

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



ICWP ON MAY DAY IN EL SALVADOR

LET'S FIGHT FOR A COMMUNIST WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS

May Day in South Asia:

BUILDING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST SOLIDARITY

May 1—Over one hundred members and friends of the International Communist Workers' Party in Pakistan, India, Nepal and Bangladesh took the message of communist revolution to the masses at eight different May Day events.

Using the general elections in India as a pretext, the capitalist bosses are preparing for another wave of sharp attacks on the working class. We offered communist revolution as the only way to end the unending horrors caused by the profit system.

Our forces distributed over 1000 *Red Flags*. And, using the social media, we distributed several thousand more *Red Flags* and also Immigration pamphlets.

Comrades in Pakistan reported that the Immigration pamphlet was widely used to advance our vision of the world without borders. The capitalist bosses in Pakistan and China are confronting Indian and US bosses for control of markets. They are building intense nationalism to divide us. Comrades in Pakistan pledged to advance our work in Afghanistan and China.

In Bangladesh our comrades are struggling with garment workers to build international solidarity with the garment workers in Myanmar, Thailand, India and Sri Lanka.

In South India, in a hub of auto factories, we marched with the workers and distributed copies of *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*. A group of students in Mumbai marched with a large contingent of dock workers. They distributed the same document in the Marathi language that is widely spoken there.

A May Day highlight was a message of solidarity from a delegation of garment workers in Sri Lanka. They said, "Red greetings comrade. We have received a copy of *Red Flag* and we are very interested in learning from you more, in struggle and solidarity."

We want to build on our modest May Day successes in south Asia by organizing a Communist School there this summer.

FACTORY WORKERS LEAD COMMUNIST MAY DAY CONTINGENT IN SAN SALVADOR

May 1—"Give me more material to take to the teachers in my school," said a teacher who walked with the help of crutches in the May Day march through the streets of San Salvador. He and thousands of others were commemorating the sacrifice of the Chicago martyrs and making their own union demands. The International Communist Workers' Party marched to bring them the message of communist revolution.

A man accompanied by his wife and daughter tugged at a comrade's shirt and said, "Give us a newspaper and that pamphlet" (our Immigration pamphlet). There were approximately eight more people there. He took several *Red Flags* and many pamphlets and handed them out. There were also some young workers who were not part of the march reading the pamphlet about Immigration. The man who tugged at the shirt said, "This is interesting." His daughter in the background was reading the newspaper.

This shows the serious response of the

masses to the ideas and need for revolution to build a communist society.

We also placed a banner (above) on an overpass in downtown San Salvador under which thousands of workers passed watching and reading it.

The men and women industrial workers were key to carrying out this mission, since in the club meetings our participation had been carefully planned.

This is a sign of the qualitative development that is taking place inside the textile factories. It is the development of the work that the communist clubs of ICWP are carrying out in the maquilas, which involves meetings and analysis of their situation in the factory and worldwide.

A worker approached a comrade and after asking for the newspaper said, "This is the one that brings articles from Mexico and Los Angeles." He had read our newspaper at previous demonstrations. He was told that he could find

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May Day in South Africa:

POTENTIAL TO BUILD A MASS COMMUNIST PARTY

“Greetings, Comrades! Today is the day! Let’s go and give the masses the knowledge of life! Let’s go and open the eyes of our fellow brothers and sisters! Let’s go and tell the masses that there is a beauty of life besides this capitalism.... Let’s go mobilize for communism, Comrades!”

This was the May Day message from an auto worker and organizer comrade in South Africa.

About three dozen comrades participated in various May Day activities in South Africa. Our energetic contingent included students, autoworkers and other industrial workers. This year there were many female comrades, workers and students, who provided crucial leadership in reaching out to the masses with communist ideas.

We had a brief meeting afterward. Each and every person talked about how the masses are open to communism. We will think, analyse and write more later about where we are at.

It was a breakthrough for the Party here in recruiting new members, especially more female members. Everyone was energized beyond imagination because of the leadership shown by new members.

Comrades are bringing their friends with the confidence that comes from the struggle around our line. As we continue, we can envision a mass party in the near future. The collective here is strengthened and will continue to intensify internal struggle for the entire party.

Reflections from the Comrades

Comrade 1: Thousands of workers and masses alike were gathered at a rally at one of the stadiums in the township. We managed to distribute well over 1300 copies of the *Red Flag*. When the rally was over, we had no newspapers left.

The workers there were enthusiastic about getting the *Red Flag*. Some just took it but some asked questions: “Which party are you”? When

we told them we are ICWP and we’re communists, they were pleasantly surprised.

