

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



Brazil, August 14: Indigenous women's marches and sit-ins lead mass international fight against fascist Bolsonaro and capitalist destruction

WORLD ON FIRE: FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM NOW!

Fires raging in Brazil and around the world represent a long-term, sharpening struggle. It pits sustainable development to benefit the masses against capitalism's ruthless drive to maximize profits. Masses are rising against this horrendous destruction

Brazilian agribusinesses burn dry scrub and trees cut down for cattle ranching. It's a deliberate strategy to grab more land. Farmers and ranchers in southern Pará organized "a day of fire" for August 10 to clear land for pasture and planting.

Brazil is an emerging world agricultural superpower, with China as its largest customer. Sales to Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa are expanding. Yet a third of Brazil's people are food-insecure.

"It's Not Fire, It's Capitalism"

Capitalism demands continual expansion. Every year, more land is burned, cleared, and planted. More indigenous people lose access to the forests that sustained their ancestors for millennia. Land ownership is increasingly concentrated. Giant corporations control close to half of all farmland.

"Brazil has turned states like Mato Grosso into Iowa," said a technical expert. "You've got rain forest, and then there's just an ocean of soybean."

Racism, Capitalism and Environmental Catastrophe Go Hand in Hand.

"It's a shame," Bolsonaro said in 1998, "that the Brazilian cavalry hasn't been as efficient as the Americans, who exterminated the Indians." If elected, he promised in 2017, "There will not be a centimeter demarcated for indigenous reservations or quilombolas [villages of descendants of Afro-Brazilians who had escaped from slavery]."

The destruction of Amazonian rain forests illustrates what Marx called the "primitive accumulation of capital." In his words, "Capital comes dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt."

Communism will resolve the contradictions created by the profit system. It will begin to reverse the ravages of capitalism. Acting on communist principles, we will create and deploy the science needed to begin the process of environmental and social regeneration.

Capitalism in Reverse Gear:

REVOLUTIONARY POTENTIAL OF AUTO WORKERS IN INDIA

INDIA — "I worked at this plant for two years. Yesterday, the bosses told me and 400 others that we no longer have jobs," said a young worker in an auto plant. He reads *Red Flag* regularly. He is angry at the bosses and fearful of his family's future: "I have two children, my wife and my old parents. They all depend on me financially. Next month we will be homeless."

The auto industry in India employs, directly and indirectly, four million workers. Six months ago, autoworkers in Chennai, the hub of auto industry, would say, "The auto industry has crashed." Now they are saying, "The auto industry is going in reverse gear."

Some 400,000 automobiles are unsold. Major manufacturers are closing plants, laying off thousands of workers. Things are getting worse as potential buyers find it difficult to get loans. And those who have resources to buy a new car are waiting for more fuel-efficient electrical cars to be released next year. By year's end, two million cars will remain unsold.

This unprecedented crisis in the auto industry has resulted in 300,000 workers losing their job. Tens of thousands of workers have the potential to confront and smash the entire capitalist system of wage slavery.

India has never seen a crisis like this before. The large flagship government-owned Air India has been unable to pay fuel for last eight months. The banks are refusing to keep it airborne. The crisis is spreading to railway transport, airlines, banks, cellular communication, insurance, oil industry, ports, housing and agriculture. Unemployment is the highest it has been in the last 45 years.

See [INDIA AUTO CRISIS](#), page 4

INSIDE:

**A COMMUNIST WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS,
PAGES 2, 6**

FIGHTING FASCISM ON THE JOB, PAGE 3

**SOUTH AFRICA: END CAPITALIST CRIME
WITH COMMUNIST REVOLUTION, PAGE 4**

**KASHMIR: CLIMATE CHANGE, CAPITALIST
CRISIS AND FASCISM, PAGE 5**

**COMMUNIST VS. CAPITALIST EDUCATION,
PAGE 7**

EUGENICS AND RACISM, PAGE 8

From Lampedusa to Tapachula

LET'S FIGHT FOR A COMMUNIST WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS



August 28—This week, migrants from Haiti and Africa clashed with security forces in Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico. They blocked buses returning Central Americans to their countries of origin. They demanded transit visas to travel through Mexico to seek asylum in the US. The Mexican government, bowing to pressure from US President Trump, has drastically limited the number of transit visas it issues. It has deployed the Mexican National Guard to Chiapas.

The crisis is deepening and attacks on migrants and on those who act in solidarity with them are increasing. The struggle sharpens! Migrants and their allies are demanding their “rights.” They want an end to police harassment. They want the documents that will allow them to seek jobs and housing.

Communists reject the idea of bourgeois “rights.” This is an illusion the capitalists promote to hide the class struggle behind lofty slogans that they never meant to respect in practice.

The capitalists need national borders to guarantee their state power, and their profits. Communist revolution will tear down those borders and eliminate the need for documents of any kind.

We will all be comrades in the liberated zones of the planet as we fight to establish communism worldwide. Only communism can create a society where there is meaningful work, housing and

other necessities of life for us all.

Africans on the border between Guatemala and Mexico?

The Mediterranean is now the deadliest border in the world. So refugees fleeing war, devastation and environmental disaster in Syria and in sub-Saharan Africa are seeking other escape routes.

Those who can are flying to Ecuador, which has relatively lenient visa policies. Then they attempt the long

trek north through Central America to the Mexican border.

The two main embarkation points on the Mediterranean—Turkey and Libya—have cracked down on emigration. In Italy, the fascist Interior Minister Salvini forced the rescue ship Open Arms to wait off the coast of the island of Lampedusa for more than two weeks. People on the Open Arms were crowded into horrific conditions. Some, including people without lifejackets, jumped into the sea and tried to swim to shore.

When Spain sent a military ship to fetch the migrants, an Italian court ordered that they be allowed to come ashore. Now the Spanish government is threatening to fine the Open Arms almost a thousand Euro for “unauthorized” rescue operations.

