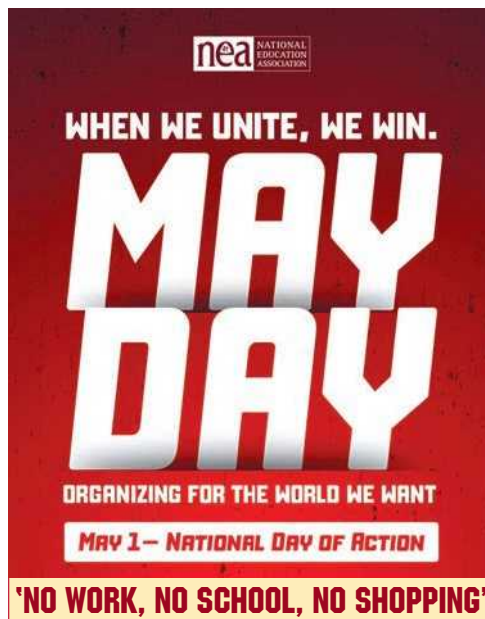
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Eight million march in No Kings 3 as antiwar politics surge from below

By Gary Wilson

The organizers built the stage. The crowds brought the politics.

More than 8 million people filled the streets in over 3,000 cities and towns across the country on March 28 in the third round of “No Kings” protests — the biggest mobilization yet against the Trump administration and, by organizer count, the largest single-day protest in U.S. history.

The figures come from the 50501 Movement, the online organization that co-founded the No Kings campaign alongside Indivisible and Move-On. Crowds surged in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Atlanta and Dallas.

“No Kings” was designed to contain the movement within Democratic Party politics and channel growing anger into the 2026 elections. But the crowds pushed past that framework.

Anti-war signs and chants were visible at nearly every protest, even as the official organizers downplayed or ignored the U.S. war on Iran in their public messaging. The official No Kings website listed grievances ranging from health care to corruption to billionaires, but did not name the Iran war. Organizers in multiple cities kept it off the program, and at rallies where speakers were vetted, antiwar voices were blocked. That was not an oversight. It reflected the leadership’s political dependence on a Democratic Party that refuses to break with the Iran war.

But the crowds did not follow that script. “No ICE, No Wars” was the most common chant of the day. The Iran war was on the signs, in the streets, and on the lips of millions of people whose opposition the official program had no room for.

That is the main contradiction in the movement right now. The infrastructure is tied to



Photo: Bill Hackwell

San Francisco protester makes the connection on March 28: U.S. hands off Cuba.

the Democratic Party, while the politics developing in the streets are moving beyond it. Indivisible and allied groups tried to channel enormous anger into voter registration drives and messaging for the 2026 midterms. Democratic officials at rallies offered no explanation of the deeper system behind the crisis and no path forward beyond the usual electoral routine. Meanwhile, Palestine solidarity contingents turned out by the thousands, from Seattle to New York.

The anti-war, pro-Palestine politics visible across the country on March 28 were not organized from the podium. They came from below — and they ran directly against the institutional commitments of the people who built the stage.

The Iran war was the foreign policy issue the crowds brought to March 28 over the objections of the organizers. But it is not the only front the Trump administration is fighting on.

Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and First Combatant Cilia Flores remain in U.S. custody, held in orange jumpsuits in a New York detention center after being seized in a military operation in January that killed over 150 people. The Trump administration is blocking Venezuelan funds to pay for their legal defense.

In Cuba, the blockade is tightening — daily power outages, fuel shortages and an armed infiltration attempt intercepted in February. Hundreds rallied in lower Manhattan on March 26, two days before No Kings 3, demanding Maduro and Flores be freed. That

rally drew no coverage from the mainstream press and no acknowledgment from the No Kings leadership. The movement that outran its organizers on Palestine and Iran has the potential to make those connections too.

The most important announcement came at the end of the day. From the Minneapolis stage, No Kings organizers said the network would pivot toward a May Day general strike: no work, no school, no shopping on May 1.

That is a real step forward. The first three rounds of No Kings were protest mobilizations — impressive in size, but limited in leverage. A strike raises a different question. It brings the fight onto class ground. That is why the Minneapolis AFL-CIO general strike of Jan. 23 is being cited as the model.

Whether May 1 becomes something more depends on the same question raised on March 28: whether the movement the Democratic Party helped call into the streets is prepared to go further than the Democratic Party will. Eight million people in the streets suggests that question is no longer abstract. #

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May Day call grows for ‘No work, no school, no shopping’

By Lallan Schoenstein

A growing May Day movement is calling for “No Work, No School, No Shopping” on May 1. The call is driven by rising anger at war, attacks on immigrants, and a system that cuts what workers need while pouring billions into the military.

Protests against ICE in Minnesota spread to 300 cities across the country on Jan. 23. Since then, No Kings protests have brought millions more into the streets. From big cities to small towns, many are protesting for the first time. Now organizers are moving forward under a May Day general strike banner: “No Work, No School, No Shopping.”

Union support for May Day

Labor leaders from the National Education Association, National Nurses United, AFA-CWA, the Chicago Teachers Union, SEIU Local 26 — which initiated the Jan. 23 strike in Minneapolis — and UE, along with AFT locals including UTLA, are mobilizing their members for May Day.

The umbrella coalition May Day Strong is hosting a national organizers’ call on April 9 at 7 p.m. ET.

Payday Report says UFCW Local 3000, which represents 50,000 workers in Washington state, is tabling at workplaces and community events. National Nurses United, with 200,000 members, is also backing the actions.

May Day Strong says unions need to go beyond formal endorsements and symbolic solidarity. The coalition is urging locals to organize real work stoppages, not just send members to rallies, and to help fund legal defense for non-union workers who walk out. In Minnesota, non-union and legally constrained workers joined the Jan. 23 action by calling in sick en masse.

A major demand on May Day will echo the massive 2006 May Day strikes led by immigrant workers. Stop the attack on immigrants! Protesters have been targeting the hotels where ICE is staying. UNITE HERE Local 11, which represents 32,000 workers in Southern California and Arizona, has instructed members not to work at locations where ICE is present.

The courageous immigrant meatpackers’ strike at JBS Greeley is energizing the labor movement. Solidarity is spreading around workers facing both employer violence and the threat of ICE.



The fight of nurses’ unions to protect their jobs and their patients issued a fierce rallying cry. Other local strikes and union struggles across the country are also feeding into the May Day shutdown.

Several large unions, including AFT, AAUP,

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Baltimore City school teacher speaks out against ICE terror

By Natalie Baeva

Baltimore City school teacher Natalie Baeva delivered this testimony at a People’s Power Assembly rally demanding ICE out of the community. Struggle - La Lucha is reprinting it to build support for the May Day: No Work, No School, No Shopping actions.

Hi, my name is Natalie Baeva. I am an ESOL teacher in Highlandtown, East Baltimore, and a proud member of the Baltimore Teachers Union. I’m here today to speak against the ICE terror that Baltimore City and the United States allow to happen every day.

I teach at an elementary/middle school with a predominantly Latine student population. I work directly with kindergartners through third graders. Most of my students are multilingual learners, just as I was when my parents immigrated to the U.S. from Russia 25 years ago.

My students are smart, funny, sweet, kind and very sassy. They are multicultural and learn in two languages at the same time. They are improving their test scores. They are becoming better friends and better peers by going to school and interacting with others. My students teach me so much. They truly are the bright light of the next generation.

Since the beginning of the Trump administration, my students have been shaken into fear after watching their friends, family and neighbors be kidnapped by masked men with guns and taken from their communities.

Attendance has been declining every day. Parents are terrified to take their children to school. Parents are seeking advice on homeschooling because of ICE tactics — abducting children and using them as hostages and bait to kidnap parents as well. I’ve heard stories of people who haven’t left their houses in a year out of fear of being grabbed.



Recently, a 5-year-old boy named Liam Conejo Ramos was abducted by ICE and used as bait for his father to come out of their home. Liam and his father have both been seized and sent to Texas, far from their home in Minnesota. ICE will stop at nothing — not even murder — to tear apart families. They are a monstrous plague.

As people go hungry and homeless across the city and across the country, the ICE budget keeps growing. Schools in Baltimore are understaffed and underfunded. Employees struggle with wages that don’t meet the cost of living, while ICE agents earn six-figure salaries, destroying futures. The system has made its priorities clear: destruction over progress, fear over families, profits over people.

We must organize, speak out and do whatever is necessary to fight back against these agents of white supremacy who continue to destroy our communities. #

How do we get from 'No Kings Day' to no billionaires?

Continued from page 1

were assassinated by the anti-immigrant *gestapo*.

Socialist organizations joined many of these protests. So did community groups. They raised anti-war and anti-racist slogans that were welcomed by participants.

Their signs and banners pointed the way forward. Hundreds of thousands of leaflets defending Palestinians and immigrants were distributed.

In New York City and elsewhere, union contingents participated. Among them were SEIU 1199 Hospital Workers and National Nurses United.

It was the Black Lives Matter movement that paved the way for the No Kings Day protests. Black, Brown, Indigenous and Asian communities built a movement from the ground up that swept the United States in 2020.

But the speakers at the big "No Kings" marches were tightly controlled by Democratic Party officials who wanted to limit dissent to voting in the midterm elections. There was probably more leeway at the smaller marches that reached thousands of localities.

The clearest example of Trump acting as a king has been the war on Iran that began with killing 180 schoolchildren, most of whom were girls. The first article of the U.S. Constitution clearly states that only Congress has the right to declare war.

Stopping this bloody, unconstitutional war should have been a central focus on March 28. So should have been the kidnapping of Ven-

ezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and First Combatant Cilia Flores, as well as the strangulation of Cuba. The slogan "No Kings since 1776" was pushed instead.

Never forget that every plantation, including George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, was ruled by a tyrant. Every workplace where employees don't have union protection is run by a dictator.

Wall Street is our enemy, not Russia

Attacking Russia is one of the ways that many Democratic Party leaders are using to keep millions of people within the bounds of capitalist politics.

Instead of targeting capitalism and its military-industrial complex, politicians are pushing the Big Lie that Trump is a puppet of Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin. Yet it was the Russian tanker Anatoly Kolodkin that pierced Trump's blockade, bringing 730,000 barrels of oil to socialist Cuba.

To the Pentagon brass, the Russian Federation is 6.4 million square miles that are not occupied by U.S. troops. The differences between Trump and his political rivals about Russia reflect differences within the ruling class about whom to attack first.

Some of the U.S. oligarchs want to concentrate their weapons on the People's Republic of China, while others focus on the Western Hemisphere. Nobody in the Big Oil/bankster establishment is willing to give up West Asia.

