



RED FLAG

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



MASSES IN MOTION IN HONDURAS

ELECTORAL FARCE IN HONDURAS SEE PAGE 2

Young Boeing Worker Says: **“I’M A REVOLUTIONARY, TOO”**

WASHINGTON STATE, US—Last Thursday, over five hundred Boeing workers shouted down District 751 president Wroblewski. A couple of hundred new hires came to their first meeting to help.

“Go out there and tell them this thing’s gotta go down,” we demanded as Wroblewski tried to weasel out of taking a position on the proposed contract extension. The company threatens to move the new 777X plane somewhere else if we don’t accept it.

The extension demands: no strike through 2024; end defined pensions by 2016; a 1% wage “increase” every two years, then every three years; medical payments to go up to as much as \$409/month plus co-pays and deductibles.

Starting pay will not be raised. Incredibly, new hires will get less than the state minimum wage by the end of the contract. It will take 16 years (instead of the current 6) to get to the maximum.

A young worker told an older mechanic, “I can’t live in a system based on extortion.”

“That’s why I am a revolutionary,” he answered.

“Me too!” she said. A worker who is active in the union said, “Everything you guys said in the last four months has come true,” as he read the *Red Flag* article predicting that Boeing’s growing attacks on subcontractor workers would soon turn against Boeing workers themselves. They are. He took a bunch of leaflets to pass out in the factory.

Big-screen TVs endlessly repeating Boeing Commercial President Ray Conner’s praise of the contract extension greeted many of us Monday morning. It was like a scene out of Orwell’s *1984* in the factory: Big Brother admonishing you to toe the company line from on high.

The ICWP also greeted workers with the following leaflet. We were much better received.

**NO EXTORTION:
TAKE BACK WHAT
IS OURS!**

This contract extension is extortion. Extortion is the Boeing bosses’ *modus operandi*. It’s all legal and normal under capitalism. We must find a way to end this blackmail, once and for all.

See BOEING EXTORTION page 4

MTA WORKERS FURIOUS AT CAPITALISM AND UNION OFFICIALS

LOS ANGELES, CA, US--MTA workers, like Boeing workers and millions of workers worldwide, are rising up against capitalism’s attacks on their living standards.

More than 500 MTA mechanics and service attendants showed up on November 5 for a vote, authorizing their ATU Local 1277 officials to call a strike if necessary. Many of these workers are mad at MTA and their treacherous union officials. Some are mad at, and are questioning, capitalism.

Many are looking for radical alternatives, but don’t yet see communist revolution as the only alternative to end the bosses’ racist, sexist attacks forever. Many, however, are open to our communist ideas. More than 250 gladly took *Red Flag*.

The following brief report of the union meeting shows that many workers have no confidence in union officials, their legalistic tactics or their reliance on the bosses’ politicians.

Bosses’ politicians and laws: chains to keep us forever wage slaves

James Lindsay, president of the local, started the meeting by asking for a yes or no vote to sanction two workers who were “caught” trying to organize another union, with a six month union suspension.

A worker quickly rose to speak against this because “it denies the workers the right to change leaders, if these are not doing their job.” When asked if those workers wouldn’t have to pay union dues for six months, Lindsay said they would still have to. Many workers laughed sarcastically. No vote was taken.

Lindsay started the discussion on the confidence vote by talking about how bad things were and that “we have some good things like medical coverage, “suggesting we keep quiet and ac-

See MTA, page 3

**EL SALVADOR:
INDUSTRIAL
WORKER
COMRADES FIGHT
REFORMISM
PAGE 3**

**PHILIPPINES,
MEXICO:
“NATURAL”
CAPITALIST
DISASTERS CALL
FOR COMMUNISM
PAGES 4, 15**

**RACIST
CAPITALISM IS
THE REAL
CRIMINAL
PAGES 14, 15**

**THIS IS A
3-WEEK
ISSUE**

Honduras Elections: Don't Vote for Failed Socialism

MOBILIZE FOR COMMUNISM!

The current crisis ravaging worldwide capitalism-imperialism has plunged Honduras into a deep political, economic, social and security crisis of unprecedented proportions.

Of its population of 8.5 million, 5.7 million live in poverty; 3.8 million live and die on less than a dollar a day. This crushing poverty is rapidly rising. From 2009 to 2012, the poor increased by 2.1 million, while the rate of unemployment and underemployment reached almost 80%.

To make matters worse, death stalks the working class anytime and anywhere. Honduras is the most dangerous country in the world, with 86 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants, or about 10 times the global average. The police, army, landowners, drug traffickers and the "Maras" assassinate an average of 20 people daily.

Many Honduran workers are pinning their hopes for change on the November 24th presidential election. But neither the election nor the participating political parties represent an alternative. Only a communist revolution can create the society that Honduran workers and the world's working class long for and need.

The FNRP and its Libre Party adopt leftist rhetoric

The Libre Party (Party of Liberty and Re-foundation) is the political arm of the National Front of Popular Resistance (NFPR). The NFPR is a mass movement born out of the huge protests that erupted following the coup that ousted President Mel Zelaya in 2009.

The NFPR, with its pseudo-left rhetoric, and its candidate Xiomara Zelaya, Mel Zelaya's wife, have won the sympathy and support of large sectors of the working class. They promise a radical change with a "complete re-founding of the State and the construction of a Socialist System that responds to the historical moment we live and the particular conditions of Honduras."

Socialism: Dead end for the international working class

The socialism established in Russia, China and other countries by the old communist movement was a resounding failure. It never developed into communism because socialism is state

capitalism. It did not eliminate money, markets or salaries.

The capitalist beast remained intact, only its rider was changed. The reins passed from capitalists' hands to communists' hands.

Workers remained wage slaves - selling their labor power, no longer to individual capitalists, but the socialist state. Money and wage differentials corrupted the most devoted Communists, turning them into capitalists. Today, China and Russia are rising imperialist powers contending with the U.S. for world domination.

