



RED FLAG

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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

ENGLAND--Over 2000 people demonstrated to demand the closing of the notoriously brutal Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Center for immigrants awaiting either deportation or political asylum in the United Kingdom.

90% of the inmates in this prison are women. They face indefinite sentences. Some fled from torture. Many have been subject to inadequate health care, sexual harassment and rape in the prison.

Demonstrators demanded opening the borders, and closing all immigration prisons.

We invite them to join ICWP to mobilize for communist revolution to smash all the bosses' borders and prisons. In communism, all workers will be welcome and cared for everywhere. All will contribute what they can to collectively meet everyone's needs.



NEW ICWP COLLECTIVE IN AFGHANISTAN

This are excerpts from communications between ICWP and a comrade in Afghanistan

—Hope this note finds you all healthy. I am active in left-wing politics in Afghanistan. I got your web address via a comrade and I hope to get to join this international party. Please kindly help guide my way. And let us know how we can study more about your successful party.

—Thanks for the responding and explaining better about ICWP. Please call me to discuss what is needed to be done to be in a comradely exchange of views for creating communist society.

—We are happy to hear from you and be your party in Afghanistan. We're glad to have a comradely relation to reach our revolutionary aims. Our collective here will learn from your advanced revolutionary ideas and make a RED WORLD.

Your website is a very good tribute and a good way to broadcast the ideas of the working class and to make people aware of the real revolutionary struggle that started back in 1917 under the leadership of Lenin.

The world needs such working class movements since we know capitalist hands make the world worse and worse, day by day. Therefore, we should also try to get those people who have been harmed, and workers, out of this mess built by all Imperialism.

It is time for workers and those struggling for revolution to reunite worldwide with as much anger and determination as possible as before, to break all the protective walls which this capitalism created to grind down the people under their feet and spread their terror to whole world, especially in countries like Afghanistan. Long live communism!

POTLUCK BUILDS FOR A COMMUNIST MAY DAY

SEATTLE, USA, March 5—Can we organize a communist contingent at this year's May Day march?" a comrade asked at our potluck. Most responded by promising to march under our *Red Flags* on May First.

A Boeing worker who moved here from Detroit three years ago won over our guests. "I think now is the time to organize this contingent here," she began. She moved to Seattle, hoping to stay with relatives. No sooner did she arrive, than her relatives were evicted.

"So for the first time I was homeless and I had an adopted child," she explained. She had to navigate the city bureaucracy to find emergency shelter while training for a job. Opportunities for safe housing were few and far between.

"Now I read about the homeless emergency in Seattle and the company is closing my shop so I'm worried about being laid off," she said. The final and most convincing argument was not her personal history, but the reality our class faces. "It's not just about Boeing, but since 2008 there has been a big crisis for workers everywhere."

This led to a discussion on how communism would abolish these global capitalist

crises of overproduction like the one we are suffering through. Nothing less than communist production for need will succeed.

"The press won't talk about the continuing depression," she concluded. "We have a big opportunity here."

Communist Discussion

Our friends and neighbors were upset about the spike in homelessness, layoffs, racism and many other cases where capitalism failed the working class. They came to our house to talk about communist answers and responses.

For example, some discussed lead poisoning in Flint. Everyone agreed GM destroyed Flint, but the most excitement was generated by an article in an earlier issue of *Red Flag*. The article explained how communism would end lead poisoning. It described how the Chinese, inspired by communism, mobilized millions to eradicate the plague of schistosomiasis. We could do the same with lead.

"Look at this!" exclaimed the aforementioned worker's cousin as he passed an old issue of *Red Flag* to her.

A neighbor and school system employee was particularly impressed. "It's so nice to talk about real things like the [communist]

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Capitalist Crisis Breeds Fascism, Sparks Resistance Worldwide

WORKERS CAN DEFEAT FASCISM WITH COMMUNISM

In Chicago, USA, thousands of youth and workers, Muslim and non-Muslim, black, latin, asian and white, protested amidst Trump's planned vile racist rally. They were not intimidated by his racist thugs and murderous cops. Trump canceled. Masses are cheering the anti-racists.

In Tegucigalpa, Honduras, students defied death squads and fought riot police, angered by the assassination of activist Berta Cáceres.

In Delhi and elsewhere in India, thousands of students protest racist attacks on Muslims and their Dalit classmates and the arrest of student leader Kanhaiya Kumar.

Masses are rebelling against fascism. Some are calling it out by name. We must win them and many more to destroy racism and fascism at their source by mobilizing for communism.

Communism Will End the Material Basis of Fascism

Worldwide capitalism today is in a crisis of overproduction. This makes it harder for workers to live in the old way.

The bosses rely on racism and nationalism to divide workers. They don't want us to blame their capitalist system.

Communist society will not have crises of overproduction. When production is based on human need, there will not be markets to try to monopolize. Without the wage system, communist relations of production will unite us.

Communism will end money and profits and, with them, imperialist wars. The only war the working class needs to fight is revolution to destroy capitalism.

Communism will end unemployment. Everyone will have work. We'll plan, produce and distribute the things we all need. We'll take care of one another and strengthen the social ties that bind us together. We workers worldwide will see each other as the class brothers and sisters that we are, not as competitors for wage-slavery jobs.

With the victory of communism worldwide, the material basis of fascism will disappear.

Capitalism in Crisis Needs Fascist Nationalism

Capitalist rulers need to win some workers to act as their thugs against rebellious workers and

youth. They need to win more to fight in their wars.