Attacking Russia is a political diversion that muddled the first impeachment of Trump

in 2019. Trump should be kicked out of the White House because he's a bloody war criminal and hate monger who attacks poor people round the clock.

On to May Day!

The crowd in Manhattan's big march was largely older, although there were plenty of younger folk as well. It was also predominantly white, although many thousands of Black, Brown, Asian and Indigenous people marched, particularly in the union contingents.

Reactionary commentators on Fox News and elsewhere have emphasized this, as if Trump's Nuremberg-style rallies are diverse. It's actually a good thing that millions of white people are marching against racism and war.

Some socialists and revolutionaries boycotted the "No Kings" marches because Democratic Party big shots wanted to exercise tight control. We shouldn't let capitalist politicians stop us from reaching millions. These characters running the protests were unable to prevent marchers from carrying anti-war signs or chanting anti-capitalist slogans.

Just about every revolution starts with moderate demands. On Jan. 22, 1905, hundreds of thousands of workers in St. Petersburg, Russia, walked to the Czar's palace humbly begging for modest reforms.

The Czar's mercenaries shot them down, killing hundreds. The 1905 Revolution broke out, which nearly toppled the tyrant.

Although the 1905 revolt was crushed, 12 years later the Czar was overthrown in five days. When the Communist leader Lenin arrived in St. Petersburg in 1917, moderate leaders were in control who insisted on continuing the slaughter of the imperialist First World War.

Lenin urged his Bolshevik comrades to "patiently explain" to working and poor people why these capitalist politicians needed to be ousted. Eight months after the Czar was overthrown, the Bolsheviks — using the slogan "Peace, Land, and Bread!" — won over millions and established the rule of workers' soviets (elected workers' councils).

The masses of poor and working people in the United States don't need a massacre to awaken them. They suffer violence on a daily basis, from the 1,100 people whom the police kill annually to more than two million people in jail.

Communists and revolutionaries need to use every opportunity to reach our class wherever they are. But we also need to take the initiative, calling events independent of capitalist politicians.

The next step is to organize general strikes across the country on May Day. The Jan. 23 general strike in Minneapolis shows that it can be done.

Millions of people want Trump and his fellow billionaires overthrown. We need to call them into the streets. On to May Day! #

May Day call grows for 'No work'

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NEA, Starbucks Workers United and UE, are mobilizing. Dozens of local labor bodies and union groups, including the North Carolina AFL-CIO, the Milwaukee Labor Council and UFCW Local 3000, have also signed on.

A PayDay Report map published March 28 listed a growing number of unions and labor groups backing the May Day call, including teachers, postal workers, labor councils, service workers, Teamsters, auto workers and campus unions across the country.

Among those signed on are: AFT NM; APWU 132; Austin CLC; NM CLC CGSU UE L 300; Chic. Teachers Union; CWA L 7799; IA Migrant Mvt. for Justice; Yellowstone CLC; AFSCME 2962; IL Fed. of Teachers; Gilroy Teachers Assoc.; LIUNA L 3; MA Teachers Assoc.; Miss. Immigrants Rights Assoc.; NC AFL-CIO; NHFT 933; No. TX Area Labor Fed.; Pittsburgh Labor Council for Latin American Advt; Rio Grande Valley CLC, AFL-CIO; SEIU United Service Workers;

Seven Mountains AFL-CIO; Teamsters L 492; Thurston-Lewis-Mason CLC; UAW 862; UFCW L 3000; UNITE HERE L 25; United Campus Workers of GA CWA L 3821; United Univ. Professors - SUNY Oneonta Chapter; VT State Educators Assoc.; WA Education Assoc.; W. MA Area Labor Fed.; CWA L 7250; OPIEU L 12; LA Fed. of Labor.

"May Day Strong is something that we are saying as a clarion call to all of our brethren, our union siblings across the nation," says Marcia Howard, the African-American president of the Minneapolis Federation of Educators.

Members of IBU Local 802 and West Coast dockworkers in the ILWU already observe May Day as a union holiday. On the West Coast, the holiday was written into the contract after job actions against apartheid and police brutality.

Even where strikes are illegal, many union members are bound by contract language honoring picket lines. A community protest can form such a picket line.

May Day 2026 is shaping up as the most significant labor action in years. #

Greeley meatpackers defy ICE, strike JBS over speedup & wage theft

By Lallan Schoenstien

UFCW Local 7 President Kim Cordova announced workers would return for shifts starting April 7, 2026, after JBS agreed only to resume negotiations April 9 and 10.

The labor movement that helped drive the Jan. 23 anti-ICE Minnesota General Strike is now lending its muscle to support the meatpackers' strike by members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 7 in Greeley, Colorado. Other UFCW locals are also backing the strike, including Local 663 in Minnesota and Local 431 in Iowa.

Solidarity is spreading to help the Greeley workers. The meatpacking industry deliberately recruits workers from Haiti, Somalia, Eritrea, Myanmar and Latin America. Their vulnerability to ICE – compounded by corporate collusion with immigration enforcement – lets the bosses squeeze maximum profit from a workforce too exposed to fight back. The striking workers in Greeley come from 57 different countries. When UFCW Local 7 held its strike authorization vote, several ICE officers were stationed outside the plant. Workers voted 99% to authorize the strike anyway.

Beginning in the 1980s, the meatpacking bosses moved to break UFCW's strength by recruiting immigrant labor and shifting plants to isolated rural areas with weaker union power. Four giant companies – JBS, Tyson, Cargill, and National Beef – control 85% of U.S. beef processing. After World War II, as many as 90% of meatpacking workers were unionized. By 2019, that figure had fallen to 15% as the result of a decades-long union-busting strategy.

On March 16, about 3,800 members of UFCW Local 7 in Greeley walked off the job. What began as a two-week unfair labor practice strike is now entering its fourth week. It is the longest major meatpacking strike in the United States in four decades.

An unfair labor practice strike

The Greeley workers are currently protected under federal labor law covering unfair labor practice strikes. They cannot legally be permanently replaced, unlike workers striking only over economic demands – a distinction



Meatpackers work in dangerous conditions, handling lethal tools on high-speed conveyor lines.



that helped the bosses crush the Hormel P-9 strike in 1985-86, the last major meatpacking walkout before this one.

UFCW Local 7's contract at the JBS Swift Beef plant in Greeley expired last July. Instead of bargaining with the workers, JBS demanded that the union accept terms negotiated elsewhere by other unions at other JBS facilities. Under labor law, forcing a union to accept terms negotiated by outside parties violates the duty to bargain in good faith.

Negotiating for survival

Meatpackers work in dangerous conditions, handling lethal tools on high-speed conveyor lines. They face speedup and a reduced workforce. One worker said JBS is squeezing more production out of a workforce that is taking home less pay.

According to UFCW Local 7 President Kim Cordova, JBS deducts the cost of replacing worn and damaged equipment directly from workers' paychecks without their consent. Some workers, unable to absorb the deduction, continue working with damaged equipment. "One wrong move can take your life away," Teshale Dadi, who works on the chuck line, told Labor Notes.

The night shift in Greeley is largely Haitian. Haitian workers have filed a class action lawsuit. They charge that JBS management forces them to work at dangerously high line speeds. The lawsuit also includes allegations of human trafficking – specifically, that JBS circulated videos promising jobs and housing to non-English speakers in Haiti.

The recruits were then charged weekly fees for overcrowded, unsanitary motel rooms, while those costs were deducted from their wages.

Now the Trump administration is trying to end Temporary Protected Status for Haitian nationals. TPS is how many of these workers maintain legal authorization to work. The USDA is now considering a proposal to eliminate federal line-speed limits entirely – the same speedup drive at the center of this strike and the Haitian workers' class action lawsuit.

In the past year alone, JBS has paid more than \$100 million in settlements, legal fees and fines, according to organizer Caitlyn Clark of Essential Workers for Democracy. The Department of Labor found that cleaning contractors at the Greeley facility were using child labor. JBS paid part of a \$200 million industry settlement over collusion with other meatpackers to suppress wages. The company was also forced to settle a suit over discrimination against Muslim workers in Greeley.

In January 2025, JBS made a \$5 million donation to Donald Trump's inauguration committee, the largest single donation the committee received.

The courageous energy of the immigrant meatpacking workers may be the spark that fuels the national general strike on May 1. A victory for UFCW Local 7 would be a victory for all.

UFCW Local 7 has a strike fund. Solidarity contributions can be made at ufcw7.org. #

The Supreme Court and the fight against conversion therapy

By Gregory E. Williams

Anti-people Supreme Court strikes again

The U.S. Supreme Court just endangered millions of LGBTQIA+ children and youth. With the *Chiles v. Salazar* ruling on March 31, they opened the door for a resurgence of the discredited, harmful practice of conversion therapy. This is therapy meant to change a person's gender identity or sexual orientation.

Conversion therapy doesn't work, but it does cause a lot of harm, including dramatically increasing suicide rates. A 2020 study published in the *American Journal of Public Health* found that youth subjected to it were more than two times as likely to report attempting suicide. They were also 2.5 times as likely to report having attempted suicide multiple times in the past year.

This is the same Supreme Court that struck down abortion rights in 2022 and, in 2024, ruled that cities can punish homeless people for sleeping in public. A 2021 study led by Emory University law professor Joanna Shepherd found that seven out of 10 federal and district court judges were either former prosecutors or corporate lawyers. It is hardly surprising that these unelected judges – appointed to serve corporate power – rule so often against the interests of the people.

Progressive movements shouldn't be afraid to say it: Abolish the Supreme Court!

What *Chiles v. Salazar* was about

The case was a challenge to Colorado's 2019 law prohibiting licensed mental health professionals from practicing conversion therapy on minors, brought by Kaley Chiles, a counselor who describes herself as a Christian. Despite the extensive evidence showing the harm of conversion therapy, Chiles claimed that she has the right to practice it on children and youth.

It is important to understand that she wasn't on her own. Chiles was represented by the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), a well-funded far-right non-profit. They had a budget of more than \$104 million in 2022 and have an international subsidiary headquartered in Vienna, Austria. House Speaker Mike Johnson is a former ADF attorney. The ADF was involved in the Mississippi case that led to the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*.

Chiles v. Salazar, then, is just one piece in a bigger pattern. The case was brought to the



courts as part of a bigger movement to take away people's rights. And it's funded by the rich. If Kaley Chiles hadn't been around, the ADF would have found someone else. This is just one more attack aimed at dividing working-class and oppressed people, so we can't fight the rich, and they can steal even more from us.

