

# RED FLAG

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM



THE NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST WORKERS' PARTY \* WWW.ICWPREDFLAG.ORG



From Rodney King to Trayvon Martin:

## ONLY COMMUNISM CAN END RACIST TERROR

LOS ANGELES – Twenty years after the Rodney King verdict set off a week-long rebellion in Los Angeles, the masses protesting the latest wave of racist murders still shout “No Justice – No Peace!” But outrage is not enough. We need to understand why and how we, the masses, must turn this system upside down. Instead of demanding “Justice for Trayvon” we must boldly proclaim the need to destroy capitalism with communist revolution.

A dozen MTA workers signed a letter, circulated by ICWP, to the families of Trayvon Martin and Kendrec McDade (executed by the Pasadena, CA police). The letter said, in part, “We condemn the police, courts and the whole capitalist system for the murders, a system based on exploitation and racism to divide and terrorize the working class in the interests of the profits and control by the rich.”

The letter continued, “In a communist society... masses will be mo-

bilized to quickly and decisively punish any racist act. There won't be courts, judges or cops... Without wages or money, the working class won't be divided by racism, but united in meeting our needs.”

These transit workers, too, have felt the pain of the loss of a co-worker who was harassed literally to his death by a racist supervisor doing the bidding of her capitalist masters. Like Pasadena cops Newlen and Griffin who gunned down Kendrec, this supervisor still walks free.

Our comrades have also gathered signatures on this letter while distributing *Red Flag* at mass protests and at schools.

### Capitalism's Contradictions Open Door to Revolution

The US rulers are in a bind. They must tighten their belts around the necks of the masses in a desperate effort to stem the decline of their empire. That means intensified racism to keep us divided. It means

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The Wheel of History is Turning

## TRANSIT WORKERS DISCUSS MAY DAY POLITICAL STRIKE

LOS ANGELES--Last Friday, as we were leaving work, a bus driver came up to us and asked us if the mechanics already have a contract signed. We said “no” and so he continued, saying that in that case we'll probably have to march on May 1st, because he heard that many unions are calling for a general strike for that date. At this moment, another driver joined the discussion and said, “This is what *Red Flag* says, that we need to march.”

The first driver intervened and added, “But this event is national.”

Again, the second driver assured us that he had read this in *Red Flag*. The first driver, probably wanting to show that his information was important, repeated that the march is being also prepared in the Middle East and other parts of the world.

“It's true,” affirmed one of the mechanics in the conversation. And he gave a short historical explanation about May Day, International Workers' Day.

“What a shame,” complained the first driver, “that we already have a contract and we won't be marching.”

Surprised, the second driver exclaimed, “But *Red Flag* says that this should be a political strike.”

This conversation, after thinking about it, strengthened my conviction that *Red Flag*, through this concentration, is carrying out the work hoped for, winning the minds and loyalty, in this case, of transit workers. Sometimes we get desperate because the march is slow, and so we don't push with effort, with passion, with conviction. The wheel of history is moving and the more we push, the sooner it will start to roll fast.

The process of building a revolutionary communist base requires many ingredients. Much urgency but also much patience, because revolutionary communist understanding is the most advanced ideological level with which the working

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## U.S., China Wrestle Over South China Sea

### TURN THE TIDE TOWARD COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

The South China Sea is very important. As the second busiest sea lane in the world, it transports goods all over the globe. Dubbed the “Second Persian Gulf,” it is estimated to hold 350,000 barrels of oil and about 800 trillion cubic feet of gas. It is one of the richest fisheries on the planet, holding one third of the entire world’s marine biodiversity.

It is a rich natural environment that could be developed peacefully for the well being of humanity for centuries to come. That, however, can only be accomplished under communism where collectivity will rule and production will be to satisfy the needs of the international working class.

Under capitalism, peaceful coexistence and development are impossible because production is based on exchange for money. This creates an inhumane system where a handful of capitalists are superrich while billions of workers are denied their basic needs, and untold millions are slaughtered and maimed in the capitalists’ wars for profits.

#### Threatening war clouds gather over the South China Sea

“The US-China wrestling match over the South China Sea issue has raised the stakes in deciding who the real future ruler of the planet will be,” wrote the Chinese imperialists’ *Global Times* (8/2010). That “ruler,” however, will be decided by war: world war.

Both the US and Chinese imperialists are preparing for this eventual and inevitable clash.

Obama’s “Pivot to Asia-Pacific” is to substantially build up US forces in the Indian Ocean to

militarily contain China. China, on the other hand, is rapidly modernizing its armed forces, including doubling its military budget by 2015, to replace the US as the dominant power in the region.

#### World events show war is unfolding sooner than most think

According to the IMF, the Chinese economy will overtake the US’ in real terms by 2016. Some analysts claim the Chinese economy is already 20% larger than the US’ and will be double that of the US by 2020.

In the final analysis, the industrial base of an imperialist country determines its military might. China surpasses the U.S. in the production of everything from steel to electronics.

This is what is enabling China to rapidly close its military gap with the U.S. It is forcing the US to confront China sooner rather than later.

#### Imperialists’ modern industries and war machines paralyzed without oil

One of the US bosses’ main goals in the Asia-Pacific region is to maintain their control of the strategic water lanes through which 80% of China’s imported oil must travel. In case of war, they are positioned to starve China of this oil.

To avoid this, the Chinese imperialists, to the consternation of the US, continue to build alternative land routes from Myanmar (Burma), Turkmenistan, and Russia to China. US war threats against Iran are to prevent its vast energy resources from flowing to China by land.

Complicating things more for US bosses, however, China is claiming as part of its territory 80% of the South China Sea. To extract its energy resources, China is building new deep sea oil platforms that en-

hance its deep-water drilling capabilities from 1,640 feet to a depth of nearly two miles.

China Offshore National Oil Corp., the country’s largest offshore oil producer, plans to invest \$30 billion and drill 800 deep-water wells raising its deep-water oil and natural gas output to 500 million barrels of oil equivalent by 2020. This is equivalent to about one third of China’s yearly energy imports.