More than 250 people across Europe have been arrested, charged or investigated for supporting migrants. Their “crimes” include providing food, shelter or transport for undocumented migrants and disrupting deportations.

The Open Arms left from the port of Barcelona, Spain, a city with a large migrant population. Our comrades in the area have an important role in organizing communist solidarity with those who are crossing the Mediterranean today.

Seeking asylum in Europe is difficult as well.

Ireland is the EU country with the most pro-

gressive policy. But asylum seekers spend years in special centers waiting for their applications to be processed. Under a system of “direct provision” they are given housing, medical care, and food, but have no independence. They cannot work or organize their own home lives.

In France, the ‘gilets noirs’ (Black Vests) movement has been organizing for more than a year. It includes over a thousand migrants of diverse nationalities and immigration status. Many are homeless or stay in migrant hostels. They are demanding documents which will allow them to work. Hundreds of ‘gilets noirs’ in Paris occupied the Pantheon mausoleum in July to protest their maltreatment by city and national authorities.

“Cast all medals into spearheads of revolution!”

Pia Klemp is the German captain of the rescue boat Iuvanta. Her crew has rescued thousands in the Mediterranean. She is being prosecuted in Italy for “aiding and abetting illegal immigration.” On the same day that the ‘gilets noirs’ occupied the pantheon, Klemp rejected a medal offered by the mayor of Paris for her “humanitarian” work.

Her statement on social media:

“At the same time your police [force] is stealing blankets from people that you force to live on the streets, while you raid protests and criminalize people that are standing up for rights of migrants and asylum seekers.

“I’m not a humanitarian. I am not there to ‘aid.’

“I stand with you [migrants] in solidarity. We do not need medals. We do not need authorities deciding who is a ‘hero’ and who is ‘illegal’.

“It is time we cast all medals into spearheads of revolution! Documents and housing for all! Freedom of movement and residence!”

ICWP says that it’s time to use those spearheads of revolution to fight for a communist world—where no one will need documents, and no one will be considered a foreigner. We invite Klemp and all *Red Flag* readers to join us!

LOS ANGELES (USA), August 17—Resistance and working-class unity are growing against the fascist conditions on the border and immigration raids and deportations.

Liberals and reformists are demanding changes in laws and more benevolent enforcement of the borders. But many workers are open to communist ideas.

In a recent forum, we talked about the contradiction between reformism and the revolutionary communism we need. We strategized about strengthening our concentrations in the garment industry and among MTA workers. Several women workers talked about how they are starting to do this work.

We discussed how to involve students and soldiers in mobilizing for communism. We related experiences in mass protests in which we shared communist ideas, connected with old friends, and made new ones. We encouraged each other to strengthen our political ties with friends, family and co-workers.

Then we went to a nearby street corner con signs and a banner that said “Massacre in El Paso, Texas is a Sign of Fascist Capitalism! Fight for a Communist World Without Borders.”

Several people we had invited to the forum and the protest were there waiting for us—more interested in taking action than in discussion. And on a corner with very little foot traffic, a woman came up to us, took a video of our signs to post on social media, and gave her name and number to be contacted for our next event.



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Martha Bracho (1957-2019):

Communist Industrial Organizer, Singer, Fighter for the Working Class

I met Martha in 1974, through my sister. They were teenaged garment workers, recently arrived in Los Angeles. We lost touch for a short time, and by 1976, my sister and I had become communists. We involved Martha and recruited her.

This young woman from a poor family had come to Los Angeles to work to send remittances to Mexico. Little by little, she began to learn politics through

discussions and by reading—reluctantly. But most importantly, she learned politics by putting it into practice. Our line then — fighting for Socialism and reforms — attracted her. She gave herself entirely to the struggle to improve the conditions of the workers in the garment industry.

The Party clubs in garment dedicated ourselves to organizing within the sellout union. Comrade Martha organized co-workers in each factory where she worked. We were young people, committed to the struggle. We would make any sacrifice necessary to achieve our goal, to fight for Socialism and organize the union.

When we were thrown out of the sellout union for being communists, we started the Anti-Racist Garment Workers' Union. Marta led the organization in the Sassoon pants factory. We lost the vote, but Martha did not get frustrated. She continued the struggle within the factory to recruit Party members. There she met workers who remained her friends for a long time. That was one of her best qualities: to make friends and keep them. It's an example that we should all follow.

She was also very active and disciplined in



distributing the party's newspaper. She would walk along with people talking about politics until they took the paper. Then she asked for their name, address and telephone number to visit them later. Something we should keep in mind, when distributing our literature today.

Martha married a Party comrade and had four children. This did not prevent her from continuing to fight. In the late 1970s and in the 1980s, the Party was involved in a series of clashes against the KKK and the Nazis. She also actively supported the struggles of Iranian students against the fascist Shah. Martha fought shoulder to shoulder with other comrades and friends.

Likewise, when the wars in Central America had their effects in Los Angeles, she brought her friends to participate in marches against US intervention. There were often violent fights that steeled many comrades.

She continued to participate for a long time, always working in the garment industry. The line of the party evolved. We dedicated ourselves to fighting more sharply for Revolution, while still participating in reformist struggles. Later, we fought directly for Communism with-

out going through the stage of Socialism. We witnessed the birth and consolidation of the glorious new International Communist Workers' Party. And Comrade Martha was always present.

She sang beautifully, and participated in numerous choirs and plays that delighted and moti-

vated many comrades and friends at Party activities. She always participated in everything, to make sure everything went well.

The capitalist system makes workers' lives very hard, and with Martha it was no exception. The last few years were the most difficult. She had to fight her husband's heart disease. She got cancer and after numerous treatments, she was able to get it in remission. Family problems caused a lot of stress on a woman like her with a lot of strength of character.

A massive stroke took Martha's life on August 19, 2019.

The bosses did not win. The communist movement won her legacy.