Xiomara and NFPR leaders: wolves in sheep's clothing

The old international communist movement fought for socialism because it believed the working class could not be won to fight directly for communism: a society without capitalists, money, wages and markets. It was a serious mistake. But, it was an honest mistake.

However, now that history has proven that socialism is a failure, why fight for it? Because socialists like Xiomara, the NFPR leaders, the likes of Hugo Chavez, etc. are capitalists or wannabe capitalists who use the masses' aspirations for a better world to advance their own capitalist agenda.

They have two goals: One is to prevent the masses' hatred of capitalism from leading to a communist revolution that destroys the capitalists and their system. The second is to use the masses to break the chains that bind them to U.S. imperialism. They hope for better deals with other imperialist countries like China in order to get a bigger slice of the exploitation of the working class.

Thus, the NFPR talks of "reversing the situation of dependency on U.S. imperialism," about "establishing strategic economic relations with Asia," and "expelling all U.S. military bases and troops from Honduran territory."

The struggle for communism is more urgent than ever

No matter how the elections end, capitalism's worldwide crisis will deepen everywhere, sharpening the class struggle and the inter-imperialist



rivalry.

Honduras is crucial to US control of Central America and the Caribbean. Since the 1960s, fighting to control the region, US imperialism and its Russian and European rivals plus the local capitalists have slaughtered over 500,00 Central American workers.

China's intrusion in the region will become another front in the US-China struggle for world domination which is leading to World War III. US bosses are investing hundreds of millions of dollars in Honduras, not to eradicate poverty, but to build bases and the military to keep control of the region and drown in blood any attempt of Honduran workers to throw off the capitalist-imperialist yoke.

The NFPR, Xiomara and whichever imperialist power replaces US imperialism will do the same, if the Honduran working class decides to fight for true communism.

Honduran workers are open to communist ideas. Only communism can give them the society and the world they aspire and need. Let us not disappoint them. Our International Communist Workers' Party in Honduras must assume this historic responsibility and the great honor of mobilizing these workers for communism.

ELECTION CIRCUS IN HONDURAS: CAPITALIST FARCE

Throughout its history, the capitalist system has used the electoral process to maintain its validity. In certain periods, when it has suited the rulers, capitalists maintained power through monarchies, dictatorships, military governments, right-wing governments, the ultra right-wing, and others. They also promoted and supported military coups to protect their interests.

Latin America is no exception. In the twentieth century, from the 1930's to the 1970's, they militarily and economically supported brutal bloody dictatorships like Batista in Cuba, Duvalier in Haiti, Balaguer in the Dominican Republic, Carias in Honduras, Somoza in Nicaragua, Pinochet in Chile, and others.

With the resurgence of the liberation and revolutionary movements in different parts of the world, mainly in Latin America and Africa, imperialist capitalism changed its strategy a little by promoting and imposing so-called representative democracy through elections to choose puppet rulers of the local oligarchies, and of the US, or other imperialists.

We see that the people are subjected to massive capitalist propaganda which presents the electoral system and the resulting rulers as the solution to society's problems.

In reality, the opposite is true. It is the biggest farce because as a result, now in the majority of Latin American countries and in Africa, there is more poverty, unemployment, discrimination, exploitation, insecurity, and subjugation of the working class.

Honduras is no exception. The electoral circus is in its last stage, since on November 24, the

election for the president, representatives, and mayors will be held. There are eight parties participating, all in the service of the oligarchy. Among them is the Libre Party (Party of Liberty and Re-foundation). (See article above).

Several comrades in Honduras are trying to explain to the people with whom we are in contact that the electoral circus which occurs every four years in no way benefits the working class and the exploited masses. As the gap between those who have the most and those who have nothing widens every day, we should not participate in this electoral circus which amounts to choosing our future oppressors and exploiters.

Instead, we should fight to put an end to all these tactics of the capitalist system once and for all by fighting for real liberation from the exploiters' yoke. We can achieve this in a revolutionary communist struggle led by a communist party, which is the ICWP.



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LEARNING TO LEAD: FIGHTING REFORMISM

EL SALVADOR—“We must be critical and self-critical.” While it’s true that an important advance was achieved in the organization of men and women workers in the International Communist Workers’ Party in this country, a meeting was needed to evaluate the results of that meeting in which workers from 4 factories participated and in which 11 new members joined ICWP.

A meeting of the central leadership was held, and another with the worker leadership in this country. Of the conclusions that were discussed, the first was: “we need to be more organized and bring to these meetings an agenda that shows our level of organization.” One of the points raised was why we began the meeting without having put forward the point about inter-imperialist rivalry, the international situation and how this comes to affect the working class in this country.

Winning the working class is one of the main goals of ICWP and in this evaluation it was discussed that it will require a struggle against the reformist ideas that many of these workers bring from their old organizations. We need to know how to answer the big question, “and what do you win going around organizing people for communism?” Also, “Who funds you and where are the Party’s offices?” These are normal questions that workers who come from unions and electoral parties ask, workers who want to take the qualitative step of going from being reformists to being communists.

It was explained in the Party leadership collective that in this meeting workers expressed ideas such as: “The union is the only organization that struggles for the workers;” “These sellout leaders of the teachers’ union are corrupt, our leaders aren’t;” “What can a youth know about wage slavery if he has never experienced it?” This opened up a debate about how to combat this trade union reformism in these meetings.

“The excitement about having more workers organized with communist ideas in ICWP can lead us to make mistakes in the line and we can’t allow this to happen,” stated one of the party leaders. “External and internal factors can lead us to make mistakes in the consolidation of the political line and ideology, and we other party members are obligated not to allow this to happen.” At this point in the meeting, we emphasized the dialectical category of quantity and quality.

