

RED FLAG



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

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM



ICWP GROWS IN SOUTH AFRICA

April 20— We had a very successful event over a barbecue (braai) on Saturday. The turnout exceeded all expectations: over 50 workers came. Industrial metalworkers from Reclam Group Company came in numbers. This company is one of the worst. It super-exploits labour, has no regard for workers' lives, and pays a pittance for hard, dangerous work.

The presence of many industrial workers set the tone for an intense discussion about how ICWP is different from past communist parties and how we can eliminate the bosses and their system of wage slavery. The comrades who have been around the party for a year patiently explained that the past revolutions were led by communists who believed socialism would lead to communist revolution.

Experience and correct understanding based on dialectical materialism has shown that socialism keeps a key aspect of capitalism: wage slavery. This inevitably leads to full-blown capitalism. Our party will eliminate wage slavery and struggle to build society based on the needs of the international working class.

Workers displayed their readiness and enthusiasm to join the party. We've talked about having our own regular meetings start in earnest. One comrade, a regular *Red Flag* reader, came with five others. They showed interest in ICWP, and asked important interesting questions which were thoroughly responded to.

We will keep in touch with these comrades as we all live in the same neighbourhood. We knew each other back when we were branch leaders in the African National Congress and South African

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GREETINGS, COMRADES, FROM THE US NAVY!

Things are going well with ICWPs military collective. We have made important developments this past year. Inside the fleet, communist organizing is steadily growing, and communist consciousness is pretty contagious among all these working-class sailors.

Politicizing sailors remains a challenge, but those who are politically curious tend to be open to our ideas. And, of course, the sailors who avoid politics look to the politicized sailors, eventually, when they need answers and explanations to the problems they face in capitalism.

In the navy, communists and friends-of-communists are now located all over the world and on all sorts of platforms from carriers to frigates. Thanks to ICWP, and a little help from modern technology, communist networks inside the military are becoming more and more organized. There is so much opportunity for revolutionary work in the military and it seems that only ICWP is taking advantage of this important and necessary work.

As much opportunity as there is inside the military, ICWP has only scratched the surface of its capabilities. The real growth of this work depends on young comrades, who have the courage to walk into the belly of the imperial beast, ready to bring the struggle into the barracks.

I've seen comrades educating and recruiting. I know comrades who have enlisted and I've met comrades who plan to enlist. They are all very impressive and inspiring people, and they make me proud to be a part of ICWPs military collective.

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Communism Is Not Just a Dream

WE HAVE A PLAN!

The masses are starting to rise.

When 43 normal school students were kidnapped and murdered in Mexico, masses took to the streets. Their angry repudiation of politics as usual cannot be buried by terror or denial on the part of the Mexican ruling class.

When US police murder one black man after another — Michael Brown in Ferguson, Eric Harris in Tulsa, Freddie Gray in Baltimore — the masses in the US take to the streets. Their angry repudiation of racist mass terror cannot be assuaged by black politicians and cops, not even by a black president.

Since last May Day, transit workers in Brazil joined favela residents in protests against the World Cup. Liberian masses rose up against the mass murder and fascist response to Ebola. Strikes swept farms in Baja California, refineries across the US, and a million public service workers walked out in the United Kingdom.

Increasing numbers are finding that we can't live in the old way. We're looking for a better way.

The International Communist Workers' Party has something better: not the dream of a better world, but a plan to fight for it.

We fight directly for communism. Whenever and wherever we take power, we will immediately eliminate wage slavery and private property. We will produce what we need, not to sell, but to share with whoever needs it.

We will build a society where we know each other—how else can we organize a system where we share what we produce? We won't have what Marx called the “cash nexus” between us and our neighbors and coworkers. Instead we will collectively decide what to produce and who needs what.

There will be no unemployment or homelessness. Nobody will have luxuries until everyone has the basics. We won't build islands of prosperity while workers across the sea are starving.

In mobilizing the masses for communism, now and after we take power, we'll recognize the common interests that we share with the sisters and brothers in the next neighborhood and around the world. We will continue to fight until the whole world is free of the capitalist class. Then there will be no more nations or borders, no more im-

perialist wars.

We will finally be able to eliminate the scourges of racism and sexism. We'll eliminate their root: the wage system that can only function when workers are divided and some are oppressed even more than others. We'll refute in practice the lie that the lives of some workers matter more than others.

We won't have drugs or gangs, cops or jails. The bosses need cops and jails to enforce a class society where the rich steal what we produce. We won't need them. We'll create solid and pervasive social relationships where we care about and socialize with each other. We'll have real, not virtual, social networks.

We'll be able to deal with most problems collectively before they become criminal, anti-social acts. We'll have a mass party mobilized as a Red Army, to extend and protect our revolutionary gains from the exploiters who want to make a comeback.

Some say that the International Communist Workers' Party is unrealistic. They think that our goal of communism is just a dream. That communism is too good to be true. That it “will never happen.”