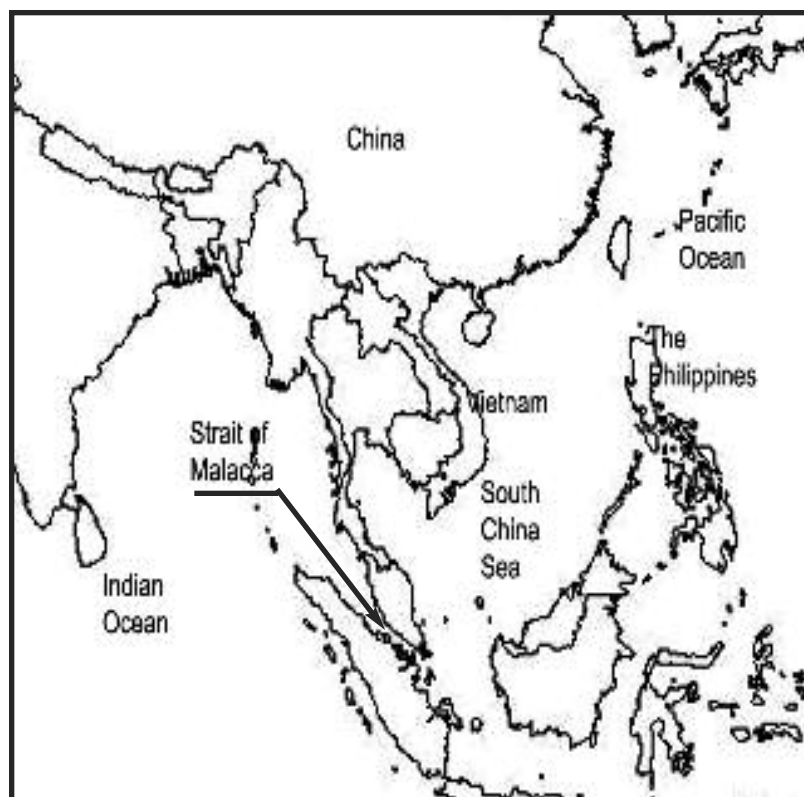
The potential is much greater. And so is the potential for war. It could ignite wars with Vietnam and the Philippines, whose claims to this sea conflict with China’s.

But, geopolitically, China’s ability to tap these resources and defend them militarily will radically alter the US bosses plans. It will force them to opt for war sooner.

#### Perseverance, patience and urgency needed to mobilize the masses for Communism

As war draws closer, hundreds of millions – most likely billions – will be drawn into the political arena. These masses will be looking for radical solutions to their questions about of capitalism.

The bosses will try to blind them with patriotism, nationalism and anti-communism to get them to defend their blood-soaked profits and empires. Turning the tide in favor of communist revolution under these conditions will require a Party steeled in the struggle of mobilizing the masses for Communism. With perseverance, patience and urgency the victory shall be ours!



China’s New Deep Sea Oil Rig

#### MTA MAY DAY from page 1

class must be armed to defend a triumphant revolution.

A revolution can be led by any armed group with a little discipline and with the boldness to take power. But to be able to know what to do with the power after the revolution, a communist party is necessary, indispensable, with a base of workers, soldiers, farmworkers, students, etc, who know, who understand and who put into practice the philosophy of dialectical materialism, historical materialism, and political economy. Our base must know that the struggle for a

communist society will be the mother of all wars because we will not leave any stone unturned that hinders, detains or turns us from the path to a new collective, communist world. We don’t want half-way revolutions, because they will end up in bed with the murderers and those who cause hunger, defending a system that they once hated and fought.

Following these precepts in this historic moment, the main task of the party members is without any doubt the spreading of communist ideas and the recruitment of new communists to the party.

In this fundamental task of communist politi-

cization and recruitment, *Red Flag* plays the main role. Our newspaper represents the ideas of mobilizing the masses for communism in practice. That’s why it’s so important to write about our experiences, about our conversations, about questions or comments of our base.

Let’s increase the distribution of *Red Flag*, and build more study groups. Ask our relatives, friends, our co-workers to organize for May Day, to join the Party, to help mobilize even if they’re not yet 100% convinced. We have a world to win! Long live May Day! Long live Communist Revolution! Long live ICWP!



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## EATING OUR WAY TO MAY DAY

SEATTLE, WA — A Boeing comrade and his long-term friend and ally shared a meal with longshore workers, electrical workers, healthcare and school workers, students and unemployed on Saturday night. New friends from OccupySeattle, fresh from a demonstration against the racist murder of Trayvon Martin, joined other ICWP members and their friends. About thirty black, latin@, asian and white young adults and veteran comrades discussed our goals for May Day and throughout the summer.

We will follow up next weekend with another of our “pizza and politics” nights. Some of our friends and comrades are in the process of getting their teaching certificates. Veteran teachers, professors and school workers will open up a discussion on “communist education, not capitalist education.” In keeping with our vision of communist education, H.S. students and college students, workers and unemployed will all help us develop our understanding.

Throughout all these May Day social events,



**March 27 – Community college students sign condolence cards to the families of victims of racist murder and take May Day stickers, copies of *Red Flag*, and OccupyLA May Day flyers.**

the May 1st march and beyond, we aim to fight for our guiding principle: mobilize the masses for communism. Indeed, many of our new friends had just read our manifesto of the same name. It was the basis of much of our discussion throughout the night.

### Many Open To Communist Struggle

As an ICWP slideshow on the last two May Days played, Boeing workers and their friends in longshore and electrical trades grappled with the new situation among industrial workers. In almost every U.S. industry, unions have shamelessly been promoting speed-up and passivity in the face of crushing attacks. They have abandoned any pretext of class struggle as well as a whole generation of new workers.

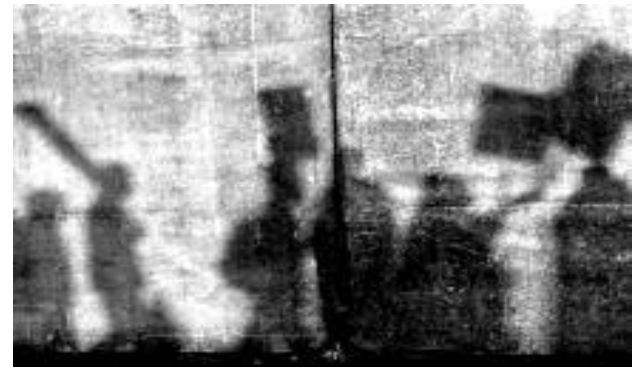
Were the disgusting concessions in the new ILWU contract just a bigger sellout brought on by fear among the pro-capitalist union leaders that the uprising at Longview would spread? Are the bosses taking advantage of the “boom and bust” cycle to speed up the remaining electrical workers? Or has reformist trade unionism outlived its usefulness in an era of worldwide crisis and preparation for war and eventually world war?

