

# RED FLAG



## MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST WORKERS' PARTY \* [WWW.ICWPREDFLAG.ORG](http://WWW.ICWPREDFLAG.ORG)



Los Angeles, USA—Fighting for a communist world without borders or nations amid the world-wide protests against the concentration camps at the US border. More actions on pages 4, 6 and 8.

### Letter from Brazil:

#### **AEROSPACE WORKER ORGANIZES NEW RED FLAG COLLECTIVE**

I live and work in São José dos Campos, Brazil. Many people here, including me, are employed by Embraer, the third largest aircraft manufacture in the world. Other industries are automobile, petrochemical and pharmaceutical. As you can imagine, the city is a major industrial hub of Brazil.

Boeing bought 80% share of Embraer. By the end of this year, the Boeing takeover will be completed. Many workers are now afraid of losing their jobs. The fear is real after the crisis in Boeing following the two fatal 737 max airplane crashes.

I have been reading *Red Flag* for several years. On occasions I discuss the articles in *Red Flag* with my coworkers, my family and friends. For the past year I have been reading almost all of *Red Flag* when I receive new issues. I carefully read the articles of ICWP in Boeing. The articles from El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, and South Africa make a deep impression here.

A comrade from the US is always asking me to join ICWP and organize a group of *Red Flag* readers. I do consider myself a member of ICWP. Over the years I have introduced *Red Flag* to dozens of people here. However, I feel overwhelmed by the task that is in front of us. Many people are angry with President Bolsonaro but they also have illusions in former president Lula.

Now we have decided to form a small group of *Red Flag* readers. We plan to discuss specific articles of *Red Flag* every week. We agreed that we need to look deeper into the forces that cause change in an individual as well as in a society. The study of dialectical materialism is essential in our ideological battle against capitalist propaganda that you can't change the society.

I proposed this idea to two of my friends at work and my wife. They are very excited about forming a group. My wife is a teacher for over 20 years with many friends. My daughter and her husband live far from us but she teaches English and has promised to help us with the translations. We are planning our first social meeting with a churrasco dinner at my house. Our hope is that by the end of the year we will have dozens of people around us and we will be able to prepare for a communist school here.

—Red aerospace worker

### Letter from India:

#### **COMMUNISTS ORGANIZE TEA-PICKERS TO FIGHT SEXISM AND FASCIST THUGS**

I am a new member of ICWP. I am 21 years old, a college student. I started reading *Red Flag* about two years ago.

My parents were in the old communist movement. When I was a child, I saw their commitment to change the world. They were very down-to-earth and had lots of friends. Our house was always open to anybody. However, they were very disappointed when they realized that the Communist Party of India had long abandoned the path of revolution in favor of peaceful democratic revolution.

In my childhood years I agonized over their pain. I wanted to fight for revolution

that would destroy our oppressors forever. I wanted a real communist party that would never compromise on total and complete destruction of capitalism. I had seen horrendous atrocities in my village by the landlords. From raping women to murders, they were ruthless, powerful. I decided I wanted to end this system. This is when I found the *Red Flag* and ICWP.

I am writing to you, comrades, today because I want to let you know that ICWP is alive and growing in the midst of fascism. We are organizing in the area where women labourers work in the tea plantations. After the re-election of fascist Modi,

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## Seven Billion Reasons to Join ICWP Now

### HOW COMMUNISM WILL PREVENT MASS STARVATION AND FASCIST VIOLENCE

INDIA, July 7 — Members and friends of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) met to discuss our plans for the upcoming communist school. We were reading the editorial of *Red Flag* and the article about mass starvation in India.

A comrade joined us late, as the meeting was going on. He was visibly very upset. He told us that, yet another Muslim youth was tied to a pole and mercilessly beaten for 12 hours by the fascist followers of BJP (ruling party). The next day the youth died of massive bodily injury.

This news made all of us very furious. It changed our outlook on the urgency with which we must build ICWP for communist revolution. One more youth murdered by the goons of fascist capitalism. We have 7 billion reasons to join ICWP now.

Capitalism in crisis is at the root of growing attacks on Dalits and Muslim youth. Advances in genetics and robotics are producing enormous amounts of crops.

But almost 90% of small and marginal farmers in India cannot afford any of this modern technology. They are unable to compete with large corporate farms. In a desperate attempt to survive, they take out loans to utilize the modern technology, but they end up with deadly debt. Every year over 40 million people from small villages migrate to cities after losing their land.

Capitalist bosses understand that this massive migration of millions of people to cities can be a catalyst for explosive rebellions. They want to use these potentially new industrial workers and keep them divided based on caste and religion. Capitalists in India have created fascist ideology of blaming Muslims for all the problems while

they make super-profits.

Our discussion focused on the communist solution to this internal migration and how to solve problems of mass starvation in the communist society we are fighting for.

#### Communism: Food for Need, Not for Profit

At the onset, a comrade said, "In a communist society we will be able to feed billions of people. But we have to destroy the power of exploitation of the billionaires." Communist society will produce food for need and not for profit.

We will be able to eliminate the deadly food industry that produces food laced with carcinogens, harmful chemicals, excessive amounts of fat, sugar and salt. Corporate food giants not only make profit, but the chronically unhealthy working class gets diseases that feed the pharmaceutical and insurance industries.