Mental health professionals reject conversion therapy, support Colorado law

Slick representation notwithstanding, Kaley Chiles is out of step with the rest of her profession. The Colorado law is in keeping with established standards of medical care and was endorsed by the American Psychological Association. An Oct. 7, 2025, statement from the APA reads:

"In August 2025, APA filed an amicus brief in support of the law, which was joined by the American Psychiatric Association and 12 other mental health and medical professional organizations. The brief explained the scientific, professional nature of therapy, justified the state's regulation of professional conduct, and described the scientific evidence of the harms that conversion efforts cause.

"APA presented extensive evidence showing that SOGICE (sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts) do not meet the criteria of a legitimate therapeutic treatment, are potentially harmful, discredited practices, and are not supported by credible scientific evidence. The brief reaffirms APA's 2009 report findings that SOGICE are ineffective at changing sexual orientation and can pose a risk of harm to individuals who undergo them, with updated 2021 resolutions confirming that SOGICE lack sufficient bases in scientific principles."

The Colorado law simply says that state-licensed mental health professionals cannot subject minors to conversion therapy. This law concerned licensing only. It didn't say that anyone can be charged with a crime, only that mental health professionals in Colorado can't keep their license if they practice a discredited and dangerous therapy.

A reactionary ruling

The court voted 8-1 that the law likely violates First Amendment speech protections, kicking it back down to the lower courts. Only Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson dissented. The other two liberals sided with the MAGA fascists.

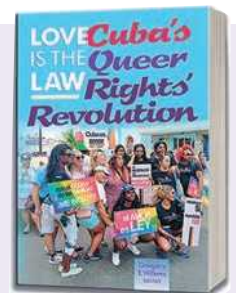
What about the freedom of the minors being subjected to conversion therapy? Don't they have a right not to be harmed by medical practitioners? Don't they have the right to express who they really are?

But the free speech framing of *Chiles v. Salazar* is wrong from the start. #

LOVE
IS THE
LAW

Cuba's
Queer Rights
Revolution

Gregory E. Williams



Mild in manner, bold in matter: the revolutionary life of Bob McCubbin

By Melinda Butterfield

The following are opening remarks at the memorial service for Comrade Bob McCubbin, held on March 21, 2026, at the People's Forum in New York City. Bob McCubbin was a pioneering theorist of LGBTQIA+ liberation, author of the groundbreaking 1976 work "The Gay Question: A Marxist Appraisal," and a tireless organizer who built branches of revolutionary organization with nothing but knowledge, passion, and commitment.

From the Stonewall era through his final days organizing at San Diego Pride 2025, Bob never wavered in his belief that queer liberation was inseparable from the fight against capitalism and imperialism.

Like Bob McCubbin, Melinda Butterfield is a founding member of the Struggle for Socialism Party and Struggle-La Lucha magazine. She is also a member of Women in Struggle/Mujeres en Lucha.

We gather tonight to remember and celebrate the life and legacy of Bob McCubbin — a gay man, a communist, a thinker, and a fighter. He was known and loved in queer communities and people's movements, from Buffalo, where he grew up, to the Bay Area, and from here in New York to San Diego, where he passed away last year.

The first time I became aware of Bob was in the summer of 1989. I was just out of high school, working at a university in a modestly sized city in Wisconsin. I spent my free time hanging around bookstores and record stores when that was still a thing. There was a small feminist bookstore in town. I went there regularly to look for local activist zines and to read the latest "Dykes to Watch Out For" comic strips.

One day, I was looking through the stacks when a pamphlet with a bright yellow cover caught my eye. There was a picture of people



Bob McCubbin (in back with baseball cap) and Melinda Butterfield (in front with heart-print dress) joined other activists to promote the Trans Youth March that took place in Orlando, Florida, on Oct. 7, 2023.

protesting on the front. The title was "The Gay Question: A Marxist Appraisal," and the author was Bob McCubbin. This immediately grabbed my interest as a young communist because even then — more than a decade after its original publication — there was very little serious Marxist theorizing about queerness. It cost me the grand sum of \$3, if I recall.

Several months later, I came to a conference in New York and was excited to see that same pamphlet for sale. I met Bob there for the first time. I knew Bob for 35 years. Because he lived in California and I was in New York for most of that time, I only got to see him and work directly with him occasionally. But every encounter was memorable and enriching for me.

A few years ago, when I was preparing to come out publicly as a trans woman, Bob was the first comrade I spoke to about it. It felt like the

right thing to do. I was nervous — not because I expected a bad reaction, of course, but maybe because of the weight of history. Bob listened thoughtfully as I explained that my name was now Melinda, my pronouns were she/her, and my plan for coming out to the other members of the Struggle for Socialism Party.

He was kind and supportive, just as I expected. Despite his frail health, he didn't hesitate to offer me any support I might need. That conversation was an important milestone for me.

Our late comrade, the transgender warrior Leslie Feinberg, is well known and highly regarded in the trans and queer movement worldwide. Bob was both a mentor and a peer to Leslie — was an example for Leslie, helped pave the way for Leslie's contributions. They shared a hatred of racism, imperialism, and Zionism, and a commitment to make these principles central to LGBTQIA+ liberation.

In Bob's most recent book, "The Social Evolution of Humanity," he devoted a chapter to Leslie's contribution to a Marxist-materialist understanding of transgender people and trans liberation. What he didn't mention — in his characteristic modesty — was how his own work helped make Leslie's possible, just as the works of Frederick Engels and Dorothy Ballan did for him.

Bob embodied Sam Marcy's saying: mild in manner, bold in matter — kind, thoughtful, an empathetic listener, and a communist of unbending principle. Che Guevara talked about the new socialist human. Che was one example, and so was Bob. #

What you'll find in the "Love is the Law" book

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

tinyurl.com/Cuba-LoveisLaw tinyurl.com/Read-LOVEistheLAW

Sexual and gender liberation only possible through struggle to build communist society

By Lallan Schoenstein

The following are remarks at the memorial service for Comrade Bob McCubbin, held on March 21, 2026, at the People's Forum in New York City.

Like Bob McCubbin, Lallan Schoenstein is a founding member of the Struggle for Socialism Party and Struggle-La Lucha magazine. She prepares the "Struggle for Socialism – La Lucha por el Socialismo" magazine for publication, is a labor union activist and retired child care worker. She's also a graphic designer who has worked on many books, including those for the Million Worker March Movement.

Bob was a cherished friend and comrade for much of our lives.

For me, the best part occurred when I had the honor of helping him publish his book "The Social Evolution of Humanity: Marx and Engels were right!" Bob engaged me in discussions about every aspect of the content, never belittling my opinions. I learned so much. It deepened my understanding of human history and of our relations to each other.

First, I think of the last half of the title: "Marx and Engels were right." That says a lot. It says that the capitalist ruling class must be overturned. That is the key to winning sexual liberation. Liberation can only be successfully accomplished in the struggle to build a communist society.

This leads to a second issue. Bob said in his book that he was thrilled to learn that there was a period of history where women had not been oppressed. I understood that in the broadest sense – that there was a period of history where all people did not suffer sexual oppression.

Here, Bob is talking about the work of Engels, Marx and of Dorothy Ballan, who wrote about their work. They reported that during the longest period of human history, people



Bob McCubbin – holding the banner on the right – joins the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice in a protest against Palestinian genocide and for trans rights. To Bob's right are Gloria Verdieu and John Parker. SLL photo

lived in early communal societies because they depended on each other for survival – for providing food and shelter.

It was the gradual development of agriculture, the amassing of private property and the formation of the patriarchy that ushered in a society structured in classes. The patriarchy doesn't refer so much to individuals as to a class that used social institutions (laws, police, courts, control over the acquisition of knowledge, and the practice of sexual oppression) to secure and protect their property and to enforce their exploitation of everyone else.

Brutal strictures on the free expression of sexuality arose. Engels pointed out that rigid laws and binary traditions that developed to block sexual freedom showed the need to suppress earlier practices. Maintaining the unequal distribution of private property by the church and landlords required legally established parentage.

Today, society is rapidly outgrowing the class structure of capitalism. Those sectors

that are trying to hold on to their privileged positions try to overturn the progress we are fighting for with increasing brutality.

In his book, Bob reviewed the recent studies of anthropologists and analysis of feminist writers.

Some of them refute Engels and Marxist findings. They might benefit from media recognition and plush jobs in education by defending the capitalist system.

In any case, Bob applauded those who add knowledge and a deeper understanding to our struggle to fight for sexual freedom and wonderful realization of our complex human identities.

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CHINA: Building Socialism in an Imperialist World offers an account of how socialism is built in real conditions – and why that process continues to shake the world system shaped by imperialism.



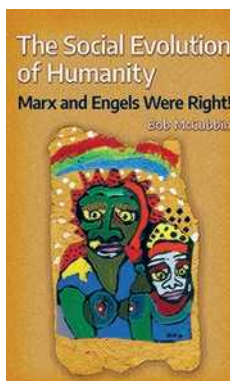
The Social Evolution of Humanity Marx and Engels were right!

Bob McCubbin

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

'Roots of Lesbian & Gay Oppression: A Marxist View.' Published in 1976, during the first rise of the modern LGBTQ2S movement, McCubbin's unparalleled achievement was to offer a historical analysis of when, where, why and how LGBTQ2S oppression developed.

Paperback or Kindle: tinyurl.com/vwarcv7



The working class needs courage: a lesson from gay activist Bob McCubbin

By John Parker

The following are remarks at the memorial service for Comrade Bob McCubbin, held on March 21, 2026, at the People's Forum in New York City.

Like Bob McCubbin, John Parker is a founding member of the Struggle for Socialism Party and Struggle-La Lucha magazine. He is a coordinator for the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice in Los Angeles and is running for election to the U.S. House to represent California's 37th Congressional District. He is on the ballot for the primary on June 2, 2026. Campaign information can be found at socialist4congress.org.

It's interesting — when you see what's going on today, the horror, the killing in Iran right now by the U.S. and Israel — and then you see someone challenge the idea that the U.S. is omnipotent. That is beautiful. How dare they fight back? And they're not only willing to fight back — they know how to fight back. And that just reminds me of Bob, the things he did. San Diego wouldn't have been San Diego without Bob. Bob recruited Gloria Verdieu and built a connection with the New Black Panther Party forces there, and the effects are still going on and will keep going on.

When we talk about building a movement, we're not just talking about having a large staff, a massive social media team, or a lot of money. We're talking about something more fundamental.