We say nothing less than communist revolution will do. We judge winning by how many have gained communist consciousness in these struggles.

A new friend, who had been around one of our strikes, perceptively raised that she sensed Boeing IAM was pushing anti-Chinese racism and US patriotism. They blame foreign workers for taking union jobs.

Boeing workers explained how most of the subcontracting and non-union, low-wage work was actually done in the US and the political ramifications of that fact. Of course, the bosses labor lieutenants are not just trying to avoid a fight. They have publicly said that the unions are indispensable to the bosses as they build for war.

Our new friends brought a leaflet they had written for the Trayvon demonstration that said in part, “Communism Isn’t Done.” Their leaflet tried to outline a vision of a communist society.



They asked for some of our leaflets. We gave them the Party’s leaflet we distributed in December during the contract extension fight. It used the contract battle to raise the question “Whose factory is this anyway?” The Occupiers liked how the leaflet used one issue to talk in some depth about how communism would work.

The longshore worker read aloud a *Red Flag* letter from a Boeing worker on the struggle in the shop around Trayvon Martin. It described in part how we would mobilize the masses to deal with racism after the revolution.

This led to another series of discussions on how to eliminate racism and sexism with communist revolution.

### Dig In; Have Confidence In Our Base

These discussions went on for three hours. Many expressed a desire to get jobs at Boeing, encouraged, no doubt, by our history of communist struggle.

This evening showed the value of mass distribution of our manifesto, *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*. We aim to get this pamphlet in the hands of tens of thousands. We’ve already distributed at least ten thousand. More in our base have committed themselves to distributing our pamphlet on May 1st.

Plans were made and phone numbers exchanged. Clearly, these days many more people are disgusted with capitalism and those trying to contain our energies to the futile attempt to reform it. It’s an opening to the long, hard struggle to win many to a communist vision and the ICWP.

Now on to a communist mobilization for May Day.

## COMMUNISTS FIGHT FOR UNITY OF STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND WORKERS

MÉXICO—During the month of March, in the majority of the county’s university unions, labor contracts are reviewed. This year, the workers’ and teachers’ unions of the two biggest agricultural universities in the country went on strike. One strike lasted over a month and the other, twenty days. In another university for agricultural research and education, both the professors’ union and the workers’ union decided to accept the crumbs from the bosses and didn’t go on strike.

The unions that decided to go on strike set the pattern so that the others didn’t. They determined the limit of the negotiations for the rest of the unions. Several unions in the country based their struggle on equaling the wages and benefits of the “better paid” unions. This whole situation condemns them to place the chains of slavery on the working class. No union fights to eliminate wage slavery and to destroy the capitalist system that brought it into existence. We need to break the chains of unionism, to unite the whole working class and our allies to liberate ourselves through a communist revolution.

Capitalist education instills division in our class. As we were passing in front of the agricultural university on strike, we read a sign that said, “Workers, go back to work, stop slacking off and let us study—student sector.”

This situation led to a very long talk with a friend of the party who is a student at the university. We focused the discussion about how the capitalist system through its educational institutions opposes the working class. The children of workers, farmworkers, unemployed, professors and soldiers who study in these universities get to the point of complaining about the class that they belong to, and on several occasions come to the point of attacking the workers, as in the case in this university, where the student leaders organized a march to the capital to demand of the workers and the authorities that they end the conflict of the strike so that they could continue their studies.

Our friend told us first that not all the students agreed with these anti-worker actions, and that the authorities were interfering in these actions to pressure the workers to end the strike. Our friend is a very good person and has many friends in the university, among them workers and students. She reads *Red Flag* consistently and we’ve



analyzed our manifesto *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*, invited her to the May Day march and she’s shown great openness. She is an ally that our class needs. We have a lot of plans with her. We’ve been selling thousands of *Red Flags* and hundreds of MMC’s in these last few months with students and workers of this university, which is permitting us to work closer with our friends to build ICWP.



## Why are we in school?™

### PRIVATE OR PUBLIC, COLLEGES SERVE CAPITALIST RULERS

SANTA MONICA, CA, April 6— Santa Monica College (SMC) trustees postponed a new “two-tier” tuition program after hundreds of students protested and dozens were pepper-sprayed last week. “Is this a win for the protesters?” journalists asked. Yes and no—mainly no!

The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges had warned that this program may be illegal. More important, stopping it doesn’t confront the basic fact that community colleges serve the capitalists, not working-class students. The brave students who are fighting so hard against fee hikes and budget cuts need to set their sights on communist revolution. Only communism can eliminate privilege and make education truly serve the working class.

Last year, SMC trustees fought for AB 515, which would have allowed them to offer for-credit classes through Extension programs. Student and faculty groups organized against it. They warned that it would accelerate the trend toward privatization. It would penalize working-class students. The bill was shelved, but SMC is going ahead anyway, charging \$180 per unit (versus the regular \$46).

However the SMC situation is resolved, privatization is well underway. For example, Pharmacy Tech programs at El Camino and West LA College compete for students able to pay \$2500-\$3000 for a seven-month course. Other Extension courses compete with for-credit offerings ranging from music and drawing to English, American Sign Language, and computer science.

This continuing fight has opened up many useful debates. Some accept the administrators’ pro-capitalist argument that “everyone benefits” from free-market pricing. Others think that only public education allows everyone the opportunity to succeed. This, too, is an important pro-capitalist myth. It builds the patriotism the rulers need as they gear up for world war. One teacher spoke of “the value of public education for a prosperous and democratic nation. We need to come up with the best ideas to face this crisis and strengthen our system.”

### Racist Terror from page 1

more open terror to try to head off revolt.

The murders of 19-year-old Kendrec McDade, of 22-year-old Rekia Boyd (killed by an off-duty Chicago detective on March 21), and of 68-year-old Marine veteran Kenneth Chamberlain (killed by White Plains, NY police in his home last November) are not “isolated incidents.” According to the US Department of Justice, US police officers report committing an average of one “justifiable” (in their opinion) homicide PER DAY. Almost three out of five of the victims are black.