To provide food for billions, we will encourage the participation of billions in every aspect of food production. Masses won to communist ideas will quickly grasp the scientific knowledge required to feed the world and advance our knowledge. That is impossible in today's profit-hungry world. The health of the international working class by collective struggle will be the guiding principle.

Communist food production will be integrated with every aspect of how we live, where we live, what we eat.

No more McDonald's selling billions and billions of hamburgers and destroying pristine rainforests in the process while creating havoc on the health of the working class. No more Monsanto destroying the seeds and soil of the earth that took millions of years to evolve. No more insurance companies to suck every drop of blood of the

workers in need.

No more banks to evict the workers. No more supermarkets with locks at the door. No profit, no private property and no nations.

We can and we must do it. Communist society, by destroying the very foundation on which capitalism exists, will also survive inevitable periods of devastating wars that bosses are preparing for. We will advance our struggle for communism in the midst of nuclear wars or severe scarcity.

Sharing based on communist principles will end the 'me first' thinking of capitalism. The communist relationship of camaraderie will deepen our commitment and knowledge to rebuild the devastations of capitalism.

The rainforests and rivers will rejuvenate, the glaciers will once again see ice caps providing water to the rivers downstream and clean water to the billions.

The diseases of capitalism will be a thing of the past. The future generations to come in communist society will not understand how a society ever existed with money.

We can't achieve this communist society if we see ourselves primarily as Muslims, Hindus, Dalits, men or women. We can't even effectively oppose the fascists beating to death our Muslim youth unless we develop a revolutionary class consciousness among our friends, co-workers and the masses.

We have to sharply struggle with one another in a comradely way to overcome obstacles we face in building our party. We are learning to solve the contradictions to move forward. Our communist school wants to prepare plans for billions of us to end the rule of the billionaires of the world.



Hundreds of thousands of tea plantation workers in eastern India went on a three-day strike in August 2018. They demanded an increase in daily pay from 169 rupees (\$2.46) to 203 rupees (\$2.96). ICWP is organizing to mobilize tea plantation workers to fight for communism and an end to the wage system.

#### Organizing ICWP in India from page 1

the owners have unleashed their sexist terror. Female workers are bodily searched to enter the plantation. This is done by a sadistic foreman.

We decided to organize workers to refuse this humiliating practice. We started talking about communism and how we will not only end the

bosses but any form of sexism. We told the workers that our path is difficult, but we must not stop fighting. We saw that many women workers were ready to fight. Some were afraid of more repression. But our words spread like a wildfire.

When the bosses found out that we were ready to confront them, they brought their armed goons. We found out about their plans as well.

We decided to spread our ideas deeper and farther.

Now hundreds of workers, women and men, Hindus and Muslims, identified with us. They pledged to defend us. The fascist goons have retreated now. But we expect counterattack. Our answer is to mobilize the masses for communism. Join us, comrades, in numbers! NOW!  
—Young comrade



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Join the International Communist Workers' Party  
www.icwpredflag.org — Twitter @RedFlagBandera  
E-mail: icwp@anonymousspeech.com  
Blog: icwpweb.wordpress.com/  
Write to: P.M.B. 362  
3006 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007, USA

## LEARNING BY CONFRONTING THE BOSSES' IDEAS

Learning about ICWP through *Red Flag* has been very eye-opening. Prior to knowing some members and joining some study groups, I had my doubts. But as time went by, I realized that communist ideas are not that bad and that they are livable. Possibly it would be a better future for everyone.

It would be a less materialistic world. Yet I was reluctant to start learning about how this lifestyle would actually work out because I was still very influenced by our current society.

I probably don't understand the big picture totally yet, but the ICWP has ideas that seem to make sense. Now I'm wanting to involve other people, to try to get them to see a different perspective through ICWP. So I'm happy to be part of it. I'm learning.

I'm not totally convinced just yet that something can really happen through the ICWP. But it's better to be aware of other people's thinking and other ways to build society. I'm willing to give ICWP a second try or a second look rather than just put the newspaper down.

Recently I did talk to some folks about it. It was interesting to see that they do believe in what I would like as well, just as ICWP would



like: people being more free to do their things and not being run by the bosses or the very few in power. They do have some thoughts that they wouldn't want things to continue this way, but they feel like it can't be changed.

I tried to let them know that there are other people who would like change as well and that it's better to be prepared. And it would be good because at one point maybe this system will just go too far. And it is going pretty far with how the bosses are just making us do their slave work while they are sitting on \$millions. What is their purpose to have so much money when others have so little?

In the process of passing the newspaper to one young co-worker, I got two co-workers who

challenged the ideas of the *Red Flag*. It gave me the opportunity to continue talking to them and pass the word along and opening their eyes, even though it seemed a little confrontational. But so far, they have asked more questions since, and it leaves the door open, especially if it's not a very confrontational situation.

I am very confident that these guys are interested, and confrontational, and possibly challenging because they want to learn. They want to know how this will happen. I am very sure that they will eventually come to be comrades in this organization.

—MTA (transit) worker in Los Angeles

## FROM CAPITALIST CLASSROOMS TO COMMUNIST CLASS STRUGGLE

The crisis in Honduras is increasing. Thousands of teachers and medical workers have mobilized nationwide to fight against increasing attacks on the working class. They demand justice for the young people and peasant leaders who have been murdered and increasingly are mobilizing against attacks on the public schools and health services.