At the meeting with the worker leadership, it was clear that some of the comrade workers in charge of the work in these factories were upset. “I had to be there,” said a comrade who had a problem on the day of the meeting and could not attend. Since he is one of those who has contacts with some of the workers, and since his past history in the union and his evolution to communism make the women workers see him as a leader who they trust, it affected the meeting. This showed him that his presence is necessary but also that he should give more leadership to those comrades.

It was concluded that there must be a strong struggle for communist ideas against the reformist ideas of the unions in these factories. We must be patient but also see the urgency of exposing these false leaders who only help the bosses oppress the working class. Confidence in our class is crucial to continue organizing around the communist ideas of ICWP and through *Red Flag* to organize more men and women workers in these and other factories.



MTA from page 1 cept things as they are.

One worker quickly reminded him that 2 or 3 contracts ago we paid only \$6 a month for medical coverage. Now it is \$80 per month and it will increase.

Another worker angrily said, “I don’t understand why you leaders continue to rely on politicians (Democrats and Republicans), and on the mass media when we know that they are all against us.” He suggested the union organize militant wildcat strikes to catch MTA by surprise.

Lindsay replied that it wasn’t possible because the union must respect certain laws and follow the legal process of getting the Mayor’s OK for a strike.

Questioning the leadership’s passivity and complete reliance on legality, many workers suggested rallies in front of MTA headquarters, work slowdowns, rolling strikes, sickouts, etc. Lindsay

stressed that some contract clauses made such actions illegal and if carried out, even the “union could cease to exist.”

Capitalist laws enslave us: Only communist revolution can liberate us

Many workers, as we can see, want to break out of the bosses’ legality and reliance on their politicians: 96% voted to authorize a strike. To get the unions to be more militant, they either want to change the leadership or the union itself.

A retired MTA mechanic even told a comrade distributing *Red Flag* at that meeting, “If you want to overthrow capitalism, you first have to get rid of the union leaders.”

He meant electing militant officials. We don’t think that is the way to go. We are not against unions because they supposedly try to defend workers’ interests. We are against them because their only goal is to reform capitalism.

Thus, workers fight, sacrifice and die for re-

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS BECOME COMMUNIST READERS & WRITERS

LOS ANGELES, CA—Thirty five men and women workers from different trades participated in a social activity organized by our club of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP). The idea was mainly to discuss with them what they like about the newspaper, how they can help more with the distribution and also how to write for *Red Flag*.

A garment worker participated for the first time in an activity of ICWP. He brought something that he wrote about the bad working conditions in the factory where he works and asked that we publish it in *Red Flag*. We told him we would, together with a communist analysis of the situation in the factory, and he agreed. He has been reading the newspaper for a few months. In the factory where he works, another 300 workers regularly receive *Red Flag*.

Another worker also participated for the first time. She said she was impressed by the comradely atmosphere, because when she was invited to the meeting, she had many doubts about what a communist meeting would be like. Even though she had not met with us before, she wrote a letter in the last edition of *Red Flag*. She said that she wanted to know more about communism and that she was willing to participate in future Party meetings.

A comrade, an industrial worker, brought a friend, to whom she introduced to *Red Flag* for the first time, even though she had already presented revolutionary ideas to her before. The comrade is writing a letter with questions and doubts about ICWP’s point of view about religions

and the belief in God. She said she is interested in a study group about this topic. We said we would have it as soon as possible and that we will write a report about the discussion in the newspaper.

A reader came with his family and a roasting pan with meat to cook. He is part of a large family, eight of whom were there. They are all very friendly and respect the Party, but the struggle is to involve them in participating more actively in marches and political meetings.

Workers gave economic donations for the newspaper, paid their yearly subscription, and many donated for the costs of the delicious food, coffee, and dessert.

It was a nice evening politically, we took one more step forward in building a mass base for communist ideas. Self critically, we could have done more, sharpened even more the struggle with many of these readers, if the comrades present had taken the initiative to engage them in deeper discussions about communism. In future activities we will guarantee to prepare ahead of time to take better advantage of the great opportunity that these activities give us to expand the limits of the struggle for communist ideas.

This activity showed our potential to mobilize the workers, and it also showed the potential of these workers and readers to mobilize their friends and families to the Party’s activities. The struggle continues; our next step is to increase the distribution of our communist newspaper *Red Flag* and to consolidate some of these readers as active Party members.

forms which are eventually taken back by the capitalists. This is especially true in times of crisis like now, where worldwide workers are losing gains won generations ago. Trade unionism is a never-ending struggle.

Trade unionism’s politics prevent workers from seeing that only communist revolution can end this struggle, destroying the capitalists and their wage slavery, and building a different society based on workers needs, not profits.

The bosses’ electoral charade is also another big obstacle preventing workers from seeing the need for revolution. But, as the meeting shows, some workers are questioning both the limits of trade unionism and electoral politics.

ICWP and its newspaper *Red Flag* will continue hammering at both obstacles with complete confidence that many MTA workers and others will reject both and join the fight for communism.

Capitalism sacrifices workers' safety for profit and war

TYPHOON'S DEVASTATION: FILIPINO MASSES NEED TO MOBILIZE FOR COMMUNISM!

One of the biggest storms in history devastated the residents of Tacloban and surrounding areas in the Philippines. Capitalism, however, is the actual disaster. It created the crushing poverty that condemned millions to be victims of the ravages of Typhoon Yolanda. Thus capitalism is responsible for the deaths of thousands, and the hunger, disease and homelessness that afflict millions more.

While racist capitalists-imperialists reap billions from super exploiting Filipino workers, they are forced to live in shanty towns built with the flimsiest material. That's the most their miserable average wage of \$279 a month can buy. Even before the typhoon, roads and bridges were in disrepair. Many in rural areas had little access to electricity.

Public buildings, also built cheaply, couldn't withstand the storm. The storm surge entered a stadium to which people were evacuated and many evacuees drowned. Millions are without food, water, shelter or medicine. Their anger is growing.