At the same time, Obama is leading the way in



April 1 – Marchers in the tenth annual Pasadena Palm Sunday Peace Parade linked Trayvon and Kendrec’s murders with the massive death tolls of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. A member of Occupy Pasadena invited the crowd of nearly 200 adults and children (mainly liberal Christians) to take part in the May Day general strike.

### Colleges Are Illusion Factories

In contrast, our Party leaflet explained that “*The capitalist rulers are using this crisis as an opportunity to transform community colleges to meet the needs of their class to prepare for war on the backs of the working class.*” It called on students to “*question the very foundations of capitalist education and build a mass movement to destroy this deadly system with communist revolution.* ...

“*Under capitalism, some profit from scarcity and crisis while others suffer and starve. Under communism, we will all share hardship and we’ll all share the abundance our class will create....*”

“*Community colleges ... are illusion factories that teach us to sacrifice to get an education so as to escape from the working class.*”

“Oh, oh, oh, you go on and tell it!” exclaimed one student.

Public two-year colleges are under strong pressure to serve the US capitalist-imperialists in two somewhat contradictory ways. The rulers need their illusion factories. They impossibly promise that if you work hard you can transfer to a four-year college and get a job that won’t dirty your hands. But they need to push students through training programs quickly to get them where industry needs them. This has become primary, starting with Bush’s 2004 Community-Based Job Training Grants. Obama stepped it up with his Community College Initiative.

For example, a Washington State consortium recently got \$20,000,000 for “education, training and services necessary to meet Washington state’s growing workforce demands, as identified

preparing for all-out war, encircling China, Russia and Iran. The military is the main advantage left to the US capitalist-imperialists. Even the growing use of drones can’t get around their need to win more young people to fight patriotically in spite of vicious racist terror and economic hardship at home.

Look for the US rulers to play a two-faced game around the Trayvon Martin case. Florida authorities have arrested Zimmerman, charging him with 2nd degree murder. They are pushing the sanctity of “the rule of law.” At the same time, their media promote the racist lie that only black people care about Trayvon.

In particular they are trying to divide black from latin@ workers and youth, emphasizing that Zimmerman and Oscar Carrillo (who lied to the cops about Kendrec) are latino. In Pasadena, that’s not working very well. El Centro’s annual Cesar Chavez Day parade was renamed the Cesar Chavez/We Are Trayvon Martin Peace Walk, protesting for Kendrec as well as Trayvon.

Students at many schools and colleges have organized multi-racial protests, including a blockade of the Sanford, Florida police station. At the University of Southern California, a multi-racial team organized a rally and a panel discussion focused on the racist US criminal justice system and the role of the media in building racist divisions. One



Santa Monica College

by employer partners in the aerospace industry sectors of advanced manufacturing/machining, aircraft assembly, aircraft maintenance, composites and electronics.”

In communist society, education will be much more closely linked with work than it is now. But it won’t be driven by profit-hungry warmongering capitalists. Work won’t be an alienating “job.” We’ll all use our hands and minds to analyze, plan and carry out a social system of production that meets our needs. We’ll all teach, we’ll all learn, and we’ll all get our hands dirty. We’ll end competition, profit, and privilege in all aspects of life.

Some students started talking about friends with advanced degrees in sociology or literature who are stuck in boring minimum-wage jobs. “So why are we in school?” three 30-year-old students asked indignantly. Good question! Take those industrial training classes. Get a job where you can build a base among industrial workers or soldiers. Let’s educate ourselves in ICWP clubs and *Red Flag* study-action groups! We’ll learn together how to mobilize the masses for communism.



March 29 – Students at the University of Southern California rallied in solidarity with Trayvon Martin.

speaker identified capitalism as the root of racism and invited the 75 participants to march on May Day.

*Red Flag* readers, including ICWP members, must step up the work of linking these racist murders to the need to rid the world of racist capitalism by mobilizing for communism as we prepare for the May Day marches. Let’s join with friends and co-workers to write and distribute communist leaflets at our schools and workplaces that connect the racist murders and the conditions we face every day. They can help develop our understanding of how communism will solve these problems, and help get out our communist literature as massively as possible on May Day.



## CAPITALISTS USE MONEY TO TRICK WORKERS

Considering the dominant role money plays in our lives, we rarely stop and think about its nature. Every capitalist institution – the press, the schools, the politicians – hides or confuses us about the function of money.

In the 1960s the Beatles had two hit songs about money, “I don’t care too much for money, money can’t buy me love” and “Just give me money, that’s what I want.” We have a love-hate relationship with money. We’re confused and that’s dangerous. In reality, money is nothing more than a device that allows wealth that is socially produced to be converted into wealth that is privately owned. The capitalist few depend on money; we, the productive masses, don’t.

We don’t need money? That sounds crazy. We use it every day. And that’s what’s confusing. The way we use money forms the basis of our ideas about it - “Just give me money, that’s what I want.” We use it to pay the rent or mortgage, make car payments, feed the kids and so on. In our everyday life, money is useful. It’s “a medium of exchange,” where a commodity, or thing, exchanges ‘ownership’ through the medium of money.

To understand just how much this daily practice affects the way we think, imagine you had a job that pays \$2 million an hour. How many hours would you work before retiring for life? Maybe 2 or 3 to set up your family and friends ... maybe 4 or 5 to set up a Foundation to help others?

But would you work a whole year? And the following years too? Working a 40 hour week for 50 weeks a year (plus a 2 week vacation) you’d

take in \$4 billion. Who could possibly spend all that?

### MONEY MARKETS = MASS MURDER

The answer is hedge fund manager Ray Dalio. In 2011 Ray Dalio saw his earnings drop to \$3.9 billion. Clearly, Dalio’s class sees money in a radically different way than we do. To them it’s far more than “a medium of exchange.” It’s a way of privately storing the wealth we workers have made collectively and then using it as backing for credit to expand their social and political power.

A modest estimate would say Dalio could expand his \$3.9 billion seven times through credit. That is to say, Dalio could have some \$27.3 billion at his personal disposal. No one knows for sure because Hedge Fund operations are secret. The point is you can buy several university professors, set up a think tank, secure some media outlets, finance one or two NGOs and even assemble a small army with that amount of money.

Money is much more than a neutral “medium of exchange.” Money as capital is an enormous political and social power! Also, just as the capitalists hide their exploitation by making us think that wages are payment for our labor power, they also hide the true role of money. They create and foster the illusion that money is indispensable to produce and distribute the things we need to survive. Communism will shatter this illusion, eliminating money, the capitalists, and their production for profit.

