

RED FLAG

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER REASON WE NEED COMMUNISM

EL SALVADOR — Working hard one day in the factory, I got up from my cubicle because I noticed a co-worker's daughter alone near the factory entrance. I saw that she was saying something to the guard.

Noticing that she seemed uncomfortable, I approached and asked this guard what was happening. "She needs to go to the bathroom," he said.

This girl had been left there because it is forbidden for a certain sector of the workers to let their children enter the factory, although there are other workers who can do so.

I took the little girl by the hand and took her to the bathroom. Then I brought her back. When I returned to my workplace, a co-worker told me "Why did you bring her in? They're going call this to your attention."

I answered, "THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN IN COMMUNISM. I couldn't leave the girl in that condition."

At that moment my words had an effect. I took advantage of the situation to explain to my co-worker that in the communist system we will be better organized so that children are better nurtured for their overall development.

Women will not be the only ones responsible for the care of children. We will take advantage of those infrastructures close to workplaces to turn them into centers for child development, while their parents carry out other work.

We will have the opportunity to actively participate in the political meetings and to help make decisions of the community. There will be no privileged sectors. We workers will decide how to resolve whatever difficulties come up.

She asked me, "And where do you get that from?"

"We talk about these issues in the meetings we hold in the International Communist

See [EL SALVADOR, Page 4](#)

Sudan Uprising:

MOBILIZE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST RESPONSE TO FASCIST MASSACRE

SEATTLE (USA), June 15—A Boeing worker who reads *Red Flag* listened intently as a comrade explained why he went to a demonstration downtown against the Sudanese massacre. After talking for a long while, the comrade wondered whether the worker thought he was lecturing her.

"No, no! Keep talking. This is important," she assured him.

She wasn't the only one. Often, the comrade couldn't get away from a co-worker once a discussion started.

Many had heard about massacres over the years in eastern Africa, particularly Darfur. They were especially interested in the culpability of the U.S., the European Union (E.U.), Saudi Arabia and Boeing corporate bosses.

The comrade explained that they brought *Red Flag* to the demonstration to explain why communism was the only way to stop fascist terror.

Border Control from Hell

Armed militias (Janjaweed) in Sudan, some recruited from Chad and other French-speaking African countries, carried out the Darfur massacre. In the last decade, they were recommissioned as the Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

The E.U. began financing them a few years ago under a program called the "Khartoum Process" to the tune of hundreds of millions of euros. This money was aimed at "Better Migration Management." The Obama administration sent millions more.

The RSF's chief job was to stop migrants from Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea and the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa at the southern Sudanese border. They also patrolled the northern border to prevent Sudanese from taking the routes through Egypt and Libya that eventually led to Europe.

There are thousands of well-documented cases

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Report from Recent ICWP Leadership Meeting

WRITING FOR *RED FLAG*: WE ALL NEED YOUR STORY

“These May Day reports are exciting,” said a comrade. “But they all seem to say the same thing: ‘Lots of people with different ideas. Many were interested in our literature. We gave out all we had. Newer comrades were impressed. We went home tired but happy.’”

The editorial collective started thinking: The reports were “the same but different.” They all showed the potential for mobilizing masses for communism. But each could make a different political point.

El Salvador showed how industrial workers organized on the job can give leadership in the streets – potentially in a revolution. Seattle emphasized a worker’s positive response to distributing our lit massively for the first time.

Who are our readers? How can we communicate our ideas more effectively to them?

Long-time members and their friends. Newer members and their friends. Friends of friends of members.

Long-time readers. First-time readers.

People who know us personally. People who found us on the Web.

People who will read all or most of an issue. People who might only read one thing.

Party members are among our important readers. We don’t publish “internal” documents for members only. We share ideas through the paper.

But.

It is probably not a good idea to be addressing most of your letters to “Dear Comrades.” Think about the friend of a comrade who might show it to a co-worker. Write for them, too.

When responding to something, try to write so that newer readers can understand what it’s about and why it matters.

Whatever you’re writing, re-read your first draft. Try to clarify some specific political point. Ask for help with that. Write a headline that reflects that point.

It’s not easy.

Sometimes we are too far from the action. Maybe we’re writing about inter-imperialist conflict or strikes and uprisings where we don’t know anybody.

It’s easy to fall back on generalities.

(“Haven’t I read that paragraph at least three times before?”) But it’s also easy to get lost in the details. First drafts usually do both.

Discuss your draft with comrades and friends. What should be the main political point? How can this article advance our collective understanding of communism and the tasks ahead?

But sometimes we’re too close to the action. What we are doing feels really important. And it is! **The small steps we take to mobilize for communism today will eventually grow into a mass movement that will change the world.**

But how can we describe this work in a way that others can see its importance? How can our paper help convince more people to do it?

We get out thousands of pieces of literature on May Day. And we go to write about it and maybe it doesn’t seem like much. Millions around the world are in motion!