They are fighting against the decrees that would allow the government to defund the education and health sector, paving the way for the privatization of schools, hospitals and clinics.

These struggles have been met by the National Police of Honduras with tear gas, bullets, beatings and arrests.

Although these decrees were repealed by the government, some organizations decided to continue in the struggles, while other teachers' unions have negotiated with the government. This has increased the conflict between leaders of these unions and their base, who accuse them of not consulting with the membership and betraying the struggle.

### Capitalist Education Only Serves the Interests of the Capitalists.

While the privatization of education can be postponed or prevented, these reforms are not enough. Education under capitalism represents a profit-generating commodity, where the development of the students is what matters the least. The only thing that capitalism in crisis can offer is to educate students to be a cheap and docile labor force.

These mobilizations of education and health workers show the potential for communist organ-

ization: the struggle for a system that will transform education as it transforms society.

This struggle is a great opportunity to distribute our *Red Flag* newspaper and the pamphlet, "Communist Education for a Classless Society." (Available at [icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf](http://icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf).) Students need to know that there is a communist world to win.

### From the classroom to the class struggle

In the classrooms of Honduras and around the world we must mobilize for communism. We can't just keep reproducing the programs of capitalist education. These are nothing more than an educational prevention plan for students to keep them from rising up and protesting. They are designed to convince students to accept inequality as a natural thing imposed by the ruling class.

Education workers cannot get new generations to be class-aware, if they are only teaching skills to prepare students for the labor market. This is a contradiction. There is no alternative. No negotiation will serve to free students and teachers from wage slavery.

The more communist principles are shared in the classroom, the more we will be on the right track and accelerating the building of Communism. We go through a process of collective learning, learning from each other by developing science for humanity and not for the elite.

We urge teachers and other workers, students, and parents to join the fight for a classless society, and communist education. The teacher who is organizing is also teaching. We invite you to read and distribute *Red Flag* and to join the International Communist Workers' Party.

## COMMUNISM WILL PREVAIL

Greetings to all the workers, especially those who are standing up to make some changes for our International Communist Workers' Party, ICWP!

We want to gain momentum and strengthen our party by challenging the broken system we are out to beat one day. I am confident that we will prevail.

I am a member of ICWP, communist by nature if I may say so. I work for one of the automotive companies in South Africa, for a year to be precise. My job description is "apprenticeship." It says I work while I am learning on the job at the same time. Although I work the same as other workers, they pay me less because I am considered a "worker in training." There is no guarantee I will qualify for a permanent job after the period of apprenticeship. It is ironic, isn't it?

Because I am a communist, I am not scared of the bosses. They like to intimidate the workers. They want us to think that we are nothing without them. But this is not the case. It is the working class that does all the work.

Bosses are interested in profit rather than making safe cars. Because they own factories to make products, they think they control how the workers think. This is their illusion. With struggle, we can win the workers to a revolutionary communist outlook and that is what I am doing with my coworkers.

—Red auto worker

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## COMMUNISM: NO DEPORTEES AND NO DEPORTER-IN-CHIEF

USA, July 14 — Vile racist, xenophobic Trump attacked four Democratic congresswomen of color, tweeting that they should “go back” to the countries they came from. (Three were born in the US.)

The liberal imperialist *New York Times* said that Trump’s tweets “crossed the line.” What about separating children from their parents and putting them in cages? What about vice-president Pence callously inspecting Texas immigration prisons like a Nazi general inspecting concentration camps?

That same day, the *New York Times* noted that, like Trump, Presidents George W. Bush, Clinton and Obama were massive Deporters in Chief. They deported millions and broke up untold numbers of families. It then editorialized that all Presidents have been and should be Deporters in Chief.

What a vicious attack against our whole working class! The liberal ruling class hopes to win us to accept mass deportations and fascist border control as long as they are legal and done quietly.

They attack Trump for openly flaunting his crude racism and fascist cruelty. They prefer assassins with silk gloves, like Obama and Clinton, who quadrupled the number of border control agents. Make no mistake: the *New York Times*, too, is organizing for fascism.

The liberal rulers want to win masses of people enraged with Trump’s vicious attacks on immigrants, and especially on children, to see the Democrats as the solution. They want us to see deportations, capitalist borders, laws and the capitalist system itself as necessary and permanent.

No reform movement will ever end the horrors that migrants face in their countries of origin or at their destination. Nations and borders were born with capitalism. They are the creatures of private property, markets and profits. Only a communist revolution can end them.

Capitalism also created the conditions that force millions to migrate: unemployment, crushing poverty, gang violence and wars. Then the capitalists super-exploit these workers, using the threat of deportation to try to keep them from rebelling. They attack the standard of living of all workers, trying to divide us by blaming immigrant workers for “stealing jobs” that the capitalist economy destroyed.

Trump’s openly racist fascist movement and the liberal rulers’ liberal movement both aim to perpetuate this system that inflicts monstrous horrors on the masses.

We must destroy it.

We are the mighty international working class. We can fight for and win a communist world without borders, nations, prisons or divisions between workers. A world where every worker is welcomed everywhere.

We must massively distribute *Red Flag* and our pamphlet “Fight for the Day When No Worker Will Be Called Foreigner.” We must recruit the angry masses to join ICWP to mobilize for communism.