### SPECULATORS HUNGRY FOR PROFIT; WORKERS HUNGRY FOR FOOD

The bosses’ press will never reveal the destructive and murderous effect that money as capital

has on the lives of the international working class. A glance at just one area in which these Hedge Fund managers act will be enough to understand the vicious impact of their operations.

Commenting on the quick rise in food prices in 2008, the British magazine *The New Statesman*, wrote “The reason for food ‘shortages’ is speculation in commodity futures following the collapse of the financial derivatives markets. Desperate for quick returns, dealers are taking trillions of dollars out of equities and mortgage bonds and plowing them into food and raw materials...

“The more prices rise, and big profits are made, the more others invest, hoping for big returns...The trouble is that if you are one of the 2.8 billion people, almost half the world’s population, who live on less than \$2 a day, you may pay for these profits with your life.” As *The Independent* (April 1st 2012) reported “Hedge funds, pension funds and investment banks such as Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley and Barclays Capital now dominate the food commodities market, dwarfing the amount traded by food producers and buyers.”

People do not eat coin, credit or paper money. Money is the means by which the labor of the majority is converted into the private wealth of the few. We do not need money in any form, only the bosses do. We need a world where human production is distributed by human organization – a massive communist party – and not by some mystical market. We need communism.

## THE MASSES NEED COMMUNISM, NOT “JUSTICE”

PASADENA, CA, April 10—Two hundred people rallied against the March 24th murder of 19-year-old Kendrec McDade by cops Griffin and Newlen. The cops, Iraq veterans, responded to Oscar Carrillo’s 911 call saying that two black youths with guns had robbed him. They found Kendrec and his friend, both unarmed. Within seconds, Kendrec lay dying in a hail of bullets.

Neighbors responded with an outpouring of anger and sorrow. Sixty youths marched to the scene of the killing, creating a memorial there. Many raised money for his burial. Four hundred attended the funeral.

The police cover-up started immediately. They arrested Carrillo for manslaughter and are ready to deport him while the killers are on paid leave, listed on the police report as “victims.” They reportedly got “victim’s compensation” while Kendrec’s family got nothing. The cop assigned to “investigate” is well-known as corrupt and brutal. Carrillo deserves no sympathy, but Pasadena cops routinely stop latin@ drivers, often forcing them to pay huge sums to ransom their cars from towing companies.

The NAACP organized today’s mainly-black rally with Kendrec’s parents and their lawyer. The crowd included an Armenian group, some Occupy protesters, and ten members of a mainly-white Unitarian church. “It could have been your son,” a black speaker said. “It could have been

mine,” echoed an Armenian. True. But the victims of Pasadena police violence are overwhelmingly black workers and youth. Time after time – as in the 2009 Oscar Barnes case – the cops go unpunished.

### What is “Justice”?

Lawyers and NAACP leaders demand a “federal civil rights investigation.” If one happens, they’ll probably shut up as they did after an “investigation” cleared the cops who killed Barnes. Their “justice” means getting the rulers to obey their own laws. They believe in the capitalist “justice” system. They say that “90% of the police are good.”

But so-called “bad apples” carry out the bosses’ policies. They terrorize communities, just as slave-drivers tortured slaves to death to terrorize other slaves, to prevent rebellion while maximizing profit. While capitalists rule over the working-class, their legal processes protect their power and property from us.

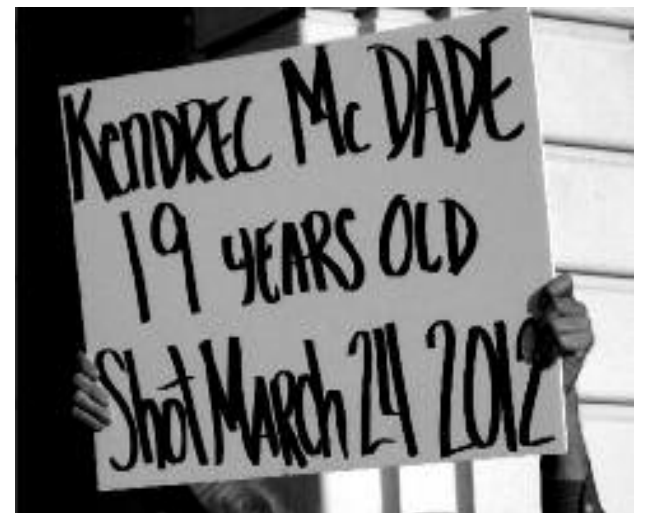
### Only communist revolution can end racist terror.

Communism won’t tolerate racist vigilantism or anything that disrupts the unity of the masses struggling for a world without private property or exploitation. It will reduce opportunities and motivation for anti-social behavior. When problems arise, the masses will work to “kill the disease, save the patient” while guaranteeing collective

safety. However we do this, communist principles – not legal processes – are primary.

The idea of “justice-as-fairness” seems more relevant than “justice-as-legal-process.” Communism means “from each according to commitment/ability, to each according to need” with no special privileges. “Social justice” attacks ruling-class privilege while trying to avoid the class struggle. But what’s “fair” to workers will not seem “fair” to deposed bosses. We even struggle politically with friends who think communism wouldn’t be “fair.”

There’s no “justice” under capitalism. But the abstract idea of “justice” also distracts us from the real work of mobilizing the masses for communism.



**MARCH AND STRIKE ON MAY DAY**  
**MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM**  
**WORK FOR OUR CLASS, NOT WAGE SLAVERY!**  
**DESTROY RACISM, EXPLOITATION & BORDERS!**



## Driver Fired for Accidentally Hitting Pedestrian

### **WHILE BOSSES GET AWAY WITH MURDER**

Maria is an MTA driver from Division #1 with 19 years' seniority. Early Tuesday morning on March 27, after finishing her shift (graveyard) on her pull-in to the Division, she accidentally hit a pedestrian.

Accident or not – regardless of who is at fault, serious injuries or not - MTA's policy is to fire the driver. She will be thrown into the street with no health insurance at a time when she needs help to cope with such traumatic experience. Her career as a driver will be finished and she won't be able to collect unemployment benefits to help her transition to another field of work.

For capitalism, everything comes down to money. Her accident opens MTA to a possible expensive lawsuit. This is her real "crime." With this excuse, after so many years of service, MTA will steal her pension and sick time and hire two new drivers with her salary and benefits.