India's Modi is building a violent, racist fascist nationalist movement against Muslims and Dalits to attack all workers and also Pakistan. Abe in Japan promotes nationalism and militarism to attack China. Xi in China is fomenting nationalism to challenge the US and its allies like Japan for world domination. Putin uses nationalism to win Russian workers to fight for a Russian empire. Turkey's Erdogan is mobilizing against Kurds.

Trump in the US and Le Pen in France are also building violently racist movements. They blame immigrants and Muslims for crime, rising unemployment and declining wages.

But forces everywhere are mobilizing against them. We must bring them **Red Flag** and communist strategies. Let's explain sharply and patiently that the only answer to the bosses' racism and nationalism is communist internationalism.

"Bourgeoisie democracy BREEDS fascism"

The communist Palme Dutt explained in 1934 that "fascism arises when the bankruptcy of the old regime is revealed, but the working class is held in by reformist leadership."

"The more workers place their trust in legalism, in constitutionalism, in bourgeois democracy, the more they make sacrifices to save the existing regime as the 'lesser evil,' the heavier become the fascist attacks.... To preach confidence in...the capitalist state means to invite and guarantee the victory of fascism."

The German communists fought the fascists in the streets but ultimately relied on elections to stop fascism when Hitler took power. When Hitler took power, the world's communist parties allied with the "lesser evil" imperialists, the US and its allies to fight Nazi Germany, a fatal error we will never commit again.

In both India and the US, the rulers need racism to divide the masses. At the same time, they are preparing for a future world war. On one side: the US and its allies. On the other: China and Russia and their allies.

For this, liberal imperialists like Clinton (and Sanders, right behind her) need to push an inclusive nationalism: "We are all Americans." They want to keep angry anti-racists within capitalist democracy and away from revolution. Leading US imperialists denounce Trump because his too-open racism sabotages the multicultural patriotism they need.

In India, some attack Modi's racist nationalism by calling for a "good, democratic" nationalism that includes Muslims, Hindus and Christians. But there is no good nationalism. Every nation belongs to capitalists.

Workers need a communist world without borders or nations. In communism, workers everywhere will learn from each other and share resources for everyone's good.

Boldly Present Communism to the Masses!

Dutt called the victory of Communism over capitalism and fascism "inevitable." He didn't mean this mechanically. Rather, it happens



"through living human wills given social conditions, consciously reacting to those conditions, and consciously choosing their line between alternative possibilities seen by them within the given conditions."

More and more workers and youth are reading **Red Flag**. They're starting to organize ICWP collectives from India to South Africa, Bangladesh to El Salvador, Afghanistan to the US. They are showing that masses will choose communism when we boldly present that alternative.

Choose communism! Organize for a communist May Day 2016! Join the International Communist Workers' Party!

FASCISM VERSUS COMMUNISM

Liberal capitalist ideology pushes the lie that "communism and fascism are the same" when actually they are polar opposites:

Fascism is a "corporate state" – government hand in glove with business. Communism is workers' power – the masses running society to meet our own needs.

Fascism removes the mask from capitalist dictatorship. It reveals its violent repression of the exploited masses. Communism means the abolition of exploitation. It will thus end dictatorship once a tiny remnant of exploiters and their intrigues have been repressed.

Fascist ideology pushes racism and patriotism. Communism unites the working class of the world.

Fascism means the destruction of productive forces. That includes large-scale mass unemployment and war, and sometimes genocide. It means hostility to innovation (except in the military), to science and to culture. Communism will unleash the creative power of the masses in all fields. Science, innovation and culture will flourish, no longer enslaved to the profit system.

Fascism is fiercely anti-communist. Communism is fiercely anti-fascist. It attacks fascism at its root: capitalism-imperialism in crisis and in decay.

Fascism lifts up a "strong man." Communism lifts up the masses.



GREETINGS TO THE ANTI-FASCIST FIGHTERS



WWW.ICWPREDFLAG.ORG — (310) 487-7674
FACEBOOK.COM/RED-FLAG-NEWSPAPER-OF-
ICWP-924195127665834/?FREF=NF
E-MAIL: ICWP@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.COM
WRITE TO: P.M.B. 362
3006 S. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA
90007, USA

WORKERS EDUCATE THEMSELVES WITH DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM

EL SALVADOR—“Before beginning to talk about dialectics, I want to say that my son and I were analyzing the material about dialectics and we think that contradictions occur every day but what makes us advance more rapidly or more slowly is our internal contradiction,” said a farmworker, member of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP).

The communist work carried out by the ICWP clubs continues growing here and in the rest of the world, from Los Angeles to New Delhi. In a recent club meeting about Communist Dialectics we discussed why it is important to know communist philosophy and how it helps us in the revolutionary and transformational process of our work.

Before starting a full discussion about dialectics, we discussed the work being done every day in each area where we are involved.

A comrade mentioned the importance of reaching more workers each time with *Red Flag* and our manifesto, *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*, of losing our fear of what workers would say, while taking all necessary care. This refers, in other words, to be more open and thus to get more effective results.

Another comrade mentioned stenghening ties to those in the army and his efforts to get soldiers to write for our newspaper *Red Flag* and reflect their opinions about communism and the ICWP. That is, change ourselves first, and then by our example invite more men and women workers to join our struggle. In doing this, the

comrades show their fellow workers the qualities that a revolutionary must have: discipline, commitment, and leading by example.

Comrades are carrying out constant discussions with farmworkers to improve communication and coordination among the different communist clubs. We can add to this the arrival of a new comrade to the party, after a long time of being away; but his ideals remain firm. His goals for revolution have not diminished with time.

Communist dialectics allows us to discover the way to accelerate changes for a communist revolution. Dialectics establishes that the unity of opposites is temporary and transitory and only the struggle of opposites is constant. This has been shown throughout history. It can be seen in the daily struggle that exists between the reformist electoral political parties and those of us who are struggling for communist revolution.