## TRUMP AND THE IMMIGRANTS

LOS ANGELES, USA—“The immigration raids that this Mr. Trump has ordered are making life harder for us. My wife is very afraid of what can happen to us,” said an industrial worker who reads *Red Flag*.

“We have to go out into the streets to protest and organize in the factories for a Communist world without borders,” answered a comrade party member.

The worker thought about it and said, “I don’t know, many of my friends say that we should be very careful and if possible not go out of our houses, except for the most basic things.”

Other workers also expressed their opinions when asked about the immigration raids ordered by Trump:

A garment worker commented, “I like the idea of Communism and a world without borders. But every morning I leave my house with great doubt about whether I’m going to return in the afternoon. My co-workers don’t want to talk about this. I think it’s so they won’t feel overwhelmed, and they want to pretend like nothing is happening, even though they have a lot of fear.”

“We only have to put up with eight years of Trump, and hope that a new Democratic administration comes in that will help us,” said another, an industrial worker.

A new friend of the Party who came from Honduras expressed a lot of enthusiasm. She said, “When there are marches, invite me. I want to protest. I like the *Red Flag* newspaper— and we have to do something.”

“To think that if we don’t do anything, things will turn out better is to walk passively to extermination,” said a veteran comrade who is a former garment worker.

“Let’s go to the struggle,” said a garment worker when he was leaving the factory and receiving *Red Flag*.

**These conversations show two key aspects within the racist process of deportations: on one side the fear of acting, and anger together with the desire to fight on the other. In this we can see a contradiction, not of contradicting oneself, but a dialectical materialist contradiction.**

By sharpening this struggle against fear, we are strengthening the working class’ anger. We must turn this anger into communist class consciousness, and see the collective struggle as the best way to fight as the working class for a world without walls or borders.

The other side of the contradiction is passivity. It includes the wrong idea of relying on other “lesser evil” bosses, the Democrats. During the administration of the Democrat Obama, he also deported hundreds of thousands of immigrant workers. This has been the bosses’ plan, both Republicans and Democrats.

An attack against one sector of the working class is an attack against all workers. The political struggle with these workers continues. We explain to them that this is one of the aspects of fascism that the bosses are trying to implement.

But, we masses of immigrant and citizen workers are going to show that we will not be passive victims, but instead fighters against fascism and for a communist world.

Our response must be organized and careful, but the political struggle for Communism is our best defense.

We have invited these friends to participate in protests, study groups and social activities. Some of them have seen that there is a different atmosphere in the streets, that you breathe pure air with the will to fight and not of fear.

Overcoming the fear of fascism with a vision of a communist world is to advance under fire. It is resolving the contradiction between fear and struggle.

We understand clearly that deportations mean losing a job and sometimes the family. It means facing an uncertain future, sometimes full of violence and extreme poverty. Many citizen or immigrant workers, with and without legal documents, have a lot of anxiety about what may happen with these racist deportation attacks.

The recent protests against deportations show that the masses are not sitting by with their arms folded. The response to our communist literature also shows a much more important aspect: that they can be mobilized to fight for a communist world without borders.

Los Angeles (USA), July 12 – We were enraged. “Close the concentration camps! Never again means now!” But collective action inspired us to do more.

“It was an amazing display of unity,” commented a comrade. She was part of a group that distributed over 300 copies of *Red Flag* and 65 pamphlets (all we had) among the thousands outside a federal prison.

“Recalling the lights that appeared inside the detention center windows in response to our candles and singing, I was overcome,” reported a friend. “I heard sounds ... from inside the detention center. ‘We’re here! We see you. Please remember us.’”

Young people drew a huge sign on the sidewalk, visible from the prison, that said in Spanish, “You are not alone!” (see left)

But the main message of the official speakers was not international working-class solidarity – much less revolution to end nations and borders. Instead, it was “contact Congress” and “vote.” This should enrage us too. And inspire us to do more for communism.

## Iran Crisis:

# WORKERS MUST PREPARE FOR IMPERIALIST WAR BY MOBILIZING FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

In Iran and elsewhere, the contradictions between the world's major imperialists are sharpening. This period, with world war brewing, is a period of grave dangers and great opportunities.

History shows that when the masses experience the horrors of war, they move to revolution. In the 19th century, the Napoleonic wars set the stage for the triumphant uprising of Haitian Slaves. The Franco-Prussian war created the conditions for the Paris Commune.

The masses in Russia during World War I and in China during World War II, led by communists, overthrew capitalism. Now, by building ICWP worldwide, we will mobilize the masses for communism to bury capitalism-imperialism forever.

Our unbeatable power lies, not only in our numbers, but in our ability to unite as one international working class. We all need to destroy capitalism-imperialism and build a communist world without wage slavery, profits, money or markets. Communist social and production relations will produce everything our international working-class family needs.

Capitalism, in contrast, is based on competition for resources, markets and labor for maximum profits. Capitalists must compete or go under. Therefore, their unity can never last. Inevitably, they go to war.

Today, China and Russia are expanding their influence worldwide. They are challenging the supremacy over a large portion of the world that the US imperialists held after WWII.

Now, US imperialists in decline are in disarray. They are fighting among themselves over how, when and where to fight to regain their empire and stem further losses. They disagree on how to win the US working class to slave, fight, and die for their blood-soaked empire.

All capitalists-imperialists are dangerous. They seem indestructible. But they are paper tigers: dangerous but vulnerable. Forced to arm millions of our class to fight their wars, they can be taken down when these working-class soldiers and sailors turn their guns around and fight for communism together with masses of workers and youth.