We're talking about an organizer who can build a branch with nothing but knowledge, passion, and commitment — a commitment to the political tendency founded by Sam Marcy, Dorothy Ballan, and many others. A commit-



Struggle for Socialism Party organizers visit the Malcolm X Library in San Diego. From left to right: John Parker, Maggie Vascasseno, Gloria Verdieu, Melinda Butterfield and Bob McCubbin. SLL photo

courage to defy some of the best leftists, and even Marxists, who did not fully grasp the lessons of the Bolshevik Revolution and the strategic

insights developed by Vladimir Lenin. This was not just a courage that put one's life in jeopardy. This was a courage that put one's career in jeopardy, a courage that put one's social standing in jeopardy.

But we must ask ourselves: Where would the working class be without that courage? Where would we be if we were not determined to help create a united working class? Where would we be if we failed to understand the links between national oppression, gender oppression, and LGBTQIA+ oppression? As the trans community is targeted, that understanding is crucial. As people from Latin America and the Caribbean are targeted by imperialism, that understanding is crucial. As Black and African people are targeted, that understanding is crucial.

This is the legacy we inherit. It was a loyalty to our tendency, yes — but above all, it was a profound and unwavering loyalty to the working class and its inevitable march toward socialist revolution. This is the stand we must uphold. This is the courage we must embody. #

ment grounded in a deep understanding of the national question, an understanding that provides a lens through which we can see all forms of oppression, especially those that are often ignored and go unrecognized. We're talking about those who have been despised by religion, crushed by patriarchal society and its norms, and condemned by a moral code that denies the fundamental equality of every human being.

To stand with the oppressed, commitment to principle is essential. One must resist the sirens of opportunism. The Struggle for Socialism Party would not exist without a specific kind of loyalty — a loyalty not just to personalities but to ideas. It is the moral courage that Sam Marcy and others embodied. It took immense courage to go against the prevailing currents, to contribute to the science of society — to social development as refined in Marxism.

It took even greater courage to apply the science to questions that others dismissed as a distraction or an example of immorality. It took courage to defy one's own family. It took

Los Angeles screening honors Indigenous land defenders in Latin America

By Lizbeth Antonio

On Thursday, March 26, the Harriet Tubman Center in Los Angeles screened "Water for Life," a film honoring Indigenous land defenders in Honduras, El Salvador and Chile. This is a story about water and the people who risk their lives to protect water and the survival of their communities.

One of the three land defenders in the film was Berta Cáceres, an Indigenous Lenca leader from Honduras, assassinated on March 3, 2016,

for defending her community's rivers and natural habitat against the Agua Zarca hydroelectric project — imposed after the 2009 U.S.-backed coup and enforced through a security apparatus trained and funded by Washington.

After the film, a lively discussion followed on the perils of corporate water privatization and the commodification of essential resources. Participants drew connections between those struggles and organizing efforts in the U.S., and to what movements South of the border can teach us. #



Organizers Maya and Mikaela at a March 26 screening of Water for Life at the Harriet Tubman Center, where attendees discussed struggles over water, land and survival. SLL photo

March to free Mumia Abu-Jamal April 25 Fight for his medical care

Internationally renowned journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal — Black Panther Minister of Information in the 1960s, who has been called the “voice of the voiceless” — has been imprisoned since 1982. At that time, he was framed up and convicted in a racist trial for the murder of a Philadelphia police officer.

Since that time, the courts have denied all exonerating evidence. The injustice of Mumia’s case, a U.S. political prisoner, has been challenged around the world. Mainstream organizations like the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have called for a new trial.

The ensuing decades, 44 years of abuse and medical neglect in Pennsylvania’s racist prison system, have had a grave impact on Mumia’s health. More than once, the Mumia movement has fought for critical medical care for this courageous leader’s life.

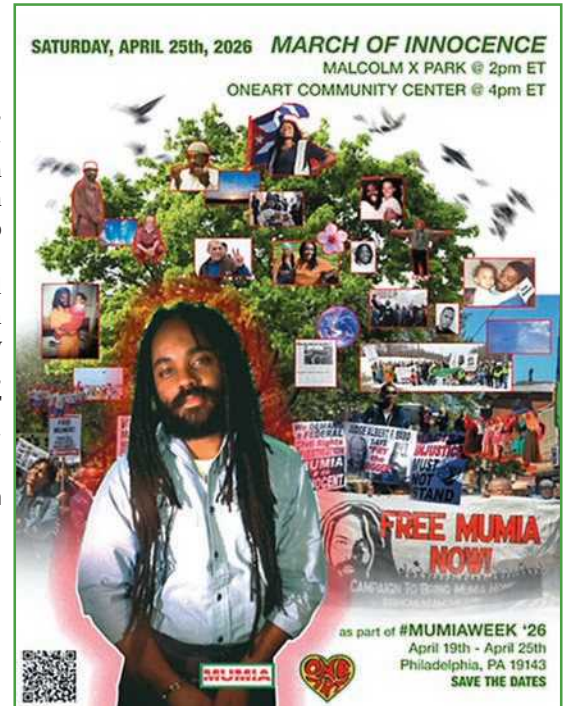
In December, supporters marched 100

miles across Pennsylvania, in bitter cold, through KKK territory, to demand immediate care for Mumia’s eyesight. In spite of the march and rally at the prison gates, the medical treatment needed to save his vision is still being denied.

Mobilization4Mumia.com has called for a week of action in Philadelphia from April 19 to April 25. There will be a rally on April 25 at 2 p.m. in Malcolm X Park, followed by a march to the ONEART Community Center. For details, visit Mobilization4Mumia.com.

- Lallan Schoenstein

Rally at Malcolm X Park in West Philadelphia at 2 pm on Sat., April 25. Mumia must have urgent medical care and be released from prison, NOW! March from rally to OneArt Community Center at 1431 N 52nd St., Philadelphia.



Letter On Cesar Chavez and the patriarchy that dominates U.S. capitalism

By Aquino

Women in Struggle/Mujeres en Lucha and Struggle-La Lucha received the following letter from a Latine sister after reports of sexual abuse by former United Farm Workers leader Cesar Chavez appeared in the New York Times and other mainstream media outlets:

Hearing that one of our organizing heroes did not live up to the perfect image I had imagined was soul-crushing at first. I was in disbelief and reasoned that this must have been made up.

Then I turned to anger at how this was covered up for so long and how over and over those of us that have a deep connection to the patriarchy get the worst end of the stick. And anger at the fact that the most vulnerable in our communities are being treated worse than animals, and how the Murdochs, Bezoses and Sulzbergers of the world are hoping this will serve as the last blow to our movements.

I’m all for calling out the abusers and rapists, but I question the intent of corporate media to call this out in such a coordinated effort when there are so many immediate attacks on the human condition they can report on that actually matter for our existence as a species.

Do they really care about protecting women, or is this an attempt to discredit a whole move-

ment? Are they really interested in airing the sexist, chauvinistic, rapist culture that is so engrained in capitalist society, ranging from small towns to the highest political offices?

Will this lead to a call for removing all rapists, racists, and pedophiles from positions of power? Is this an attempt to build spaces that honor the matriarchy and women’s role in society? Will they invest in women’s access to education, living wage jobs, ending toxic masculinity?

The fact is that, yes, our organizing spaces are not exempt from the perils of toxic capitalist culture. We are in the belly of the beast, after all. Despite our best efforts to create socialist spaces where women can truly make decisions over their own bodies, who they want as a partner, what they wear, when and if they want to be mothers, we do not live in a bubble, and the patriarchy seeps in.

This is a reminder that as long as patriarchal systems are prevalent, those of us practicing matriarchal systems of care will not be safe. And capitalism is the biggest patriarchal system of them all — a system that exploits not just women, but any human healthy enough to be exploited. In the words of bell hooks, “feminist movement to end sexist op-

pression can be successful only if we are committed to revolution, to the establishment of a new social order.”

We will not be able to truly begin healing from the patriarchy until capitalism completely falls and with it, patriarchal culture. In the meantime, we keep struggling to birth community spaces that work towards matriarchal organizations that will make a transition to socialism a smoother process.

For a deeper appreciation of Aquino’s letter, the following brief explanation of key terms is included.

Matriarchy, Matrilineal: Earlier communal societies where ancestry was traced through the mother’s family. The wealth produced — shelter and sustenance — was shared for the survival of all.

Patriarchy, Patrilineal: Societies generally formed after the development of agriculture. Social wealth and resources became private property. Ancestry was traced through the father’s family with inherited wealth and property. The rise of the patriarchy ushered in the stratification of society into classes.

Socialism: A society whose economy is controlled and organized by the working class for the common good. #

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover wanted Dr. Martin Luther King dead

By Stephen Millies

Fifty-eight years ago the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis on April 4, 1968. Exactly one year earlier the Black leader had denounced the U.S. government as the “greatest purveyor of violence in the world today,” in his “Beyond Vietnam” speech.

The April 4, 1967 talk delivered in New York City’s Riverside Church attacking the dirty war against Vietnam and Laos — and later, Cambodia — became a death warrant for King. FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had been threatening the freedom fighter for years.

The military-industrial complex had Dr. King and his family in its sights even longer. The U.S. Army investigated Dr. King’s grandfather for giving a “subversive” sermon attacking lynching.

Dr. King’s family doesn’t believe the official story that James Earl Ray was the sole assassin in Memphis. This was the same “lone gunman” type tale peddled by the Warren Commission to explain President Kennedy’s assassination. King’s murder was conducted by a more united ruling class determined to crush the Black liberation struggle.

Hoover’s FBI had been snooping on Dr. King since December 1955, when the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott began. In 1964, Hoover called Dr. King “the most notorious liar in the country.”

While King was in Memphis supporting striking sanitation workers, he was attacked by West Virginia Senator Robert Byrd as “a self-seeking rabble-rouser.” The former Ku Klux Klan member would later be selected by his fellow Senate Democrats as their Majority Leader.

The corporate media also helped kill Dr. King. The Memphis Commercial Appeal attacked him for staying in a downtown hotel. This led to King moving to the Lorraine Motel, where he was more vulnerable and was killed. According to “Code Name Zorro,” by Dick Gregory and Mark Lane, there were two Black firefighters assigned to the firehouse behind the Lorraine Motel. They were suddenly trans-



SLL photo: Stephen Millies

On April 4, a hundred people rallied in a Brooklyn Plaza to commemorate Dr. King’s life. Speaker Omowale Clay denounced the U.S. war on Iran and called the Plaza to be renamed after Malcolm X.

ferred without explanation shortly before the assassination, thus getting rid of two possible witnesses.