Besides this, dialectics teaches us that during the struggle for power by the Red Army, led by ICWP, during the taking of power by the working



“Let’s Destroy Capitalism, Let’s Build Communism
ICWP

May Day, El Salvador, 2013

class and in the following period, contradictions will arise inside the communist movement in key aspects like distribution.

For example, a struggle could arise about transporting resources of the Middle East to America, or how to organize the education system. These contradictions must be resolved with constructive criticism and practice in a strong, well-organized party.

At the end of the meeting, we discussed the mobilization that we will carry out for the 2016 International May Day March of the working class.

YOUNG COMRADE TALKS WITH STUDENTS ABOUT COMMUNISM

LOS ANGELES--A young comrade from El Salvador, member of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP), visited a high school here. He spoke to well over a hundred students about how communist society will be.

He emphasized that there will be no different social classes. No one will be rich or poor in a society where everyone can work in what they like to do and at their capacity. Everyone will learn and teach at his or her own capacity. Everyone will help each other.

He also talked about how capitalism, in search of profits, is destroying the world. With communism we will all be united and live as one, as a single group that will protect itself from any possible bad thing or conflict that could come. Together we will protect our planet.

He reported on how workers in India and other places are joining ICWP and how they want *Red Flag* there. People in these places are joining the efforts to mobilize the masses for communism.

The students had questions about communism, like what would happen with guns, drugs, with criminals or even lazy people.

The weapons will be needed to carry out the revolution and defend it from any attack. In full communism they will no longer be necessary. Drugs and their development will have a scientific basis and will be used for the wellbeing of the people not for profit. The material basis of crime will disappear because private property, wages and inequality will no longer exist.

One student said things would be the same or even worse because everyone would have to work to get what they need like it is now. They won’t be able to get for themselves any other things they want. Since people will only receive what they need. And then he added that it would be worse because there will be no laws and therefore, everyone would do whatever they want.

The comrade replied that there are many people today who do not have what they need even though they work. With communism we will be in charge of everything. We will work for ourselves and there will be no bosses.

He added that laws exist to protect capitalist relations of exploitation (the boss and worker relationship), of private property and profits. With

communism there will be no laws but communist relations that will be reinforced with the collective struggle in all aspects of planning, work and distribution. Communist principles such as *from each according to their commitment to each according to his or her need* will guide this new society.

His visit inspired many students in the communist movement. He opened their minds to think about things bigger than themselves and what is possible

Students were very interested in *Red Flag* and want to know more about communism. They understand that through *Red Flag* we are getting to know more people, tearing borders down and creating a new world where no worker will be illegal. *Red Flag* focuses us not only in the present but in the future.

Many are considering joining ICWP, others have recommitted themselves and more will be helping to distribute *Red Flag* to their peers and neighbors. They will help organize for May Day and bring a big communist contingent.



LOS ANGELES, March 8—Today unionized Janitors demonstrated in front of the Century City office buildings that they clean. They are continuing to fight for a new labor contract. Their de-

mands include more respect for women janitors who face mistreatment and sexual harassment by the bosses. They are also demanding higher wages.

Over 350 of them gladly took *Red Flag*, which exposed the fight for reforms as futile. We denounced trade unionism as a bosses’ ideology to keep workers fighting for crumbs while perpetuating their wage slavery. A labor contract only justifies and legalizes this bosses’ wage slavery.

Instead, we call on them to fight for a communist world where everyone will have our needs met and we all will do both mental and manual work. No one will only clean up after others, and no one will ever again be a servant or the boss of

others.

We invite the janitors and all workers to join ICWP and help mobilize for a Communist May Day!



“RED FLAG IS ON MY MIND. PLEASE PUT ME IN.”

SOUTH AFRICA—Yesterday I met Mary, the girlfriend of my friend here. I went just to say “Hello.” When I got there, she asked me, “Why doesn’t your party come to South Africa and grow here? You know, ever since I read that *Red Flag* you gave me when you came from El Salvador the things that I read there, they are still in my mind. And I try to explain to people at my work place about this thing but I can’t go further because I don’t know more about this. I just tell them there’s a party from overseas that wants to free the working class, that wants all workers to be free.”

Then I told her, “Look, the Party is active here.”

Then she said, “No, if it’s active here, please put me in.” So I made a date with her today to deliver a packet of *Red Flags*. She’s going to give them out to her fellow workers at the place where she works, a printers.

She says there’s a lot of racism and the salary

is too little. It was painful to hear. She gets about 500 Rands (about US \$32.80) a week and its not enough. From that 500, she has to pay for child-care for her kid about 100 R a week. Her bus fare is 150R a week. And last week she broke a machine and the company said they were going to deduct 300R for the week, so she’ll be left with 200 R. She gets about 12R an hour and she works about 12 hours a day. It’s very bad.

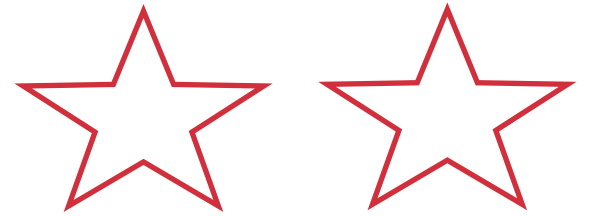
So she ended up saying to me, “I’ve worked and reached the point that I think working is stupid. It doesn’t make sense anymore because this money I’m getting is even short to pay my bills. I’m just creating debts and debts and debts over and over again.” So she said I must give her the paper. She asked for one paper. They are going to share as they shared the paper I gave her before. She said those articles are still on her mind. They don’t go out. She even explained about ICWP, which I thought she had forgotten about.