We reply that the real dreamers are those who believe they can reform capitalism to serve the masses worldwide. Reform movements actually strengthen the hands of the racist bosses — from immigration reform and the \$15/hour movement in the US to alternative trade unions in South Africa, from Podemos in Spain to Syriza in Greece and the FMLN in El Salvador.

Communism is not just a dream. We've got a realistic plan to bring our message to the masses of angry workers in motion around the world, and build a party that can fight for power.



We ask you to join the ICWP and help end capitalism for good with communist revolution.

How do you join? Talk to anyone distributing this paper. We'll ask you to read our manifesto *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*. If you agree with its basic ideas and are willing to get to work putting it into practice, tell a comrade you'd like to join. Or contact us by phone, letter or email. It's that simple. We're confident that you can quickly contribute.

As a member you'll join or build a Party collective. With your comrades you'll collectively decide how you can best help to mobilize the masses for communism. You'll make a list of friends, family and co-workers who might be open to communist ideas, and share our literature with them. You'll ask and help answer questions. Everyone's contribution is valuable!

This time the revolution will succeed precisely because it will be a communist revolution. Party members like you will have the same goal then as now, only on a much larger scale. We will collectively figure out how to mobilize the masses to solve every social problem.

We need you and millions of others to carry out this plan. Join the ICWP and together we can make the communist dream come true!

MILITARY GREETINGS from page 1

Greetings from a future soldier!

I've always thought about the military as a career ever since I could remember.

I thought about becoming a soldier of the United States, to serve and honor my country, to protect my brothers and sisters, to become the best soldier possible.

But now I see the truth with communism and now my reasoning for the military has taken a different route with the spreading of awareness about ICWP and *Red Flag*.

In high school I am in the JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps). As a senior cadet, when I was in the 10th grade, I was invited to my first May Day March. After that day, I became more involved with *Red Flag* events.

Now I have a better understanding of what true communism stands for—no borders, no poverty, no struggle to survive tomorrow.

Today I stand here before you ready to carry out our current mission to gather members for the Party and to gather soldiers for a Red Army.

March on May Day with ICWP

**MOBILIZE THE MASSES
FOR COMMUNISM!**

San Salvador Mexico City Seattle Los Angeles
Spain South Africa



**JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST
WORKERS' PARTY (ICWP)**
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FROM THE FACTORIES, FIELDS & SCHOOLS, TO MARCH UNDER THE COMMUNIST RED FLAG

EL SALVADOR— “We have the transportation ready for our co-workers from the factories to march this May Day. We have all been waiting for this day!” said a very excited worker leader of the International Communist Workers’ Party.

“We will go with another five friends. We are going to make a banner and join you,” said a young student friend of ICWP.

We have not been submissive slaves for 500 years. We have organized, fought, and struggled

for a decent system that will be led by the workers. Men, women, and children died in this effort that today we commemorate so that we do not forget. We continue their work with the effort to build a communist system.

We shout to the oppressors that we will not give up. We remember the martyrs of Chicago who fought for more just conditions and a shorter work day for workers in the factories. Today, our constant struggle must be for a true communist

life. We fight for liberation from the bosses’ yoke of exploitation which can only be broken if you read and analyze *Red Flag*, the newspaper of the working class, and join the fighting efforts of ICWP.

The electoral parties and bosses’ unions have never been the solution to confront the problems of capitalism. Only the workers organized in an international communist party can destroy this system and build a new one.

“May Day is not only to commemorate the heroic feats of the workers. It is a day of reflection that should make us all think about our need and responsibility to define the kind of system we want to live in,” said a health care worker.

Thousands of copies of *Red Flag* newspapers and thousands of leaflets are being distributed this May Day. Young workers and farmworkers, together with teachers and students, are spreading communist ideas to the workers.

The commemoration of May Day is the culmination of the daily struggle of the working class. It is a great reminder to the workers that united with ICWP, we can defeat capitalist oppression.

Comrade city workers, farmworkers, teachers and students, united as part of the International Communist Workers’ Party, have organized for this May Day and are marching through the main streets of the capital to show the world our commitment to build the communist system.



May Day
El Salvador
2014

revolution, no longer for reforms.

The ICWP is deepening the workers’ struggles from South Africa to Mexico, from Honduras to the US, from El Salvador to Spain. Only the struggle organized in the International Communist Workers’ Party will guarantee the working class a better

MASSES IN MOTION NEED TO MOBILIZE TO END WAGE SLAVERY

MEXICO--Since October of 2014, thousands of people have protested the disappearance of the 43 students in Ayotzinapa. “It was the State!” they charge, blaming the government for these bloody deeds. At first they thought the government was guilty by omission, but more recently there are signs that it wasn’t “criminals” who disappeared them but the federal and military police.