Brooklyn remembers Dr. King

On April 4, a hundred people came to Brooklyn’s Jitu Weusi Plaza to commemorate Dr. King’s life of struggle. The December 12th Movement organized the rally, which began with Dr. King’s powerful “Beyond Vietnam” speech being played.

It took a struggle to get the plaza named after Jitu Weusi, who was a Black educator and activist. In 1968 — the same year that Dr. King was killed — Jitu Weusi fought for community control of the schools in New York City.

Activists who denounce the genocide in Gaza are often slandered as being “anti-Jewish.” Jitu Weusi was similarly attacked because he opposed the racist misleader of the teachers’ union, Albert Shanker, who fought Black and Latine communities controlling their schools.

Christian of the December 12th Movement chaired the rally. Omowale Clay, chair of the December 12th Movement, denounced Trump and the war against Iran.

Dr. James McIntosh of the Committee to Eliminate Media Offensive to African People (CEMOTAP) spoke. So did Raymond Dugue, the First Assistant President General of the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA), which was founded by the Honorable Marcus Garvey.

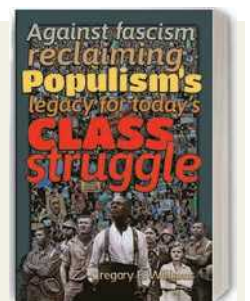
People marched down Harriet Ross Tubman Avenue (Fulton Street), through the heart of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community. Many drivers honked their horns in support. Marchers chanted “The people united will never be defeated!” People on sidewalks waved and were urged to join the march. Several young people did. The march ended at Utica Avenue where a brief rally was held. Omowale Clay demanded the plaza and subway station there be named after Malcolm X. #

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Russian oil, Chinese rice defy U.S. blockade of Cuba

By Gary Wilson

A Russian oil tanker carrying 730,000 barrels of crude oil docked at the Cuban port of Matanzas this week, delivering the largest fuel shipment to reach the island in months. Days earlier, 15,600 tons of rice donated by the Chinese government arrived in Havana — a concrete act of international solidarity with Cuba as the Trump administration tightens its blockade of the island.

The Anatoly Kolodkin departed the Russian port of Primorsk on March 8. A Russian Navy vessel escorted the tanker through the English Channel before it crossed the Atlantic. Russia's Energy Ministry confirmed that the ship had docked and was unloading.

Despite the threats, the tanker was allowed to proceed. U.S. Coast Guard vessels were present in the region but received no orders to intercept it, the New York Times reported. Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One on March 29, Trump claimed credit for the decision, saying he still expects Cuba to “fail soon.”

The deliveries came just days after Trump said in Miami on March 27 that Cuba was “next” following what he described as successful U.S. military operations in Venezuela and Iran. “Cuba’s next, by the way,” Trump said. “But pretend I didn’t say that.”

Cuba faces severe fuel shortages and recurring power cuts after Venezuelan oil shipments were cut off following the January U.S. operation that kidnapped President Nicolás Maduro and First Combatant Cilia Flores and imposed U.S. control over Venezuela’s oil exports. The resulting energy crisis has driven up fuel prices,

The Russian oil tanker Anatoly Kolodkin docks at the oil terminal in the port of Matanzas, northwestern Cuba.



es, slashed public transportation and threatened hospital operations across the country.

Chinese Ambassador to Cuba Hua Xin announced the arrival of the 15,600-ton rice shipment on March 28, calling it a concrete sign that “Cuba is not alone.” The following day, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning paired that message with a direct political demand, urging Washington to immediately end its blockade and sanctions against Cuba, along with “any form of coercion or pressure.”

Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez condemned the blockade as a “brutal onslaught” on Cuba’s economic system. “For more than 67 years, the U.S. has imposed economic warfare against Cuba with the intention of harming the economy and denying access to markets and technology,” Rodríguez said in a March 29 statement.

Cuba has entered preliminary contacts with Washington, but President Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez made clear they are exploratory, not negotiations. In an interview with Spanish political scientist Pablo Iglesias, he said the purpose is to determine whether any common agenda is possible — not to

bargain over core principles. Sovereignty, independence and Cuba’s political system “are not up for discussion,” he said.

He placed the opening in historical context, noting that Cuba has sought dialogue with every U.S. administration from Kennedy to Obama, even as the blockade has tightened, particularly since 2019, when the activation of Title III of the Helms-Burton Act sharply cut off access to international finance and deepened the crisis still gripping the island today.

Cuba is preparing for the possibility that talks fail. Díaz-Canel described countrywide civilian-military drills now underway under Cuba’s “war of the entire people” defense doctrine. Every Cuban, he said, knows their role. The lesson of January — when 32 Cuban security personnel died defending Maduro against the U.S. raid that seized the Venezuelan president — was not lost on anyone. “They demonstrated what millions of Cubans are capable of when defending the island,” Díaz-Canel said.

“We don’t want war,” Díaz-Canel said. “But if that agreement doesn’t materialize, we are prepared. We would give our lives for the revolution.” #

Ocho millones de personas se manifiestan en ‘No Kings 3’ mientras

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en las concentraciones donde se controlaba a los oradores, se bloquearon las voces contra la guerra. No fue un descuido. Reflejaba la dependencia política de los líderes respecto al Partido Demócrata, que se niega a romper con la guerra contra Irán.

Pero las multitudes no siguieron ese guion. «No al ICE, no a las guerras» fue el eslogan más común del día. La guerra contra Irán estaba en las pancartas, en las calles y en los labios de millones de personas cuya oposición no tenía cabida en el programa oficial.

Esa es la principal contradicción del movimiento en este momento. La infraestructura está ligada al Partido Demócrata, mientras que la política que se desarrolla en las calles va más

allá de él. Indivisible y los grupos aliados intentaron canalizar la enorme ira hacia campañas de inscripción de votantes y mensajes para las elecciones de mitad de mandato de 2026. Los dirigentes demócratas en las manifestaciones no ofrecieron ninguna explicación del sistema más profundo que subyace a la crisis ni ningún camino a seguir más allá de la rutina electoral habitual. Mientras tanto, los contingentes de solidaridad con Palestina acudieron por miles, desde Seattle hasta Nueva York.

La política antibélica y pro-palestina visible en todo el país el 28 de marzo no se organizó desde el estrado. Surgió desde abajo —y se opuso directamente a los compromisos institucionales de quienes construyeron el escenario.

La guerra contra Irán fue el tema de políti-

ca exterior que las multitudes llevaron al 28 de marzo a pesar de las objeciones de los organizadores. Pero no es el único frente en el que lucha la administración Trump.

El presidente venezolano Nicolás Maduro y la primera combatiente Cilia Flores siguen bajo custodia estadounidense, reclusos con monos naranjas en un centro de detención de Nueva York tras ser capturados en una operación militar en enero que causó la muerte de más de 150 personas. La administración Trump está bloqueando los fondos venezolanos destinados a sufragar su defensa legal.

En Cuba, el bloqueo se está endureciendo: cortes diarios de electricidad, escasez de combustible y un intento de infiltración armada

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U.S. blockade drives Cuba toward solar independence

Photo: Cuban News Agency

By Gary Wilson

The Financial Times does not usually look to Cuba for lessons. But even the business press has had to notice what U.S. policy has produced: Washington's oil blockade, tightened under conditions of widening war, has pushed the island deeper into a rapid solar buildout drawing on Chinese technology and Cuban state planning.

The blockade cut fuel supplies and drove blackouts that have lasted up to 20 hours a day. In response, China supplied a gigawatt of photovoltaic panels, 49 solar parks now connected to the national grid, and thousands of individual home kits, including systems for maternity wards, rural homes and emergency rooms. Solar's share of Cuba's electricity generation has tripled in roughly a year, rising from under 6% to more than 20%.

Félix Estrada Rodríguez, director of the National Load Dispatch Center of the Cuban Electric Union, reported that the country first crossed 800 megawatts of photovoltaic generation on Feb. 10, then surpassed 900 megawatts the next day. By February, solar was covering 38% of generation during daylight hours.

China is also supplying batteries. According to The Economist, Cuba is importing them from Beijing at a frenzied pace, and battery storage is included in the next phase of the Mártires de Barbados II solar park already under construction. But storage is lagging behind panel deployment. Of the 55 solar parks planned for 2025, only four were equipped with battery systems. Peak demand in Cuba comes around 7 to 8 p.m., after sunset, and the gap between daytime solar gen-

A solar park nears completion as Cuba turns to renewable energy under U.S. blockade. Cut off from fuel and financing, the country is expanding solar power to ease blackouts, though the national grid remains fragile.



eration and evening electricity use remains the central technical problem.

That problem sits inside a deeper one. Around 16% of all electricity generated is lost in the transmission system before it reaches consumers. Cuba's thermoelectric plants, still the backbone of the grid, operate at an average of just 34% of capacity. On March 16, a boiler leak at the Antonio Guterres plant in Matanzas, the island's largest power station, brought down the grid from Camagüey to Pinar del Río within minutes. Experts estimate that restoring and modernizing the full system would cost \$8 billion to \$10 billion, a sum Cuba cannot raise on its own under blockade and one China is not expected to cover in full.

This is the real structure of the crisis. Cuba

is not simply carrying out a normal energy transition. It is trying to reorganize basic survival under imperialist siege. The same blockade that cuts off fuel also blocks access to credit, spare parts and the long-term investment needed to rebuild the grid. Solar can ease part of the emergency. It cannot by itself overcome the accumulated damage imposed by decades of economic strangulation.

Cuban Energy Minister Vicente de la O Levy has said so directly. "This does not mean that blackouts will be completely eliminated," he said. "This is a gradual, costly, investment-intensive process."

The U.S. war on Iran sharpens that reality. Rising oil prices are putting pressure on governments everywhere, but Cuba is not just another country responding to market signals. It is a besieged socialist state being forced to reduce dependence on a fossil-fuel system dominated by hostile imperialist powers. As oil prices rise, more countries are turning to Chinese green technology. In Cuba, that opening is not mainly a market opportunity. It is a breach in the blockade's attempt to isolate the revolution and wear it down through scarcity.

The blockade was meant to exhaust the Cuban Revolution by cutting it off from fuel, trade and the basic means of modern life. Instead, it has helped force an uneven but politically significant turn toward solar power, Chinese technology and planned adaptation. That has not solved the island's energy crisis. The grid remains fragile, underfunded and vulnerable. But it has shown something Washington did not intend: Imperialist strangulation does not always produce surrender. Sometimes it produces new ways to resist, adapt and survive. #

la política antibélica surge desde la base

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interceptado en febrero. Cientos de personas se manifestaron en el Bajo Manhattan el 26 de marzo, dos días antes de No Kings 3, exigiendo la liberación de Maduro y Flores. Esa manifestación no recibió cobertura de la prensa dominante ni reconocimiento por parte de los líderes de No Kings. El movimiento que superó a sus organizadores en lo relativo a Palestina e Irán tiene el potencial de establecer también esas conexiones.