Early warning and mass evacuations from high risk areas and building concrete bunkers that could withstand super-storms could have saved thousands of lives. But capitalism is organized for profit and control, not for workers' safety. A government spokesman said, "Our priority right now is sending out security (police) to deal with violence." (read: to protect the bosses' private property). To help this effort, the US has sent 100 marines. 2000 more are on the way.

Capitalist production for profit: main cause of global warming and super-typhoons

Two years in a row, the world's strongest typhoons barreled through the Philippines. Three years in a row, a destructive storm deviated from the usual path taken by typhoons, striking communities seldom hit by them before. Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) was 3.5 times bigger than Katrina, which devastated New Orleans in 2005. It packed winds of 195 mph, gusts up to 230 mph and a 14-foot storm surge which engulfed the city of Tacloban and outlying areas.

This typhoon occurred just before the conference on global climate change —where neither the US or Chinese imperialists nor the capitalist rulers of Brazil or India will agree to curb carbon emissions. Carbon emissions are causing the average global temperature to rise, warming the oceans. Since typhoons gain energy from heat from the ocean, this means there will be more class 4 and 5 typhoons (hurricanes).

The capitalist-imperialists compete for market share: whoever produces the cheapest wins the market. They therefore refuse to spend the money to cut carbon emissions, because carbon is the cheapest form of energy. Japan has reopened its nuclear power plants, even after the Fukushima disaster, because nuclear energy is the second cheapest. As usual, capitalism sacrifices workers' lives and the environment for profit. Only communist revolution can end this capitalist catastrophe.

The bosses can plan for war, but not for workers' safety

Instead of investing in infrastructure for workers' safety, the Philippine government has allocated \$12 million for the initial groundwork for a naval base in Oyster Bay. This opens di-

rectly on the South China Sea, only 150 kilometers from the hotly contested, potentially hydrocarbon-rich Spratly Islands.

As tensions flared with China, the Philippine government backed a \$1.8 billion military modernization program, and entered in negotiations with the US over allowing it to deploy more forces to Philippine military bases. The US is building command posts near Oyster Bay to monitor the South China Sea.

Only communism can meet workers' needs

The greatest need of the masses of Filipino workers is to eliminate the capitalist profit system which is responsible for their deaths, homelessness, and poverty. Communist revolution must and will destroy disastrous capitalism.

In communist society, the whole working class will mobilize to produce, using safe, clean energy to promote healthy people in a healthy environment. In places prone to natural disasters, the workers will decide collectively through their Party the best course for a safe environment: building safe buildings, bunkers, high sea walls, secure elevated housing, or moving whole populations out of harm's way.

Today there are 3 billion people in the world for whom capitalism has no jobs. But their labor power can be a key resource for the international working class to build a society to meet all workers' needs. Mobilized for communism, the masses will mobilize as many people as needed to prevent disasters and, when they occur, to supply and build what is needed. Communist society will mobilize people to plan, build and produce internationally only for workers' well-being.

BOEING EXTORTION from page 1 Labor Contracts Aren't Worth The Paper They're Printed On

If this last week has shown us anything, it is that trade unionism and votes are no match for the capitalists' power. Indeed, the unions and contract votes have become central to this shake-down. To reject extortion, we have to reject the capitalist system that breeds it.

At last Thursday's union meeting, recent hires spoke eloquently about how they had experienced extortive threats to their jobs in the factories and mills in which they had worked before coming to Boeing. They—like the other hundreds at that meeting, and thousands in the plants—condemned Wroblewski for dithering and bringing this contract to a vote.

We have responded with marches through the plants, banging and posting ripped-up contracts in plants. Those traitorous union officials that came to "explain" the contract were often sent packing. But even if we vote this "piece of crap" down—as now seems likely—the logic of trade union negotiations means that another "piece of crap" contract cannot be far behind.



A contract doesn't destroy the chains of exploitation: it only defines the shape of those chains. As the worldwide capitalist economic crisis continues, they don't even do that.

This is the second time the union has collaborated with the company in secret to sharpen the attack on us even when we had a contract. We can expect more of the same.

There is, however, something these contract extensions do try to guarantee: a no-strike regime!

The International forced this vote. Contract extensions like these promote their "national security re-industrial" plan. They aim to plead with the bosses to keep unions, which they say can secure passive, non-striking, cheap labor under the tyranny of these contracts. Obviously, this means security for the bosses' profits and capacity to wage war on their competitors, but the opposite for us.

We Deserve Better

Better contracts won't do the trick; we deserve something better than contracts. We built the planes. Our labor paid for all the plants and machinery, the fancy corporate offices, huge executive bonuses and deluxe retirement packages. Whose factory is this anyway?

We are subject to this extortion because the bosses have legally stolen all this from us. As a result, we have to sell our labor to these thieves to survive. We can't get or keep a job unless we give into greater and greater exploitation.



Capitalism organizes production for sale and profit. If we organize production for the needs of our class, all this exploitation and blackmail goes away. Exploitive jobs cease to exist; we work for the good of our class.

Communist production replaces competition for profits with collective labor. We can welcome helping hands, not fight over the scraps the bosses throw us.

Millions are on the move around the world, breaking the restraints of capitalism and contracts. Masses of workers have met the power of capital head on from South Africa to Brazil, from the Mid-East to Europe. They haven't asked their union "leaders" if it was ok.

Extortion is baked into this system. Join us in mobilizing for communist production throughout the world based on our collective labor and needs, where those that do the work decide where and what we produce. Help us expand the network of **Red Flag** readers and distributors in the plants.

We'll end this extortion when these networks mobilize to take back the means of production, which our labor built and which should be ours.

THE YUAN VS. THE DOLLAR: CURRENCY WARS LEAD TO WORLD WAR

The post-World War II world order is breaking apart. The role of the US dollar as the only world's reserve currency is threatened.