Thus, for a handful of dollars, MTA's bosses are destroying this driver's life. This is the bosses' ethics. For them we are not humans, but beasts of burden to produce their profits. When we no longer "fit their purposes," we are discarded like garbage.

#### **How would communism deal with such accidents?**

No driver out there is looking forward to having accidents. Accidents will always occur. The question is to treat the people involved humanely. Only a communist society can do this because it will be based on human needs not money.

We would make sure that everything possible was done to expedite the recovery of all involved.

We would mobilize transit workers and the community to make sure that the injured, the drivers involved and all their families and friends got the support needed to cope with such a traumatic experience,

These mobilizations would plan how to make the streets and buses safer, and how to eliminate stress as much as possible in our daily life. This could only be done by improving and deepening our communist social and work relations. These relations, this social organization, will put our lives and well being above everything else. These relations will govern all aspects of society.

#### **Capitalism's hypocrisy has no limits**

Many MTA drivers' lives have been wantonly and cynically destroyed by MTA. Paul McDade, 49 years old, died from a heart attack, stressed out over being threatened with firing for picking up a small radio, lost by another operator, that fell from above his head. Others have been fired on trumped up embezzlement charges through TAP

cards when no money was taken, others for getting up from their seats "when not supposed to." Now, drivers can be fired for using their cell phone inside the bus, even if it is not moving when out of service.

Under capitalism, an accident can destroy our lives. Yet racist murderer George Zimmerman, who killed 17 year old Trayvon Martin, is being handled with kid gloves, as are the two Pasadena cops who on March 24th murdered Kendrec McDade, a 19 year old black college student, for supposedly "reaching for his waistband." They are receiving "victims' compensation," an added bonus to their salaries to "compensate" for the "stress" they suffered killing Kendrec. Meanwhile, Kendrec's family had to have a car wash to raise the money to bury him!

Similarly, the untold numbers of Iraqis, Afghans and Pakistanis have been murdered and maimed by the US bosses' genocidal wars for oil. These deaths are not accidental. They are premeditated genocide by a system that demands



maximum profits for the 0.01%.

Yet, its perpetrators like Bill Clinton, Bush Father and Son, and Obama are "honorable" men. Clinton, whose Iraqi sanctions murdered 500,000 Iraqi children, gets paid \$250,000 for speaking. Bush Son's Iraqi "adventure" murdered over a million Iraqi men, women and children at the cost of over a \$1 million per victim.

#### **Only communism can end capitalism's reign of terror against our class**

Capitalism's onslaught against our class here and internationally will only get worse. Its economic crisis will deepen. The bosses will further cut our wages and benefits to pay for their wars for profits and empire. More of our sons and daughters and some of us will die in these wars.

More MTA, and all workers, need to read and distribute *Red Flag* and join ICWP to put an end to capitalism's unending "house of horrors" with communist revolution. March with us on May Day!

## In Mass Strike in Spain

### **RED FLAG FLIES HIGH**

SPAIN—On March 29, 2012, the working class of Spain rose up on strike. Eighty per cent of the workers plus the majority of unemployed said "we want a change for workers' rights." The unions continue working for the crumbs that the government offers.

Like all fascist entities, the Spanish government is structuring a labor reform which most sharply affects those who don't have a job, the poorest. "In reality, it's a demolition of the labor model of the country..." were the words of the Secretary General of the General Workers' Union (UGT), Cándido Méndez.

The workers must understand that revolutionary struggles shouldn't be for a reform. The unions in Spain aren't anything more than collaborators of capitalism which receive, among them, (UGT and CCOO) 15,895,049 Euros annually. In the years between 2004 through 2009, these unions obtained government subsidies for a value of 265 million Euros. In light of this situation and the deadly role the union leaders play, the workers of Spain shouldn't follow this type of ideology.

So that a struggle is really revolutionary we must organize the masses to fight for, and only for, communism, not for the subsidies that the state gives to pacify the masses. Capitalism creates and uses the unions, reform organizations and other movements to keep the system alive and functioning, based on wage slavery.

Only we workers can remodel society for a better future and that's the establishment of workers' power and the building of a communist system internationally.

"THEY SHALL NOT PASS, Madrid will be the tomb of capitalism," "The struggle is in the

streets," "COMMUNISM NOW!" These were some of the signs that paraded in the marches yesterday in Spain. The workers came out to shout that their situation is very bad and they're looking for an alternative.

The working class is continuing to wake up. The capitalist system doesn't offer any guarantees for a better society. It only functions for the bosses to keep fattening up their super-profits at the expense of the neediest. There is no economic balance because the nature of capitalism is to make the rich richer and the poor poorer.

The International Communist Workers' Party is present today and always in these struggles to speak to the working class, to show the true road for communist revolution and destroy once and for all the false dream of getting rich one day; We'll keep fighting to bring *Red Flag* where it's needed and to build an army to destroy capitalism. LONG LIVE COMMUNISM! LONG LIVE ICWP!

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#### Fellow workers,

I'd like to take advantage of this space to let you know that I have very good news, and it's the appearance of a new party in El Salvador: the International Communist Workers' Party, ICWP. This party will promote the organization of the working class as the only way to conquer their true rights which they deserve, like full liberty, equality and fraternity, so that capitalism no longer uses them like beasts of burden.

Fellow workers, we can no longer allow the existence of this system of oppression, exploitation and marginalization. We have to recognize that the current economic model imposed on us only benefits big capital, since it was designed by them. The most worrisome thing is that the working class is the most sharply attacked with poverty, extreme poverty and hunger.

Fellow workers, it's been shown that the division, individualism, and isolation imposed on us is a maneuver of capitalism, since it keeps us ignorant, and keeps workers perpetually submissive. And while we don't exercise our own rights, it will be impossible to achieve the change we need. The division of classes is the worst calamity for workers in El Salvador and

the whole world. Forward, comrades, unity makes us strong. The main thing that interests us isn't just to understand reality, but to transform it. We can't get accustomed to this reality that's been imposed on us, thinking that it's bad luck, destiny, much less punishment from God.

Salvadoran Veteran Fighter

#### Two years in the struggle for communism

Comrades, *Red Flag* is celebrating two years of struggle against the capitalist system and against revisionism. Against wind and tides and defying to prevailing darkness of those who believed that night would last forever, it has been victorious in the struggles that it has been involved in through its members.