The big protests showed that not only are all the parties corrupt, participating in drug trafficking and its profits, but also that they do not represent the interests of the population. There are calls to form some new organizations, but reformist and capitalist ones. The organization that’s really needed is the International Communist Workers’ Party.

The government’s response was to pass laws “to guarantee security” — that is, to prevent and crush the protests. The “mobility law” restricts marches and “blockages” of main roads. The rulers are moving toward a national identity card and forcing the airlines to report in detail their passengers’ itineraries.

The goal is to ensure the subjugation of the working class. The limited spaces of freedom won in past times through hard struggles are violently taken away, often using the pretext of the struggle against crime, while the same criminals terrorize the population in general and especially the immigrants.

For A Communist May Day in Mexico

On the eve of a nuclear World War III which would be devastating both environmentally and socially, fascism, the bloodiest phase of capitalism, at the same time exploits, and also represses and kills thousands of workers worldwide. Today on May Day, the masses take to the streets to repudiate the capitalist system and to show that they belong to only one class, the international working class.

While distributing *Red Flag* in the marches,

education centers, to relatives, co-workers, and friends and in study groups, we have heard comments that no solution exists to this exploiting system and that despite acts of dissent, the life of the workers is getting even worse. However, we have explained that the working class is the only class that has the power to overthrow capitalism and establish Communism.

Communism is a society in which each person receives what they need and contributes according to their capability and commitment. Money and bosses will not exist. There will not be a division of classes, or racism, sexism, nationalism, or people starving. Natural resources will not be seen as generators of profits. There will not be borders. Each member of society will have the obligation to take care of his/her class brother and sister.

Today on May Day the International Communist Workers’ Party reaffirms its struggle for the liberation of the international working class, from South Africa to El Salvador, Honduras, the US, Spain, and Mexico we call on industrial workers, soldiers, students, housewives, professors, and other members of society to join our ranks. We do not believe in reforms, or in change through stages or socialism. We say that the only way forward is a Communist revolution. Our blood boils with hatred of the capitalist bosses. Our hearts overflow with love for our class!

RED FLAG IN THE STREETS OF SPAIN

SPAIN--This May Day the ICWP is preparing to participate in the International Workers’ Day events.

Our goal is always to try to distribute many *Red Flag* newspapers to the workers, to talk to them and try to build networks and to talk about Communism. The workers are tired of the same old thing: corruption, social exclusion, evictions, poverty, sellout unions, and even about those who say they are leftists and who only want to enrich themselves at the cost of the working class.

We will try to print *Red Flag* full size this year like comrades do in other parts of the world.

This May Day we will go and tell the world that we communists are working to destroy capitalism and that we are not afraid, we don’t have borders and that in our cells we will be stronger than ever building communism..

Long live May Day!

Long live communism!

Long live the ICWP!



May Day, Mexico, 2014

Long live the international working class!

**Death to capitalism!
Join ICWP!**

COMMUNISM WILL FREE LABOR

Labor markets must go. The fight against racism demands it; to end the immiseration of the working class we must destroy them. Only communism can accomplish it.

Immigration reform is up front this May Day. Every proposed law and act singles out immigrant labor for more intense exploitation. Join the ICWP instead to mobilize for communism so we can end the buying and selling of our labor power altogether.

Communists know work has useful social value, but to the capitalist labor, is a commodity with a price. Labor power is the jewel amongst commodities: the only one that creates more value and profits for the bosses.

Labor's uniqueness drives bosses to segregate the workforce in order to create easily identifiable groups ripe for more exploitation. Racist super-exploitation is the go-to option. It was used in the 19th century to amass capital to fuel emerging industries and is currently used to rebuild industrial might to meet international competitors.

Racist History of Bosses' Labor Markets

U.S. industry was built on the bones of black slaves, intensifying exploitation to unprecedented heights for all workers.

The U.S. civil war did not end black slavery. It continued for decades after the war. A vast network of convict labor enslaved hundreds of thousands.

Steel companies exploited convict slave labor mercilessly to finance their ascent on the world stage. In particular, U.S. Steel beat, whipped, starved and murdered thousands of slaves.

The bosses literally worked convict laborers to death. They buried hundreds in unmarked graves in forests surrounding Birmingham, Alabama. Many bodies were just callously thrown into coke ovens.

Southern states enacted outlandish laws to swell the ranks of convict labor, some bearing eerie similarities to immigration reform. Alabama, North Carolina and Florida made it a criminal act for black men to change employers without permission.

The timing and scale of arrests followed the rises and dips in the need for cheap labor, not acts of crime.

Companies used both convict and "free" labor. Companies in Pittsburgh and elsewhere purposely recruited workers (Poles, Czechs, Hungar-

ians, etc.) who spoke different languages, hoping they wouldn't be able to communicate with each other.

The president of U.S. Steel's Birmingham division admitted, "The chief inducement for the hiring of convicts was the certainty of a supply of coal for our manufacturing operations in the contingency of labor troubles."