So we just say, “The masses are open to communism.” Yes. That’s our line! Why did this seem remarkable? We were inspired! To do what next?

A few friends come with us on May Day and respond enthusiastically. Probably quite a few didn’t. “All that work, just for a handful of people?” How can the new comrades help us make a qualitative advance in the work?

How can we use this to convince more friends and readers to dip their toes into the water? Why is practice like this more powerful than long conversations?

Even a small communist meeting or rally or literature distribution or social event or conversation can be worth at least a letter. What can we say about these things so that a friend of a comrade halfway around the world would find our letter worth reading?

We need to take our work more seriously.

Sometimes, instead, we treat our feelings as if they were the story. “We went home tired but happy.” Why should that friend of a comrade care? Explain – or leave it out.

Our communist work, however modest, is an important story. And it is, of course, a story about us as thinking, feeling, active individuals and collectives.

But we are not the center of the story.

The masses are the center.

The historic struggle for communism is the center. For the abolition of class society. For the reconstruction of the world on an entirely different basis.

That’s what each and every story must be about.

Stories are a good way to get readers interested in the rest of an article. You’ve got a story! Tell it! And try to use it to make a clear political point.

Collectivity is the key. Let’s strengthen Party collectives to make our literature more effective at mobilizing masses for communism.



HOW I BECAME A COMMUNIST

I am from Eastern Cape province, South Africa, born in a small city.

In 2004 my parents sent me to Port Elizabeth to get a better education. I went to different colleges to get skills to get a good-paying job.

A comrade introduced communist ideas to me in 2016. He invited me to a meeting in Port Elizabeth. Comrades from another country were also present. I did not say much in this meeting because the communist ideas were new to me.

I attended some of the meetings with the collective here in KwaNoxolo. In most cases I dis-

agreed with communist ideas, I felt that communism was not feasible, and it was a threat to my culture and tradition. I stopped attending the meetings for quite some time.

Comrades would sometimes invite me to attend a communist school and meeting though they knew that I was not a communist.

The more I attended these selective/random meetings and communist classes, the more I opened up to the communist ideas.

I can remember the last communist school which comrade E forced me to attend. It was the most constructive, educational, productive and mind-opening communist class I have ever attended. I learned about Science and philosophy and why it is important as a communist to

study these attractive subjects. I learned about change and how things change.

I was motivated and impressed by the knowledge I obtained at this communist class. Since then I have been attending meetings every Saturday. I also participated in setting up these meetings and I assisted comrades in camp preparation last weekend where 15 comrades participated.

Day by day, study after study of dialectics, *Red Flag* and Karl Marx’s work and examining the capitalist society status quo, I am becoming more confident in the success of communism.

Comrade K



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Mass Starvation in India

COMMUNISM WILL PRODUCE AND DISTRIBUTE FOOD TO MEET THE MASSES' NEEDS

INDIA, June 23 — Three sisters (2, 8 and 10 years old) died of starvation in New Delhi, the capital of India. Postmortem at a local hospital found their stomachs had no food. Further investigation revealed there was no fat on their bodies.

Doctors said that they must have died after days agonizing pain. Their bodies were converting every drop of fat to keep the organs alive. And finally, when they stopped breathing, their bones were sticking out of their skin.

The mother of these three girls is mentally ill. The illness caused by severe poverty and depression.

The father had lost his small piece of land some 1000 km away from New Delhi. He brought his family to a slum of the sprawling city. The slum has one water tap for every thousand residents. When he arrived in Delhi, he rented a small hand cart. He would pull heavy loads, barefoot, 16 hours a day. He made just enough money to stave off starvation, but not hunger, for him and his family.

One fateful day, as he was pulling his cart, a local criminal gang stole it. Hunger turned into starvation and starvation into ultimate death of his three daughters.

When they died, he was in the streets for days looking for a job that did not exist. He desperately needed work as there was no food. The family were evicted from their dilapidated room in the slum. At the age of 36, he had lost his small piece of land, his cart, his daughters and was now left with nothing but an open sky and cruel streets of Delhi to take care of his mentally-ill wife.

Damn capitalism and its endless murders!

There are about 130 million people in India who are in a similar situation. They are considered internal migrants. In each case, the family loses a small piece of land due to inability to pay loans to banks as food prices fall. They come to big cities looking for work.

In 2017/18, unemployment in India was the highest in 45 years. Tens of millions are unemployed.

The capitalist bosses in India know that there is a tremendous discontent among the masses. That is why the Indian rulers selected Modi and his fascist gang to rule the country. The rulers are always aware that the hungry masses are going to rebel sooner or later and that could turn into a communist revolution. To prevent the masses from rising they need fascism and some reform in the system, so it prevents mass starvation.

Some years ago, the government was acutely aware of impending hunger and starvation due to the internal migration. It wanted to implement a 'Food security Law' which would guarantee food and a reasonable price of commodities to the farmers so they could survive.



However, to expand the sale of Indian agricultural products in the global market, the government had to abandon the Food Security law. Exports of beef, grain and other foodstuffs skyrocketed, exposing hundreds of millions to the level of destitution.