We had a conversation with a worker who picked up the *Red Flag* that somebody had left on the chair. He looked for us and told us that he is always interested in the workers’ struggle. We explained ICWP quickly, and he left his number for us. We will follow up.

Comrade 2: I particularly noticed that the people there were familiar with the paper. We were surprised when two workers told us, “Please pass us the *Red Flag*.” We gave our numbers to two workers who asked for it. It was a good day for the party.

Comrade 3: It was nice to see those young people helping us distribute the *Red Flag* inside the stadium. When the rally was over, everyone had a newspaper on their hands. No paper was lying around on the floor. That means our ideas are out there to the masses.

Comrade 4: I’m proud that even the people of Kwazakhele Township were helpin’ us to distribute the *Red Flag*, especially the kids.

Comrade 5: The most pleasing thing for me was the openness we got from the masses. The masses there are not completely familiar with our political line but they listened to us. Some of them agreed that we need a communist world with no class division and no exploitation. Hence they gave us their numbers.”

Comrade 6: We got six contacts with the comrades I was with on the other side of the stadium. The highlight for me was seeing the new comrades distributing the *Red Flag* and explaining the Party’s position to the workers. It shows, we must

have confidence in the masses and the working class that they will and can grasp our ideas and put them in practice.

Comrade 7: It was my first time mobilizing the masses with ICWP and distributing the *Red Flag*. The response we received from the people was nice to see. I do hope we will do this more often. I’m looking forward to those experiences and to learn more.



DISTRIBUTING RED FLAG ON MAY DAY AROUND THE WORLD



MEXICO



SPAIN



VOL. 10 #6, May 15 to June 5, 2019

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MAY DAY OPENS UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNIST STRUGGLE

SEATTLE (US), May 1—Mary (not her real name) has worked at Boeing for decades. She reads *Red Flag* and has marched on May Day with ICWP before. But today was the first time that she massively circulated party literature and collected donations.

As marchers began to gather at a street corner, Mary crossed the street so she could begin reading the ICWP migration pamphlet, “Fight for the Day When No Worker Will Be Called Foreigner.” She really liked it. She thought it short, sweet and focused on a communist response to the questions of xenophobia and migrants.

Then, almost single-handedly, Mary distributed hundreds of migration pamphlets – almost all we had. “I held up the pamphlet so people could read the title,” she said, explaining her success. “Nobody else has anything near this answer to the immigration issue.”

She took the rest home to give to her extended family.

Mary’s enthusiasm was infectious. People responded to this black, native-born factory worker who fought for a communist world without borders with everything she had.

Meanwhile, the rest of us concentrated on *Red Flag*, also collecting donations. We distributed 350 papers as over a thousand people marched

and watched along the streets.

Of course, no single pamphlet or issue of our paper can address every aspect of the party’s line. But this booklet and *Red Flag* sparked a lot of questions about how we view the revolutionary process. Young people, in particular, were most interested in communism.

One young man was marching with a group of Filipino students. He rushed through the crowd to ask us a bunch of questions about communism. “Do you want to go directly to communism? How is that possible without socialism first? We need a state to fight the class enemy,” he said.

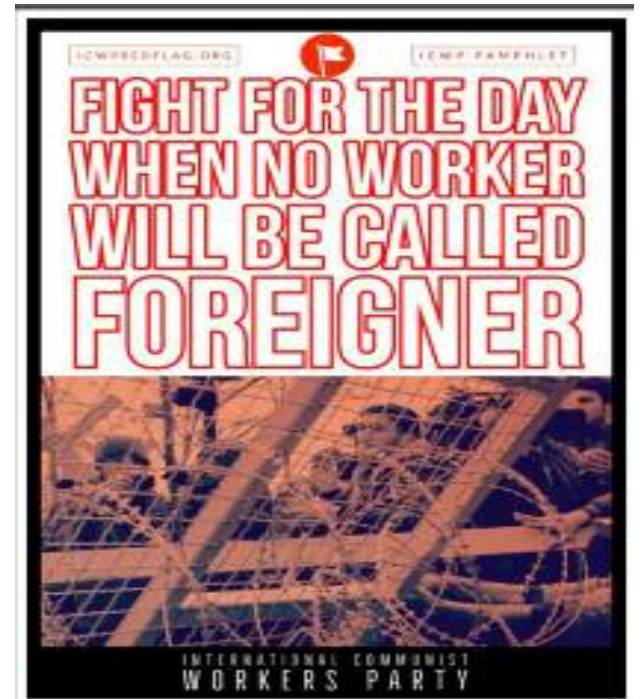
We explained that our line is shaped by years of our practice, as well as at least 150 years of communist struggle. We come from the Marxist tradition, but our practice allows us the advance on the “classical” writings of its founders.