The 1908 United Mine Workers strike was on his mind. Seven thousand black and white Alabama strikers surrounded the mines that summer, threatening to free prison workers.

The company broke the strike by working convicts beyond endurance. Company labor agents prowled the countryside for more convicts, encouraging local sheriffs to arrest and sell as many men as possible.¹

Sever Work From Exploitation

US immigration policy enforces today's neo-slavery. Immigrant workers are paid lower wages, denied paid sick time, vacations and health insurance. Deportations and detentions are terrorizing immigrant workers and families. Proposed immigration reform would chain immigrants to a company for more than a decade under threat of deportation.

The U.S. Congressional debate is about how best to exploit immigrant labor and how to, as Gates when Defense Secretary said, "expand the pool of military recruitment."

The bosses always invent new ways to super-exploit in order to lower labor's price. Adding insult to injury, politicians funnel immigrant youth into the army to defend the U.S. bosses' worldwide empire of super-exploitation.

Super-exploitation and neo-slavery never stopped the working class. Led by African-American communists, Birmingham workers



In the 1930's while their class brothers and sisters fought the racist steel bosses in Alabama, Mexican farmworkers in California faced massive racist deportations, scapegoating, and armed attacks by the bosses. Unbowed, striking farmworkers in Pixly, CA, demanded guns to defend themselves.

fought against their oppressors for decades ¾ with arms if necessary. They could have led us to communist revolution, but, as communist leader Hosea Hudson bemoaned, "everyone got soaked up in the union." We won't make that mistake again.

This time we'll end the bosses' labor markets altogether, separating work from exploitation. When communism severs work from the need to intensify exploitation, we can mount the kinds of campaigns that end racist divisions on the job and in society.

We'll defeat racism, in part, by unleashing the potential and creativity of every worker. No one will do only the hardest manual labor. Rather machinists will be engineers and educators. Youth will flood the factories, mills and transportation facilities, as workplaces become learning centers.

Collective labor will replace stratified jobs and wages. Workers will donate their labor rather than be forced to sell it on the market. Our needs will be met, so the question will become, "How can I contribute?" Work will truly become "a labor of love."

¹ From *Slavery by Another Name* by Douglas Blackmon

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Communist Party structures. This initiative can be sustained and could bring enormous results for the party. We all look forward to working together in building ICWP in this area.

The next morning, we read the front-page *Red Flag* article, "Farmworkers' strike...." Although its writers are far away, it was as if they were present during our discussions. The article provided the answers we were looking for in a clear manner. That is how powerful the *Red Flag* is. It is able to respond to questions that seem difficult, in a very simple yet profound way.

The Saturday event could not have come at a better time. It has helped us gain confidence in our abilities as a collective to mobilize the masses for communism. It has galvanized us to work together going forward.

Our struggle to ideologically win the workers to communist revolution comes against the backdrop of xenophobic (anti-immigrant racism) attacks on immigrants in South Africa. Scores of immigrants have been killed. Their homes and property have been razed and fear grips the areas where immigrants live. Racism and nationalism are at the root of these attacks.

South Africa is in a deep economic crisis. The bosses want South African workers to think that they are losing their jobs because workers from Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Somalia, Bangladesh, etc. take away their jobs. It is not the immigrants who take away jobs. It is the capitalist bosses who close their factories and move them to other countries where the wages are even lower than South Africa. Bosses fear the unity of the international working class and hence they are viciously spreading xenophobia.

We answered the bosses' xenophobia by massively distributing a flyer in the areas where immigrant workers live, calling for communist revolution. The response was overwhelming. Many workers raised their fist and told us, "This is exactly what we need."

An ICWP comrade who has personal ties with many immigrant workers is tirelessly organizing for the party. We plan to hold a mass rally attacking xenophobia and calling for communist revolution.

Based on our past experience, we have launched a week-long communist school. We are studying dialectical materialism.

We had a very honest, productive struggle around the black consciousness movement. A

comrade, who has joined ICWP, still vacillates between black nationalism and communist internationalism. After we watched the dialectical materialism DVD, the comrade very honestly admitted the futile nature of black nationalism. This struggle made even deeper sense as an immigrant worker from Botswana defended our party's understanding that capitalism must be destroyed to eradicate racism.

Our party here is young but the comrades have shown immense commitment. We are learning that capitalism is uneven, and that it creates opportunity for revolutionary change. The comrades in South Africa have truly grasped the meaning of mobilizing the masses for communism and are putting it into practice.

As a comrade said, "I breathe communism every second in my life. I talk to students, workers, immigrants about the need for communist revolution. Once I was blind, deaf and dumb because I believed in black nationalism. But that was then, not now." This comrade lives in a shack where capitalism has made life a nightmare.

The comrade was asked, "How many workers do you think we can mobilize for the next big event of the Party?"

He said, "500."

900 Immigrants Killed by Capitalism

SAVE THE WORKERS' LIVES! DROWN THE BOSSES!