All over the world workers have been in struggle during 2011 and the beginning of this year. From Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria, through Greece, Italy, Spain, England, the whole of Europe to the Americas. The whole world shook with the Occupy protest, and ICWP was there through its mouthpiece, the workers' newspaper.

We know that we still have not reached all the countries that we want to, but in every

struggle, in every little bit of struggle the Party is there, because the Party is the only representation of all the workers, and wherever there is a worker in struggle, the Party is there.

We lack people, but we have more than enough desire to continue in the struggle, and we know that with time we will know how to win the forces that we lack. *Red Flag* is crucial in the battle we are waging and all the comrades must carry that responsibility on our shoulders.

This is an homage to those comrades that make *Red Flag* possible, hidden behind their computers, for those who distribute the paper in the factories and the streets, for those who have participated in the Occupy movement who took *Red Flag* to those thousands of demonstrators. For those who risk their lives in the countries with more fascist repression who organize and make the paper into a weapon of struggle. Thanks to all of you comrades for making me part of this fighting contingent, even with the little that I bring to the struggle. Let's go forward! We still have many more years of struggle! Long live Communism!

--LA comrade

## Lessons of 1992 Rebellion and May Day March:

### MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM, NOT REFORM

In March 1991, a group of cops viciously beat Rodney King when they stopped him for speeding. This beating, caught on videotape, was aired on TV nationwide. It exposed the cops as brutal racist thugs. Four of them were arrested and charged with using excessive force. Despite the video clearly showing them beating King, they were acquitted by a jury in Simi Valley (home to many cops).

Following the "not guilty" verdict in 1992, LA erupted in 6 days of multi-racial anti-racist rebellion. It started in south Los Angeles with spontaneous protests in the streets as people heard the verdict. Many gathered at LAPD headquarters, angrily denouncing the racist cops and the whole "criminal justice" system. They tore down a police booth in front of the station. For the next several days, there were marches, demonstrations and buildings, including a police station, were burned. The police attacked, but couldn't control, the massive rebellion which spread all over LA. Black, latin@, white and asian workers and youth participated, seeing the racist beating and verdict as an attack on all workers.



The rebellion was against capitalism's racist police terror, court system and unemployment. As today, the capitalist system had failed the whole working class. Students of all "races" walked out city-wide in protest. Many workers didn't go to work, or held protests there. Garment workers struck in support of the rebellion. The bosses' press lied about the rebellion's multi-racial character. Ever since, the bosses' propa-

ganda machine works overtime to try to divide workers, especially black and latin@ workers, who suffer the sharpest attacks by the bosses, as they attack on all workers harder. (see "Trayvon" page 1)

The bosses declared martial law. A communist May Day march, of black, latin@, asian and white workers and youth had gotten a permit to march in downtown LA. But the cops met us with police vans and ordered us to leave. We decided to caravan to south Los Angeles, calling on workers to join the fight to destroy capitalism.

National Guard troops, sent from Oakland, were headquartered at the Coliseum. As we reached it, we spoke to the soldiers, urging them to side with the rebellion, to refuse orders to shoot their brothers and sisters, and to join the fight to get rid of capitalism instead. "Turn the guns around" speakers said. Many soldiers saluted us with their fists, showing that they were on the workers' side and responding to calls for revolution.

As the caravan headed down Vermont, more people lined the streets in support, grabbing literature, joining in the chants, listening to the speeches; some gave their names. There were no cops around. Workers were glad to see this bold communist march with red flags flying in the face of martial law. As the caravan reached Manchester, the drivers parked and everyone got out and marched, chanting and calling on workers to join in. Many did. They ended in a park with speeches and singing the Internationale

Workers and soldiers responded to the march. You could see the weakness of the bosses who depend on the same workers and soldiers they super exploit to produce and fight for them. You felt the revolutionary potential.

However, self critically, we gave a contradictory message to the working class: fight for jobs, and fight for communist revolution, rather than fight urgently to destroy racist capitalism with



communism. We demanded that the capitalists provide jobs, at the same time trying to win workers to a long term outlook of communist revolution. In the following months, politicians and bosses, like Disney, set up phony jobs programs and training centers. The few jobs that were opened up were low paid, slave labor jobs, as the declining US bosses have made workers pay for their crisis.

We need to fight for only one thing: communist revolution. We mobilize our friends to mobilize their friends, especially workers and soldiers, to build a mass communist party that fights for power. Communist society, built by masses of workers, will eliminate capitalism, racism and exploitation. Today, the situation is even sharper. As the US bosses prepare for World War, ICWP mobilizes the masses to destroy capitalism and build communism. We discuss with fellow students, workers and soldiers that capitalism can't meet our needs, and how a communist society will. We'll do needed work, not slave labor jobs, in a society based solely on meeting workers' collective needs.

This May Day, as racist police attacks, unemployment and war attack all workers worldwide, it's urgent to help spread *Mobilize the Masses for Communism* and *Red Flag* and to build ICWP to answer capitalism's "house of horrors." Join the fight for Communism!



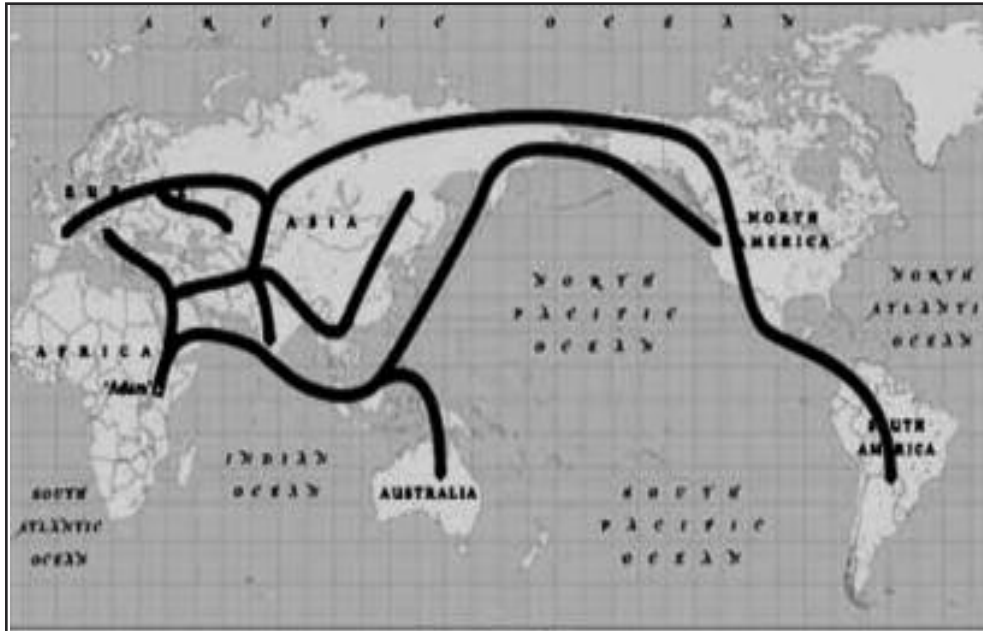
# FOR A WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS OR MONEY