I asked her to join ICWP and she agreed. So

I’m meeting her today to give her the packet of *Red Flags*. She’s going to give the papers inside at lunch to her fellow workers.

We welcome our new comrade worker and the others that she will recruit.

So there’s another company Kensington that purchases biscuits. It’s bad, bad. Do you know how much the workers get there? Some start at 4R (US \$0.26) an hour and others get 7R (\$0.49) an hour. How can you make only 4R an hour? I mean it’s crazy. That creates racism. Those workers who make 7R an hour think they are better than the ones who make 4 R an hour. The treatment is not the same. That’s how capitalism divides the workers and why we need to get rid of it with communist revolution.



BERTA CÁCERES’ LIFE MUST INSPIRE US TO FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM

Berta Cáceres, a 44-year-old indigenous mother of four, was murdered by a Honduran government death squad. She was a popular defender of human rights and the environment. Thousands mourned her death and participated in her funeral. In two cities university students and other youth took to the streets and fought the riot cops for hours.

Days later, Nelson Garcia, another environmentalist, was murdered by the capitalists’ death squad. These environmentalists knowingly risk their lives daily. They are brave fighters worthy of our admiration. Their struggle, however, is to reform the capitalist system, not to destroy it with a communist revolution.

They and the masses of workers who support them, together with those rebellious youth, need to fight for a communist world where working-class lives and a healthy environment will be the primary and only concerns of society. More next issue.

SEATTLE POTLUCK

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solution to homelessness and unemployment. It can be depressing when all that’s talked about is Trump’s latest bull.”

Communist Organizing Follows Communist Discussion

But this was a night of more than just talk. New and old friends took handfuls of leaflets and *Red Flags*. A school nurse, visiting from the East Coast, wanted to know what she could do in her area. Others couldn’t attend, but pledged to write checks.

The leaflet entitled “Communism Means Work and Housing For Everyone” was especially popular. We planned out how to distribute it at work, at neighborhood meetings and dinners, unions and to family and friends. And these are the comrades with a base and experience to do it!

One long-time party friend told how he was

going to expand his communist work. “I’m taking this paper [*Red Flag*] to two more guys in my apartment complex. Rent keeps going up and they are struggling. One is in the Army,” he said after promising to come to May Day.

Now he has to win his friends to come to the march also. He should follow the example of another Boeing worker who brought two of her friends from the factory to the dinner. She is also a long-time party friend, who, in fact, had introduced him to us. And she was not satisfied, apologizing for not bringing more. Now that’s the [communist] spirit!

This response shows that workers in the US are also more and more open to communism, like workers in South Africa and elsewhere around the world. We need this kind of revolutionary enthusiasm to take advantage of the opportunity for the growth of ICWP here. On to mobilizing for a communist May Day!



**YES TO WORK
NO TO SLAVERY**

French youth and workers demonstrate half a million strong against harshening conditions of wage slavery. Only Communism can bring decent work for all.



CAPITALIST CRISIS OF OVER-PRODUCTION

A coal miner’s son asks his Dad why it’s so cold in the house. His Dad said, “Because they laid me off because there’s too much coal.”

Capitalism is driven by competition for maximum profits. This means that each capitalist produces undersell his competitors and capture the market. This leads to the capitalist crisis of overproduction: more goods are produced than the market can absorb.

Without sale, there’s no work. Workers are laid off, which means they can buy less of what they have produced, which makes the crisis worse. Markets shrink. The competing capitalists lower workers’ wages, introduce more machines, and more workers are laid off.

Eventually, the capitalists resort to fascism to repress the rebellious workers and win them to fight in their imperialist wars to eliminate the capitalist competition from other capitalist countries.



Palestinian Teachers and Students:

MASSIVE STRIKE POINTS TO NEED FOR COMMUNISM

Twenty-five thousand teachers in the West Bank (Palestine) went on a month-long strike for a survival wage and against a threatened increase in class size. As protests escalated, Mahmoud Abbas, head of the Palestinian Authority (PA), promised concessions. But when the official union moved to end the strike, many strikers rejected the union.

The teachers currently earn on average about \$600 a month while the basic cost of living is comparable to that of Europe. Most, to survive, work second jobs, as waiters, cabdrivers and the like. Even finding a second job is not easy with unemployment at 25% overall (35% for women, 50% for youth).

Life for teachers will be very different in communism. For a start, they won't be wage slaves. Food, housing, transportation, education, health care and so on will be collectivized and provided free. Maybe not a lot at first, but everybody's needs will be considered equally.

Palestinian teachers also won't have the PA on their backs. The PA acts like another layer of oppression under that of Israel and the US. It says it represents the interests of all Palestinians but it tried very hard to squash the strike. It sent 'security' forces to stop teachers from marching and rallying. They arrested more than 20 teachers and even went after public figures who support the strikers.

The PA is dominated by members of Fatah. Fatah is supposedly a 'national liberation' movement but has degenerated into a corrupt, parasitic mafia. This is a common pattern for nationalist movements worldwide.

The ICWP does not support programs for 'national liberation.' We believe that workers should unite with other workers, not with their "own" bosses. The teachers' strike once again exposes Palestinian 'liberation' as wage slavery, poverty, unemployment, and police repression.

Work for teachers will also be very different under communism, because we will replace capitalist education with communist education.



This means first of all an end to segregation. We will not have some schools with Palestinian students only, learning Palestinian culture and history; some schools with Israeli Jewish students only, learning Israeli and Jewish culture and history; schools with Bedouin students only ... and so on. If classrooms remain segregated like this it really doesn't matter what teachers say in them. In this case the medium is the message.