Only communism can guarantee dignity of each and every person. Communism will produce and distribute food and everything else according to the needs of the masses. Nobody will go hungry while others eat their fill.

We have to destroy capitalism as it is becoming more unbearable every day. Fascist Modi and his criminals are calling this "New India."

We, the members of ICWP in India, are not intimidated by fascism. It is making us strong ideologically. We are preparing for a July communist school to show and struggle with the masses about fighting for a communist revolution.

COMMUNIST CAMP STUDIES PHILOSOPHY, MAKES PLANS TO GROW

SOUTH AFRICA, June 20—Our Communist Camp took place on the Youth Weekend that commemorates the sacrifice of the youth in 1975 who fought against apartheid. We wanted to link newer and older members, to deepen our struggle for communism and to build communist relationships within the collective.

We talked about communism, sexism, religion, and liberalism.

Combating liberal tendencies within ourselves was an important discussion. Some long-term comrades still show liberal tendencies. For example, someone gives a lame excuse for missing a meeting and we accept it.

We are surrounded by capitalist ideas so it's understandable. But we have to keep struggling against these ideas, or they become a major obstacle to building the party.

The camp expanded on the discussion of dialectics that we had at the communist school after May Day. We focused on the three laws of change. The new comrades were really engaged. Some of the terminology and concepts were new to them.

We have to talk more about that and print some material to help them understand more about communism. It's very important to study. Without revolutionary theory there can be no successful revolutionary practice.

But theory without practice becomes useless. The only way to learn is through practice. We need to distribute *Red Flag* so that we can see this qualitative change we are reading about.

The camp included individuals with different ideas. But the point of unity was communism. We all agreed that communism is the only solution to

the problems we are facing.

We also agreed that there is a need for communist revolution. No ruling class will ever relinquish power voluntarily. For example, in Zimbabwe, Sudan, Venezuela, and Syria the rulers are tightly clinging to power.

Those who suffer most are the working class. Even though our class brothers and sisters are fighting for reform, these struggles show the need to violently resist and overthrow the capitalist class.

The comrades embraced the fact that there can never be communism without a revolution. Even religious comrades agreed, even though religion often preaches pacifism.

One of our differences was around religion. We needed to refute the idea that it's alright to suffer in this life for the sake of an afterlife where there's no darkness or hunger.

We needed to struggle in a way that did not alienate comrades who believe in religious doctrine. None of us were born communists. Most were raised to be religious. But once people study more about dialectical materialism, they will see the dangers of religion. We talked about India to show how they use religion to justify and build racism.

One comrade was very religious but now he understands dialectical materialism. His development clearly shows that we can win people to have a dialectical materialist outlook.

Every Comrade's Contribution Is Important

Our collective is made up of individuals with different personalities. Some people don't like to talk, but when they write, they are very clear and articulate. If someone doesn't talk in meetings, it

doesn't mean that they don't understand the line. In the past we had some people who could clearly articulate the line but their practice was very anti-communist.

We judge a person's commitment based on their practice, not by how much they talk in meetings. We have new comrades, like K, who don't talk much. But he is a very clear thinker. He chose to join the Party decisively, without hesitation.

If you go to a meeting and don't talk, you can go home and write down your thoughts to share in *Red Flag*. The new comrades need to be comfortable writing. The more experienced comrades must be pro-active in struggling with each and every comrade.

On Sunday, we talked about our plans and goals for the next six months. We will have another communist school.

Our collective is made up only of industrial workers and students. We need to recruit soldiers and more industrial workers. We set goals to add soldiers to the collective. We know some people, relatives and old friends at some bases. The collective needs to reach out to them. Hopefully we can bring them into our collective. They could serve as a conduit to distribute *Red Flag* in the barracks—while we continue to mobilize among industrial workers.

Comrades in another area have plans to distribute *Red Flag* to migrant workers in the vineyards. Many come from Zimbabwe. They also plan to distribute *Red Flag* at train stations where they can reach a variety of farmworkers and industrial workers. We plan a fruitful six months!

COMMUNISM, NOT DEMOCRACY, MUST BECOME GOAL OF SUDANESE REVOLUTIONARIES

LOS ANGELES, USA, June 20—“Revolution – it’s what the people want!” It sounded catchier in Arabic. Young Sudanese and Sudanese-Americans, mostly women, led this and other chants at a rally in front of the Saudi consulate. Later they moved on to the Emirati consulate.

Demonstrations like these – and larger – have taken place in Durban (South Africa), Nairobi (Kenya), Winnipeg (Canada), Great Britain, France, Germany, Australia and elsewhere.

Many of the 80 protesters in Los Angeles had come from as far away as San Francisco. Most were Sudanese. Though most of the women were hijabis, an organizer emphasized that “we are not a Muslim group, we are not a Christian group.”