## Part One

From our cradle in East Africa, humans have not stopped moving. Diverse impulses have pushed these continuous flows of population, many of them covering astonishing distances for the material conditions of the moment and all of them with astonishing consequences for humanity. It would be an error to assume that migration, as it is practiced or experienced today, is the same as it was at the beginning of humanity, where the struggle was against the forces of nature. The history of class struggle has transformed the motives, converting them into economic, political, religious, and war. The details are not as important as the essence: the exploitation by the ruling classes is now the main reason for migration.

A global climate event affected the earth 50,000 or 60,000 years ago. A decline in temperature that had its origin in a drastic change in marine currents provoked changes in the polar arctic and a period of glaciations produced drought in Africa, where the first men had appeared. The landscapes opened and the whole ecology changed. Eras of extreme dryness would have had a strong impact on their dispersal, prey began to get scarce, the pastures became wasteland, and seeing themselves on the verge of extinction, a small group thought the unthinkable. They walked out of Africa. They sought new horizons, and in this hazardous quest of thousands of years they reached every corner of the earth.

Most researchers agree that we all come from a common ancestor. Spencer Wells in his book *The Journey of Man* uses genetics—specifically the Y chromosome which is passed on intact from father to son and its random mutations over the generations—to trace the migrations of human populations out of Africa. In a series of migrations, as



shown on the map, they arrived at the farthest extent of the earth: Europe, Australia, and the Americas. The evidence of genetics coincides with that of archeology and linguistics to show how human populations, with our origin in common ancestors, ended up covering the earth.

They emigrated, hoping to accommodate themselves to the climactic conditions to survive. It took them thousands of years to settle down. Dedicated to hunting, fishing and gathering from the beginning in pre-class communism, they were organized in groups. The productive activity was

based in simple cooperation. Carl Marx defined it as a society with an unstoppable necessity for cooperation, due to the hostile conditions that they found themselves in, isolated in small groups in the middle of nature. The tools they had were rudimentary, made of stone, wood, of bone.

The low level of development of the productive forces meant that they produced for survival; they did not create any surplus after covering their basic necessities and the accumulation of goods and the exploitation of one human being by another was impossible. The development of agriculture 10,000 years ago meant a big economic and social

change. It forced people to become sedentary. Developing better tools increased productivity and with this surplus, the road was opened to the exploitation of human labor, giving rise to the class struggle, which became the slave system.

In their long journey, not everyone had the same luck. The most fortunate established themselves in places where nature was more welcoming, offering opportunities to develop in a more advanced way. The contact with other nearby tribes and the barter of products created new understandings. For others, the original isolation in less hospitable regions kept them apart from the advancements of their era. Now, there are still peoples who live largely isolated from the capitalist world, who survive thanks to “good Samaritan” anthropologists who consider that these tribes should remain in their present state, living without need of money.

Can communists, with the technological advances of the moment, build a society without borders and without money? Yes, it is possible. Our ancestors lived thousands of years in their long journey out of Africa to the ends of the earth without money y sin fronteras, in a state

of cooperation. We communists have learned from their experiences and our own experiences of living with money in a state of exploitation, where some endure hunger while others enjoy abundance. Although living without money is a task that looks difficult, we know that its possible—and necessary. Besides, we have learned that we are all one race, with the same roots in Africa. Necessity has dispersed us throughout the world and continues to do so. Necessity also will teach us to build a communist society, without money, without classes, without exploitation. Join us to mobilize the masses to build that society.

## MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR A COMMUNIST MAY DAY

LOS ANGELES, CA.—“For a Communist May Day,” was the theme of the talk with women and men industrial workers of ICWP. The comrade, a garment industrial worker, started her presentation with the history of the birth of May Day in 1886. She mentioned that the old communist movement, through the Second International in 1889, declared this day to be International Workers’ Day. This created a movement of international solidarity and international struggle for the labor reform of the 8 hour day.

She also criticized the old communist movement for not taking the Paris Commune as its key International celebration, since this represented the first time that workers dared to take power, a more advanced struggle than the struggle for an 8 hour day.

During the discussion, several workers explained how May Day had been converted into a show of reformists and politicians world wide and how ICWP needs to take back this day to convert it into a May Day for Communism.

A worker asked, “What’s the difference between what we’ve said before and what we’re saying now?” Another answered, “Self critically, I think that many times we don’t put communism in front. We generally invite our base to march to celebrate International Workers’ Day or for reforms. We should take advantage of these discus-

sions to say that we have to mobilize the masses for communism, that this should be a day of ideological struggle for communism, not for reforms.”

Another worker added, “This day is more than that. It’s the day we review our communist forces, the result of the work that we carry out the whole year.”

Part of the meeting was dedicated to reviewing our plans for activities on May Day, the role that each of us present will play, from distributing *Red Flag* and our manifesto *Mobilize the Masses for Communism* during the marches to those in charge of preparing food for the May Day dinner.

We emphasized the need to mobilize our base. We need to take this opportunity to discuss communism with our co-workers, fellow students and soldiers, relatives and in the mass movements world wide. We won’t lead fights for slave labor jobs, for peace, or to reform capitalism. Instead we’ll be there to fight for a communist revolution and a system where we’ll all work to build communist collectivity, to produce and distribute only to meet the needs of the international working class. Communism will eliminate racist terror, bosses, borders and money.

Let’s all mobilize to build communist May Days, to spread *Red Flag* and *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*, and to build the ICWP!



ICWP has published our manifesto *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*. It’s available in English and Spanish. Order your copy or copies. Please send donations for the costs of printing and mailing. We also ask for your suggestions and criticisms.

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