### Iran: US vs China and Russia

Some US rulers are bent on regime change in Iran, either internally or through war. They want a regime that will side with them like the Shah did 40 years ago. They are willing to go to war to re-conquer the whole oil-rich Middle East.



July 17, 2019 – A wave of mass protests continues to roll across Iran. So far this month these included bus drivers, street vendors, literacy teachers, municipal workers, and many more. Workers went on strike against the Mahtab-Sair-Jam Company, builders of recreational wagons. They protested the layoff of 57 co-workers with 15-20 years on the job. Bahai senior citizens have protested government attempts to shut down their Elder Care Center in Karaj. More and more women are walking openly around Tehran without the government-mandated headscarf. **Pictured above:** Retired government employees and military personnel outside the labor ministry in Tehran, defying a heavy police presence. Among the banners were: “Our homes have been plundered, we have no fear to expose [the government], we will stand till the end.” “The one percent are making profits out of the pockets of the 99 percent.”

Trump's sanctions aim to inflict so much pain on the Iranian masses that they will overthrow the regime or make it harder for Iran to fund military adventures in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen. Sanctions or no, the Iranian government attacks the masses to fatten the profits of Iranian capitalists and the masses fight back. US Secretary of State Pompeo and National Security Adviser Bolton openly threaten war against Iran.

But they vastly underestimate Russian and Chinese imperialists' commitment to back Iran. Iran is crucial for their Eurasian Integration. It is an indispensable hub for China's Belt and Road Initiative.

China needs Iran's vast oil and gas resources to guarantee its continued growth. During war, Iran would be crucial to supply oil to China's military and industrial machines by land. It would bypass the Strait of Malacca and Pacific Ocean sea lanes controlled by the US Navy.

Another sector of the US ruling class doesn't want war with Iran now. It understands that Russia and China will answer any US attack on Iran.

That's why, after Trump called off the air attacks he had ordered, the US House of Represent-

tatives passed a bill on July 12 requiring him to get Congressional approval before attacking Iran. These capitalist politicians are not voting for peace, but for a different strategy of where to wage the next World War.

“While the United States contemplates a war with Iran, the Chinese are engaged in trade and infrastructure building there. The Chinese vision for Iran is something the United States is simply not going to change. Iran will be key to 21st century Eurasia,” wrote imperialist strategist Robert Kaplan. He argued “for a long-term, sustainable strategy.”

Kaplan and other liberal US imperialists hope to undermine Iran and China with increasing economic pressure, cyber-attacks, and resumed negotiations. They want to face China militarily in the South China Sea, where they hope to have allies.

We need to mobilize soldiers and sailors in the bosses' armies, together with workers and youth to turn the bosses' wars into a revolution for communism. Join us!

## LETTERS

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## CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

### CAPITALISM IS A CRIME

One of the major crimes in capitalist society is the stealing of workers' labour by the bosses in the form of surplus value. Another is the use of gangs by the bosses as a frontline of defense against workers.

Fighting against the symptoms of crime won't help us to get rid of drugs, gangsters and murderers in our communities. We must eliminate the main cause of crime and that is private property.

All the means of production are owned by individuals. These individuals exploit workers to make great profits and give us (workers) as little as possible in order for us to come back and produce more. The workers produce more than

they are getting paid for.

Technology is changing each and every day. Capitalists replace workers with AI (artificial intelligence) because they want to keep up with the competition in the market. The bosses value profit more than the workers' lives. The only thing they care about is the exchange value more than the use value.

People are living miserable lives because of the selfishness of the bosses. People are hungry and desperate, trying so hard just to get their basic needs. Some people see crime as the only solution to ensure their survival on earth. This will not happen in communism.

Crime will never end in capitalism because it is part of it. Crime is caused by the real criminal, the capitalist class, to discipline the working class.

It is only communism that can put an end to crime. In communism people will work according to ability and we will share what we produce on a fair basis. We will produce according to our needs, not profit. In communism there will be no private property, exploitation or hunger.

NOTE: I originally wrote about crime as a functionality of capitalism. I presented it to the collective for discussion and editing. There were lot of ideas, suggestions brought forward and disagreements. From this discussion I came to understand that I had not written about crime with a communist outlook. My main focus was on the symptoms of crime instead of its material basis. This letter is an example of how writing collectively helps us develop a communist outlook.

—Comrade in South Africa

## SUDAN: WHAT “PEACE” FOR WORKERS UNDER CAPITALISM?

July 15 – “How do you treat an entire nation’s depression?... You fight back. The only way out of this abyss is up. The only way through the darkness is forward.” – Sudanese activist, June 15, 2019

But what is the way up and forward?

It’s not a “democratic revolution.” That would give a new civilian face to the capitalist dictatorship without ending exploitation, war or misery.

Workers everywhere need a communist revolution to end the power of capitalism-imperialism. They need to re-organize society on communist principles. ‘From each according to ability and commitment, to each according to need!’

### Sudanese Masses: More Angry Than Afraid

Tens of thousands of Sudanese workers, youth and professionals poured into the streets again on June 30. Seventy percent were women. They boldly defied the fascist terror, imposed by the ruling military council, that intensified with the June 3 massacre.