A comrade was one of the few non-Sudanese there. She distributed about 25 copies of *Red Flag*. Some others took the paper, knowing it was communist, and later politely gave it back. Probably these “democracy” protesters objected to armed revolution.

The comrade exchanged contact information with several people. One said right away, “You should get in touch with Sudanese communists.”

“Help me do it!” the comrade replied. “And I hope that someone can translate our articles about Sudan into Arabic.”

Another young activist was very interested in hearing about why our party has broken from the old Marxist tradition and mobilizes directly for communism.

A few days later, at a friend’s party, the comrade was talking about the rally with a new acquaintance who grew up in Argentina. “Most Americans don’t pay attention to the rest of the world,” he said.

“I’m political, a communist,” she answered.

“It’s our responsibility to know what’s happening to our international working-class family.” Her new friend was happy to see *Red Flag*.

MORE ON SUDAN

icwpredflag.org/wp/wordpress/volume-10-number-7/sudan-fascist-massacre-needs-revolutionary-communist-response/

icwpredflag.org/wp/wordpress/volume-10-number-6/sudan-fight-for-a-communist-dictatorship-of-the-working-class/



Many migrants and refugees travel through Sudan

SUDAN UPRISING From Page 1

of migrant torture, extortion and murder by the RSF. It is headed by the butcher Hemeti. Now he has ordered his racist thugs into Khartoum and other cities to massacre demonstrators.

“I hate the Janjaweed!” exclaimed a Boeing friend born in sub-Saharan Africa. “They killed and raped my family and friends who fled the war” between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Many Boeing workers made the connection to the new National Guard in Mexico (see page 14) and the militarization of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement patrols in the U.S.

“These armed border forces seem to cultivate a fascist mindset,” said a young worker. “It must have something to do with giving these border agents free rein to attack people from another country and ‘race.’”

To add insult to injury, European Union (EU) politicians are “condemning” the massacres perpetuated by the very armed forces they and the U.S. rulers financed.

Unfortunately, the demonstration organizers followed the E.U. playbook by demanding Hemeti be brought before the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Many well-meaning people suffer under the illusion that the ICC represents a law that can rein in the horrors of capitalism. It never has and it never will.

The only answer to capitalism’s horrors is communist revolution which will unleash the power of the working class to deal with these butchers our-

selves.

Red Flag Opens the Door

When demonstrators saw the headline of the *Red Flag* article on Sudan they opened up to comrades. “Fascist Massacre Needs Revolutionary Communist Response” touched a nerve.

Defying the image presented in the bosses’ media, women wearing hijabs took the lead. One young woman took the time to explain the issues in detail to our comrades.

Saudi Arabian billionaires had bought up most of the arable land. They were not only an imperialist force, but often the direct bosses of many Sudanese workers.

Hemeti was the Saudis’ man in Sudan. He publicly supported the Saudi bombing in Yemen. Many Sudanese were appalled by the slaughter of Yemenis. Boeing has made millions selling smart bombs responsible for the deaths.

Never Underestimate the Working Class

Many Boeing workers are interested in the fate of the workers around the world. Tens of thousands of eastern African migrants and their children live in the Seattle-Tacoma area. Comrades and friends know quite a few.

Our next step must be to organize a collective meeting with these friends and comrades. The topic for discussion: how to advance this international communist response.

We’ll answer the chant “Hemeti to the ICC!” with a call to mobilize masses of workers for communism, for a world without borders and fascist border patrols.

“Communist power to the workers!”

EL SALVADOR From Page 1

Worker’ Party,” I replied.

The oppressive capitalist system today imposes on women workers the responsibility of caring for their families. This has been a permanent task. It has held women back from actively participating in the organization for the struggle for Communism, but that will come to an end.

Building a society without money will be one of the aspects that will change the lives of women and workers in general. Mobilizing the workers massively for communism is key.

We had given our *Red Flag* newspaper to this co-worker before. But after this action and explanation she accompanied us for the first time to the meeting we had planned.

This comrade is now part of our party. Her attendance at the meetings has been very important. Her participation means a process of understanding this plan of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP). And it has helped her and others to be more aware of the need for our party to fight for communism.

The communist training we share gives us the strength to dedicate what we can to the organizational struggle for more workers to join the ICWP. It is not an easy task, but we will be ready to carry out the political struggle, in spite of all these problems.

LONG LIVE THE WORKING CLASS!
READ AND DISTRIBUTE *Red Flag*!

BUILD COMMUNIST WORKERS' COLLECTIVES TO MAKE DECISIONS THAT SERVE THE MASSES

SEATTLE, USA—Boeing corporate headquarters mandated that every employee take part in “safety recommitment” meetings. We were forced to sit through a series of videotaped speeches by Boeing executives, starting with CEO Muilenburg.

These sermons were clearly written by the company's Public Relations department. They were unmistakably connected to the ongoing 737 MAX investigations.

It didn't take long for sarcastic interruptions to fill the room. Most managers didn't even try to justify the corporate-speak.