April 21, 2015--The deaths of nine hundred of our class brothers and sisters, drowned in the Mediterranean last weekend, the result of capitalism's war, chaos, racism and exploitation, makes more urgent the need for communist revolution.

These workers and their families are fleeing countries whose boundaries were created and whose working classes were impoverished by European imperialism. The wars that many are fleeing are the result of capitalist crisis and intensified rivalry between the US and Chinese imperialists. Those who survive the journey will join the masses of super-exploited immigrants in a Europe impacted by capitalist crisis.

This mirrors the situation of immigrants from Mexico and Central America fleeing poverty and murderous violence from cops, gangs, and drug-lords. Many die on their journey in the desert or mountains, and many who survive end up in detention camps, pawns in a capitalist game.

We must mobilize the masses to destroy this murderous system. As a working class, we must not see ourselves as victims. If we knew our history, we would know that workers from Senegal to Sudan, from Bangladesh to Syria, from Honduras to Guerrero have courageously organized to fight the oppression of capitalism and imperialism.

Those movements were defeated by the weaknesses of the old communist movement, which limited its fight to a losing battle for national liberation under local capitalist bosses. ICWP is an international party which fights directly for communism, and makes no compromises with racism or nationalism. We will build a world run by workers without wage slavery and without borders.

The Current Crisis in the Mediterranean

In the past, thousands of immigrants, mostly single men unable to find work in Central and West African countries ravaged by imperialism, traveled across the Sahara to Morocco to cross

the Strait of Gibraltar to Spain, seeking asylum and work in the European Union. This dangerous crossing, often intercepted by Spanish police, caused the deaths of hundreds of migrants a year.

They also traveled to Libya, to find work in the oil fields. Today, the civil war in Libya has cut off that option. These Sub-Saharan Africans join migrants from as far away as Bangladesh and refugees from wars in East Africa and the Middle East.

More than a million refugees have fled these wars—350,000 Somalis in one refugee camp in northern Kenya alone.

The chaos created by US intervention in Libya has made the Libyan city of Tripoli the port of opportunity. Masses of workers have fled there, hoping to find passage to Europe. Murderously opportunist human smugglers take their last penny to send them to their deaths in the Mediterranean.

The dream of a better life in Europe is a cruel hope—the deaths of some two thousand refugees in the Mediterranean already this year is evidence of the cynicism of European rulers. EU bosses are calling for a new colonial occupation of Libya to control the ports and keep refugees out of Europe. They are building a racist anti-immigrant movement which labels immigrants as terrorists while it relegates them to the worst jobs and the most run-down neighborhoods.

And are now they are trying to separate “refugees” fleeing war who they will warehouse in camps somewhere, from “migrants” fleeing hunger and unemployment who they plan to send back where they came from.



SPAIN: No Human Being is Illegal

Both “refugees” and “migrants” are workers trying to escape the devastation—exploitation, unemployment, chaos and war—which imperialism has caused. In both cases, imperialism makes workers surplus and expendable. The capitalists only need workers if they can exploit them, and as the capitalist crisis of overproduction deepens, more and more workers are surplus for the capitalists. During the Great Depression in the 1930's the US bosses were slaughtering hogs while workers starved to death and dumping oranges and milk into the ocean. Now they're dumping workers into the ocean!

Time to dump the bosses!

The current crisis makes it clear: we must get rid of those who created all this misery for the working class, the capitalists, who are truly expendable. In a communist world, no worker will be surplus. We will organize production for need, not for profit, and the contributions of everyone, from wherever they come, will be valued and welcome. As wars and crisis murder our class sisters and brothers around the world, it is more urgent than ever to mobilize the masses for communism. Join us!

MTA WAGE SLAVES GET BREAD AND CIRCUSES WHAT THEY NEED IS COMMUNISM

LOS ANGELES, March 27—“They asked me to stay but I have been a slave for 8 ½ hours and now I am going home,” declared a Metro worker, holding high a copy of *Red Flag*. She'd been asked to help at a company-sponsored circus at the newly-renamed “Leahy Division 3.” We happened to be there that day to distribute this paper.

Art Leahy, Metro CEO, started out driving for the regional bus line but boy, have things changed! At MTA, he got \$310,000 a year, plus a \$20,000 housing allowance and 20 days of paid vacation. At Metro-Link he will get \$330,000 a year, 38 paid vacation days and benefits including a company car.

Few Division 3 workers were impressed by the music, free food, or the Mayor and other dignitaries.

“It's a crock,” another Division 3 worker alleged. “Leahy was arrested twice for embezzlement. He had to buy his way out of jail.” He (like many others) took extra papers to distribute.

Another worker said, “Leahy's God is money.”

In communism, we won't name things after each other or post giant portraits because we understand that everybody is

important, not just a few.

Everyone will be encouraged and helped to take leadership of aspects of our shared work and lives. Those who take on more responsibility will live just like all other workers, as our Party leaders do today. No privileges!