El anuncio más importante llegó al final del día. Desde el escenario de Minneapolis, los organizadores de No Kings dijeron que la red se orientaría hacia una huelga general del Primero de Mayo: ni trabajo, ni colegio, ni compras el 1 de mayo.

Ese es un verdadero paso adelante. Las tres

primeras rondas de No Kings fueron movilizaciones de protesta —impresionantes en tamaño, pero limitadas en influencia—. Una huelga plantea una cuestión diferente. Lleva la lucha al terreno de clase. Por eso se cita como modelo la huelga general de la AFL-CIO de Minneapolis del 23 de enero.

Que el 1 de mayo se convierta en algo más depende de la misma pregunta que se planteó el 28 de marzo: si el movimiento que el Partido Demócrata ayudó a sacar a las calles está preparado para ir más allá de lo que el Partido Demócrata está dispuesto a hacer. Ocho millones de personas en las calles sugieren que esa pregunta ya no es abstracta.

Fuente: *Struggle La Lucha*, traducción de *Resumen Latinoamericano* – Inglés

Palestinian Land Day commemorated worldwide

By Stephen Millies

Fifty years ago, the Palestinian people rose up to stop the U.S.-funded Zionist occupation regime from stealing even more of their land. The “Israeli” government announced plans to seize nearly eight square miles in Galilee.

Palestinian unions declared a general strike on March 30, 1976. Zionist Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin responded by having his cops kill six Palestinians and wounded at least a hundred.

This wasn’t on the West Bank or Gaza but within the “1948 borders” of the Zionist state, which the corporate media claims is a “democracy.” Since that time, Palestinians and their supporters have commemorated Land Day throughout the world.

Thousands protested in Paris while nearly a thousand demonstrated in Angers, in western France. Protests were also held in Austria, the Netherlands and Sweden. Nearly half a million people gathered in London to fight fascism, including many supporters of Palestinian liberation.

In New York City on March 29, hundreds of people gathered on the steps of the reference library on Manhattan’s Fifth Avenue with Palestinian flags held aloft. The action was called by the Palestinian Youth Movement and supported by many other organizations.

Banners were held reading “Gaza Remains Gaza Resists” and “Gaza Calls NYC Answers.” Another banner read “Lebanon and Palestine: Hand in Hand until Victory.” One of the most popular chants was “Viva, Viva Palestina!”

Speakers, including Naye Idris from PYM, Bill Dee from PAL-Awda, Musa from the Party for Socialism and Liberation and Palestinian writer and activist Siren Sawalha, denounced the ongoing genocide in Palestine, Lebanon and Iran.

Idris described the history of Land Day and the centrality of the land eloquently to the very existence of the Palestinian people.

Bill Dee from PAL-Awda denounced the sales of stolen Palestinian land by real estate outfits that are often held in synagogues. He denounced capitalist politicians, especially New York Gov. Kathy Hochul, who are trying to ban these protests, claiming they’re anti-Jewish, even though many of the protesters are Jewish.



SLI photos: Stephen Millies

New York City on March 29

They’re silent about the sales being limited to Jewish purchasers, a violation of U.S. housing discrimination laws. PAL-Awda is also holding protests against U.S. war contractor Mini-Circuits, whose Brooklyn factory makes weapons to kill Arab and Iranian children.

‘This land is ours’

Sawalha was born in Jenin on the West Bank, where her family had fled during the 1948 Zionist genocide known as the Nakba. She described how, in 1967, when “Israel” seized the West Bank and Gaza, her mother had waded across the Jordan by night, carrying three children so as not to be forced into exile from the land of Palestine.

The NYC for Palestine Cycling Club held a ride from Upper Manhattan to join the march. A strong contingent from the New York Irish for Palestine honored the 110th anniversary of the Easter Rising against British colonialism.

People took over Fifth Avenue and marched to Madison Square Park. People on the sidewalks were friendly. They’re sick of Trump and more wars for oil profits.

In a statement, PYM said, “The Palestinian struggle is, above all, a struggle to liberate land, and in so doing, to liberate the people who the land knows to be its own. This Land Day, as the Zionist entity attacks and desecrates land from Palestine and Lebanon to Yemen and Iran, the Palestinian people and the



people of the region affirm the sanctity of our land, and the inherent right of our people to defend our land against Zionist and imperialist aggression.

“May the walls that have kept us apart soon be torn down. May the trains that once ran from Haifa to Saida, and from Beirut to Baghdad, run again. From Beirut to Jerusalem, from Tehran to San’aa, we are this land, and this land is ours.”

A PAL-Awda statement read, “Today is the 50th anniversary of Land Day, Yawm al-Ard, marking the 1976 uprising against Israeli land theft. As state and city officials in New York shamelessly attempt to shield the ongoing theft of Palestinian land facilitated through real estate and settler events in our neighborhoods, we recommit to honoring the steadfast struggle of the Palestinian people and fighting for Awda, the right of all Palestinian people to return to their lands.” #

On eve of 'ceasefire,' U.S. & Israel bomb Iranian synagogue

By Lev Koufax

In the wee morning hours of April 7, Rabbi Younes Hammami Lalezar approached the synagogue in Tehran that he had led for the better part of four decades. Ordinarily, the Rafi-Nia Synagogue would be a place of comfort, worship, and solace from a crazy world – especially during the holiday of Passover.

Instead, Rabbi Lalezar found a scene out of an apocalyptic horror film. One of Iran's proudest and oldest synagogues lay in complete ruin. Smoke wafted into the sky from what was once a house of community worship.

As more Jewish Iranians and aid workers arrived, the depth of the destruction became apparent. The congregation's Torah scroll is still buried under mountains of concrete, metal, and plaster. Prayer books and hand-painted texts in ancient Hebrew can be seen strewn throughout the mess that was once a place for faith and family.

Luckily, no one was killed or injured. However, the Iranian Jewish community will still have to pick up the pieces, literally and figuratively, of their synagogue and also their entire country. And to think, all of this destruction to a Jewish house of worship was committed by a state that claims to be global Jewry's sole representative.

This brutal attack only further exposes Israel as a representative of U.S. imperialism, not the Jewish community. In reality, Israel's relation to the Jewish community outside its borders is not one of mutual concern, but hatred and disdain. A key part of the U.S. imperialist strategy in West Asia has been to crown Israel the sole protector and arbiter of Jewish life, rhetorically justify the Zionist state's onslaught against West Asia.

Thriving and vibrant Jewish communities, like that in Iran, undermine this narrative and erode support for continued U.S. intervention



Photo of the damage to the Rafi Niya Synagogue.

on Israel's behalf. Iran's Jewish Parliament Minister, Homayoun Sameyah Najafabadi, spoke of this dynamic as he stood in front of the Rafi-Nia's smoking remains.

"This attack demonstrates the complete hatred of the Zionist regime towards the Jews of Iran. ... Attacking a synagogue is a great insult to the Jews of Iran and the world. ... This attack contradicts the claim of supporting Jews worldwide and shows that they are lying."

Because the Iranian Jewish community loves their home country as well as their Jewish identity, their existence as Jews is unacceptable to Zionism. Outrage at the U.S.-Zionist bombing of Rafi-Nia was not limited to the Jewish community. The Council on American-Islamic Relations released a statement condemning "the Israeli regime's bombing of a synagogue in Tehran, which was the predict-

able end result of the indiscriminate U.S.-Israel bombing campaign against mosques, hospitals, schools, apartments and other civilian sites across Iran."

This is the exact sort of solidarity that U.S. imperialism wants to hide and destroy. Media outlets controlled by the same people making billions off war would tell us that the Muslim world and the Jewish world are locked in an ancient inherent blood feud.

History shows that the fight is not between Muslims and Jews, but between the global working class and the global ruling class, currently led by U.S. imperialism. Attacks on sacred religious sites, whether Muslim or Christian or Jewish or otherwise, are attacks on all working-class people. As the Iranian people have bound together regardless of ethnicity or religion, so must the entire global working class unite against U.S. imperialism.

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

'WAR AND LENIN in the 21st Century' Includes U.S. complicity in the Gaza genocide and military profiteering

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.

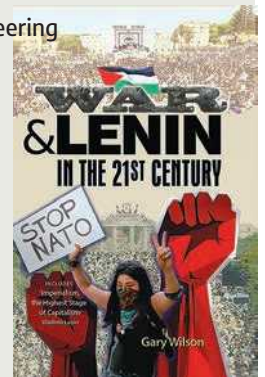
When WWI broke out, Lenin's main interest was promoting a socialist revolution to end the war. He exposed the war's economic roots and identified imperialism's key features: monopoly capitalism, finance capital, the export of capital, and colonialism – the imperialist division of the world.

Does Lenin's analysis of imperialism hold up today?

The U.S. emerged from WWII as the world's most powerful imperialist country, It established the U.S. dollar as the international currency and engages in endless wars. As in Lenin's time, the conclusion is that socialist revolution will end imperialist war, enabling workers to meet their own needs.

This book by Gary Wilson includes Lenin's original pamphlet.

Available in paperback or kindle at tinyurl.com/LeninAndWar



Iran has its grip on a vital artery of imperialism

By Gary Wilson

Oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz have largely been halted. Nationwide gas prices hit \$4 a gallon on March 31, according to AAA.

Analysts warn prices could reach \$6 or \$7 in California by midsummer. The cause is the practical shutdown of the Strait of Hormuz, one of the main arteries through which global capitalism moves its energy supply.

The U.S. has been bombing Iran since late February. It has not reopened the strait. It is burning through weapons trying. These facts have led some bourgeois analysts to describe Iran as an emerging pole of power. That is a surface description, not a class analysis. Lenin's analysis of imperialism shows what is actually at work.

Lenin defined imperialism as a stage of capitalism in which monopoly capital uses the state and its military power to control raw materials, markets and investment outlets.

The postwar order built by Washington — the petrodollar system, the network of bases and client states across West Asia, the carrier groups in the Persian Gulf — is how that power has been enforced.