“He looks like a deer in the headlights,” somebody shouted from the back of the audience. They were referring to the CEO droning on about how safety is our highest priority. He was obviously reading from a prepared script. The other top executives were equally

vague. One did, however, raise an interesting point. He urged every employee to say something if they felt something wasn't safe.

This way, he said, we can make the good decisions. He hesitated, then clarified by saying good collective decisions.

Collective decision-making is a key point of communist society. Although the rhetoric sounds similar, his use of the words was completely different.

First, the collective he had in mind was a committee of bosses and their paid “experts.” When we talk about collectives, we mean collectives of those who do the work: the working class.

The next sentence really let the cat out of the bag. The aim of collective decisions was to “ensure Boeing remains a global corporate champion.”

“Yeah, he means making more profits at our expense,” shouted another worker.

There is a lesson here. Whenever we talk about our decision-making, we have to link it explicitly to our communist goal.

In this case, communism will eliminate the profit motive. Markets will be replaced by society's commitment to the collective needs of the working class. It will end the division between mental and manual labor. It will prepare all workers to guarantee safe, reliable, free transportation.

“From each according to their ability and commitment, to each according to their needs” will define communist production. No more corporate champions. In fact, no more capitalist corporations at all.

Red Boeing Machinist

LOS ANGELES, USA—“What motivated you to be interested in the communist ideas of ICWP?” That was a question that was asked in our last study group with public transportation workers (MTA).

The idea was to show that their reasons are the same as those of many other workers. And that we have more in common than we have differences. We want to consolidate this group of comrades and readers of *Red Flag* into communist leaders.

The following are some of the answers:

“Through the study groups, especially on dialectics, I have learned that the class struggles are much broader than the bubble in which we have lived with our family and small circle of friends. I think that we are part of something bigger, of a global process, and that what happens in China, or El Salvador, is connected to our lives.

“Trade wars, sooner or later, will lead to a world war and it is very important to be organized to know what to do.”

“To realize that capitalism is not our system and that as a working class we must fight for communism.”

This type of communist culture that is emerging in these workplaces is a product of the internal struggle that the ICWP has carried out, with the confidence that the workers can be won over to our Party.

This plan for consolidation is the outcome of years of communist work in the MTA. As part of this political work, many mechanics, drivers and service workers have participated in various activities. We currently distribute internally an average of 30 to 40 *Red Flags* per edition.

Lately we have been consistent in holding study groups in which 2 to 6 workers participate. We have studied dialectical materialism, political economy, history of class struggle and many *Red Flag* articles.

This week 2 more workers committed themselves to participate in the study groups. We are also planning activities outside work to invite *Red Flag* readers from other divisions.

The most important as-

pect of this struggle is that we are winning the men and women workers to communist ideas directly. Although they may not respond as quickly as we would like, we can still see an important advance in our communist cell in the MTA.

From these activities a new leadership is emerging with a solid understanding of communist ideas and the urgent need to bring these ideas to other men and women workers.

Red Mechanic



EL SALVADOR—“I am glad that the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) is not an electoral party,” were the words of a comrade who participated for the first time at the extended meeting of maquila workers, which is held every month.

“I really liked the meeting, I'm going to continue participating in the activities,” said a worker who was attending for the first time, but who marched with us on May 1. She brought another worker with her.

“These meetings are a good opportunity to put communist relations with our comrades and their families into practice, socializing and dis-

cussing communist ideas.”

Among these new comrades who attended the meeting there was one who was from another factory and we will struggle politically with him to begin building a strong cell inside this other factory

A report on the international meeting was given at the meeting. The report of the comrades in South Africa was a great political lesson for all of us. This report reminded us how important it is to study dialectical materialism in depth so that more and more workers will know it, analyze, and know that, yes, things are going to change, that everything is constantly changing.

We emphasized the importance of recruiting more men and women workers and also soldiers to mobilize the masses for communism.

Greetings comrades and let's keep writing about the way you do party work in your areas. That helps us and others to evaluate how well our work is doing both in quality and quantity.

Young comrade

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Fascist Pact between Mexico and US:

CONFLICT BETWEEN RULING CLASSES = ATTACKS ON WORKING MASSES

MEXICO CITY, June 22 — At the end of May, Trump threatened to impose a 5% tariff from June 10 on all Mexican products if the Mexican government did not stop the flow of migrants to the U.S. border.

On Friday, June 7, both countries agreed to suspend tariffs on the condition that Mexico intensifies its control over migrants. An important section of the US ruling class, led by US auto makers, opposed the tariffs all along.

The government of Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO) presented the agreement as a huge victory for Mexico. The masses of migrants in Mexico have nothing to celebrate.

As part of the agreement, Mexico has started to deploy 2400 members of the newly created National Guard on its border with Guatemala. The remaining 3600 National Guard members will be deployed throughout Mexico. This enforcement plan also requires Mexican citizens to carry official identification on interstate transportation.

Trump's Wall Begins in Southern Mexico.