Capitalist education is based on many different forms of segregation / compartmentalization and we will smash them all. Students will not be divided by age and gender and the curriculum will not be chopped up into isolated subjects.

The biggest wall to knock down is that between learning and doing, between studying and working. Communist education will thoroughly mix them. Most of our learning will be done while doing useful work, surrounded by workers from all over. This vision of communist education is really worth striking and struggling for.

Nations themselves are the ultimate form of

compartmentalization. We won't liberate nations, we'll dissolve them. This means of course knocking down all the border fences and walls that seem to be going up everywhere. But we must do more than that.

Learning many languages and experiencing different cultures will be a vital part of young peoples' communist education. Students will be strongly encouraged to travel to different areas to work and study and settle down if they wish. The working class will become international everywhere and racism, sectarianism (like the Sunni-Shia conflict) and xenophobia will be wiped out.

Palestine, Syria, Sudan, Iran and Iraq all had mass communist parties fifty years ago. Sadly, they set themselves up for destruction by forming alliances with nationalist bosses who then smashed them. Capitalism, nationalism and imperialism in the Mideast have created a hell on earth that only communism can end.

Only the ICWP can make this all come true and only if workers join in great numbers. That means you!

Neither "A Pope of the Poor" nor a Poor Pope, Only a Capitalist Pope

IN COMMUNISM, WE WILL RESOLVE OUR PROBLEMS COLLECTIVELY

MEXICO — The pope is waving the flag of "take as the horizon what is good for the whole of the human family." He claims to be "a pope of the poor." He is traveling the world bringing a message of hope in a paradise not on this earth. Here "there will be no suffering" and "yes divine justice" where "God will hold accountable the slave holders of our days" who, he says, "provoke in many cases the exploitation of the employees as if they were objects to use, throw away and discard" as he said in his recent visit to Mexico.

However, his empty speeches are not what is good for the whole human family and they are contradictory. While he talks about justice and defending the "weak," in Mexico the Pope refused to receive the parents of the 43 students from Ayotzinapa and the victims of violence, forced disappearance, femicide, and pedophilia. He preferred to say that he was "going to see everyone at Mass" as a way to avoid actually showing the significance of these oppressive acts and their real victims.

Millionaire Pope, Pope of the Poor

An Italian magazine published the fact that the amount of gold in the Vatican treasury is just behind the US. That makes the Vatican the second-largest holder of gold in the world, with 3.5 billion Euros in gold (or US\$ 3.9 billion).

So what can we expect from a religious leader who preaches about poverty and justice when everything is the opposite? He plays with double talk, saying that his speeches can be "something left," but "that they are only for explanation and not for doctrine." And the doctrine of the Catholic Church is in essence anti-communist.

He says that God will call into account the "slave masters" but he has no problem making preferential alliances with the slave masters or bosses that serve his interests. He said, "The destiny of peoples and the destiny of the Catholic Church are intimately linked." Therefore to sell out to the highest bidder makes him the enemy of the workers.

In Communist society we will not need religious or spiritual leaders, much less the institutions of lies that they represent.

As class brothers and sisters we are creating the basis for scientific Communism, in which money will not exist, and therefore there will be no flow of capital or any profit system. Nor will we scrap people as if they were useless objects. There will not be rich or poor. We are not waiting for divine justice, nor do we ask god to hold anyone accountable for wage slavery.

We will put an end to idealistic ideas of a supreme being. We, the international working class, united in only one Party, ICWP, will put an

end to the slave masters: that is, the bosses, their profit system and wage slavery, along with their idealist ideologies.

In communist society, we will have no cult of personality. We won't expect some expert to resolve and mediate the contradictions that affect us. Together we will direct our hopes and fight collectively with the contradictions that arise. The study and practice of dialectical materialism will be part of our daily lives. As class brothers and sisters we will have the obligation and need to help and motivate each other through criticism and self-criticism.

In addition, communist society will be organized along collective principles. These principles will allow confidence in our capabilities for solidarity. The strength of our struggle will be based on each one receiving according to their needs and giving according to their capabilities and commitment.

Much work needs to be done. Workers of the world, let's unite in building our Communist society! Together we will free ourselves from the chains of capitalism, from its slave masters and bosses and their religious ideologies that oppress and divide us. We will make every day ours collectively, the best way to live. Join ICWP!

LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

WHAT'S IT GONNA TAKE TO END RACISM?

The KKK rally that took place in Anaheim, California, USA, last month angered many people across the US. Seven people were arrested for attacking the Klansmen, a historically racist hate group. Three anti-racists were stabbed by the Klan. This anger resulted in a protest a week later which started from Watts and went through south Central Los Angeles and ended at Macarthur Park in Central LA. The protest was organized by anarchists and other anti-racists who sought to deliver a message that no racist and anti-working class organization will be tolerated despite their "1st amendment rights." The participants in this protest were multi-racial and brought many people in the neighborhoods we went through to join in to march with us, even one pregnant woman.

Police presence as we marched through the streets brought a lot of attention from the public who, by using their cell phones and cheering us on, kept the police from stopping the protest. This shows class participation in

organizing and that the working class shares our anti-racist views.

As a member of ICWP, I participated in the rally and passed out our leaflet critiquing the Anaheim KKK rally, but I couldn't help but critique this one as well. Although for one day people of different "races" and political views marched in solidarity against racism, where did it get us? The discussion that took place at Macarthur Park did not bring solutions on how to end racism. ICWP seeks to mobilize all of the working class to take state power away from the bosses, who allow hate groups like the KKK to assemble and constitute it as legal. We'll set up a communist society where we eliminate money and cooperate to produce for workers' needs. This will eliminate competition created by capitalism

for jobs and create the material basis for eliminating racism in social relations.