For Communists, even when they die, we continue to remember them for what they did, and for their love and commitment to the working class.

And you, Martha, are no exception. You will live every day, every hour, every minute, in all the comrades who knew you and in the new generation of young communists. And in every worker who believes in and fights for Communism.

—Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)

WORKERS NEED "COMMUNIST SENSE" TO CRUSH FASCIST TERROR

SEATTLE (USA)—“Which side are you on?”

A Boeing worker who distributes *Red Flag* asked his co-workers just that question after the fascist murders of Latinos/as in El Paso, TX. Too many workers did not answer. That was unacceptable to him.

Over the next two weeks, this led to heated discussions of what workers need to make a revolution: the only acceptable solution. The worker thought that masses must have “street sense” and “communist sense.”

He wondered whether the present-day generation would ever “get it.” He defined street sense as the willingness to fight and make sacrifices. Communist sense was not that clear to him.

First, we differentiated communist sense from trade union sense. This worker tried to get the Washington State Labor Council, considered one of the most progressive labor councils in the US, to discuss El Paso. They refused.

Second, we talked about how any communist movement must start with an international perspective.

An engineer tried to dismiss the El Paso attack. “What are you going to do about crazy?” he said.

It's true that capitalism in crisis is creating an epidemic of mental illness. But very few mentally ill people are so racist, sexist and anti-social that they start shooting people. The “crazy man” theory is too often used to divert workers from

appreciating the reach and danger of developing fascism.

The comrade explained to the engineer that open fascism becomes an attractive option for the world's ruling classes when their crisis-ridden system is threatened. Not just the right-wing, but what is known as the liberal ruling class as well. Racist, sexist attacks on migrants become the norm.

The fascist “Replacement Theory” has spread around the world via the internet and the efforts of capitalist politicians. The results are seen from Christchurch, New Zealand to El Paso and many other places.

India's Modi announced plans to take citizenship away from four million people, mostly Muslims, in the state of Assam. Less than a week later, Trump threatened to take away birthright citizenship. This was particularly directed at immigrants from Latin America and Africa. The Nazi Reich Citizenship Law of 1935, aimed at Jews, Communists and Socialists, did the same.

Communism will end the concept of citizenship altogether.

“We don't need a birth certificate that tells where you were born,” added another friend.

“I know we have big differences when it comes to borders,” said a third. “But I've come to realize that nationalism led to some of the greatest tragedies of history.”

Another machinist wondered what the conversations were like in German factories in 1931. The implication was that they were having debates similar to those we are having now.

The engineer was writing in his day planner. “The Replacement what? By who?” he asked. “I'm going to look it up.” We concluded we had moved the needle a little to the left.

More of our friends and new comrades have said they will use this international approach with their friends and co-workers. Party members must engage in the sharpening struggle alongside our friends. It's a gateway to communist solutions and recruitment.

We'll have to forge the kinds of relationships that will last through thick and thin. We need rock-solid collectives. This will help recruit communist fighters to the party.

Every week comrades meet more potential communists at work, at multi-racial and international social events, at schools and in our daily lives. This brings us to a third lesson we learned these past two weeks: communist sense requires an unshakable confidence in our comrades, friends and the working class. This confidence in our class steels us for the prolonged and sharp battle to recruit the party members we need for communist revolution.

Capitalists Use Gangsters, Cops and Soldiers to Terrorize Workers

WORKERS, YOUTH, SOLDIERS MUST FIGHT FOR COMMUNIST POWER

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA, July 19 — Soldiers with the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) arrived in a Cape Town community along with South African Police Service. The community had been protesting earlier for better housing and made a plea for help for the crime in the area.

They are finding out that it's a mistake to rely on the racist oppressors for protection. The biggest crime is capitalism itself. It steals the value we produce to go for the capitalists' profits.

We communists understand that only an armed and united working class can eliminate crime in our streets. That is, an armed and united working class mobilizing for a revolution to conquer capitalism and establish communist society.

Militarization of Cape Town Townships

The Army started carrying out searches in Manenberg and Hanover Park following a surge of shootings, gang violence and murders in Cape Town's townships. It was supposedly deployed to ensure a "crime-free and peaceful society."

Some think that the African National Congress is using this tactic to gain support from the Western Cape since it lost its support to the Democratic Alliance. What it means is that the working class falls victim to the bullets thrown both by gangsters and by soldiers.

Several children were shot in Mitchell's Plain. Did the bullets come from the very soldiers who are deployed to keep the peace? Or from criminals who are still managing to execute murders and other crimes in their presence.

Cape Town is becoming a war zone. The number of deaths is rising. There are many autopsies. The mortuaries can't keep up. Families cannot bury their loved ones.

Children are unable to play in the streets. Some struggle to go to school. Workers find it difficult to report to work. This is terrorism at its finest. The presence of the SANDF in Cape Town's communities is negatively affecting the working class's mental health. Especially children are traumatized.

Where Do Criminals Get All These Weapons and Drugs?

The government who claims to maintain a drug- and crime-free society is the same government who allows drugs to enter the country and uses their puppets to spread them in our communities. Ammunitions can only be found in military areas, since here police are not allowed to carry them.

Therefore it is not hard to believe that the gangsters got the ammunition from the very military that is trying to confiscate them. We can conclude that the violence in the Western Cape was planned. It has always been a capitalist tactic to use gangsters as the first line of defense against the workers. Instead of trying to prevent crime, the capitalists seek to control and maintain it.

Police Minister Cele claimed that, as firearms are confiscated, knives have become the weapon of choice. Another excuse. He refuses to admit that the deployment of SANDF in Cape Town is not stopping the violence.

Crime, Racism and Militarization Divide the Working Class

Crime anywhere in the world affects the whole working class. A divided working class can be more easily exploited and controlled, victimized and subjugated. The capitalists understand this. Thus, they try by all means to divide our class.