This world order replaced the previous one led by Britain with its empire and gigantic military power. In those days, the British pound operated as the world's reserve currency. The change in leadership lasted 30 bloody and destructive years, which saw two world wars as well as two massive social revolutions led by communists (first the Soviet Union, then China).

The world order is breaking apart because the world economic crisis which erupted in 2008 is far from over. This crisis is caused by a general fall in the rate of profit from productive investments. There is too much productive capacity in the world's economy for any particular investment to reap a healthy profitable return. Until enough of that capacity has been destroyed - either by bankruptcies or war - the economic crisis will continue.

IMPERIALISTS VERSUS IMPERIALISTS

The longer the crisis lasts, the more volatile the situation becomes. There is no ruling class in the world, for example, that has not declared war on its working class. The idea is that



through cuts in health care, pensions or wages, they can restore some profitability. This means there is not a country in the world where the capitalist few aren't facing the increasingly impoverished masses with fear.

This fear plays a larger and larger role in their calculations, but it is not yet the main thing that worries them: restoring the rate of profit to capitalist production is. Capitalism is a world system that needs a world market to expand into and a world currency to operate it. Since World War II, the US dollar has played that role. Since the 1970's when the US told the world "It's our currency, your problem," there has been a growing resentment among imperialists about the way the US uses its position to protect its investments and threaten those of other countries.

The crisis has accelerated both tendencies. On the one hand, the US made a unilateral decision to flood the world's financial markets by printing trillions of dollars. Called 'Quantitative Easing' (QE), it is a decision that has played havoc with markets around the world but kept the US free from the worst aspects of the crisis. On the other hand, the relative weakness of the US economy (the world's largest debtor na-

tion) and the relative strength of the Chinese economy (with one of the largest reserves in the world) has presented China with the opportunity to strive to replace the US dollar with the yuan as the world's reserve currency.

IMPERIALIST WARS OR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION?

Initiating a number of currency swaps (where trade is done in yuans and local currencies) with countries like Iran, India, and Brazil, China set in motion a movement in the world's economy to bypass the role of the dollar. Now, as the major meeting of the Chinese ruling party takes place, its official think tank published the *383 Project*, a detailed plan to make the yuan an international currency in some regions and an international reserve currency within ten years.

The plans might be drawn up by economists in think tanks but they will be implemented by generals and Armed Forces. Their success or failure, however, depends on us - the workers and soldiers of the world. The imperialists have their QEs or *383 Projects*, we--the workers of the world--are developing our answer: **Red Flag** and the communist revolution we are organizing.

It took two world wars for the dollar to vanquish the pound. It will take another one to change the dollar for the yuan. Such a war will affect everyone the world over. Let's fight to usher in the age of no currency: a communist world without money, where production is for need, not for sale and profits. As the old world order breaks apart, it's time for us to "Seize the hour, seize the minute!" **Let's Mobilize the Masses for Communism!**

THE UGLY CAPITALIST SIDE OF THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

As someone who has played soccer since he was 5 years old (and is currently 23), it used to make me a bit uneasy when I heard people criticize something I hold as dear as the World Cup. When I first began to hear criticism about the World Cup, which is to be held in Brazil in 2014, and about all the protests going on there, I didn't know how to feel.

Since then I have done some research and looked more into the political and business side of FIFA, and also learned about some of the horrendous conditions migrant workers from Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Africa and the Philippines are forced to toil in to prepare for the FIFA World Cup of 2022 to be held in Qatar. Workers labor in 50 degrees C (122 degrees Fahrenheit) heat, work twelve to thirteen hour work days without overtime pay, live in cramped and unsanitary living quarters, and are held against their will.

I didn't know how to feel before, but now I know exactly how I feel.

Neither the President of FIFA, Sepp Blatter, nor Qatar want to accept responsibility for their actions. This is literally modern-day slavery. Migrants and employers are bound by the kafala system - taken from Islamic law on the adoption of children. 'Kafala' derives from 'to feed,' says Nick Cohen, writer for *The Guardian*. "The

kafala system (sponsorship system) is a system used to monitor the construction and domestic migrant laborers in the Arab States of the Persian Gulf. The system requires all unskilled laborers to have an in-country sponsor, usually their employer, who is responsible for their visa and legal status," according to Wikipedia. Laborers are terribly exploited, without pay, indebted, stripped of a visa, stripped of legal representation, forced to endure racism and classism, malnourished and more. They eventually die, unsurprisingly, without anyone blinking an eye.

"The annual death toll among those working on building sites could rise to 600 a year - almost a dozen a week - unless the Doha government makes urgent reforms," according to another article from *Guardian* by Robert Booth, Construction for the World Cup could cost 4,000 lives at this rate--more people than will be competing in the World Cup.

Qatar is one of the richest nations on Earth and the fact that they can't treat their workers with the proper respect and dignity that they deserve is a microcosmic example of how capitalism operates on a global scale. In Qatar, migrants make up 99% of the private sector workforce, accounting for most of the labor. In a just society the people who make up 99% of the work force should reap a much larger reward.



Brazil

We know that the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting more and more poor. We have much larger numbers. So why don't we organize and change things? Workers and students alike need to organize to prevent corporations and businesses from continuing to exploit us.

We have the power to cause change. Under a true Communist society no one would get more than their share. There would be no bosses, no corporations and no one to exploit workers into indentured servitude.

I still love soccer and admire the hard work and dedication that it takes to play the beautiful game but I cannot support the exploitation and corruption on the business side of it. It's too horrendous.

--Red Soccer Player

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RACIST MURDERS OF YOUTH DEMAND COMMUNIST REVOLUTION



RACIST CAPITALISM IS THE REAL CRIMINAL

LOS ANGELES —Hundreds attending the recent “Justice on Trial” film festival were pleasantly surprised to receive free copies of *The New Jim Crow*, by keynote speaker Michelle Alexander, courtesy of the Soros Foundation.

There was tremendous anger at mass incarceration, especially of black and brown men, and long-term solitary confinement. There was tremendous energy around building a movement called “All of Us Or None.”