ICWP will come together to march on May 1st, International Workers' Day, against capitalism. One lesson to come out of the march is that if the efforts and sentiments of the people who participated in it are so strong against racism, then we need to be just that bold in organizing people to walk with us May 1st.

--a comrade

**Need More Concrete Answers to Concrete Questions**

The article about Boeing layoffs made an important point about the need to write and talk more about communist production and organization will be like in practice. But I don't think the article itself did this very well. A great deal of it was still about capitalism. And mostly what it said about communism is what it won't have: layoffs, ledgers, SEC, companies. It says important things about communist principles but mainly in a pretty abstract and general way.

Here are some questions that are left unanswered:

Who will "decide we need less of something" (or more of something) and how will those decisions be made by our international party? How will the mobilized masses be organized to make sure that society "produces what we need when we need it"? What political or ideological struggle would we expect to carry out to make this happen?

In place of the capitalists' bean-counting and marketplace, how will workers mobilized for communism keep track of what resources are needed to carry out our plans? Of what is actually produced and where it goes?

Certainly "collectivity will consistently spur innovation by unleashing the creative potential of the working class." But "if it's good for the masses, we'll find a way to do it" is too abstract and general. At least we can start talking about how communist principles would guide the creative process.

How will we decide, for example, whether to try to design planes that operate on renewable resources? Or try to reduce the need for planes altogether by radically decentralizing pro-

duction and using communication technologies to bring the masses closer worldwide?

Will industrial production still be organized largely around assembly lines? How, concretely, will work be restructured so that workers do many different tasks? Does that only mean that factory workers will do different tasks within the factory, or will they also work in agriculture, health care, child care, cultural endeavors, etc? How will we break down gender segregation of so many occupations?

"We will ask all to contribute, both physically and mentally," but what will we do when some workers complain that others aren't doing their share? In concrete terms, how will collectives help to resolve disagreements and conflicts among the masses generally?

Certainly in communist society "there will be no need to divide" the working class. Indeed, there will be every need to take concrete measures to eliminate all the remnants of capitalism's racism, sexism, the division of "skilled" and "unskilled" workers and the like. How will this be done?

I hope that our comrades and friends at Boeing will consider questions like these and many more. All of us should do the same! Then we could collectively produce a series of articles for *Red Flag* that explore them in detail. Part of that discussion should be how our practice today can prepare for the work of our communist future.

--Curious comrade

"I was blown away"

Although I was raised by parents who were and still are active members of the communist party, here I was, 26 years of age, and had hardly any knowledge of what communism was or what it stood for. I didn't express interest or curiosity until recently.

My dad had a trip planned to Los Angeles for some meetings, and I asked if I could go with him. Some fellow comrades graciously opened up their home to us. I've never met anyone so welcoming and generous.

Then, I went to my first meeting, not as a child. The meeting took place in a comrade's backyard. It was a very inviting yet humble environment.

I have to admit that my first impression of the members of this meeting was not great. A moment I am not proud of—all of the stereotypes and preconceived notions of certain races and people's appearances popped into my head when I looked around. I wondered if some of these people even knew what communism was or if they were just blindly participating to be part of some community.

But after listening to each of these comrades speak, sharing their insights, experiences, knowledge and passion for the party, I was immediately blown away. All of those stereotypes and ideas that I had been carrying around with me vanished. Each one of these comrades said something that was incredibly articulate, thoughtful, and essentially the opposite of what I thought. I honestly felt like I was surrounded by some of the most intelligent, profound, and caring individuals I have ever had the privilege of encountering.

The mission of ICWP to end racism was being executed organically. The intellect and capability of these comrades challenged everything I had originally thought about them.

The takeaway here is that no matter what environment you are raised in, racist ideology seeps through and is planted into our minds at a young age. I am forever grateful for my experience at the meeting, and I want to thank all of the comrades who were there.

-- a student

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We've got a good problem! We are getting more letters than we have room to print from readers all around the world. This time we are publishing several letters that have been waiting for weeks. Other letters we edited for length, but they are published in full on our website. Keep those letters coming in, but please make them short—preferably under 300 words.

COMRADES IN SOUTH AFRICA SHARE MESSAGE FROM RED FLAG READER IN LEBANON

The comrade in Lebanon was very young when the fascist Israeli army systematically razed homes and killed many civilians. He was in the midst of this brutal occupation that lasted several weeks. After reading *Red Flag* the comrade from Lebanon said that communism is the only solution to every problem we face. He is translating some of our literature into Arabic and has planned a meeting with others to form a group around the ideas of ICWP.

The commitment and determination displayed by the comrade in Lebanon reminded me of the virtues of sacrifice and selflessness we used to have during the liberation struggle, the fight against apartheid. I guess this makes one reconnect with what one used to have.

In South Africa, the period beginning in 1948 until the early 90's is often referred to as the height of apartheid. The struggle by the

masses against this barbaric system also intensified. There was a time when passive resistance by the masses was crushed and the leadership was jailed. Others were served with banning orders and forced into exile.

A period of lull ensued for a while but came to an end when the decision to take up arms was pursued by the younger generation outside of the formal decision-making structures of the organization, the African National Congress in particular.

The formation of the armed wing reverberated all over the country and reinvigorated the youth resulting in unrest in schools beginning in 1976. Many young people left the country to take up arms. They were motivated by selflessness and were prepared to fight and die for the liberation of the people.