We talked about how a communist army fights. Also, about how to organize communist education and factories to eliminate the differentiation between mental and manual labor. Finally, about how the party will continue to mobilize the masses for communism even after a revolution, growing bigger all the time.

This was a long march, so we had some time to explore these issues. Even so, we had more to discuss. We set up an appointment with him and

his friends to talk more.

We don’t have all the answers. More will come through on-going debates. Our new Boeing comrade Mary will bring invaluable experience and ideas to these, as will the struggle with her extended family. We welcome these new fronts in the continuing struggle to advance communism.



Available at icwpredflag.org/ffde.pdf

COMMUNIST CELEBRATION WITH THE MOTHERS OF THE WORKING CLASS

LOS ANGELES, USA—On Saturday, May 11, more than three dozen ICWP members and friends participated in a political-social gathering honoring working class mothers. With the understanding that in some parts of the world the month of May is used to celebrate mothers by the capitalists, the ICWP garment club decided to celebrate it, and give a more political, that is, communist, twist to this celebration.

As the participants arrived, the scent of the tasty roast welcomed us for what would be a very enjoyable afternoon.

After savoring the dishes that only the love of the working class can offer, a woman worker comrade of the party thanked those present for coming.

Next, a male comrade spoke about the revolutionary role of women and pointed out the pamphlet on *The Communist Fight Against Sexism*, (available at icwpredflag.org/sxse.pdf) He also spoke about the immigrants and also pointed to the pamphlet about a world without borders, and *Red Flag*.

Poems, songs of protest and even of love for

mothers were presented by women and enjoyed by all, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie.

A young woman, a former garment worker in Honduras who arrived in one of last year’s caravans with four small children, recounted the horror of seeing migrants fall from moving trucks together with their children, and the endless hardships during her passage through Guatemala and Mexico.

She thanked the kind hands of the working class who made her journey less difficult, and the comrades who have helped her.

One comrade commented on the internal political struggle she had in order to accept this Honduran immigrant woman and her four children into her home. She was accustomed to living alone, and suddenly had company, including four children who played and ran around her house. “I thought about it and I accepted because I thought that’s what I should do as a Communist,” she said. This example of camaraderie was very much applauded and something that we should all follow.

Comrades of the Party also exposed racism,

classism, unemployment, poverty, the gangs and all the evils that can only exist in a capitalist system. These force workers to escape from their places of origin. They offered the alternative of a Communist Society, which was also very much applauded.

The ICWP version of the song “Bella Ciao” ended a beautiful evening of celebrating together with the Mothers of the Working Class, who carried *Red Flag* and the pamphlet *Fight for the Day When No Worker Will Be Called Foreigner* as the best gifts they received.

Finally, it is worth mentioning the participation of a friend of the party, a contact we made during the May Day March, Despite differences with the political line of the IWCP, he brought two women to the gathering who participated with songs and poetry and left us information about how to contact them. This very enthusiastic worker, eager to know more about the party, also asked us to bring our literature to the meetings they hold. And we have also promised to continue the efforts of friendship, and the struggle for them to join the fight for Communism.



MAY DAY IN LOS ANGELES, USA

Overcoming Our Contradictions and Fighting Sexism:

COMMUNIST SCHOOL FOR WINNING THE WORLD

SOUTH AFRICA—“When I came to the Communist School, I thought it would be boring,” said a young comrade. Her experience proved the opposite. She audio recorded the entire event and enthusiastically told her friends how much she learned about communism.

This new comrade is rather reserved but the tools she learned from the Communist school helped her convince four of her friends to come to the next meeting. “We can’t wait to come,” the friends replied.

Our struggle to win a communist world requires us to instil such confidence in the working class and soldiers. When the masses grasp the universal laws of change, they become a potent force for communist revolution that will violently overthrow the capitalist bosses.

Following the May Day mobilisation with our new comrade, we had the communist school where we learned about the philosophy and science of building a mass communist party. It lasted for two and half days.

In the discussions, comrades talked at length about the need to understand dialectical materialism and the philosophy of change. We talked about the unity and struggle of opposites, how internal contradictions are primary and how they influence change in any system or object. This brought us to talk about the internal contradictions within the collective and within the comrades themselves.

We identified our internal contradictions, chief among them being the lack of collective struggle about the political line of the party. Most comrades agreed that prioritising the unity among comrades and ignoring the struggle is not helpful for the collective and the party as a whole. When we ignore the struggle, we are indeed practicing liberalism.



Comrades talked about the need for collective struggle to put the party’s communist line in everything we do. Some comrades were not confident enough in the political line. This caused them to be apprehensive in trying to recruit in the work places. Comrades tended to put the external obstacles as the ones standing in our way of recruiting more workers to the party.