The capitalists authorize their paid shock

troops (soldiers and police) to "fight against crime" in a way that works for the bosses. And they try to prevent the working class from fighting against murder and theft.

The same thing is happening in El Salvador, in the Philippines, and in Brazil's favelas. This shows that capitalism is in crisis everywhere, developing fascism. Soldiers are patrolling the streets for the ruling class. We need to win them to turn the guns around and fight for the working class that most of them come from.

Racist Capitalism: The Main Criminal

Fifty years ago, all non-white people were evicted from the center of Cape Town where they had lived in neighborhoods with long-standing community ties and support. They were forced to live in townships in small high-rise apartments.

Many unemployed youths joined gangs. They began using and selling drugs. Some residents now mistakenly support an increased police/military presence to "solve" the gang problem. This is a serious error.

The same system that created the problem won't solve it. Only the working class, fighting for communism, will solve it.

Communist society won't have police, money or drugs. Collectives in every neighborhood will mobilize the masses to produce everything we need and to defend our class with weapons when necessary. Youth won't have reason to turn to drugs and crime. They will have exciting, productive work. They will play leading roles in fighting for revolution and building communism.

As proud members of the ICWP, we are deepening this struggle now among students and farmworkers in this area!

India Auto Crisis from page 1

Our International Communist Workers' Party is active in the auto factory where our friend lost his job. We are confronting the contradiction between fear of losing jobs and hatred for the bosses for job losses. As individuals, the capitalist system leaves us hungry, homeless and in despair when we have no work. But we can convert that fear into class hatred and enthusiasm for communist revolution.

Capitalist bosses also understand this contradiction. They are trying to channel the mass anger of the working class into racist/fascist Hindu nationalism of blaming Muslims or Chinese for "taking away jobs." They use racist terror to keep the workers fearful.

We had a series of study groups where we explained that it is capitalist bosses who own the factories and banks. They hire and fire workers to maximize their profits. But their system is crisis-ridden as they compete with other capitalists who try to produce commodities cheaper, like the Chinese capitalists. Our enemy is all capitalist bosses.

Capitalists also finance various political parties to spread the illusion that the crisis can be resolved within the capitalist system itself. All the unions and old sellout fake-communist parties use their mass base to fight for reforming the system which is not capable of any reform.

We also had heated but comradely meetings where some of us felt that this illusion that the system can be reformed is a major obstacle in the working class that we have to confront.

We are determined to seize this historic moment of transforming capitalist crisis into communist revolution. Only communist society, without the shackles of wage slavery, can free the working class from its unending misery.

COMMUNISM FIGHTS FOR THE UNITY OF THE WORKING CLASS

What the bosses are doing to the working class is so cruel and selfish, at my workplace. The bosses use their power to make their production successful. How? They use production managers to force the workers to take overtime so that they can extract more surplus value from the workers.

Due to this, the working class is suffering because we are working Monday to Sunday without rest. We don't even have time spend with our loved ones. The sad thing is that the bosses don't even want to make us permanent.

By law, companies can only hire workers for three months on temporal basis, and thereafter hire them permanently. What the bosses are doing is: they collaborate with hiring agencies to recycle workers. Every time workers reach the three-months period, the bosses and agencies lay them off and hire new ones.

They don't think about our families, who will starve, because they only thing they care about is profit. The other thing is that they use the team leaders and supervisors to control us with their lies. It is terrible that some of the workers don't see the games the bosses are playing.

I understand that some of them are afraid of losing their jobs. But one thing I know is that the bosses won't stop these attacks.

The working class must come together to fight this selfishness and cruelty. The capitalist system has no power if the working class is united. That is the reason I joined

ICWP. It is the only party that advocates for the unity of the working class while the bosses' parties seek only the workers' division.

We can clearly see the rot of capitalism in the relationship between bosses and the political parties. For example, when Musi Maimane campaigned for the Democratic Assembly, he received 100 million rand from private businesses, while President Ramaphosa received half a billion from private businesses. This alone clearly demonstrates the corrupt nature of the capitalist system.

That is why I joined the party that seeks a communist revolution instead of parties who seek to reform capitalism. From this day forward I pledge to distribute the **Red Flag** to every worker in the factory, with the aim of recruiting them to the party.

Forward to communism.

—A new industrial comrade in South Africa

**September 1
South Africa Auto
Workers Strike
Win Auto Workers To
Lead The International
Working Class to Fight
for Communist
Revolution!
Read, write and
distribute Red Flag!
Join ICWP!**

Kashmir:

CLIMATE CHANGE, CAPITALIST CRISIS AND FASCIST ATTACKS

August 25 – Massive protest marches continue to challenge the fascist Indian occupation of Kashmir.

Since late July, the Indian government has moved tens of thousands of additional troops into Kashmir. This was already the most heavily militarized region in the world.

Kashmir has been on lockdown with curfews and military violence. Atrocities include the use of pellet guns that have blinded civilians, among them children. Communications have been cut off. There have been mass arrests across the state.

British imperialism divided India from Pakistan in 1947. Since then, capitalist rulers of India, Pakistan and China have fought over Kashmir. This conflict has always been a convenient prop for these governments to distract their population from economic issues.

A war in 1962 between India and China led to China's occupation of the eastern part of Kashmir. This area is administered by the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, which is a crucial part of the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Water: A Strategic Resource

Often overlooked is the strategic importance of Kashmir in India-Pakistan water wars. Pakistan is entirely dependent on the Indus river and its tributaries.

The Indus river originates in the Tibetan Plateau in China. It passes through Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK) before entering Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) and then heading southward to meet the Arabian Sea at Karachi. All five tributaries of the Indus originate in IOK.

The 1960 India-Pakistan Indus Water Treaty has held through the wars of 1965 and 1971. This treaty gives control of the Indus, Jhelum and

Chenab rivers to Pakistan and the Ravi, Beas and Sutlej to India. However, India is the source of all the major rivers on which Pakistan depends entirely.