For those of us who remained inside the country, the same spirit of selflessness, sharing and caring for one another played out immensely amongst comrades. We somehow knew that what we are fighting for would not be

realized in our lifetime but for the generations to come.

Hence cadres were prepared to die, believing that their blood will nourish the tree of liberation. Indeed, most died and some are unaccounted for up to this day. They are buried in unmarked graves in neighbouring countries. There are parents who have since passed on without knowing what had happened to their loved ones.

These are stories we need to tell. The glue that held the struggle against apartheid tight seems to have loosened off. We are now feeling the betrayal of the "revolution" by the erstwhile leadership. Even today we hear shouts of socialism instead of fighting directly for communism.

This role is what the ICWP must fulfill and win this struggle. We therefore need to work a little bit harder to avenge the deaths of many combatants, cadres of the revolutionary communist movement all over the world. We dare not fail.

We Need a Clearer Vision of a World Without Money

I am much enjoying the series about how your party intends comradely relations to replace money....But the Revolution cannot be built on blind faith. How can people be expected to join this great movement—involving some sacrifice and risk after all—without a fairly clear-cut picture of the society they intend to build? I am pleased that *Red Flag* is beginning to provide some of the details. ...

The biggest theoretical advance in Communist thinking that I've seen has been this notion of eliminating direct remuneration for labor. I learn from your articles that Lenin had this in mind, but never implemented it. Maybe he found it wasn't as simple as it sounds!

The solution I've read about in these and other articles are pretty soft and fuzzy. ...In the article's second part (Vol. 6 No. 23) you use pants as an example: "Our garment workshop is running out of denim. Can a few of you help out at the textile mill?" That sounds cozy, but I've worked in factories. It's not safe in there if you don't know what you're doing....

The science of economics—"the dreary science"—has to do with how a society allocates scarce resources. Anyone who's ever been at the top of that process, from Colonel Gaddafi to Jimmy Carter, knows those decisions involve considerable pain.

I look forward eagerly to further thoughts on building a society without money. Just don't assume the process will be easy!

--East Bay Progressive

The First Time's the Hardest

For the last few months, I've been using public transportation—buses and trains—a lot. I'm basically bilingual, and I like people, and so I've talked to many passengers: young and "old" workers, students and homeless people. This has reinforced my belief that the vast majority of the working class is essentially anti-racist. However, it's not surprising that no one said anything when the Sikh driver was attacked by the racist because we in the working class are strenuously trained to be passive starting in kindergarten.

I also can understand bus drivers' frustration caused by MTA pressure and a few passengers who are rude or who have mental problems. As a former long-distance telephone operator, I know how a few—or even one—rude person can infuriate you!

But I have seen so many bus drivers show compassion for homeless people and skillfully deflect the anger of passengers (a very small number)

who have mental problems that I know—not think, but know—that the vast majority of bus drivers are amazing. They have an incredibly hard job—driving all day in traffic—and constantly having to face difficult situations - and they deal with all this beautifully!

What every *Red Flag* reader must do is to swallow our fear, defend the member of the working class (that includes homeless people) who's being attacked and take leadership. The first time's the hardest, but it gets easier every time.

--Bus rider comrade

Criticism: Too Much Communism & Violence in Red Flag

Thanks to my friend and your comrade, I have had some editions of *Red Flag* in my hands and before anything else, I wanted to salute the initiative. My father always believed in the revolution and I grew up with the ideas that he taught me. I went with him to the demonstrations. I was raised with a very critical eye about our system, a system that always seemed to me to be incoherent, unjust, and above all absurd.

However, I wanted to give my humble point of view after reading several articles in *Red Flag*. I know the articles are written by common people and probably more than one without journalistic training, but it hurts a little to see the amount of propaganda present in the articles. They are very condensed articles. It appears that when one has little space to inform a reader it is preferable to deepen the arguments



instead of repeating several times the same advocacy of communism.

Of course it is necessary to do so but, I think, that repeating it in every article written can spoil the vision that the reader has of communism. Unfortunately, the image of communism has been and continues being dragged in the mud, dirtied by the media, by history, and by "false communism" and the reader could see this publicity as something that is a little aggressive.

If this person already has *Red Flag* in their hands and decides to read it, it is not necessary to repeat 15 times that they must support the movement, they already took the first step, and it is the quality and relevance of the articles that will make them act and struggle.

Another point that also bothered me is the call for armed struggle as the only tangible tool to defeat capitalism. Isn't our earth sufficiently damaged by the destruction caused by weapons? Isn't it already sufficiently red with the blood of its massacred children? If all the people, through communication, education, and dialogue, come to realize the horrible and obsolete stupidity that is capitalism and begin to form movements to sustain themselves and survive without it, through a boycott for example, capitalism would disintegrate on its own. Without consumers capitalism cannot survive.

Anyway, thank you for struggling, for having faith in the strength of the people. Keep writing. Books have been and will continue to be the most efficient bombs against capitalist power.

--A French Student in Spain

THE WORLD'S ECONOMY: 62 CAPITALISTS VERSUS 3,600,000,000 WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

Think numbers are boring? These will wake you up. In 2010, 338 billionaires owned as much as the poorest half of humanity. By 2013 it was down to 85. To-day it's sixty-two billionaires who own as much as 3,600,000,000 workers and their families! All this is gathered from the Oxfam report *An Economy of the 1%*.

If those numbers woke you up, these should excite you. In 2010 the first issue of the revolutionary communist *Red Flag* was published in the USA. Today it is also being published in Mexico, El Salvador, and South Africa. The masses are taking their first international steps to mobilize for communism. Communism is a real movement that is changing today's world. Join it.