Capitalist societies, including even the greatest socialist experiments, accepted that some would live privileged lives. Communism rejects that idea.

In communism, corruption won't be a big problem because everyone would see if someone tried to use a leadership position to get more (or better) than other workers. The Party would mobilize the masses to criticize that person and change their behavior.

In revolutionary China this happened in villages during the land redistribution movement.

William Hinton's book *Fanshen* describes how the Chinese Communist Party led in holding its own members and non-Party village leaders accountable before mass meetings. These cadre were asked to give up even the smallest struggle “fruits” that had not been formally allocated to them.



Inter-imperialist Bank Rivalry and War

TIME FOR WORKERS TO RULE THE WORLD

Banks are murderous racist capitalist institutions. They set the rate of exploitation of the working class worldwide. Their main purpose is to maximize profits for the capitalist class. Profits are always wrenched from the working class, leaving behind untold millions of destroyed lives. This is the case whether they are US or Chinese banks.

The only way to end this scourge is to destroy capitalism with a communist revolution that eliminates money and wage slavery which are the basis for racist profits and voracious banks.

Then our labor will once again be humanized to produce use value only for the needs of the workers of the world.

Since WWII US Banks Rule the World

Since 1944, US imperialism - through the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank - has dictated worldwide the rate of exploitation of the working class for the benefit of US financial capital.

Now, the Chinese financial capitalists have created the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). Also, together with their BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) allies, they have created the New Development Bank. Both are to challenge the US-led IMF and World Bank. These imperialists and their junior partners now want to determine that rate of exploitation for the benefit of their financial capitalists. This won't be done peacefully.

It took WWI and WWII for the US to impose the Bretton Woods Agreement and its IMF and World Bank on the defeated German-Japanese-Italian and the declining British imperialists.

The Chinese banks' ascendancy to dominance will be decided on the battlefields of World War III.

US Imperialism on the Decline: a Very Dangerous Beast

China's creation of the AIIB has crystallized the rise of Chinese imperialism and the decline

of US imperialism. Despite the US telling its allies not to join the bank, 57 countries have joined it, including 16 of the 20 leading economies. Britain, France and Germany rejected US wishes and joined the bank, reflecting also a more isolated declining US imperialism.

The creation of the AIIB comes as Beijing is moving ahead with plans to build the Silk Road Economic Belt and the Maritime Silk Road. The land and sea routes are to link China

to Central Asia, Russia and Europe, while also connecting China with Southeast and South Asia and the Indian Ocean. The AIIB will fund these and other projects to consolidate Chinese imperialism's power and influence.

Commenting on these developments, Lawrence Summers, a top economic advisor for Presidents Clinton and Obama, said recently that they signaled "the moment the United States lost its role as the underwriter of the global economic system." *The NY Times* bemoaned that "a role commanded since the end of WWII may be slipping away," (4/18) and Obama echoed his masters' mouthpiece warning that if the US doesn't set the rules in Asia, China will.

For the Working Class to Thrive, We Have to Get Rid of the Capitalists

No matter which imperialists set the rules we workers come out losing. Our class' and the capitalists' interests can't coexist. The time has come for us to rule the world. By mobilizing for communism, we will put an end to US imperialism's pivot to Asia and Chinese imperialism's silk roads.

Where the capitalist rule is competition, exploitation and war for maximum profit, our rule will be cooperation and collectivity to meet the



needs of the international working class. We will eliminate profits and only produce for need.

Obama told reporters last week that either China will lead the Asian economy and jobs will go to Chinese workers, or the US will lead and jobs will go to US workers. He is trying to whip up anti-China sentiment so that US workers will blame China for the worsening economic crisis.

What Obama did not say is that the US is answering China's rise by preparing to confront China militarily. However, last week the CFR, the top imperialist think tank, issued a paper titled "It's Time for the US Military to Double Down in the Asia Pacific." The report sums up a longer piece and calls for preparing to "defeat China's emerging anti-access capabilities and permit successful US power projection even against concerted opposition from Beijing."

The US is preparing for war. The rulers seek a military alliance with Japan to fight China. They hope to use Abe's upcoming trip to Washington to hammer out this military alliance.

We march on May Day for Communism. We mobilize to turn the bosses' war into a war for communist workers' power. We will end the rule of the banks. Workers will produce and fight directly and only for our needs. Join us!

Communist May Day Dinner:

ALL HELP. NONE GO WITHOUT.

LOS ANGELES--This weekend was the dinner for May Day. This dinner is organized each year by the ICWP a few weeks before the actual May Day March. Many people come and bring dishes they make at home.

This dinner is a good representation of what communism is. If you cannot bring a plate, no problem at all, you will still eat. And if you cannot give a donation, it's ok. You will still eat because with communism we all help and no comrade will let another comrade go hungry because they cannot contribute.