Days later, the opposition “Forces for the Declaration of Freedom and Change” and the military council announced an agreement. US diplomats had pressured both sides for “power-sharing” in exchange for amnesty for the fascist butchers.

With Sudanese internet restored, angry voices emerge: “Disgusting deal.” “The civilian leaders at the table should be ashamed of themselves.” “This revolution won’t be stolen.” “Burhan and Hemedti part of government? The revolution goes on to take the lot down.”

Thousands more marched on July 13, as negotiations continued. The struggle continues.

### Negotiations or Communist Class Struggle?

The tentative agreement would set up a “sovereign council,” half military and half civilian, to rule until it organizes elections. The council would have a military head for the first 21 months and then a civilian head for 18 months. This is better for the military than a May agreement, which fell apart. It gives the military almost two years to consolidate its control, with civilians as window-dressing.

The US and Great Britain lobbied Saudi Arabia, the Emirates and Egypt to pressure the Sudanese military to accept this proposal. It was floated by the African Union and Ethiopia. These rulers are terrified that the mass movement in Sudan could grow and spread.

They also threatened leaders of the opposition. They were ready to fracture this coalition by signing separate deals with different factions.

Imperialists of different stripes – US, European Union, China, Russia – were key to creating the Sudan crisis. Sudanese troops serve EU interests by blocking migration routes through the country. They fight for the Saudis in Yemen and secure the Saudi-Yemen border.

Port Sudan is on a critical Red Sea shipping route. This is especially important to Saudi rivals Turkey and Qatar. The US was instrumental in splitting Sudan and South Sudan. It hoped (in vain) to control oil-rich South Sudan. China buys Sudanese oil and is snapping up land leases there.

All these imperialists – and regional capitalist rulers, too – are enemies of the working class.

### Class Conflict in Sudan Today

The ruling National Congress Party manages the interests of capitalists and landowners. It has some buy-in from pre-capitalist “tribal” rulers. Over 60% of the government budget goes to the military and “security.”

Sudanese generals are themselves big capitalists. For example, Hemedti’s murderous Rapid Support Forces (formerly Janjaweed) controls the gold mines in Darfur. Gold (mainly bought by the Emiratis) is Sudan’s largest export.

The opposition coalition is led by the relatively



new Sudanese Professionals Association. They have built alliances with small businessmen. But they are isolated from the subsistence farmers, farmworkers and miners in large rural areas and from the urban masses. Their negotiations cannot end the intensifying misery resulting from Sudan’s capitalist crisis.

Only communism can unite and mobilize these masses. Communist industrial workers and rank-and-file soldiers must take the lead.

And not just in Sudan.

“The systems of oppression that allow for injustice to occur operate globally,” wrote a commentator on [africascountry.com](http://africascountry.com). “Ultimately we will have to use what we learn from Sudan to topple our own regimes.”

The systems of oppression operate globally. So does the International Communist Workers’ Party that is organizing to topple them.

And to build in their place one communist world, without nations or borders. Where workers’ cooperation replaces capitalist competition. Where the masses are organized to make all the decisions that affect our common lives, on the communist principles you read about in *Red Flag*.

We need your help – now!

### LETTERS

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### CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

## DEATHS AT THE US BORDER SHOW NEED FOR COMMUNISM

“Oscar and the girl drowned,” said a young mother. She, along with her partner and her little daughter, had traveled to the US, fleeing poverty and violence in El Salvador. The father and the girl drowned in the Rio Grande, trying to cross into the US.

The death of this young worker and his daughter caused worldwide outrage, and a series of attacks between the Trump government and the Democrats blaming each other. On the other hand, the government of El Salvador and its president Bukele used this case to build populism and declare that it was necessary to focus on: “Making El Salvador into a better country, a place where nobody has to migrate from.” The lie adorned with inventiveness. Capitalism cannot be reformed. We have to destroy it.

The precariousness of working conditions and the strangling of the family economy by profit-driven capitalist economic policies con-

tinue forcing more Central American families to emigrate to the United States.

The struggle for Communism is necessary. In an egalitarian system, there will be no reason for borders to exist. We fight so that no worker is called foreigner. Millions of workers worldwide migrate fleeing the failure of Capitalism. The bosses’ crises, subjecting workers to poverty, is causing more deaths.

The death of this young father and daughter should be unacceptable. Yet it happens almost every day. On the road to seeking better living conditions, migrants encounter violence, sexual assault, murder and hunger. The same things they are running away from. And when they reach their destination, they find the same exploitation and the same conditions of poverty. There is no escape from Capitalism.

This will have its end. The International Communist Workers’ Party has a firm objective: to organize and mobilize the working class to put an end to this system at its roots. In Communism, the workers will have conditions worthy of human life. Of course this is not going to happen by itself. This requires commitment to

communist work, organizing in the factories, universities, fields and among soldiers, to achieve victory.

Organize and Fight for Communism  
—Comrade in El Salvador

**BARCELONA, SPAIN, July 12—A comrade and a friend distributed *Red Flag* at the “Lights of Liberty” protest against the concentration camps for immigrants at the US border.**



## SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL LANDSCAPE CALLS FOR COMMUNISM

PORT ELIZABETH (South Africa) — Political attitudes and moods are changing within the working class and the students alike. The masses, being at the receiving end of the brutal racist capitalist system, are changing attitudes and looking for alternatives.