India and Pakistan also share access to the Indus basin aquifer (a rock formation that holds groundwater). Half of Pakistan's agricultural water supply comes from this aquifer. Because of population pressure, and the fact that the Indian and Pakistani governments only meter the power required to pump water out of the aquifer and not the water itself, this aquifer is well on its way to depletion.

Global warming is accelerating and the trans-Himalayan and Himalayan glaciers are melting faster. Monsoons are becoming increasingly unreliable. Thus, control of Kashmir's water and hydroelectric potential will be of increasing leverage in capitalist conflicts.

Communism will have no nations. Workers will collaborate globally to make the best use of scarce resources like water to benefit the masses. Today ICWP is organizing on both sides of the India-Pakistan border. Comrades in Pakistan are reaching out to workers from China. Our party is the nucleus of a communist world without borders or capitalist exploitation.

Fascist Attacks and the Geopolitics of Exploitation

The northern part of Kashmir is strategically important to China's BRI, including the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The Karakoram Highway that links China and Pakistan runs through this terrain. It allows Chinese goods to travel to the Arabian Sea.

Chinese and Pakistani capitalists have begun to exploit their occupied parts of Kashmir. Indian capitalists have not been able to do the same because a provision of Article 370 in the Indian

Constitution prevents non-Kashmiris from buying land in Kashmir.

Fascist Indian Prime Minister Modi just cancelled Article 370. Indian Occupied Kashmir is now split into two union territories, giving complete control to the Central government of India. Indian capitalists like Ambani of Reliance Industries hardly blinked before announcing plans to "develop" Kashmir.

Sharpening competition between Indian and Chinese imperialists has led India's fascist government to intensify attacks on Muslims. This is not only in Kashmir but also Assam, which borders China. The Indian rulers plan to deny citizenship to Indian Muslims living in Assam. Their plans for "ethnic cleansing" would replace Muslims with Hindu migrants from other countries.

Indian capitalists' exploitative "development" of Kashmir and Assam could allow India to participate in the CPEC, and thereby in BRI. This, while maintaining a facade of opposition to China and the BRI in line with an increasingly unreliable US.

Meanwhile, the Indian military has established a regime of increased brutality in IOK. It's similar to the Israeli treatment of Palestine. It is supported by an increasingly Hindu-nationalist population fed on a mythology of Hindu victimhood at the hands of Muslims.

Kashmir's plight is a perfect example of the brutality of global capitalism that invents and exploits historic fissures between sections of the working class to drive them apart.

As climate change and capitalist crises intensify, only communist revolution can prevent what is happening in Kashmir from becoming the norm across the world. Only communism can guarantee a peaceful future for the planet.

Learn from Zimbabwe

WORKERS MUST FIGHT DIRECTLY FOR COMMUNISM

Over a year ago when the workers in Zimbabwe rose up against the tyrant Mugabe, with the help of the army, they had one goal in mind: that they wanted change.

ICWP has maintained that the only way to achieve that change, that freedom, is to fight directly for communism. And after a year and eight months of Emmerson Mnangagwa replacing Mugabe, the situation has worsened even more. There are reports even now that workers are assembling for a peaceful march, yet the government has deployed the army to quell the protest. They are taking steps so as to even ban the protests.

This is not what this regime promised when it took over. They promised prosperity, equality, employment. Now the workers are starting to realize that they made a mistake in supporting Mugabe's deputy. It is imperative to emphasize what ICWP has maintained: that replacing Mugabe with his deputy only served the elite. The conflict was between the elites in Zimbabwe, and one of the factions won. The workers' anger was again exploited.

It is important for workers all around the world to learn from the experience of what is happening in Zimbabwe. There is a similar case in Sudan where we can see that the protest leaders have signed a deal

with the generals. This is the same problem they are going to experience in Zimbabwe or with any other workers who compromise with the bosses and the elites. The bosses will always regroup and come back to dominate and exploit our class brothers and sisters.

We need to reject these reforms. Anything less than communism is futile and even fatal to the working class. We need to act against these re-

formist people who demand that they represent us, who insist that they seek change. They only seek to enrich themselves, to benefit their masters. Another example of this is what is happening in Venezuela.

But the working class needs to look no further than what is happening now in Zimbabwe. Unemployment is skyrocketing. People can't even afford to buy bread. Workers, doctors, nurses, and teachers have not been paid for months. There are severe blackouts in the country. There is not even capacity to generate power in Zimbabwe. They are importing it from South Africa. The infrastructure is crumbling. 5% of Zimbabwe's imports are used just to keep some lights on in the industrial hubs like Harare. But communities are living in the dark. Workers are living in the dark.

All these atrocities confirmed that the fight for reforms, which preserve capitalism, the fight for anything less than communism is futile.

Communism will not have money. The masses' collective labor power and planning will guarantee electricity, food and shelter for everyone based on meeting our needs. Join the fight for communist revolution!



Mexico City, Mexico August 24—One of dozens of protests around the world against fascist Bolsonaro's policy of devastation of the Amazon

GUATEMALA:**“SAFE” THIRD COUNTRY—ACCORDING TO CAPITALISM**

As the plane approaches Guatemala, the passengers relax. Some even shout happily. Only one woman and her child continue to cry. It is the only family. The rest are mostly men returning to the country that forced them to leave because of racism, sexism, poverty, unemployment, State and gang violence. All products of capitalism.

They are returning to the “Third Safe Country,” according to the agreement signed by Trump and the Guatemalan government, under the threat of imposing tariffs on Guatemalan exports and taxes on remittances sent back by immigrants.

Safe Third Country?

Guatemala is one of the most violent places in the world. It’s the only country in Latin America where poverty has not been reduced in the last 20 years. Of course, one of the bloodiest countries on the continent is safe for the interests of the imperialists and local capitalists!