Many welcomed the comments of an audience member who argued that capitalism was the biggest criminal, robbing workers of their labor and killing masses in imperialist wars.

The positive goal of this movement to reform the “criminal injustice system” is called “restorative justice.” Instead of punishment or vengeance, restorative justice is said to be about rebuilding community, fostering healing and forgiveness, and asking offenders to take responsibility for their actions so they don’t repeat them.

But wait! Many prisoners are “guilty” only of not being able to afford a lawyer. Many are locked up for drug “offenses” that hurt themselves but not others. Many committed small-scale “property crimes” while the biggest crime – as that audience member said – is private property itself.

So-called “restorative justice” hides the fact that selfishness, alienation, violence and greed are built into the very structure of capitalist production. Anti-social behavior on a small scale reflects the anti-social nature of racist capitalist society.

Who is “taking responsibility” for that?

Our responsibility is to end racist capitalism with communist revolution.

Communist society means everyone working for the common good, everyone sharing the benefits and the hardships. No money, no privilege, no exploitation, no racism. That will let us create real communities in which we struggle with each other to bring out the best in everyone and deal constructively with mistakes, including anti-social behaviour.

Michelle Alexander and George Soros: Strange Bedfellows?

Alexander wrote *The New Jim Crow* on a fellowship from the Soros Open Society Foundations in 2005. Since then, George Soros — a billionaire venture-capitalist and life-long rabid anti-communist — has given \$millions to “curb mass incarceration, eliminate harsh punishment, and ensure justice system accountability in the United States.”

Alexander claims to want a “radically restruc-

tured society” but her alliance with Soros around prison reform is leading thousands of militant anti-racists, including potential revolutionaries, into a dangerous reformist trap. (See box)

After the USSR collapsed in 1989, Soros decided that the main threat to his “Open Society” was “market fundamentalism.” He still hated communism, but considered it “dead.”

“Too much competition and too little cooperation,” Soros wrote, “can cause intolerable inequities and instability.” He was one of the first major ruling-class figures to speak about the danger that the masses pose to their exploiters. Soros was hailed by Leslie Gelb, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, who said in 1998 that Soros “takes us...just in the direction we ought to be going.”

And that’s where they are going.

We can see it when *The New York Times* supports new NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio in his plan to curb the racist “stop-and-frisk” practices defended by outgoing Mayor Bloomberg. Stop-and-frisk humiliates and stigmatizes a generation of black and brown youth who will soon be far more useful to the imperialists in their army than in their jails.

That same bosses’ mouthpiece recently urged that US prisons become more like European ones (shorter sentences, more privacy) so as “to enable prisoners to lead a life of social responsibility free of crime upon release.” There’s “restorative justice.” We wonder whether they think “social responsibility” includes killing and dying for US imperialism as it lurches toward World War III.

In short, US imperialists are following Soros’ advice, trying to save capitalism from its own contradictions and from us, the masses, whom they rightly fear.

For that they need to balance racist repression with patriotic inspiration. So Alexander tells angry and rebellious black youth, quoting James Baldwin, that in spite of the most vicious institutionalized racism, “This is your home... we can make America what it must become.”

We can and must make the whole world what it must become: a communist world without borders or bosses, money or markets.

“Markets are basically amoral, you can say inhuman,” Soros admits, “because they treat everything as a commodity.” Straight from the horse’s mouth! What neither he nor Alexander can ever admit is that only by mobilizing the masses for communism can we destroy this commodity system and build a truly humane society.

Thousands have protested in Santa Rosa, California, against the police murder of 13-year-old Andy Lopez. Andy was holding a toy AK-47 rifle in rural Sonoma County on the afternoon of October 22. Erick Gelhaus, Sonoma County Sheriff, shot Andy 7 times in 10 seconds.

Oscar Grant was killed when Andy Lopez was in Elementary School. Trayvon Martin was killed as Andy entered Middle School and now Andy is dead before he completed 8th grade. *Yet, even before his class graduates high school, police departments will be armed with drones!* Imagine a cop like Gelhaus with his finger on a drone! ICWP is mobilizing for a communist revolution to put an end to racism and police terror once and for all.

Racist capitalism makes life cheap. In the current crisis, racist murders are taking place at a faster and faster pace. In Detroit, on November 2, 19-year-old African-American Renisha McBride was shot and killed as she sought help after a car accident. She was shot by a 54 year old white man on his porch. Neither this man nor cop Erick Gelhaus have been charged with any crime.

Racist capitalism can’t provide a safe future for any of us, most especially for black and Latin youth. These murders should spur us to deepen our commitment to mobilize our friends, family and co-workers for communism, where there will be no police and no system of exploitation that needs racism, where millions of workers will mobilize to stamp out racist acts and ideas.

George Soros: Anti-Communism, Capitalism, Racism Go Hand in Hand

Soros turned from accumulating \$\$ billions (from the sweat of the working class) to spending it to spread market capitalism.

He worked with the US State Department to build movements to topple pro-Russian regimes in Eastern Europe in the 1980s, toward the end of the inter-imperialist Cold War. These regimes were state-capitalist (not communist) but Soros hated them anyway.

He supplied funds and photocopiers to pro-Western dissidents in his native Hungary in 1984. One such group was the Federation of Young Democrats, which became Fidesz, the current (and openly racist) ruling party. Fidesz presides over steadily rising poverty, and 91% of Hungarian respondents told a recent survey that anti-Semitism has increased in recent years.

In Poland in 1991, Soros backed a team that allied with Solidarity, which had originally organized for socialism and worker cooperatives. These Soros agents got Solidarity to buy into a \$1 billion IMF loan, replacing worker’s cooperatives (small-scale capitalism) with imperialist-dominated private enterprise and soaring unemployment.

These examples – and there are more! – should alert us to the danger of building alliances with imperialists like Soros.