Hormuz is the narrowest point in that system. Roughly a third of the world's seaborne oil passes through it. Oil and petrochemicals from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Iraq and Qatar move through that corridor. The dollar's role in oil pricing — a pillar of U.S. financial

A petrochemical facility operates at dusk. Plants like this depend on steady, predictable flows of oil moving through the Strait of Hormuz. Even without a formal blockade, disruptions to that flow are enough to destabilize production across the global economy.



dominance since the 1970s — rests in part on that flow staying open.

Iran is not an imperialist power in Lenin's sense. It does not seek to carve up the world among monopolies. What it has done is position itself at the system's weakest point. It has not seized the means of production. It has seized control over the movement of what imperialism most depends on.

Traffic through Hormuz has dropped by more than 90% since the war began. Iran has not physically blocked the strait — and it hasn't had to. War-risk insurance has been pulled, and even occasional hits on tankers are enough to disrupt traffic. Modern capitalism runs on oil delivered on time, at scale and at predictable cost. Break that predictability, and the whole system starts to come apart.

Washington cannot restore that stability because the U.S. ruling class built a system to dominate global circulation, then stripped down the industrial base it now needs to wage war. The U.S. entered this war with thin stocks of key weapons, and by April multiple assessments said those inventories were hitting critical lows. These weapons are slow to make and hard to replace. That is not just a planning failure. It is the result of decades of gutting the industrial base.

Since the 1970s, the U.S. ruling class has shifted manufacturing overseas and driven investment toward financial returns instead of production. Defense contractors were reorganized around shareholder value, not industrial capacity. Weapons are built to be costly, not to be produced quickly or replaced in large numbers.

The result is a military that burns through irreplaceable inventory against an adversary using cheaper, asymmetric weapons and cannot replace it fast enough to keep up. Over four decades, the U.S. ruling class extracted so much value from the productive base that it weakened the very war machine on which its global power depends.

Iran did not create the contradictions now tearing U.S. imperialist strategy apart. Imperialism created them. Iran is exploiting them at the system's most vulnerable point, patiently and at a fraction of the cost. Imperialism is capitalism in decay. As that decay deepens, the system grows more unstable and more dangerous. In the Strait of Hormuz, that is now plain to see. #

Trump's Iran ceasefire: Capitulation

By Gary Wilson

Washington is selling Trump's announced two-week ceasefire with Iran as a diplomatic victory. In reality, it looks like a retreat dressed up as a deal, following a U.S. operation near Isfahan that appears to have gone badly wrong.

Iran and the U.S. are not describing the same terms because Washington did not emerge from the confrontation in a position to dictate them. Tehran says it retains control over passage through the Strait of Hormuz, including the right to charge fees. Trump is presenting this as a pause in his threat to "end Iran as a civilization," tied to reopening the Strait on terms Iran has not accepted.

Iran's terms go beyond a U.S.-Iran pause. They call for an end to all hostile action, including Israeli attacks on Lebanon and Gaza and strikes on Iraq. Israel said it backed the



Smoke rises from an explosion following an Israeli strike in Tyre, Lebanon, April 8, 2026, as Israeli attacks continued despite Washington's announced ceasefire with Iran.

ceasefire only as it applied to Iran — and on April 8 continued some of its heaviest strikes on Lebanon.

This is not a single agreed-upon text. It is two governments announcing different terms and calling it a deal.

What Washington is calling a ceasefire looks more like a retreat it was forced to disguise — particularly after what appears to have been a

serious military setback near Isfahan. Twenty-four hours earlier, Trump was threatening to "end Iran as a civilization over a four-hour period." Iran is a country of 94 million people.

The threat was not a metaphor. Carried out, it would have meant genocidal mass killing. Stepping back from that brink is not a diplomatic achievement. It is the bare minimum after a threat of a monstrous criminal apocalypse.

But what happened at Isfahan remains an open question, and Iran's account has received almost no serious airing in the U.S. press.

What Iran says happened

The U.S. has acknowledged only part of what happened near Isfahan. An F-15E was shot down over central Iran. A large rescue mission involving dozens of aircraft and special operations forces operating inside Iranian

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Hegseth purges military leadership as Iran war unravels

By Gary Wilson

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth fired Army Chief of Staff Gen. Randy George on April 2, ordering him to retire immediately. George is one of more than a dozen senior officers pushed out since January.

According to NBC News, George — whose four-year term was expected to run until September 2027 — sought a meeting with Hegseth after the defense secretary blocked promotions for Army officers selected for advancement, targeting women and Black men. Hegseth refused to meet, officials told NBC.

The New York Times reported that the same intervention extended to command appointments. Hegseth's chief of staff, Ricky Buria, objected to the selection of Maj. Gen. Antoinette R. Gant to lead the Military District of Washington, saying Trump would not want to be seen publicly with a Black woman officer at military events.

Other officers removed include Gen. David Hodne and Maj. Gen. William Green Jr., chief of Army chaplains.

The firings have drawn unusual pushback. Republicans on the House Armed Services Committee have defended George publicly. Rep. Mike Rogers praised his efforts to modernize the Army, while Rep. Austin Scott called him a “principled leader.” Retired Gen. Jack Keane also criticized the decision.

Arlington, Va. — Military funeral honors at Arlington National Cemetery. The New York Times reported that Hegseth's chief of staff opposed a Black woman general's appointment to a ceremonial command role, saying Trump would not want to be seen with a Black woman officer at events like this, as the war expands and casualties grow.



The dismissals recall the Saturday Night Massacre under Nixon — the 1973 purge of Justice Department officials who refused to carry out the president's orders. Military analysts and former officials say officers are being forced out for resisting illegal orders and objecting to the ideological direction Hegseth is imposing on the armed services.

That direction includes a sharp turn toward Christian nationalist doctrine. Hegseth has gone beyond imposing evangelical services at the Pentagon. The New York Times reports that he urged the public to pray “every day, on

bended knee’ for victory in Iran “in the name of Jesus Christ.” He has also brought in clergy from his own denomination, including Rev. Doug Wilson, a self-described ‘paleo-Confederate’ who has defended Christian enslavers and argued that women should be denied the vote. Chaplains report being sidelined as protections for non-Christian service members are rolled back.

Hegseth's public rhetoric has crossed into openly criminal territory. At a March 13 press conference, he said U.S. forces would show “no
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dressed as a deal

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territory recovered the surviving crew member. Two C-130 transports were then destroyed on the ground to prevent capture. Trump still celebrated the operation as a triumph.

Iran tells a sharply different story. Iranian Revolutionary Guard commanders and Foreign Ministry officials say their air defenses shot down the F-15E and then repelled a much larger follow-on U.S. operation that escalated into air and ground combat on Iranian soil.

Iranian military briefings say their forces destroyed the two transport aircraft and other U.S. helicopters and drones. How many and what types are still disputed, and Washington has not confirmed them.

Iran also claims it struck U.S. positions in Kuwait and the UAE during the same period and caused dozens of casualties.

Struggle-La Lucha cannot independently verify these claims, and the U.S. has confirmed only the loss of the F-15E and the destruction of the two disabled transports.

Iran's account goes beyond aircraft losses to the question of what the operation was for. Iranian military officials have accused the U.S. of using the rescue mission as cover for an attempt to seize enriched uranium near Isfahan. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei was more measured, saying that explanation “should not be ruled out.” Iranian officials note that southern Isfahan, where multiple U.S. aircraft reportedly came down, sits near a key node in Iran's 60% enriched uranium program. In their telling, U.S. forces were driven off before they could achieve their objective.

Tehran is drawing a broader political conclusion: that Washington has abandoned any genuine interest in diplomacy and is combin-

ing military force with deception against Iran's nuclear program. On that basis, Iran first rejected Trump's proposal and later agreed only to terms that differ sharply from Washington's version of the deal.

Whether or not Iran's full account proves accurate, the scale of the U.S. operation and the abrupt turn to a ceasefire suggest Washington hit limits it could not acknowledge without exposing the weakness behind its threats.

That pressure extends beyond Isfahan. An investigation by The Intercept found that nearly 750 U.S. troops have been killed or wounded in the region since October 2023, with one defense official calling it a “casualty cover-up” by U.S. Central Command.

What is being presented as a diplomatic success looks instead like an attempt to contain a war where Washington's threats ran ahead of what it could actually carry out. #

U.S. war on Iran puts food supply at risk

By Gary Wilson

The U.S. war on Iran is not only driving up oil prices. It is putting the food supply chain at risk.

The Strait of Hormuz has been effectively closed to normal commercial traffic. So far, most attention has gone to higher oil prices, disrupted liquefied natural gas shipments and rising fuel costs. But the shock is already moving beyond energy and into the commodity chain. That is where working people will be hit hardest.

For now, some ships are still arriving because they were already at sea when the war escalated. That has masked the full scale of the disruption. The cushion is running out.

Trump says the disruption can be managed because the United States is the world's largest oil and gas producer. That offers no protection. Oil sells on a global market at global prices. When supply is disrupted, U.S. energy companies cash in and working people pay more.

The crisis does not stop with crude. It moves through naphtha, petrochemicals and plastic, then into fertilizer and the shipping system that carries it all. Japan and South Korea get roughly 90% of their oil from the Gulf. When their economies are hit, the effects come back through the goods and components the U.S. economy depends on.

"We produce a lot" does not answer any of that.

One of the first breakdowns is already showing up in naphtha, a petroleum product used to make plastic. When refiners face uncertainty,



Nearly every item on a grocery shelf is wrapped in plastic made from petroleum. Disruptions to oil and petrochemical supplies during the war on Iran are beginning to ripple through packaging, shipping and food distribution.

they cut operating rates. Petrochemical producers pull back.

The modern food system runs on plastic. Grocery store shelves depend on plastic packaging to move meat, produce, dairy and prepared foods from processing plants to warehouses to stores. Without that packaging, much of that food cannot be shipped, stored or sold safely.

There is no quick substitute. Changing packaging materials requires retooling production lines, qualifying new suppliers and meeting food safety standards. That takes months, not days.

The next link is fertilizer. Natural gas is used to make ammonia, and ammonia is the base for most synthetic fertilizer. As gas prices rise and supply becomes uncertain, fertilizer producers adjust output. Those decisions are

being made now. Their effects will show up later, with farmers paying more and having fewer options at planting time.

Shipping is tightening at the same time. War-risk insurance premiums for vessels in the region have jumped. Some operators are not just paying more. They are avoiding the route altogether. That means fewer ships available to move goods, even when the goods exist. The problem is no longer only supply. It is whether goods can be delivered at all.

This is how a commodity chain begins to break down. Trouble in naphtha hits plastics. Trouble in plastics hits food packaging. Trouble in food packaging hits distribution. Each disruption pushes more strain onto the next link.