But, for the working class there is no safe country. Nations - together with patriotism and nationalism - were created by the capitalists to divide us, blind us, and get us to fight each other defending “our homelands,” that is, the private property of the capitalists-imperialists.

We workers have no country.

As long as capitalism-imperialism exists there will be no safe place for us. That’s why we must fight for a communist world, without borders or nations, without money or wage slavery—the material basis of racism, sexism, xenophobia and exploitation.

In a communist world nobody will be forced to emigrate in search of a job or to escape State

or gang violence. Collectively we will plan what to produce, how to produce and distribute it according to the needs of each person. No one will enjoy luxuries while others lack basic necessities of food, shelter, health care and learning.

Eliminating money, there will be no drug dealers. The new communist society will treat the addicts that remain due to capitalism as sick sisters and brothers to cure and reincorporate into society. Drugs will be something of the past, along with gangs. We will not have police, prisons or courts. Communist principles will govern society. We will treat each other with respect, dignity and love.

Eliminating capitalists-imperialists, humanity will be one family worldwide. Then we won’t need wars or weapons of any kind.

To achieve this communist world, we have to join the International Communist Workers’ Party and organize a communist revolution by mobilizing the masses of workers to fight for communism and nothing less.

Guatemalan workers know a lot about armed struggle.

For thirty years they resisted the “scorched earth” policy of the fascist Guatemalan army supported by the US. Half a million Mayan farmworkers supported 8,000 guerrillas, mostly Mayan. Guatemalan capitalist fought to undermine this struggle. They destroyed more than 600 Mayan villages. They killed more than 200 thousand mostly Mayan civilians and displaced more than a million more.

Even so, the guerrillas were not defeated on

the battlefield. It was their traitorous leaders who in 1992 made peace with the capitalists and abandoned the struggle. But that struggle would not have met the aspirations of the Guatemalan working class because the communist leaders claimed that the indigenous people because of their “ignorance” could not even understand the struggle for “socialism” much less the struggle for communism. Their goals were “agrarian reform” and capitalist democracy.

The peace deal that they signed was the peace of the cemetery

Trump’s agreement makes this situation worse. It stipulates that Central American applicants for political asylum will have to apply to the Guatemalan government. The applicant may remain in the country until their status is resolved. If denied, the authorities may expel them. Those who ignore this process, including unaccompanied minors, will be summarily deported to Guatemala upon arrest when trying to enter the US.

Fascism or Communist Revolution!

This makes Guatemala a wall at the service of the United States and the custodian of future concentration camps to stop the flow of Central American immigrants to the US.

The fuses of the social time bombs that are Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador are getting shorter. The comrades of the International Communist Workers’ Party in El Salvador can guarantee, by helping organize the ICWP throughout Central America, that when that time bomb explodes, the struggle will be for communism.

LETTERS**LETTERS****LETTERS****CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS****Migration Crisis Calls for Working-Class Unity**

Thirty years ago in the garment industry in Los Angeles there were 150,000 of us operating the machines. Now maybe there are fewer of us. But we were under the same roof: Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans and Mexicans. We didn’t care about nationality, because we all came to work to survive.

Now with all these racist attacks we should be more united and we should have the goal of joining and building ICWP, so that one day we smash the borders that divide us workers.

In Mexico, the residents have helped the caravans with food, water and shelter so they can continue on their way north. But different governments have put up roadblocks to this journey.

Thousands are waiting for asylum and more will continue trying to cross, even though it could cost their lives. The Mexican government has become the watchdog of US interests. In the first part of 2019, they deported 130,485 migrants back to the countries of the Northern Triangle (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras).

Two years earlier, there were thousands also, leaving their places of origin to improve their living conditions.

Now more than ever we need to fight for communism, for a society without borders and without bosses that install governments to control workers in order to fill their pockets with profits. Only under communism will we workers be able to remain with our loved ones and with all the friends we can have. The world will be ours — we who produce everything in this society.

—Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)

Conversation with a Co-Worker About Puerto Rico

“Can you stop by my office for a minute when you get a chance?” I asked a co-worker (let’s call her Blanca) on our first day back after vacation — after we had happily hugged.

Blanca has a big family in Puerto Rico, and she reads *Red Flag*.

“I want to know what your relatives think about the rebellion going on there” I added.

She came right into my office and sat down. “It really is a rebellion!” she exclaimed. She started telling me about all her cousins and aunts and uncles who had been in the streets. “Even my grandmother wanted to go march, but they talked her out of it,” she said. “And now they want to get rid of Wanda [the new governor] too. She wasn’t even elected. She is part of the same group of corrupt politicians that got pushed out.”

Blanca was excited that there was already an article in *Red Flag*. She was eager to read it.

“What are people going to do next?” I asked.

“It’s like in the United States, with AOC

[Alexandria Ocasio Cortez] and the others. A lot of young activists are going to run for office themselves. They want a real change.”

“But what can they do about the Junta?” (I was referring to the Financial Oversight and Management Board imposed by the US government in the Obama era.)

“They want to get rid of the Junta, too,” Blanca replied.

“How are they going to do that?”

“I don’t know. I don’t think they

know either.”

Blanca had to go, taking her copy of *Red Flag*. She agreed to write something for the paper about Puerto Rico, after reading the first article we printed.

I think she understands as well as I do that electing new officials, no matter how young, dedicated or charismatic, is no solution. Without destroying capitalism itself, we can’t end the oppressive policies and corruption that are built into the capitalist political system.

Many others probably understand (or at least sense) this too.

Neither the social-democracy of Bernie Sanders and the “squad” of four young US Congressional representatives, nor the choice between “independence” and “statehood” for Puerto Rico, is a real solution to the crisis that masses are going through.

Bianca and all other *Red Flag* readers can do something really important by helping them to see that a real alternative — communism — is both necessary and possible.

—Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)



LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

Learning Dialectical Materialism

Our collective has been studying dialectical materialism, the communist philosophy of knowledge and change. New comrades are learning from older comrades who have a bit of experience with dialectics.

Comrades with experience are also expanding their knowledge as a result of this collective studying. This communist knowledge has been illuminating for the new comrades.

We studied the laws of dialectics: the Unity and Conflict of Opposites, Negation of Negation and Quantity into Quality. Analysing these laws in our revolutionary struggle towards communism has helped to clarify and answer some doubts which some new comrades had about the movement.

For example, when one comrade first came to the party, she thought that we were too passive, not urgent enough when we held meetings, distributed the **Red Flag** and had collective discussions with fellow workers and friends. She thought this was not useful. She changed her mind after understanding how quantity can change into quality (the growth of the party).

She said, “Now I see where mobilising the masses comes from. I see how the party can grow from distributing the **Red Flag** and having meetings to critically discuss our weaknesses” to resolve our internal contradictions and strengthen the party.

We are putting the knowledge we’ve gained into practice. We realize the dialectical relation between reading and writing. Since we have been reading certain articles, especially page 2, as a collective and discussing them, more comrades have started to write more for the paper. They put the party’s line at the forefront of their writing. We also encourage our friends to read the whole paper not only in the meetings but individually.

We are studying dialectical materialism not just to know about it, but also to improve on the theories and the experiences of our struggle. We need to change this crisis-infested capitalism, which brings exploitation and misery to the working class from India, USA, Brazil, South Africa, etc.

In South Africa, the latest statistics show millions losing jobs from every sector. Unemployment is at an all time high. Mobilising masses to the party has never been more urgent. We are committed to expanding exponentially from the moderate growth of the collectives. Learning Dialectical Materialism helps us do better and overcome our weakness, doubts or any other obstacles.

—A Comrade in South Africa

Thoughts on the capitalist educational system

The capitalist state educational system was not designed to better our lives or pave a way for us to success. It was not designed to liberate us from our miserable destitute lives as capitalists say it was. The state educational system is not beneficial for the working class, but acts in favour of the bosses.

Capitalists are selfish, greedy, and individualistic. They murder the innocent through wars, exploit the working class and manipulate the masses with objectives of making a profit. Why would people with this kind of personality invest millions of rands to educate the children of the very same class they exploit? The secret lies in what is taught inside the school buildings.

Our curriculums consist of production and maintenance skills, but they are written by people who do not have any idea of what is happening in the production process. Capitalists establish school and work policies to dictate the behavior and the mentality of potential workers. Capitalists enforce these policies in schools so that when students are ready to be employees, they can be easily exploited.

Capitalist educational system teaches our children meaningless information that will never be useful to them in later life. Capitalists prepare us to go and work in the industries that fuel not ours, but capitalist growth. At schools we are taught to follow procedures without questioning and not deviate from the rules set for us by the very same people who are sucking the blood of the working class.

The emphasis in schools is on trying to get young people to absorb large quantities of information regardless of whether they need it or not. Passing knowledge in this fashion is detrimental to the minds our young ones. It murders their ability to identify, show and practice what they are talented in.

People learn through practice. Taking a baby for example; babies are not taught through writings – babies learn through speech and by experiencing things. Information given to us today in schools was derived from practice.

Learning through practice is the ideal methodology in a communist society. Chinese can attest to this during the cultural revolution. People were sharing their skills practically. No one sat in classrooms listening to one lecturer preaching unnecessary theories. In communism, the structure of capitalist education will be abolished. There will be no universities, colleges and high schools as there are today. In communism we will share our theory, knowledge and skills through practice, collectively producing our needs while learning from each other. Teachers and students will work and learn side by side.

I am not a mechanic. However, last year I assisted my neighbor - his car had an electrical problem. Then, I knew nothing about cars except steering wheel and tires. My neighbor and I checked the alternator/ moto, battery, switches and distributors until we found what the problem was. We fixed the problem together and what was amazing is that I was learning while helping him at the same time. Days ago, I helped him when he was replacing a car deaf (differential). I obtained a skill there as well. My neighbor is not a mechanic, he is learning from the mechanic and I am learning from him.

This is a type of education that will be recog-

nized and acknowledged in a communist society. We do not trade our skills; we share skills necessary to produce our needs.

—Comrade in South Africa

Industrial Workers, Soldiers: Key to Communist Revolution in Pre-World War World

“War industry workers live under an extra contradiction: most of us don’t want wars or threats of war, but that is what the bosses will use our work for. The US is building a bigger Navy to confront rising capitalist powers, especially capitalist China, that want a bigger slice of the profits.”

This important point was buried in the middle of the shipyard workers article in the last **Red Flag**. We should have highlighted that sentence.

It’s really the main point of the article. As we said elsewhere in that issue, “the struggle among rival imperialists for world domination is driving capitalism worldwide to fascism, wider wars and eventually world war.”

That sharpening struggle among rival imperialists also drives the intensification of exploitation at Boeing. It’s what pushed them to launch the Boeing 737 Max prematurely in an attempt to pry the world market away from their rivals. It’s what pushes Boeing bosses to export production to an off-shore sub-contractor paying \$9/hour. Or to non-union shops in Los Angeles that pay \$15/hour to a largely immigrant workforce.

Capitalist crisis and inter-imperialist rivalry increase the exploitation of workers in every sector around the world. It’s unescapable. It will eventually lead to worldwar. And all workers in basic industry—like steel, auto, aerospace, transit and telecommunications—will see their work going to produce weapons, tanks, military aircraft, and weapons of war.

We have to emphasize that to the workers we talk to every day. Otherwise, we’d be overlooking the reality of how the world is changing. We no longer live in the post-World War II era, but in the pre-World War III era. It is our job as communists to explain that to our friends and to the readers of **Red Flag**.