Instead, if you too are enraged by the racist system that Alexander describes so vividly, you should join us in fighting to win those in the movement to communist revolution.

HUEHUETOCA, MEXICO: WORKERS ANGRY OVER POLICE MURDER OF TEENAGER SET FIRE TO CITY HALL

HUEHUETOCA, MEXICO STATE--Around 2 o'clock on Saturday morning, November 2, 2013, a group of youth left a dance and suddenly found themselves in the middle of a street fight. This fight was near the City Hall of Huehuetoca, near Mexico City, where a policeman shot 14 year old Christian Daniel Santillán Martínez, killing him instantly and wounding his uncle.

We live in an insecure society especially for youth who want to have healthy fun and don't know what danger could lie around the corner.

Tired of police abuse and seeing that police don't protect them and only want to rob them, the residents of the area smashed two police cars and set fire to the town hall with candles

that had been placed at the entrance for the Day of the Dead. They also poured gasoline, causing the fire to spread faster.

The next morning, 300 police came to guard what was left of the building. They arrested three policemen, but the one who shot the youth had fled. Relatives and villagers protested in front of the police with messages like, "The police don't protect, they murder."

Huehuetoca is a city with economic growth that has benefitted the bosses. That's why they need to use police terror to guarantee profits flowing from exploiting farmworkers.

We workers don't need police; we need to build our party, the ICWP, to fight for a world without oppressors and murderers. We need a



communist world in which we workers will be in charge of our security. There won't be city halls, jails, courts, or police which represent the bosses' tyranny.

LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

THIS IS THE PAPER OF THE WORKING CLASS. WE GET NO FUNDING FROM THE CAPITALISTS, THEIR FOUNDATIONS OR NGOs. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO HELP PAY FOR THE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Capitalism is the Disaster for Workers

After Hurricane Manuel struck in Guerrero, many communities in the state remained in a state of emergency. This is the time to reflect since working class solidarity was seen as workers immediately mobilized to provide food, medicine, etc. It seems that everything was fine and that there was no reason to worry. However, in the affected area, the aid wasn't distributed adequately, and the people are suffering from lack of food. This suggests that something is not happening as it should and it makes me conclude that a different system must exist, in which aid is not monopolized for electoral purposes or by political leaders who only come to the places affected to have their pictures taken and to give food in their name even though it comes from people of good faith.

The situation, however, in these places was seen to be carried out, thanks to the voluntary action of relatives and neighbors who were not affected. While everything continues being commodities, even the life of the people, it is an opportunity to get more power, and in some cases the local people are capable of selling a piece of an egg for 10 pesos (about \$0.75). Another system is needed in which commodities do not exist. It's necessary to change things so that this doesn't keep happening, much more now since these phenomena are each time more frequent due to global warming.

--Reader and friend of ICWP

Communism is the Solution

Months after the storms Manuel, Ingrid and Raymond touched down in Mexican territory, the states that were affected are still feeling the consequences of nature and of capitalism that promotes class division, protecting the bosses and condemning to death our working class. After the natural events experienced in Mexico, like in any other part of the world, if we workers don't die, we are treated as objects that only have value for our labor power. When this ends, we are discarded. Under racist capitalism the priorities are the bosses while the working class can only wait for death.

How racist capitalism is can be seen in areas like Guerrero where the roads are nil or scarce in the mountain areas with larger concentrations of poor people, preventing the distribution of food, medicine, and basic necessities, leading to increasing diseases and hunger among its inhabitants. In Hidalgo, poor peoples' settlements are built in high risk areas, in-

creasing the vulnerability to risky situations which can lead to deaths from landslides.

In Tabasco, the location of crop areas and housing near river banks is destroying growing areas and affecting many communities close to them. In Mexico City, poor efficiency of drainage and the accumulation of garbage in the streets causes drain-off, increasing flooding in houses and businesses. Also in the north of Mexico, super-exploitation and excessive use of water, mostly by the big bosses dedicated to large scale production, coupled with long dry periods, is leading to the death of livestock and the reduction in the production of subsistence food production.

There is no doubt that nature continues its natural process as it has been doing for millions of years, but it is undeniable that capitalism is accelerating and altering these processes. Therefore, the working class, more than seeing a natural phenomenon as a disaster, must see it as an opportunity to reconnect with nature and to question ourselves about our selfish and individualistic actions and their origin: capitalism. In communism, the existing research will allow us to make ecological and human adjustments according to the conditions of the soil and the climate, reducing the areas of risk.

But at the same time, it will help us form human "communist" relations, like the working class solidarity observed in Guerrero, people of "good heart," as the friend of ICWP mentioned,

who without asking for anything in return are involved in activities to show solidarity of our class. However, this isn't enough. There are many "good-hearted" people who are willing to give their life for others, but we need "good hearted" communists, willing to give their lives to destroy capitalism through a communist revolution. Let's fight for communism.

--Friend and comrade from Mexico



All of Us or None by Bertolt Brecht, 1934

Slave, who is it that shall free you?
Those in deepest darkness lying.
Comrade, only these can see you
Only they can hear you crying.
Comrade, only slaves can free you.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.
One alone his lot can't better.
Either gun or fetter.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

You who hunger, who shall feed you?
If it's bread you would be carving,
Come to us, we too are starving.
Come to us and let us lead you.
Only hungry men can feed you.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.
One alone his lot can't better.
Either gun or fetter.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

Beaten man, who shall avenge you?
You, on whom the blows are falling,
Hear your wounded brothers calling.
Weakness gives us strength to lend you.
Come to us, we shall avenge you.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.
One alone his lot can't better.
Either gun or fetter.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

Who, oh wretched one, shall dare it?
He who can no longer bear it.
Counts the blows that arm his spirit.
Taught the time by need and sorrow,
Strikes today and not tomorrow.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.
One alone his lot can't better.
Either gun or fetter.
Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

COMMUNIST AND CAPITALIST CULTURE

To join study groups that will be discussing this topic contact us



MOVIE REVIEW:

The movie, "12 Years a Slave." Is adapted from the 1853 memoir of Solomon Northup, a free-man, kidnapped in 1841 and sold into slavery in the Deep South. This review is based on viewing the movie twice and reading the complete, *Twelve Years A Slave, Narrative of Solomon Northup*. When you look at the difference between a movie and the original source (the book), you see the political point of view of the movie.