In learning about change and dialectical contradictions, we were able to understand that it is not the external factors that are primary but the internal ones. We identified that the lack of confidence in our line didn’t come from the obstacles the bosses put in our way but came from the lack of practice, struggle and learning of our line.

The comrades decided they would conduct the communist school (studying our philosophy and science) and hold regular discussions of the *Red Flag*. We also identified the need to be more committed to put communism at the forefront of our lives. This putting forward communism every day in our lives yields results; quantity leads to qualitative change.

In the discussions we talked about the need to fight sexism, by recruiting more female members and encouraging their development. There were more female members in the meeting than we have ever had. The party has recruited more than five females with three of them at the frontline of the party’s activities over the past few weeks.

We also talked about the need of more females taking more of a practical leadership role in the collective. In doing so, we are not only “talking” about fighting sexism, but we are also practicing it. Recruiting more female members then means intensifying our struggles, providing a room for constructive criticism and overcoming our obstacles. Male comrades need to encourage female comrades and friends with full confidence that they will give communist leadership to our class.. Learning dialectical materialism provides us with the theoretical tools we need to develop and understand our situations better.

The communist school was of great help. It provided us with the platform to reflect, learn and accelerate our efforts in fighting for a communist future. Another female comrade put it sharply, “I learned a lot in the communism school. I think we should have more of those than regular meetings if possible.” We believe our entire international party should organize communist schools around the world at our concentrations. We propose that we prepare a draft on dialectical materialism to be used at the communist schools. This will lead us to producing a pamphlet on Dialectical Materialism.

We have a world to win!

Struggle is Primary: How Comrade DK Joined the Movement

I was friends with comrade DK before I joined the movement. We continued being friends after I had joined the movement and he was yet to join. I was a communist and a committed member of ICWP, he wasn’t. Initially unity between us was all I cared about. The struggle wasn’t primary in our relationship. As a result he was a non communist.

It was when we started to struggle about our different views that comrade DK started warming up to the idea of communism. That was not only as a result of one conversation/discussion but a series of discussions, even from the rest of the collective, because we were all friends. From these series of conversations, talking about communism in every conversation we had, it led to a qualitative change in the sense that DK joined the movement and has managed to help it grow and take a lead in activities.

These experiences have shown us that putting communism 24/7 and making the struggle primary only helps us to be better communists, to recruit more members. DK has emerged as a leader recruiting many from the auto industry and others in the area where he lives.



MAY DAY EL SALVADOR, from page 1

the paper on our website.

We had to keep walking to distribute communist material to as many workers as possible. Other comrades were doing the same across the street. The masses of workers made our large amount of material seem tiny.

In the two marches that our distribution cells covered, we distributed 1,100 *Red Flag* newspapers and 1,000 pamphlets about a world without borders.

The members of the ICWP proudly wore shirts commemorating this year’s May Day which said: “For a Communist World Without Borders.”

At the end of the march, in one of the main squares of the city, we were still being asked for material, “You still have the booklet?” “Can you give me a pamphlet? The workers need to read that,” said a marcher.

There we placed our banner along with the others from various organizations. Every year this square where the march ends becomes a gathering place for the most politically advanced workers.

The struggle for communism implies commitment to organize more workers, students, teachers, and farmworkers, as well as to guarantee the participation of all. Some comrades from the

countryside could not participate due to problems with transportation.

We will not rest until we have built a communist world where we can live fully as human beings.

During a gathering of the workers from the factory after the march, a woman worker said, “Before I marched with the unions. This is the first year that I have marched with the ICWP and from now on I will march with the Party.”

Very satisfied to have carried out our work as communists, we went to a scenic area, for a walk, all very happy and ready to continue the struggle.

PERSIAN GULF: DANGER OF WAR—OPPORTUNITY TO MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

May 5—War drums are rattling again in the Persian Gulf. Trump blames it on Iran's nuclear weapons program. But the real reason is control of oil profits. These are key to who will be the world's dominant imperialist exploiter.

In 2015 Iran signed a multi-nation promise to stop producing nuclear weapons in exchange for an end to economic sanctions. A year ago, Trump pulled the US out of the agreement and re-imposed sanctions. Last month, he escalated the provocation by declaring the Iranian Revolutionary Guard (part of Iran's army) a terrorist organization.

Then Trump ordered that any country or company that keeps buying Iranian crude oil could be excluded from the US market. That ends the waivers that India, China and Japan had that permitted them to buy Iranian oil.

Sharpening Conflict Between the US & China

Oil is key to industrial production—but it's also a necessity during war.

China is the biggest importer of Iranian oil. Iran is crucial to China's Belt and Road plan to build railways, roads, and pipelines from China to Europe. This import-export network is also part of China's preparation for war as well as its imperialist expansion.