If you have no transportation to the dinner, no problem, there are others who help take you there. This is communism; we will all help and not just worry about our own needs but the needs of all.

The dinner included several revolutionary communist speeches and various communist songs that were sung by a chorus while others followed the lyrics printed in a packet. The people following sang along with a lot of enthusiasm.

"My favorite song was *Bandera Roja (Red Flag)*" exclaimed Daniel. "I liked how everyone was so animated when they were singing the song."

There were many workers with their families and they seemed excited to be there. Compared with the number that par-

ticipated last year, more were involved this year. This is good, because it shows that our party is growing.

A student comrade, Josefina, presented a banner which several students have been trying to finish for the march. The banner read, "For a communist world: without money, bosses, racism, or borders" in English and Spanish. The center of the banner was highlighted by a bright hammer and sickle.

"The dinner was very good. They had delicious food and a good one-act play. I really like the banner that will be carried in the march in downtown Los Angeles," said Alejandra.

A fellow student who is a member of the JROTC gave a speech in which he announced that he had decided to enter the army. He said he had decided to expand communist ideas to his working-class brothers and sisters inside the army. (See p. 2)

The one act play was presented entitled, "I am *Red Flag*," dealing with the ideological struggle to expand communism. The character of *Red Flag* carries out an ideological struggle with a worker on why he should take the newspaper. The same happens with a student and a soldier. In the end each character shouts, with the fist held high and with the paper in hand, "I am *Red Flag!*"

"I enjoyed the dinner very much. I had the opportunity to meet many people from different areas, different ages, different races, all united in the same struggle to mobilize the masses for communism. That impressed me very much," Jerry said.

Many are committed, not only to come to the march but also to mobilize friends, classmates, family and other workers to come, and with their fists raised in the air and the red flag flying, to shout: "Long live Communism!"



LETTERS

LETTERS

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CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

**Communist Solidarity:
Seattle to Ayotzinapa**

This weekend the Caravan supporting the families of the 43 missing students in Ayotzinapa, Mexico, visited Seattle. ICWP members and friends went to a rally in downtown Seattle to meet the families and to get them our leaflets and *Red Flag*.

Unfortunately, only one comrade was a Spanish speaker, but he connected with them almost immediately. They spoke for a long time, and gladly received our communist literature. He introduced us to them and we let them know that we were angry that the racist bosses had stolen their children away from them.

There were many interruptions from well-wishers and also the noise from the rally going on. The mothers graciously thanked us for our support, nevertheless. The speakers demanded that the students be returned to their families.

This is a difficult subject to discuss, and it is not clear if they believe the students are alive or that their bodies should be returned. Any parent would not want to give up hope that their child is alive and that they will see them again.

Yet, we know that every day families all over the world lose their children to wars, racist killer cops, terrible diseases, drugs, suicide, etc. As communists we know that our lives mean

nothing to the vicious rulers of capitalism. And that there is no such thing as justice for the working class under their system.

However, we held back when speaking to these families because of their grief. This is understandable, but still an error. We have to learn how to bring our ideas of a communist world to people under many circumstances. Good times or bad times.

As we approach May Day, everyone should think about how we can win more workers to communism. The distribution of *Red Flag* is essential, as well as rallies, forums, social events. However, long-term struggle through friendship with workers and their families should take place on a daily basis. They want to know the answers to their questions. They want to see if we live the life of a communist in our personal lives. This is how we will mobilize hundreds, and eventually millions to mobilize for communism.

--Struggling in Seattle

**MTA Drivers Talk About Sick Days and
Wage Slavery**

"I have tons of sick days but I can't use them," said a bus operator for the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA). He explained to a *Red Flag* comrade the "rules in gibberish" that allow MTA to get around labor laws and fire workers

for using their sick time.

"It's all in the contract that our 'fearless leaders' negotiated," said another operator.

"This is capitalism," explained a *Red Flag* flyer distributed at seven transit divisions. "Their wage-slavery jobs make us sick and yet they deny us time to get better. Often we risk getting fired to reduce developing chronic illnesses, which, besides making our lives miserable, drive us into the grave sooner."

The leaflet invited the *Red Flag* readers whose comments were quoted, and the hundreds of other MTA workers who read or distribute the paper on a regular basis, to join the International Communist Workers' Party.

It included a diagram showing how driving a bus is dangerous to your health.

"In a communist world," the flyer noted, "we would have the best mass public transportation possible. This would avoid the major cause of stress and accidents. To start with, why work 8-hour days when billions go without work? Billions of helping hands will make our society more productive, less stressful and give us more time to dedicate to studying, traveling and participating in other social activities.

"Wage slavery has lasted for too long, let's hasten its end!"