The persecution and harassment of migrants are nothing new. In April, the offices of the National Migration Institute (INM) in Tapachula in the state of Chiapas were closed. This ended the visas that AMLO had offered in January 2019.

Thousands of people from Africa, the Caribbean and Central America have been left in limbo. Some try to survive on the streets of the city. Others organize rebellions against the INM. Others look for more remote and dangerous routes to cross the border.

AMLO promotes nationalist ideology to present his diplomatic “victory” as an act of dignity and sovereignty. It is a lethal trap for the working class to defend any of these “nations.” We must expose these conflicts between bourgeoisies and show how the masses, especially the migrants, are the most affected by them.

Mexican government officials and the intellectuals of MORENA (AMLO's party) defend their actions as the “immediate solution to the problem”, the “possible”. They cynically mock those

Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico, March 2019. Hundreds of Haitian, Cuban and other migrants blocked immigration offices for three hours, demanding their transit visas.



who denounce as fascist their attacks on migrants.

This should serve as a lesson to us in fighting the illusions some of our friends have about AMLO. The officials and intellectuals, will, like all ‘leftists’ in the bourgeois state, justify all their measures to manage the crises of capitalism.

The Problem is Capitalism, the Solution is Communism

The land where the Mexican, U.S. and Central American working class live has enough resources for all of us to have our basic needs met, and for any migration to be voluntary and for the benefit of humanity.

Let's not be fooled by fascist arguments coming either from the extreme right or from social democracy. The problem is not the lack of resources. The problem is production for profit and capitalist social relations of production.

But the communist movement does not yet have the strength to mobilize the masses for a revolutionary way out of the crisis. To become a

serious threat to capitalism and its rulers, we have to fulfill the tasks dictated to us by the historical moment and the development of our organization. We have already made a step forward with the international mass distribution of our pamphlet *“Fight for the Day When No Worker Is Called Foreigner.”*

In the State of Mexico, the advance of our core group is modest, disproportionate to the crisis that our migrant brothers and sisters are suffering. The immediate need is to recruit more members who understand the long-term task.

That task is to transform our party collectives into a mass International Communist Workers' Party that one day will incorporate the whole working class. Although the task is titanic, the need, more than the dream, of a communist society should motivate us to expand our limits.

The suffering of the migrant masses as a result of bourgeois rivalry shows the need for revolution. Let's fight for the ideological and political reconstitution of Communism among the masses!

US WORKERS IN SOLIDARITY WITH MIGRANTS

BOSTON, USA, June 26 – Hundreds of workers at the Wayfair furniture company walked off the job protesting the sale of beds to an immigration prison in Texas meant to hold 3,000 migrant children. Hundreds more supporters joined them at a rally in front of the Wayfair corporate headquarters.

They are demanding that Wayfair stop doing business with companies involved with the racist concentration camps known as “detention centers.”

There is massive outrage about the horrible treatment inflicted on immigration prisoners, especially children. Politicians like Elizabeth Warren and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez are trying to channel this anger into support for the Democratic Party. But migrant detentions and deportations surged during the Obama administration.

The most effective solidarity with migrant families means organizing for communist revolution. Only communism can win a world without borders where everyone is welcome everywhere.



**ONE CLASS, ONE HUMAN FAMILY,
WE NEED ONE COMMUNIST WORLD**

HONDURAN MASSES IN OPEN REBELLION SHOW POTENTIAL FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

June 26 — The working masses in Honduras are in open rebellion against the international capitalist system. The immediate cause of this popular uprising has been the imposition of drastic measures of austerity dictated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). These will mean less funds, massive layoffs and the privatization of the public health and education sectors.



Its goal is to squeeze, in blood and fire, billions of dollars from Honduran workers to pay interest to local and international oligarchs.

Since the revolt began, the repressive forces have killed about ten students and workers, and have injured several dozen. Other previous measures of IMF austerity have caused the death of thousands of Hondurans and have drastically and massively reduced their standard of living. Unemployment and underemployment have skyrocketed from 35.6 percent in 2008 to more than 63 percent today.

Worried about their backyard - convulsed by mass anti-capitalist movements from Mexico, through Central America, to Brazil - the US imperialists are determined to drown them in blood. That's why the head of the US Southern Com-

mand arrived in Honduras with 300 marines and sailors, in the middle of these protests with his Rapid Deployment Force.

The motto of the masses has been "JOH—Out!" Replacing Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez is not the solution. It doesn't change the capitalist system, much less the imposition of imperialism internationally. The motto of the angry Honduran masses should be "Mobilize the masses for communism."

Only an international movement, rooted in the working masses, and led by the International Communist Workers' Party can confront capitalism-imperialism and overthrow them to build a new communist society.

Communist society will eliminate money, banks and their interests. It will not have buying and selling. Collectively we will meet the needs of all.

Forward, comrades. We have a world to win!

Learning from the Communist School

The recent communist school in South Africa was very informative. It went into more detail about the objectives and goals of the party and how we as the party are going to achieve our goals.