In a war against US imperialism, this network would allow Chinese oil shipments to bypass the Strait of Malacca. This strategic chokepoint is controlled by US warships. Most of China's exports and imports now pass through it.

US bosses see Iran's power as a growing threat because of Iran's increasing influence in Iraq and Syria. That means that oil from Iraq and Syria, in addition to Iranian oil, can flow by land to China.

On April 23, as the conflict heated up, the government-owned *China Daily* proclaimed China's "right" to import oil from Iran. It warned that the Chinese government would not sit idly by if this right was attacked.

An Indian commentator called for a "trading

bloc with China that would allow the two countries to buy Iranian oil without going through the US banking sector."

Dangerous Provocation in the Strait of Hormuz

Oil profits are key to Iran's capitalist economy. The Iranian rulers have responded to US threats by threatening to pull out of the nuclear agreement and increase uranium enrichment for nuclear weapons

They have also threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz, through which one-fifth of the world's oil is shipped. Or they might narrow it by carrying out joint military drills with Russia. That way, Iran drives up the price of oil, without directly attacking the US.

The Trump administration claimed it had reports that Iran was planning to attack US forces in the Middle East. It has sent an aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf.

On May 13, four ships including two Saudi oil tankers were sabotaged near the Strait of Hormuz. This escalating confrontation could lead to war.

US Rulers in Disarray Over Trump's Iran Policy

All US imperialists seek to divide Russia, China and Iran. But many see that Trump's moves against Iran are only further isolating the US. He is driving these powers and possibly others together. *Foreign Affairs* (speaking for major US imperialists) blames this policy on US Secretary of State Bolton. It states that the US has little support for its Iran sanctions anywhere.

US imperialism is in decline. This means that US rulers, despite

their tactical differences, must eventually resort to war to try to regain their empire. They are modernizing their military to counter China and Russia's advanced militaries—and they plan to act against their imperialist rivals.

Scientists warn us of the environmental crisis caused in large part by the use of fossil fuels. Yet the world's imperialists prepare for world war to guarantee their control of petroleum.

War & Crisis Are Opportunities for Revolution

Capitalism is based on deadly competition and exploitation for maximum profit. War exposes its true nature and creates the possibility for ending it with communist revolution.

But that won't happen automatically. We must spread *Red Flag* and ICWP to workers, soldiers and youth around the world. When the bosses start their war, we must be prepared to finish it with communist revolution.

On the ashes of their war we will build a new world, without money or borders separating us. Freed from capitalist competition, we will cooperate to meet the needs of the masses while we protect the planet for future generations.

The current crisis shows us all how urgently we need to end capitalism before it kills us all. Join ICWP to fight for a communist future.



LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

A Plea for Action

I have been going to the meetings a couple of times now. Comrades have explained communism and they have been explaining, but the impression I got from those discussions is that we always talk and discuss in the meetings. Every time I go to a meeting there is always a new member that the comrades will explain communism to. To an extent that now, from my perspective I feel like we are just meeting and not doing anything as if we are too comfortable. We have to move to do something.

I am unemployed. I want to work. I am not alone. So many people are without work, hungry. What do we do now for the hungry, for the unemployed? Obviously, I am not saying we

should let go of the meetings and discussions but we must do something, because not everyone is going to join by attending meetings. Some people want to see a sort of an action, fight the bosses, one that would inspire them to join the movement.

We are fighting for a society of equality, to end money and get rid of corruption and have a society where everybody will have an opportunity to contribute by working. We have to do something now and think of other ways we attract other young people and link discussions that are coupled with action. Because ICWP has been around here in Port Elizabeth for a number of years but it seems like, we have more meetings than action. We must be courageous to do

things that will inspire more people to join.

Another thing is we must act up because some people are tired of hearing words, they lose interest when someone speaks. They are more interested in deeds. Because I, myself having been under a political party all we heard from them is words and empty promises they have been talking by not doing anything. So as ICWP when people see us only "speaking" about communism the more they think we are like the rest of these parties so we must do something. Let's test our limits and say "Okay. This is how far we can do." But overall I'm trying to say action, action. A luta.

—Woman comrade from Kwa-Noxolo, South Africa

**MAY DAY, 2019
TAKING RED FLAG
TO WORKERS
LOS ANGELES, USA**



Sudan:**FIGHT FOR A COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP OF THE WORKING CLASS**

May 11 – Workers in the east African nation of Sudan are rising up in strikes and rebellions. Young people in the cities continue to mobilize in the city streets. Along with the continuing marches and strikes in Algeria, this is the new “Arab Spring.” It’s time to plant the seeds of communist revolution!