The blow will not land all at once. It will build. Fuel costs rise. Packaging costs rise. Shipping costs rise. Food prices rise. Working people, who spend a larger share of their income on food, are hit first and hardest.

Economies across East and Southeast Asia are already showing early strain. Europe and the United States are still drawing on stockpiles and cargo already in transit. But those flows will not be replaced at normal rates as long as the strait remains effectively closed.

The Trump administration launched this war while cutting food assistance, Medicaid and housing support. The people most exposed to rising prices and supply disruptions are the same people losing what little protection they have.

This is how an imperialist war works. Oil monopolies, weapons contractors and finance capital gain. Workers pay. #

Hegseth purges military leadership as Iran war unravels

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quarter, no mercy." In military law, "no quarter" means killing combatants who try to surrender — a clear violation of the law of armed conflict. The Pentagon's own Law of War Manual identifies such statements as war crimes.

The widening assault is showing up in the target list as well. The World Health Organization says it has verified more than 20 attacks on health care in Iran since March 1.

France 24 reported strikes on eight pharmaceutical factories, including a cancer drug facility. It also reported strikes on 60 pharmacies and the Pasteur Institute of Iran in Tehran, a major center for medical research and vaccine production.

The Iranian Red Crescent says 307 health, medical and emergency-care facilities have been damaged in the war.

On April 4, U.S. strikes hit near the Bushehr nuclear power plant, a civilian electricity-generating facility, drawing warnings from the International Atomic Energy Agency that nuclear power sites must never be attacked because damage could spread radioactive contamination across a wide area.

The purge is unfolding as the U.S. war on Iran is failing. Trump claimed Iran's air defenses were "100% annihilated." Two days later, U.S. forces lost an F-15E and an A-10, and two rescue helicopters were hit. Iran is relying on passive infrared systems that are harder to detect. As the war fails to produce the quick victory promised, voices around Trump are pushing wider aims. Those aims include forcing open the Strait of Hormuz and threatening Kharg Island, the hub of Iran's oil exports.

The U.S. Navy has already failed to secure the

Red Sea against attacks from Yemen. Hormuz would be a larger and more consequential test.

The war is opening a political split at home. A CNN/SSRS poll found 66% disapprove of Trump's war on Iran, with similar results across multiple surveys. Opposition rises further on escalation: Roughly three-quarters oppose sending ground troops, including a majority of Republicans.

The split is now out in the open. Republicans who long demanded deference to military commanders are now breaking with the administration while a war is underway.

The brass are not opponents of imperialism. They have spent their careers carrying out U.S. wars. What is breaking down is unity within the ruling class over how to conduct a war that is failing. This is a fight over how imperialist policy is carried out, not whether to carry it out. #

Israel massacres Lebanon under cover of U.S. ‘ceasefire’



Beirut, Lebanon — Rescue workers search for survivors in the rubble after Israeli airstrikes on April 8, 2026, hours after Washington announced a ceasefire with Iran.

By Gary Wilson

Israeli jets killed at least 254 people in Lebanon on April 8 — the deadliest single day of Israeli attacks on the country since 2006 — just hours after the Trump administration announced a ceasefire with Iran that was already disputed in its terms, then turned around and denied that it covered Lebanon.

Strikes hit apartment buildings, residential streets and crowded commercial areas across central Beirut and the southern suburbs. More than 1,100 people were wounded, including 35 children.

The ceasefire was mediated by Pakistan, whose ambassador to Washington confirmed on April 8 that Lebanon was included. Iran’s parliamentary speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said there was “no room for retreat or evasion” on that point. The White House approved a statement saying exactly that, then reversed itself once the bombs began to fall.

Within hours, Israel launched the bombardment. An attack on this scale does not happen outside U.S. policy. Whatever the ceasefire

said on paper, Israel acted in the space Washington allowed and protected.

Trump backed Israel’s claim that Lebanon was never covered, calling it a “separate skirmish.” White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt confirmed the same line.

This was not a misunderstanding. It was policy.

Iranian officials drew the obvious conclusion. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Washington had to choose between a ceasefire and continuing the war through Israel. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian warned that continued attacks on Lebanon would make negotiations meaningless. Iran also signaled to mediators that participation in talks depended on a ceasefire in Lebanon.

Netanyahu gave the answer April 8. He said Israel would keep striking Hezbollah “whenever necessary.” Hours earlier, Vice President J.D. Vance said Israel would scale back attacks to allow negotiations. Netanyahu contradicted him almost immediately.

Trump made clear that the war posture had

not changed, saying U.S. forces would remain in place and prepare for further operations. Washington talks about de-escalation. Israel keeps bombing.

Trump’s ceasefires in the region have not stopped war. They have paused it without resolving the conflicts behind it. The June 2025 ceasefire after the B-2 bombing of Iran’s nuclear facilities was followed by the full-scale war that began Feb. 28. There is no reason to expect a different outcome now.

Leading voices in the press and both parties did not condemn the slaughter in Lebanon. They complained that the ceasefire left Iran with too much leverage over the Strait of Hormuz and failed to secure U.S. strategic aims. The dispute in Washington was not over peace. It was over how to continue the war.

Washington does not offer ceasefires to end wars. It offers them to buy time, calm markets and give Israel room to keep striking.

April 8 in Beirut stripped that bare. The ceasefire headline went around the world. The bombs fell in Lebanon. #

Cesar Chavez y el patriarcado que domina la sociedad capitalista de los Estados Unidos

Women in Struggle/Mujeres en Lucha y Struggle-La Lucha recibieron la siguiente carta de una hermana Latine después de que los informes de abuso sexual por parte del exlíder de United Farm Workers, César Chávez, aparecieran en el New York Times y otros medios de comunicación convencionales:

Carta

Por Aquino

Estoy de acuerdo en que tenemos que nombrar a los abusadores y violadores pero me pregunto, ¿cuál es la intención de los medios corporativos al enfocarse en esto cuando hay tantos ataques serios que peligran la existencia de la humanidad?

¿En realidad les importa proteger a las mujeres o están tratando de desacreditar todo un movimiento? ¿En realidad estarán interesados en sacar a la luz la cultura sexista, chovinista, y violadora que está tan arraigada en el capitalismo y se ve desde el pueblo más pequeño a las oficinas gubernamentales más altas? ¿Acaso esto será un llamado para que remuevan a todos los violadores, racistas y pedófilos de las posiciones de poder? ¿Esto será un intento de honrar las matriarcas y el papel de las mujeres en nuestra sociedad? ¿Invertirán dinero para que mujeres tengan acceso a educación, trabajos con salarios justos, o terminar con la masculinidad tóxica?

Me agüité al escuchar que uno de nuestros héroes organizadores no era la persona perfecta que había imaginado. Me tomó por sorpresa y tomó tiempo reconocer que esto era real. Pero luego me entró el enojo al pensar que esta información no salió a la luz antes y que otra vez las personas más conectadas a los principios matriarcos son las más afecta-



Verónica Mota encabeza la marcha de los Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos en Delano, California, el 3 de agosto de 2022. Las trabajadoras continúan organizándose contra la explotación y la desigualdad

das. También enojo a la realidad que los más vulnerables de esta sociedad son tratados peor que animales y los Murdochs, Bezos, y Sulzbergers del mundo esperan que esto sirva como un último golpe al movimiento.

La verdad es que sí, nuestros espacios en el movimiento no son exentos a la cultura tóxica del capitalismo — después de todo vivimos en el Vientre de la Bestia. Aun con nuestros esfuerzos para crear espacios socialistas donde las mujeres en realidad tienen el derecho de hacer decisiones sobre su cuerpo, escoger su pareja, cómo se visten y si quieren ser madres, el patriarcado se mete en nuestros espacios.

Esto es un recordatorio que mientras el patriarcado sea lo normal, nosotros que practicamos el matriarcado no estaremos a salvo — y el capitalismo es el sistema más patriarcal que

nunca. Un sistema que explota no solo a mujeres pero a cualquier humano lo suficientemente capaz de trabajar. Como dice bell hooks: “El movimiento feminista para terminar con la opresión en contra de las mujeres solo ganará cuando se dedica también a la revolución y al establecimiento de un nuevo orden social.”

No ganaremos sanarnos del daño del patriarcado hasta que el capitalismo caiga completamente. Mientras tanto, seguiremos en la lucha para dar luz a espacios comunitarios que se organizan con principios del matriarcado y así ayudando nuestra transición al socialismo.

Para una mayor apreciación de la carta de Aquino, se incluye la siguiente breve explicación de términos clave.

Matriarcado, Matrilineal: Sociedades comunales anteriores donde la ascendencia se trazaba a través de la familia de la madre. La riqueza producida — vivienda y sustento — se compartía para la supervivencia de todos.

Patriarcado, Patrilineal: Sociedades formadas generalmente después del desarrollo de la agricultura. La riqueza social y los recursos se convirtieron en propiedad privada. La ascendencia se trazaba a través de la familia del padre con riqueza y propiedades heredadas. El surgimiento del patriarcado introdujo la estratificación de la sociedad en clases.

Socialismo: Una sociedad cuya economía es controlada y organizada por la clase trabajadora para el bien común. #

Ocho millones de personas se manifiestan en ‘No Kings 3’ mientras la política antibélica surge desde la base

Por Gary Wilson

Los organizadores montaron el escenario. Las multitudes aportaron la política.

Más de 8 millones de personas llenaron las calles en más de 3.000 ciudades y pueblos de todo el país el 28 de marzo en la tercera ronda de protestas «No Kings»: la mayor movilización hasta la fecha contra la administración Trump y, según el recuento de los organizadores, la mayor protesta de un solo día en la historia de EE. UU.

Las cifras provienen del Movimiento 50501, la organización en línea que cofundó la cam-

paña «No Kings» junto con Indivisible y MoveOn. Las multitudes se agolparon en Nueva York, Los Ángeles, Chicago, Atlanta y Dallas.

«No Kings» se diseñó para contener el movimiento dentro de la política del Partido Demócrata y canalizar la creciente ira hacia las elecciones de 2026. Pero las multitudes traspasaron ese marco.

En casi todas las protestas se vieron pancartas y se escucharon consignas contra la guerra, a pesar de que los organizadores oficiales restaron importancia

o ignoraron la guerra de EE. UU. contra Irán en sus mensajes públicos. La página web oficial de No Kings enumeraba quejas que iban desde la sanidad hasta la corrupción y los multimillonarios, pero no mencionaba la guerra contra Irán. Los organizadores de varias ciudades la mantuvieron fuera del programa, y

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