Dividing people who attended into small groups made it easier for everyone to put his/her input into the discussion and to ask questions. Not everyone is comfortable to talk in a group of many people.

There were some few things I also took home from the discussions. Amongst them is the issue of religion and how it is used as one of the tools of capitalism. I will make an example about Christianity as it is the most practiced in our country.

In the church there's a pastor who's the leader. He's considered to be above everyone because everyone follows his instructions. In a communist society no one will be considered above another. Individualism will not be promoted. We will all be one working class. There will be no one giving instructions to be followed.

Religion says it's okay for the working class to suffer. It justifies this by saying there is life after death and workers have to suffer so that they can enter heaven, which is not true. Religion is also used to justify wars that are caused by individuals to serve the interest of the few.

The second thing I took home from the communist school was the barriers that are put divide the working class (racism, sexism etc.). The capitalists fear the working class. They want us not to be united and say one thing because that will result into a revolution.

We have a duty as communists to mobilise and recruit the masses to join ICWP. One obstacle that is holding me from recruiting more people to join the party is that I don't read enough literature. This results in me not being confident enough to engage in debates. People ask questions and for a person to believe in what you are saying or to be convinced you have to show confidence in what you're saying and be able to respond to difficult questions.

—South Africa Comrade

Inspiring Camping Trip Motivates Fight Against Sexism

The Youth Collective here in South Africa for the first time went on camping. We normally go and mobilize around shopping malls, rallies, factories and schools but this time it was different. Instead, we went out with the new comrades.

It was a very inspiring experience. We need to continue with these kinds of activities for the political development of all members of our collective.

We began by analyzing some articles from *Red Flag*. This discussion ignited the spirits of all members of my collective and raised questions. Mainly we talked about "building communist relations and fighting sexism to advance the party" (article from the previous issue) and came up with some new ideas.

This discussion was extremely important because we have new female Comrades who just joined the movement. Now we are more motivated to say we are fighting against sexism because we have both male and female comrades in our collective. This also gives us confidence to talk to the masses about Communism. The new comrades have a clear understanding about what we do. Communism is not only theoretical but also it is practical, something that you are living.

We need to build these communist relations because they help us grow as a collective if we are consistent enough about our work and meetings.

Thanks to young lions.

Youth in South Africa

Reflection on Sexism

I had a great time with my comrades at the camp. We read the pamphlet on sexism, which was very interesting. A lot was said in the meeting.

Later, I came to know that sexism emerged with capitalism. It became clear to me on how capitalists use culture, religion, media, businesses and schools to carry out their sexist practices.

In the meeting, someone said that "sameness doesn't equate to equality." We know that men and women are not the same. However, this doesn't mean that men are superior to woman.

In ancient Egypt most Gods were females because they were seen or regarded as life givers: there can be no man without a woman.

Sexism is associated with the Amakhosa culture. I grew up believing that women are men's possessions, that they are caregivers, inferior to men, and must obey men. I saw this happening in our societies and in villages especially. I accepted it without questioning.

I'm an history student. I value tribal history. As I was looking at Xhosa history, I found out that these sexist practices that exist today in Xhosa culture were not practiced in ancient times.

The *Red Flag* article said that "women gathered most of the food everyone needed. Men were most often hunters. Nobody's work was valued more or less than someone else." This is very true. Xhosa people operated this way during the 16th and early 17th centuries.

"All adults generally participated in community decision making, problem - solving and rituals." This is even practiced today in my village.

After I studied Xhosa history, I concluded that inequality in Xhosa culture is practiced based on age stages, not on gender: "RESPECT YOUR ELDER." I have learnt that sexist practices were accepted in the Xhosa culture after they met the missionaries.

It is an undeniable fact that religious ideology promotes and condones sexism. Evidence can be quoted in multiple chapters in the Bible and other religious texts. In the meeting, I also learnt that businesses, schools and media play a huge role in promoting and justifying sexism.

In the meeting we disagreed about some of the things, such as the statement that private property is the material basis for sexism. I wish to discuss this more to get a further elaboration on how is it possible.

From now on I will dedicate most of my time to learning and struggling with others about communism. It is a sure thing that capitalism is in its dying stages. The only solution to our problems is to get rid of capitalism to ensure a society free from sexism and racism. A society without borders where everyone will work according to need.

—Comrade in South Africa

Capitalist Crisis in Brazil:

ATTACKS ON WORKERS CREATE NEED AND OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

June 23— “The union warned us not to join the general strike. We told the union to go to hell,” said a *Red Flag* reader in São Paulo, Brazil.

This Embraer aerospace worker was among 50 million workers in 300 cities and all 28 states of Brazil who joined the general strike on June 14th.

Refinery workers, transit workers, students and teachers from schools and universities. Workers in mines and the heavy metal industry. Sanitation workers, government employees and more poured into the streets. They paralyzed Brazil completely.