*Striking temporary workers in Port Sudan shut down the headquarters of the Sea Ports Corporation on May 7. They are demanding that their jobs be made permanent, as the interim government promised on May 1.

*Striking sugar workers in White Nile held a sit-in in front of the military base in Kenana. They are protesting the exploitation and corruption they have long endured.

*In eastern Sudan, residents of Kassala are sitting-in outside another military command base. They are demanding desperately-needed improvements in the water and electrical power systems.

*A rebellion in Abu Jubeiha in South Kordofan (a mining region) burned the market and the electrical power plant.

*Workers at the government-owned SEEN flour company went on an open-ended strike demanding better wages.

But reforms are far from the solution to the crisis that workers face in Sudan.

Last month a mass movement forced the military to remove the hated Sudanese dictator Hassan al-Bashir. Workers and youth from Darfur, who are among the most oppressed, are giving important leadership in the protests.

The country remains under military rule. That is still the face of the Sudanese capitalist dictatorship over the working class.

A revolutionary situation exists in Sudan. It may yet be crushed with the support of Saudi Arabia and other fascist Arab regimes. But the most likely outcome, promoted by US imperialism, is a “democratic revolution.” This would give a new face to the capitalist dictatorship without ending exploitation, war or misery.

Workers in Sudan and elsewhere need a communist revolution to end the power of capitalism-imperialism. They need to re-organize society from the ground up, based on communist principles. *“From each according to ability and commitment, to each according to need!”*

**Capitalism Can't Be Made “Fair”**

The Sudanese Professionals Association and other forces are negotiating with the military. They want more civilians to be allowed to join the ruling Military Council. They want a say in drafting a new constitution.

Some expat Sudanese professionals have allied with the imperialist Open Society Foundation. They want officers from the Bashir regime to be tried for military crimes against civilians. The crimes in Darfur were especially horrendous. Some of these officers are still in power.

The US-backed liberals want “inclusive” political and economic institutions. They want an “equitable share” of power and a “fair” distribution of wealth.

But there can be no “fair” distribution of wealth in the capitalist system of production. The capitalists’ wealth comes from the poverty of workers who are forced to be their wage-slaves.

And classes with contradictory interests – capitalists and workers – cannot “share” power at all.

The only alternative to capitalist dictatorship over the working masses is a communist working-class dictatorship. This will quickly move to end the capitalist mode of production and, with it, class society.

Build the new International Communist Workers’ Party

Last month, some lower-ranking army soldiers refused orders to attack protesters. They intervened to protect them. Some soldiers spontaneously cooperated with the workers and youth or joined them. Here is real potential for communist revolution!

The Sudanese “Communist” Party (SCP) was once powerful. Now it is part of the popular-front “Forces for Freedom and Change.” It demands “the handover of government to a civilian parliament” instead of organizing for armed revolution.

The SCP’s stated objectives are “social justice, progress and the construction of democracy” – just like the liberal imperialists. Like its partner the South African “Communist” Party, the SCP is an enemy of the masses it claims to represent.

A few dozen students started the SCP in 1946. Now is the time for true communist revolutionaries in Sudan to form new collectives of the International Communist Workers’ Party.

We must use all possible personal ties and social media to spread *Red Flag* among the masses. Sudanese streets echo with chants, “The Revolution Continues until Final Victory!” That final victory can only be communism.

**MAY DAY, 2019
TAKING RED FLAG TO WORKERS
SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR**



May Day in Los Angeles, USA

COMMUNIST FLAGS, CHANTS & LITERATURE MADE THE DIFFERENCE

International Workers' Day 2019 was celebrated in Los Angeles, USA, with a march that brought together an endless number of diverse groups. It was a beautiful afternoon, where red, the color of the blood shed by the working class in the struggle for its liberation, prevailed, accompanied by shouts by class-conscious workers of **Death to Capitalism, Long Live Communism**.



Different groups presented reformist demands, but it was ICWP that made the difference, shouting communist slogans along with calls to fight fascism and crush Capitalism. We marched for two miles as friends and acquaintances joined us. We were not a very large group but we were very enthusiastic. We had the confidence that the party's line of fighting for a just and egalitarian society for the working class is the right path.

Comrades gave speeches denouncing capitalism and calling on workers to unite and fight for Communism. Marchers listened attentively to the speeches, and the emotional moment came when we sang *Bella Ciao* -the Party's version – and those nearby applauded.

As the workers slowly arrived and lined up behind the truck with loudspeakers playing music for entertainment, comrades armed with *Red Flag* and the pamphlet: *Fight for the Day When No Worker Will Be Called Foreigner*, devoted themselves to handing them out to as many as they could.