Forget all the pious talk about democracy, elections and exercising your right to vote. These sixty-two billionaires have the power to control each and every government any voter anywhere in the world elects. For example together with a few others they have some \$7.6 trillion stored safely in off-shore tax havens and that's just some of their wealth! When you are talking that amount of money you can see how they can set up think-tanks to create pro-capitalist theories, dominate university departments and media conglomerates to legitimize them, and buy lobbyists, politicians and NGOs to popularize them among the masses and so on. Democracy is a joke. Money means power.

We Make It--They Own It

In one sense, of course, it doesn't matter whether it's 338 or 62 billionaires because every cent they own comes from our labor. We make the wealth, they own it. And the only purpose of all their money is to make more - for themselves! Capitalists are intensely individual - a tiny elite mi-

nority own it. They are totally anti-social. The billions of us are forced to work for them or die.

That is why even when our communist movement is small it scares them. Communists are clear: production can be organized solely around our social needs. We don't need banks, stock markets and profit sheets. We can't eat money although money can stop us from eating! 22,000 kids a day die in poverty. It's hard to say exactly how our communist future will operate—that's a discussion for the masses—but it's not hard to know it will be a heck of a lot better than this capitalist world.

One Capitalist Kills Many

All of which brings us back to the sixty-two billionaires. This rapid concentration of capital is a sign of crisis, not health. Marx pointed out long ago that in times of crisis "One capitalist kills many." This intensified competition has already sparked regional wars, it threatens world war (later articles will look at that).

Last year, mergers and acquisitions reached a record high - some \$3.34 trillion. It's the sort of

spike not seen since 2007, the year before the Great Crash. As the world economy shrinks, smaller (and not so small) companies get eaten up by larger ones. Each major merger throws hundreds of thousands out of jobs.

Total global unemployment stands at 197 million (ILO statistics), or 27 million more than the year before the crash of 2007-2008. Even these figures badly underestimate the actual situation. The Hukou system in China denies benefits and legal status to rural workers forced to come work in the cities. The *Financial Times* reckons between 60 to 100 million so-called 'illegal' migrant workers are unemployed but not counted in official Chinese figures. Likewise the hundreds of millions around the world who are under-employed are not counted.

Sixty-two capitalists face billions who grow angrier by the day and who have more fists than the sixty-two capitalists. The material basis for communist revolution is staring us in the face. Join the ICWP!



THE TWISTS AND TURNS OF DIALECTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Shakespeare wrote that "The course of true love never did run smooth." Conflicts of ages, families, friends' opinions, as well as "war, death and sickness," he said, stand in the way. He could have added unemployment, disagreements about raising kids, infidelity and many other sources of conflict that make personal relations complicated. Contradictions and qualitative changes drive them in one direction now and another one later, sometimes leading to temporary or permanent failure. Sometimes the relationships come out stronger.

There is nothing unique about the course of personal relations. Almost all processes have leaps forward, reversals, catastrophes and periods of calm. This is certainly true of the development of the communist movement. The Russian communists (Bolsheviks) fought in a failed revolution in 1905, and their party lost many members and suffered many arrests and exiles. Over the next twelve years, however, they rebuilt the party and led a successful revolution in 1917.

The Bolsheviks accomplished a great deal, industrializing the country and mobilizing the masses to defeat the Nazis. But their movement was eventually reversed because they fought for socialism, not communism. At bottom, socialism is a form of capitalism, with a capitalist wage system and inequality, which eventually turns back into open capitalism.

The defeat of the communist movement in Russia and China did not mean that communism is dead, however. It means that the old idea of so-

cialism as a stepping-stone to communism has to be abandoned. Our new communist movement has learned to fight directly for communism, without deadly detours.

Why Processes Twist and Turn

Almost all processes, including love and communist revolution, never "run smooth" because they are driven by contradictions, by conflicts inside the process. The character of the process is determined by those contradictions, and particularly by which side of a contradiction is the dominant one.

A system is capitalist because the capitalists are the dominant side in the capitalist-worker contradiction. When the working class gets strong enough to make a communist revolution then the workers become the dominant side. But that does not make the capitalist side disappear immediately. Some former capitalists will hang around and try to find a way to get back on top, perhaps by dividing the masses with racism. If someone sees his or her lover flirting with other people, it can make anger or fear dominate the affectionate side of their relationship and eventually lead to a breakup.

Changing Sides

It isn't uncommon in the history of the communist movement that people who have made important contributions drop out or even turn into enemies. This is because there are contradictions inside a person between his or her desire to serve the working class and advance toward communism versus opposite sides that prevents this. The

other side can be selfishness, fear, feeling overwhelmed, alcoholism or many others. Which side is dominant determines what the person does. The dominant side can change and sometimes change back again. Political struggle with the person will often make the difference.

Twist Limits

There are some general principles of dialectics that limit how twisted a process can get. The main one is the law called "negation of the negation." The name is clear as mud but the idea is important. It means that if a qualitative change occurs (a "negation") and a second one follows it, the process never completely returns to the original situation. Engels gave an example of a seed growing into a plant (a negation) and the plant producing new seeds (a second negation). The new seeds may be quite similar to the original ones, but never exactly the same. History does not make circles. Capitalist economic crises occur over and over again, but each is somewhat different from those that came before.

The fight for communism will not "run smooth." But we can learn from past mistakes so that the next revolution will overcome the failures of the revolutions of the past. The "negation of the negation" law does not itself guarantee that we will get it right, but only that the next result will be different. It is the determination of the masses, led by our best communist ideas, to learn the lessons and make the right changes that will let us navigate the twists and turns of revolution and win communism. Join us and get in the fight!