Workers’ simmering anger and frustration came to a boiling point when the government proposed to increase the retirement age to 65. Fewer than 10% of Brazilians are over 65. Most workers will die working.

This is happening around the world.

Capitalist Crisis and Inter-Imperialist Competition Destroy Workers’ Lives

The US financial crisis of 2007 spiraled into a global recession that severely affected the conditions of the Brazilian working class.

Brazil is a vast country with enormous wealth in minerals and oil and large agriculture and meat industries. However, the 2008 recession caused a collapse of demand for these resources and products. The falling prices of commodities affected banks that had extended loans to build or modernize factories, highways and airports.

One consequence of the crisis was that, by 2009, China had doubled its share of Brazil’s exports. It had replaced the US as Brazil’s largest trade partner, with the European Union as Brazil’s second-largest partner.

Increasingly, Brazil exported basic agricultural and mineral products to China and the EU. In contrast, by 2018, Brazilian exports to the US in 2018 were mainly industrial goods.

The Brazilian capitalists’ political reaction to the crisis was to dump the populist government of former president Lula and his successor, Dilma Rousseff.

This January, they installed the current president, Bolsonaro. He is an “ultra-conservative” (some would say fascist) who sharpened the attacks on the working class by weakening labor laws. The goal is to make Brazilian capitalists



more competitive.

Brazilian bosses then started replacing regular workers with contract workers. Now the unemployment rate is officially 13% (probably higher) and over twice that among the youth.

The Brazilian rulers, like other capitalists, use racism to divide the working class and super-exploit black and indigenous workers. Unemployment among these most oppressed groups is as high as 70%.

Defeat Racist Capitalism by Mobilizing the Mighty Working Class for Communism

Capitalism constantly creates differences among the workers around the world based on “race,” religion, ethnicity, gender, language and more. But at the same time, it creates a mighty working class.

From Brazil to South Africa, from the US to North Africa, from Mexico and El Salvador to China and India and beyond, the international working class faces the same problem: wage slavery. The brutality of this wage system is getting deeper and wider.

Only by destroying our class enemy with communism can we create the society we need. One where each and every person will be able to contribute their productive activity to help all. In communism we will be able to contribute for our whole lives without being worked to death.

Once wage slavery and the profit system are eradicated, there will be no more racism, unemployment, hunger, homelessness, police terror, genocide or wars over natural resources. Continuing communist ideological struggle will win masses to replace competition with collectivity.

The possibility of building communism is becoming more real every day. Bosses all over the world are exposing the evils of their system with terror and mass violence.

Our path is long. There are dangers and opportunities.

Many workers around us agree that communism is the only solution. But they are not convinced that we can achieve this goal. Articles in *Red Flag*, including those from India and South Africa, begin to show how a small party like ICWP has the potential to grow massively and eventually defeat the bosses.

The small group of *Red Flag* readers in Brazil is very energized by the general strike. They promise to read and write for *Red Flag*. One immediate task is to guarantee consistent comradely struggle with our friends to join ICWP. Another is to translate some of our literature into Portuguese and make sure that more Brazilian workers and youth can read it.

LETTER FROM IRAN: MASSES CAN OVERTHROW BRUTAL REGIMES AND FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM

Decades ago, when the brutal dictator Shah of Iran was overthrown, I was a young college student. About two years prior to his overthrow, it appeared that the Shah was firmly in control.

However, things began to change in mid-1977 when the economy started to decline. The events moved very quickly after that. There was a series of strikes by oil refinery workers. Change was in the air.

Leftist groups came out of hiding. The masses were ready for a communist revolution. No group had this outlook and the conservative Islamists seized power with counter-revolution.

The situation today is unprecedented. In the last one year we had several strikes in Tehran and other cities. The strikes by oil workers, truckers, students and other industrial workers were widespread and brutally suppressed.

After Trump imposed sanctions on Iran, things have worsened. Inflation is skyrocketing and the value of Rial (currency) is collapsing.

Food prices have doubled in just one month. In late 2017, when the price of eggs increased 60%, Tehran witnessed massive street demonstration. Police opened fire, killing 21 people, wounding many others. Currently most workers are not paid for months.

Common people have accepted the fact that sooner, rather than later there is going to be a major military confrontation with the US. After Iran shot down a US spy drone, the regime tried to whip up nationalism, but people are suffering. The war is already here for many. Hunger and high prices, disappearing basic necessities of life are slowly killing many.

We have not yet felt the full impact of the May sanctions. From about 2.5 million barrels per day (bpd) of oil production it has trickled down to less than 400,000 bpd. It is going to decline more, causing havoc on the local economy.

The Iranian ruling class is corrupt and ruth-

less. To break out of the sanctions, they will have to escalate proxy wars, leading to direct confrontation with US.

Both the US and Iranian rulers are in a weak position. The working class has the opportunity to fight for communism.

The revolutions of 1953 and 1979 show that the Iranian masses can overthrow brutal regimes. Now we must overthrow with communist revolution.

Reader in Iran