Communism was present by way of the International Communist Workers Party. Comrade workers with a big banner saying: **For a Communist World without Borders, We Need Revolution**, led the ICWP contingent. Comrades and friends of the party also proudly carried posters

about May Day, the date the bosses try to erase from the collective memory of the workers (changing it to Immigrants' Day).

We had to wait two hours for the march to begin, but the members of ICWP used that time to distribute our literature and make promising contacts. We are committed to following up with them to win them to join the party.

As we marched, we found out that members and friends in South Africa and El Salvador had ended their participation in their respective marches, and were sending reports of their work in the International Workers' Day celebrations. It is heartening to hear that every day the party grows internationally, which shows that the masses are awake and hungry to fight for a better world.

We distributed 1,200 copies of *Red Flag* and more than 500 pamphlets to marchers and people on the sidewalk, who eagerly took our literature. We walked back tired and hungry, but satisfied with the work we had done. We know that we need to do more to win the masses to achieve our goal. We understand that the day will come when the whole horizon will be red with the flags of Communism and its glorious International Communist Workers' Party.

LETTERS

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CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

Communism Will Keep Us Healthy

Last issue's article on socialism and medicine did a good job explaining how much better communist health care will be. However, caring for sick people is only part of the story. In communism, people will be much less sick, much less often. I believe this will be true of all kinds of illnesses.

For a start, life under capitalism is extremely stressful for workers. Workers never have enough money, even when they have a job. They have to worry about paying the rent or mortgage, buying food, paying for gas, clothes for the kids ... you know the story. They have to worry about losing a job or getting sick. Bosses driving them crazy at work, kids getting into trouble. And many face racist/sexist harassment and violence.

Stress aggravates almost all illnesses, from diabetes to depression. In communism, the abolition of money and unemployment (not to mention sexism, racism and xenophobia) will mean a life of joy rather than stress. The joy of working together to satisfy people's needs and the joy of studying together to better meet people's needs. The joy of living in a society where you cooperate rather than compete. Replacing stress by joy will result in a huge difference in people's health, without any professional intervention.

Another difference is that people will not have to be lonely anymore. Almost all activities will be communal. You can be alone if you want, but that will be a choice. Loneliness is known to be a health risk factor – as harmful as smoking or obesity.

Good food is vital to good health. For capitalism, on the contrary, what's vital is cheap food, so bosses can pay low wages. And cheap food – processed food and junk food – is known to be slow poison. Communism does not have the same incentive. We can make sure we eat well (if simply) and nutrition-based diseases like diabetes will all but disappear.

Good housing, including sewage and clean

drinking water, is also vital. Under capitalism good housing does not make workers more productive – they can live in squalor and still produce big profits for the bosses (as billions do). We'll do away with both junk food and junk housing, not to make money but to make workers happier. And a lot healthier.

This is hardly the whole story. For example, work and life under communism will be varied – mental and physical labor, indoors and outdoors. No one will live a sedentary lifestyle.

Of course, there will be medicine, healthcare workers and hospitals in communism. And they'll be great for those who need them. But I predict that, thanks to the communist lifestyle, workers won't experience illness on the scale they do under capitalism.

—Reader in Canada

Let's Develop a Deeper Communist Class Analysis of Racism

The last issue of *Red Flag* had an article "Communist Movement Needed to Fight Fascist Police Murders." It said important things about how "the minority (the capitalists) ... continually exploit the masses. Racism, sexism, nationalism are key tools of that oppression." It explained that we need to fight racism with class consciousness, not identity politics.

This is true everywhere, not just in the US. We need more articles about this.

The article should have included the link to the ICWP racism pamphlet icwpredflag.org/rpe.pdf. This was an editorial error.

A few years ago, we printed a more detailed article about identity politics: "It's No Privilege to Live in Racist Capitalism" icwpredflag.org/CurrentE/091715/art5.html

More recently, the most openly fascist forces in the US, Europe and Australia have been pushing "white identity" politics. When white people at a Trump rally cheer calls to "shoot immigrants" we can see how dangerous this is.

On the other hand, some liberal activists are

backing down on "white privilege." Now they say: "Being white doesn't mean you aren't oppressed. It means you aren't oppressed BECAUSE of your color." This cracks open the door for our class analysis of racism.

However, the article about fascist police murder presented an economic analysis that is not really a class analysis. It emphasized a divide between neighborhoods with median household incomes just above and just below \$52,000/year. This line does not separate classes. Instead, it divides the working class into two parts.

For example, the average annual income for a machinist is \$45,250. For a sewing-machine operator it's \$26,990. These two workers' combined household income would be over \$52,000 even if one only worked part-time.