We need communist organizations in basic industry and in the military. That’s how we can take advantage of the inevitable disruption and suffering of war to put an end to capitalist exploitation once and for all. We can build a new communist world where we produce for the needs of our global family—but only if we’re prepared to seize the moment when it comes.

—**Red Flag** editorial collective in Los Angeles



Eugenics and Racism:**FROM REPARATIONS TO COMMUNIST REVOLUTION**

PASADENA (USA) – Some members of a liberal (mainly white) church were shocked to discover that a founder, Robert Millikan, was a racist eugenicist. They formed a group to try to make amends (reparations).

Millikan, who headed Caltech, won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1923. About the same time, he helped start the church. After 1928 he joined Pasadena's new "Human Betterment Foundation" (HBF) and, in 1937, its board.

The main problem isn't that scientists and religious liberals wanted to use science for "human betterment." It's that they thought rich, educated white men were better than other humans.

A Century of Racist Eugenics

The HBF intended to study the supposed 'declining quality' of the US population. Their guru was Madison Grant, author of *The Passing of the Great Race* (1916) and a hereditary member of elite New York society.

In this classic of "scientific" racism, Grant claimed that the "superior Nordic race" was in danger. "Nordics" might soon be outnumbered by immigrants from southern and eastern Europe (especially Jews and Italians) and black southerners migrating to northern cities.

Fast-forward to Charlottesville, NC in 2018, where murderous racists chanted, "Jews will not replace us!" Renaud Camus' *Grand Replacement* (2012) is a foul reprise of Madison Grant.

Millikan, Paul Popenoe and the HBF promoted the forced sterilization of "inferior" women. They helped to get over 35,000 women sterilized involuntarily between 1907 and 1940. In Germany, thrilled Nazis honored American eugenicists, translated their books, and adopted their model laws.

Eugenics didn't end with World War II. At LA County Hospital, over 200 new mothers, many Spanish-speaking, were sterilized between 1968 and 1974.

Even vaster numbers of Puerto Rican and Na-

tive American women were sterilized in the 1960s. Records weren't even kept. Nobody claimed they consented. Sexism and racism, hand in hand.

Eugenics, Immigration Restriction and IQ-ology

The eugenicists had scored an earlier victory for racism: passage of the federal Immigration Act of 1924 with its nationality-based immigration quotas.

Eugenicists echoed the rulers' fears of radicalized immigrant workers who might have emulated the communist-led revolution in Russia. They said that excluding Asians and southern and eastern Europeans would preserve the "national character" (whiteness) of the US. Popenoe complained that Mexican immigrants, especially, had large families and got too much charity money.

How is this different from today's racist xenophobia? It's not.

One more strand linking past and present: Another HBF founder was Lewis Terman, author of the Stanford-Binet IQ test. Robert Yerkes' large-scale (and bogus) IQ testing of World War I recruits provided data that supposedly supported white-supremacist ideology. As a VP of the National Research Council, which supported Yerkes, Millikan must have known about this.

By the 1960s, IQ-ology was the main form of scientific racism. Students and professors on many campuses protested Shockley, Jensen, Charles Murray, and Harvard's Herrnstein and James Q. Wilson. President Nixon cited Herrnstein to justify his vile racist prejudices and policies.

"Intelligence" testing has been thoroughly debunked. Yet IQ tests are readily available online. They are widely used in schools. Too many folks still believe that some of us are "smarter" than others.

From Reparations to Revolution

What amends can be made by the church? By Caltech and County Hospital? By nearby Occidental College, which in 1929 honored Popenoe?

Offering apologies, revoking honors, and educating ourselves and others about the past – that's a start.

But what are we going to do about present-day eugenics?

The child sex-trafficker Jeffrey Epstein intended to "improve the human race" by impregnating women, 20 at a time. But his "transhumanism" is just the tip of today's eugenic iceberg.

Women are still being forcibly sterilized. First Nations women in Saskatchewan, Canada. Intersex people and women with disabilities in Australia. Latinas and African-American women in California prisons. According to 2006 UN statistics, over a third of the women in India were sterilized – with funding from USAID and the World Bank.

And most pressing: the massive attacks on migrants in the US, Europe and elsewhere amidst howling xenophobia.

As in the past, the roots of these racist outrages are not in racist ideas, despite the academic credentials of those who promote them. Racism is rooted in the need of capitalists to divide the international, multiracial working class in order to maximize their obscene profits.

More important than the past or even the present is the future. The masses are more than intelligent enough to overthrow capitalism and organize society on communist principles. That will uproot racism by destroying its material basis in class society. No more will we be divided into nations and "races."

Churches and universities should make what reparations they can. But for the communist future we need, let's build the International Communist Workers' Party.



Demonstration at LA County Hospital against forced sterilizations mainly of Mexican immigrant women—early 1970's.

Demonstrators demanded that racist forced sterilizations must end. But they didn't say that racism comes from capitalism or call for its destruction with communist revolution.

Communists participated with others in the campaign to expose racist capitalism's forced sterilization of mainly Mexican immigrant women. They exposed the lie that the problem in the world is "too many people." They said the problem was too many **rich** people. If there were no rich, there would be no poor!"

Between 1968 and the early 1970's, as more im-

migrants came to LA from Mexico and Central America, the number of non-medical sterilizations increased dramatically at LA County Hospital. This was eugenics in practice. It's based on the same racist xenophobic lies the bosses push today: that brown people will "replace" whites. Women were coerced into signing sterilization forms, many without knowing what they were signing. The forms were in English and many couldn't read them. Often they were in heavy labor on pain medication when the form was pushed on them. They later found out they had been sterilized.

Today as the bosses in crisis are pushing racist xenophobia, we should boldly act against these racist capitalist attacks. This time we call for destroying the capitalist system based on racism and genocide. We are mobilizing for communism where all children are welcomed and nurtured by growing communist collectives. The communist masses will abolish racism and sexism, and guarantee the safety and well being of all children and their development as communists.