In the movie, Solomon sits huddled with two other prisoners on a slaver's boat headed south. One prisoner insists that they should fight their crew. A second disagrees: "Survival's not about death. It's about keeping your head down."

Solomon says, "Now you tell me all is lost? I want to live." This conversation isn't in Solomon's narrative.

According to Solomon's narrative, he and two other prisoners, Arthur and Robert, plot to "steal... the captain's cabin, seize the pistols and cutlass, and ... dispatch him and the mates. Robert, with a club, was to stand by the door...and beat back the sailors.... We resolved to regain our liberties or lose our lives." Once they took over the boat, they planned to make their way to New York Harbor although they "knew little of the compass." The escape plan wasn't carried out because Robert died from smallpox.

Solomon's first slave master is William Ford, a wealthy "Christian" man. However, Ford falls into debt and sells Solomon to John Tibbeats who works his slaves "from earliest dawn until late at night." When Tibbeats attempts to whip Solomon for a dubious offense, he fights back, and with his foot on Tibbeats' neck, whips him "until my arm ached." Afterwards, when Tibbeats and two associates attempt to lynch Solomon, an overseer (armed with two pistols) intervenes and saves his life. Tibbeats backs off. Later he attacks Solomon with a hatchet and he again bests the master, "an act in that state, punishable with death." Solomon flees from the plantation chased by hounds and escapes through the swamp. He makes his way to Ford's plantation where he is protected from harm. These fights are in Solomon's narrative; however, in the movie, it is one fight between Solomon and a lowly overseer, not a slave master, and focuses on Solomon dangling by a noose in the hot sun from morning until late evening.

Tibbeats sells Solomon to Edwin Epps, a sociopathic slave master. Solomon spends ten years on Epps' plantation and is eventually freed and reunited with his family.

Balancing Political Commitment with Everyday Life

My struggles as a communist and as a student have always been a challenge for me. I was first introduced to ICWP when I was in high school thanks to someone on my high school campus who would distribute *Red Flag* to students. After reading a couple of issues of *Red Flag*, I decided to join ICWP. Joining the party involved continuing to read and discuss *Red Flag*, but I also began writing for our paper and participating in sales. At times I found it very easy to balance high school, activities, family, and the party because I had less responsibility. As time progressed, it became harder for me to commit to all the activities I was once able to do.

Now, as a community college student, I still struggle constantly with assignments, classes, family obligations, and making time for our party. What makes things even more complicated is that I also have to balance these responsibilities with a job to help support my family. As communists, we know that mobilizing the masses to abolish capitalism and build communism also involves trying to survive under it, while it still exists. Although I feel conflicted at times, I have found other ways to contribute to our cause of building a communist society.

I have decided to write more for *Red Flag* and to express our communist point of view in my writing assignments, especially on global issues that affect the working class. I will also speak with my friends and fellow students about communism. By writing this, I hope to help other working students understand that, no matter what else we have going on in our lives, we can always find ways to contribute to our party and the fight for communism.

To my fellow student comrades around the world, what challenges do you have in balancing your schoolwork, and other commitments, with your commitment to ICWP and building communist revolution? What are some ways you have found to resolve them?

--Red Student

Capitalist Media: Music, TV, and the Movies!
Talk to your friends and classmates!
Write up your critiques for *Red Flag*!

This movie focuses on victimization, survival, and brutality, not resistance and evokes sympathy, not admiration for courage. It argues that liberation lies in going through the proper channels. There are no militant mass fighters against slavery, no Frederick Douglasses, Harriet Tubmans, or Nat Turners here.

**"FLIES"
 Article Was Biased:
 We Need Rules**

Response to review of *Lord of the Flies*

I believe that this book review was unfairly biased and that only certain areas were pinpointed to make a point. The author of the article picked the worst moments of the novel to illustrate his point that capitalism warps the natural state of people.

I believe that how the book portrayed the boys is, in fact, the natural state of adolescents. The novel is about young boys, stranded and unsupervised on an island and it shows their natural state: violent and aggressive. So, to say that all men are naturally violent and aggressive, due to their nature being tainted by capitalism, is inaccurate. This is why rules are needed.

Young people need guidance from elders and guidelines of how to behave; rules provide those guidelines. To take the novel *Lord of the Flies* and say that the young boys featured in it are a representation of all humanity, is not fair, due to them being young and not fully shaped by a society which provides rules in order for them to adequately function as people.

Doing this is the same as taking a book on small children and saying that men, in their natural state, are whiny, immature, and irresponsible. It is a misrepresentation and it can be used to support a bias on humanity, such as *Lord of the Flies* was.

—Reader

Response to critique

Thank you, comrade, for your critique. We hope more young people take time to respond to articles they feel strongly about. Your response provides an opportunity to clarify some points we made in the review. People are products of upbringing (external) and nature (internal) when it comes to morals and values.

External influences include our parents, friends, teachers, media, etc. and the ways the system we live under has us relate to each other.

The internal includes our natural contradictions such as selfish vs. considerate of others, greedy vs. giving, violent vs. calm, individualistic vs. collective etc. These ways of being have nothing to do with rules and/or laws, but are struggles with ourselves.

Dialectics tells us that while the external is necessary, the internal is primary. So, while Capitalism nurtures our selfish, greedy, violent, individualistic side, this does not mean that we lose our ability or desire to be considerate, giving, calm and collective. A communist society will work to bring out the latter by design of our social relations to each other and communist education.

—Writer