The response from the bosses through their political parties has been to politicise the issue of Land (promising land back to the people). The ruling party ANC (African National Congress) used it to mobilize support (black voters) during the last elections. So did the EFF (Economic Freedom Fighters).

The only solution to the land problem is communism, the total destruction of the capitalist system not only here but the whole world.

Land dispossession came through colonialist capitalists. They introduced land acts which forced masses from their land. They had it confiscated in order to enact and encourage private property ownership. Which is the material basis/

foundation of industrial capitalism in South Africa.

The only solution to inequality and poverty caused by capitalism is communist revolution, the total destruction of the capitalist system. Fighting for land should mean fighting for communism where private property will be abolished. The masses will own the means of production, including land, collectively. What they produce will be distributed according to the needs of the working class by the working class.

The masses are beginning to reject the ANC and other parties. This is evident in the number of voters, especially the youth, which a majority of them do not vote. They see that “solutions” represented by these parties do not work. Voting does not change anything.

This represents an opportunity for ICWP to recruit more workers and students to the movement. There has not been a shortage of students willing to join the movement. New comrades are

writing articles and taking a lead role in distributing the *Red Flag* to the masses. There is room to do more.

Capitalism is in crisis. Capitalists are increasing their assault on the working class. They are cutting jobs, unemployment is skyrocketing, and corruption and crime are the order of the day. Anything short of communist revolution is not a good enough solution.

Most students are thought to be “left leaning”. Socialism or democratic socialism is not a solution to capitalism, it is state capitalism. It has proven that it does not end exploitation and the suffering of the masses.

Our call is for the masses to join ICWP and fight for communism directly. We welcome everyone who rejects capitalism and who is looking for an alternative. The alternative is communism.

### LETTERS

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### CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

## FOREVER A COMMUNIST

At first, like most of the comrades, I never knew about communism. I wasn't even familiar with it until one day comrade N told me about it and brought *Red Flag*.

I still wasn't interested because I thought it was one of the political parties, so I did not pay any attention to it until I attended one meeting. Many things about communism were discussed and I had a lot of questions.

The more I attended the meetings, the more my eyes opened about ICWP and what's it about: the fight for getting rid of capitalism. The struggles we are facing and suffering from are caused by capitalist corruption and the source of it all is money.

I told myself I have to be part of this. I have to fight, too, especially as the youth are the key of our revolution.

A month ago, I gave birth to a baby boy. And now I am ready to participate in the meetings. I will forever be a communist and I will forever fight for communism. A LUTA CONTINUA

—New Mother in South Africa

## SEXISM: LEARNING AS I GO

I know the meaning of sexism. We girls grew up with the idea that men will always be superior to women. Our grandmothers and mothers always told us that men are the 'head' of the house/family.

Some of us don't believe that. Today, many women raise their kids without fathers or men in their lives. But society always says things about this that can damage a woman's self-esteem or confidence.

Women struggle with sexism every day of their lives. For example, where I work, we are dominated mostly by older men. You'd find that there could be more than ten males and less than four females in a meeting. Some men won't feel at ease with a room with females.

People are hired to serve the people who attend meetings. But men would ask one of the ladies to serve them instead. Which is wrong.

I feel like women must go an extra mile to prove that we can do what males can do.



July 12—Hundreds of undocumented African immigrants known as Gilets Noirs (Black Vests) occupied the Pantheon in Paris, demanding legal papers, jobs, housing, and an end to police attacks. They denounced the system which colonized their home countries and forces them to emigrate. Their chosen spot? Beneath a statue representing France reading: “live free or die.”

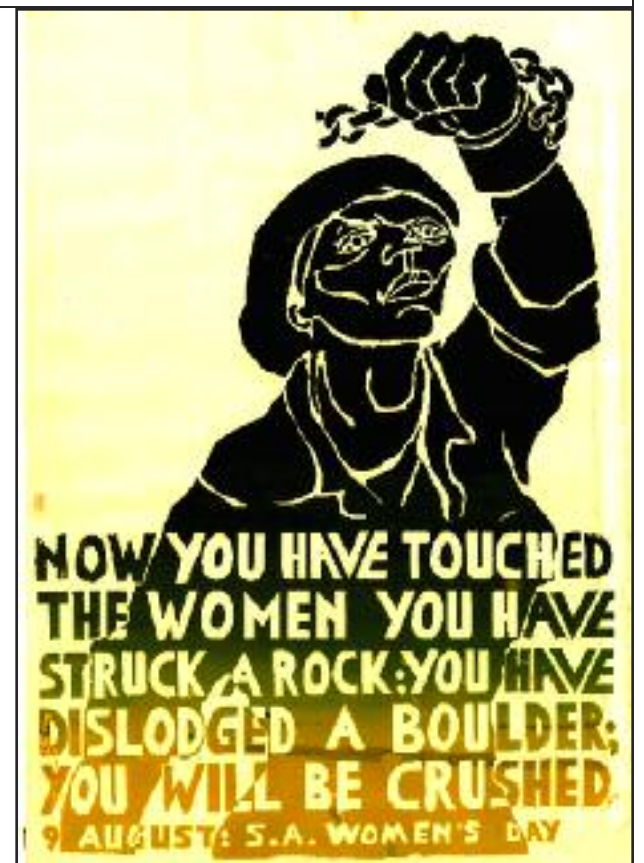
There are things we can't do, that we know for a fact. That's why I say we deal with sexism everyday of our lives.