--A Comrade

**MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM:
THE WORKING CLASS CAN BUILD A NEW FUTURE**

icwpredflag.org/MMC/MMCE.pdf

**SOUTH AFRICA STRIKES CALL US TO
MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM**

icwpredflag.org/MMC/SAPamES.pdf

**Pamphlets available online
or at the address below**

**COMMUNIST EDUCATION FOR A
CLASSLESS SOCIETY**

icwpredflag.org/EDU/EdPamE.pdf

**BIGGER INDUSTRIAL WORKING CLASS:
BIGGER COMMUNIST POTENTIAL WORLDWIDE**

icwpredflag.org/IndustrialE/WorkE.pdf

**SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES: CRUCIAL TO A
COMMUNIST WORKERS' REVOLUTION**

icwpredflag.org/MIL/mpe.pdf



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May Day 2015:

COMMUNISM, NOT REFORM REVOLUTION, NOT IMPERIALIST WAR

May Day is International Workers' Day! It's a communist holiday established in 1889 by the Second Communist International. The date honors the workers murdered in Chicago by the US bosses for organizing a general strike on May 1, 1886, for the eight-hour day. Since then, hundreds of millions of workers have marched on May Day beneath the red flag.

Capitalists worldwide try to hide our revolutionary history from us. From Moscow to Madrid, from San Salvador to Shanghai, politicians and trade union officials have made May 1st a "national holiday." US President Eisenhower declared it "Law Day." Since 2006 it has been promoted in the US as "Immigrant Rights Day."

Never was the contradiction between reform and revolution sharper than it was a century ago, on May Day, 1915.

The outbreak of World War in August 1914 shattered the Second International. Most of its opportunist leaders, true only to the logic of their trade-union reformism, scurried to support their "own" capitalist war-makers.

German Social-Democrats called on workers to remain at work on May 1st instead of the usual strike. French Socialists assured authorities that they need not fear May First. They called on French workers to defend "their" country.

But these traitors to the working class could not prevail for long.

In South Africa, a minority of socialists formed the War on War League. They organized a 1915 May Day march in Johannesburg. They split from the white pro-imperialist Labour Party, forming the anti-racist Internationalist Socialist League (ISL).

In Chicago (USA) 10,000 garment workers paraded through the clothing district on May 1, 1915. They celebrated International Labor Day

for the first time, setting the stage for a general strike that fall.

International conferences in 1915 and 1916 unified the revolutionary internationalist parties and minorities around Lenin's slogan of turning imperialist war into civil war. On May Day 1916 they held huge demonstrations in Berlin.

The revolutionary spirit of May Day was triumphing over its reformist past.

In South Africa in 1917, the ISL organized a May Day rally. It advertised (for the first time) an African speaker. Mobs of soldiers and civilians stopped the rally. But in 1918 the ISL made history as two Black speakers addressed its May Day demonstration in a "coloured" neighborhood of Johannesburg.

Fight to End Wage Slavery and Class Society

Eleanor Marx declared at an 8-hour rally in London in 1890 on the first international May Day that "the eight hours' day is the first and most immediate step to be taken, and we aim at a time when there will no longer be one class supporting two others, but the unemployed both at the top and at the bottom of society will be got rid of."

Marx quoted Shelley's 1832 poem:

"Rise like Lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number
Shake your chains to earth like dew
Which in sleep had fallen on you
Ye are many--they are few."

Lenin wrote on May 1, 1915 that revolutionary communists were "attentively studying the sentiments of the masses, utilizing the latter's growing striving for peace ... to bring clarity into vague revolutionary sentiments, to enlighten the masses with a thousand facts of pre-war politics.

"They are out to prove systematically, steadfastly and unswervingly the need for mass revolutionary action against the bourgeoisie and the

governments of their respective countries as the only road towards democracy and socialism."

Communists today understand that reform struggles like the 8-hour day are not steps toward the revolution that will end class society.

We have learned from the heroic victories and tragic failures of twentieth-century revolutions that our fight must be for communism. "Democracy and socialism" were really just reforms that could not end capitalism and its horrors.

We fight to build a communist world where we all work for our own class, with the masses making and carrying out all decisions that affect our lives.

We fight to unite the working class, destroying racism and nationalism at their root by ending the capitalist system of private property and wage slavery.

Today the world again lurches into widening inter-imperialist conflicts. The masses are again stirred by revolutionary sentiments. Lenin's words of July 1915 still ring true:

"During a reactionary war a revolutionary class cannot but desire the defeat of its government.... Those who stand for the 'neither-victory-nor-defeat' slogan are in fact on the side of the bourgeoisie and the opportunists, for they do not believe in the possibility of international revolutionary action by the working class against their own governments, and do not wish to help develop such action, which, though undoubtedly difficult, is the only task worthy of a proletarian.

"Revolutionary tactics ... alone [can] lead to ... the liberation of humanity from the horrors, misery, savagery and brutality now prevailing."

March with the International Communist Workers' Party for a revolutionary May Day 2015!

Rise like Lions after slumber!

Mobilize the masses for communism!

International Communist Workers' Party

2015 Summer Projects in Los Angeles, Oakland & Seattle

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