The Economic Policy Institute has a "family budget calculator." This estimates the income needed for a "modest yet adequate" standard of living. Pretty much everywhere in the US, a family of 2 adults and 2 children would need at least \$70,000/year.

There are other problems with the way the article presents data. But this is probably the most significant one from a communist point of view.

Democratic Socialists describe the most impoverished among the US masses as "the other America." However, communists must emphasize that all who have to sell our labor power to the capitalists are part of the same international working class. None of us are "other."

That's why the best way to confront the capitalists' racist lies is to contrast the way capitalism divides and exploits all workers with the way that communism will unite us. Communist production for need instead of profit will create the material basis for destroying racism and other tools of capitalist oppression.

—LA reader

Anti-Fascist Boeing Worker Asks,

“WHAT GOOD DO THESE ELITE UNIVERSITIES DO ANYWAY?”

SEATTLE (USA)— “You should have been a teacher in the schools,” a Boeing *Red Flag* distributor suggested to a comrade.

After a moment’s thought, the comrade replied, “But this is what we aim for in communism: to center learning around the shop floor.”

On a small scale, that’s what has been happening. Boeing workers have been educating themselves on everything from aerodynamics (in relation to the 737 max crashes), to the history of fascism. Most importantly, they are learning how the theory and practice of communism relate to the issues of the day. Our party and *Red Flag* have been in the thick of these discussions.

A new friend, a vocal fighter against creeping fascism, even dared to question the worth of elite universities. Like many of us, she just learned the name Renaud Camus. He’s infamous for writing “The Great Replacement.”

This book-length diatribe rails against the influx of Muslim immigrants from northern and sub-Saharan Africa into Europe. Camus demands that white European women have more babies, lest Europe be overrun by “lesser races.” This fascist tract has spread around the world, justifying everything from punitive immigration policies and laws to fascist murder.

Camus graduated from the Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po), having studied law, philosophy and political science.

This is not the first time Sciences Po has produced fascists. During World War II, its faculty filled key positions in the Nazi-puppet Vichy government. Petain, the head of the puppet regime, sat on the school’s board of directors. Sciences Po nazified its curriculum after kicking out Jews and communists.

Sciences Po is considered one of the top three Western universities to train political and administrative elites. It counts among its graduates 32 heads of state, 3 directors of the International Monetary Fund, 40 CEOs of the top 100 companies on the Euronext Paris, and 7 out of 8 of the last French presidents, including the present one, Macron.

When this information hit the shop floor, it led to many debates about education, in particular “higher” education.

Our friend was appalled when she learned of Camus’ scholastic history. “What good do these elite universities do, anyway?” she asked.



在斗争中发展壮大马克思主义的理论队伍

Poster from the Chinese Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution
“Develop and strengthen the Marxist theoretical team in the struggle”

A Boeing worker got into a debate with a young man about this topic at the May Day march. The young man argued that we need political, administrative and scientific elites to defeat the class enemy. This line of reasoning is particularly troublesome since the ruling class media blames the rise in xenophobia, sexism and racism on the “uneducated” working class.

Education, like everything else, is a political class question. Universities don’t sit above the fray. Communists must eliminate elites and the elite institutions that underpin them.

When we discussed this May Day debate on the shop floor, Boeing workers rejected the idea that progress must be led by elites. To the contrary, students need to be drawn closer to workers, not segregated from the working class in universities. Nobody should be confined to classrooms for extended periods of time, separate from work and workers. It fosters elitism.

Opening up universities to more working class students can’t solve the problem either. Why would we want to subject these students to the bosses’ elitist ideology? But that is precisely what

open admissions reforms do.

Will such a hard line turn off students? Several party members had some higher education. A crucial factor in winning them to communism was maintaining connections to the working class through political struggle.

Communism will produce the most learned population in the history of humankind. It will do so by centering education around work and the working class. Learning will be a life-long endeavor, not pigeon-holed into university classrooms.

This article is part of an ongoing discussion within the International Communist Workers’ Party and with our friends about what education will look after a communist revolution. We encourage more debate on this topic: in particular, where Party members and friends are working with young people in schools, churches, etc. Our pamphlet *Communist Education for a Classless Society* can be found at icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf. We look forward to more letters and articles on the subject.



MEXICO CITY, May 15—A massive march crossed the main streets of the historic center of Mexico City. Thousands of teachers and students from all over the country marched demanding the absolute abolition of the educational reform promoted by the government of Peña Nieto and ratified in its most fundamental points by the new educational reform of Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

The ICWP cell in the city mobilized to distribute our *Red Flag* newspaper. We encouraged the teachers who received our literature to organize to end wage slavery.

Teachers have shown a great fighting spirit by calling a 72-hour strike. It is our responsibility to continue fighting to build a communist base among teachers worldwide.