In our party we have more men than females. We try to bring more females but most of the time we have other things that we do that may interfere.

Sometimes there'd be three girls and eight guys in a meeting and that does feel a bit too much sometimes. We have gotten used to it as we accepted everyone as comrades, which makes it easier for us. We all have given each other a platform where we don't 'compete' with one another.

It would be easier if we all would see the environment around us with one eye instead of fighting for everyone's opinion. Trying to fight the whole sexism stigma alone doesn't work. It's best to fight it along with people who share similar views/visions. When people see a group of people fighting for the same visions and how we work together as a team they would most probably be amped to join the ICWP.

—Comrade in South Africa



Read our pamphlet: *The Communist Fight Against Sexism*  
Available at:  
[icwpredflag.org/sxse.pdf](http://icwpredflag.org/sxse.pdf)

## Contradictions and the Struggles to Resolve Them:

# CONFERENCE CALL: TEN YEARS OF MOBILIZING MASSES FOR COMMUNISM AND MOVING FORWARD

Since the founding of our party in January 2010, we have spread from our first collectives in the Americas to new collectives of workers and youth in Africa, Asia and Europe.

The many-faceted crisis of capitalism has spurred massive migration. It has shown more clearly than ever that we are members of one international working class and must build one International Communist Workers' Party.

And, in the face of a rising tide of racism, sexism, xenophobia, nationalism and open fascism, we have seen that masses everywhere are open to communism.

Masses want and need a world without borders or nations. A world where all can contribute to the common good, throughout our lives. A world where we collectively produce and distribute what we the masses need.

Our modest growth so far shows that we can do more – much more, and better. We must prepare ourselves to grow, qualitatively and quantitatively.

And to do that we need to analyze our work objectively and self-critically. We need to

sharpen our tools – our understanding of the principles of communist philosophy, dialectical and historical materialism.

That's why the ICWP will mark its tenth anniversary in January 2020 with conferences and meetings in El Salvador, South Africa, the USA and everywhere else we can. We invite all collectives, members, *Red Flag* readers and other friends to join in the preparations and plan to attend.

Communism fights to end the division between “mental” and “manual” labor. Those who do the work must also plan the work and think about it. That starts now.

Communism depends on continually developing many, many leaders – especially among industrial workers and soldiers. The new leaders who are advancing the Party's work must lead, too, in learning, teaching and developing revolutionary communist theory.

The upcoming conferences pose an immediate task for our growing Party collectives in the maquilas of El Salvador and the factories of South Africa, and those in aerospace and transit

in the US.

Comrades, how can these conferences be planned to best help you advance? What contradictions describe and define your work? What is the nature of the struggle to resolve them?

Every Party collective has much to contribute. Young comrades in South Africa, India and elsewhere have already taken steps to study dialectical materialism in relation to their practical work. They have begun writing for *Red Flag* about the results. We need to hear more from them, and from others.

What concepts and principles have been helpful? What are some examples? What do you think needs more clarification? Where are there disagreements?

Over the next two months, we need to consolidate a conference planning committee that incorporates new and developing leaders, especially young workers. We need boldness, imagination, and commitment.

**The future of communism is bright. That future, comrades and friends, is in your hands.**

## USA: DEFEND IMPRISONED IMMIGRANT CHILDREN—THEY ARE OUR OWN



San Diego, CA (USA)

SEATTLE (US), July 12th—Comrades went to the neighborhood pro-immigrant vigil in Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Park this evening. This was one of scores of “Lights of Liberty” vigils across the USA and elsewhere that brought out tens of thousands of people outraged by the US government imprisonment of immigrants, especially children.

We chose this vigil instead of the bigger one downtown because we wanted to meet friends we already knew from the area.

We did meet friends and arranged follow-up social/political events. We distributed about 70 ICWP pamphlets “Fight for the Day When No Worker Will Be Called Foreigner” (available at [icwpredflag.org/ffde.pdf](http://icwpredflag.org/ffde.pdf)) along with Red Flag to the approximately 200 in attendance. New contacts invited us to their political meetings and BBQs. We did the same.

Many made the connection to fascism and pre-WWII Nazi Germany and were open to our communist literature. People liked it when a comrade said communists don't believe in walls, borders or nations.

But then something unexpected happened. A woman, who spent a lot of time talking with a

comrade, said that if we thought of those imprisoned children as our own, we would be picking up arms. She was not yet ready for a revolution, but this was hardly the pacifism we thought would dominate.

This raised a bunch of questions comrades began to discuss afterward. To some extent, we would think of all the children of the working class as our “own” under communism. How would this work? Workers in El Salvador maquilas have written to Red Flag about how they share responsibility now for children so comrades and friends (particularly women) can engage in the political work.

Capitalism separates us. Parents bear almost the whole responsibility for the well-being of their children. It's easy to blame parents for the horror that capitalism visits upon working-class children, especially those from another nation or “race.” Compassion (however well-meaning) is a poor substitute for communist solidarity. We will continue these discussions in the weeks ahead with friends at work and school and with those we met Friday. We ask our readers to help us out with your ideas.



Watsonville, CA (USA), July 12 – A comrade and a friend discussed what they would do at the “Lights for Liberty” vigil. They took communist literature to make contacts for ICWP. The next day, they called every one of the six people they'd met to make plans to get together.



Seattle, WA (USA)