

RED FLAG

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, September 21. Neighbors protest against police murder of 8-year-old Agatha Felix and other children in the favelas.



BRAZIL: AMAZON FIRES SPARK DISCUSSION OF WHY WORKERS NEED COMMUNISM

October 7 — “Fires in the Amazon means genocide and hunger in the favelas,” a Brazilian comrade who works in aerospace told his coworkers.

This very lively and heated discussion involved lots of coworkers, friends, neighbors. It concluded with clarity and urgency that capitalism is a murderous system. It can only be replaced with a communist society that will eliminate the profit system that causes havoc on our lives.

The comrades and friends in Brazil referred to a campaign of genocide launched by the fascist Bolsonaro government. In Rio de Janeiro, over 600 youth (mostly black) have been gunned down by the police. Using the pretext of fighting drugs, heavily militarized police with helicopters, drones and on horseback gun down residents of all-black urban neighborhoods known as favelas..

The Brazilian capitalist class seeks to profit enormously from the deepening trade war between Chinese and US imperialists. US farmers and the meat industry provided soybeans, corn and pork to a growing Chinese market. Now with the raging tariff war, the Chinese bosses are taking their money and power to Brazil, Argentina and South Africa.

Producing pork, soybeans and corn requires large swaths of fertile land. This is up for grabs in the Amazon. Armed gangs, supported by corporate farmers, clear-cut pristine rainforests for timber. Then they set fires that burn until the charred land is ready to be tilled for dollars, reals and yuans.

Brazilian fascists justify the destruction of the Amazon by telling the masses that the new land will provide jobs to a very large unemployed population.

They are unemployed because of the global crisis of capitalism. Enormous quantities of goods produced by the workers remain unsold. Too many cars, airplanes, too much oil, cotton, corn, cows, pigs and poultry. The capitalists' response is to produce even more, with fewer workers. This creates an army of the unemployed worldwide.

The capitalist bosses' drive to maximize profits is cre-

See BRAZIL, page 4

WORKERS DISCUSS COMMUNIST SOCIETY WITHOUT MONEY

PORT ELIZABETH, SOUTH AFRICA , October 5— Last week, we went to see a group of workers who we have been trying to recruit to our movement. As we were talking to them, one of the workers asked the difference between us and the South African Communist Party. One of our comrades explained that it was money.

While other parties don't see money as a problem, we see money as the material basis for most of the problems we face in capitalist society: the problems of greed, corruption, poverty, inequality, racism, sexism (men seeing themselves as superior to women). We see money as a fundamental problem. For us to achieve a sustainable, flourishing society, it has to be eradicated.

They were really intrigued. They had never heard anyone proposing this, so obviously they wanted to know more about how society will work without money.

This is a challenging subject for all of us. We struggle to explain to people in simple terms how society will function without money. Sometimes we rely on some sophisticated terms which are not even familiar to the workers, most of whom didn't go to college. We need to find more practical examples to show how society without money will function— instead of some theoretical explanations.

As we were talking, we recognized that we had kind of lost them. We adapted our approach so they could be more engaged. We needed to focus the conversation on how society would function without money.

Then they asked a really important question: “How would healthcare function in a society

See A WORLD WITHOUT MONEY, page 2

INSIDE:

**TEN YEARS OF MOBILIZING FOR
COMMUNISM: PAGE 2**

**EL SALVADOR MAQUILAS—WHO'S STEALING
FROM WHOM? PAGE 3**

**CAPITALIST CRISIS AND REVOLUTION:
PAGES 4 & 5**

DUMP TRUMP? DUMP CAPITALISM! PAGE 6

RACIST MURDER OF BOTHAM JEAN: PAGE 7

Ten Years of Mobilizing for Communism

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CONFERENCES TO PLAN NEW ADVANCES

Capitalism is in crisis. This crisis has many faces. It has sparked intensified political debate among the working class in many parts of the world. Are we doomed to live in a capitalist world of racism, sexism, xenophobia, nationalism, intensifying war and open fascism?

Or will communism prove, once and for all, that we are one international working class that can take power and build the world we need? That's not easy. But we must. And we will.

The International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) will mark its tenth anniversary in January 2020 with international conferences and meetings in North America, Central America, Africa and the Indian sub-continent.

Each conference will include comrades and friends from around the world. Some will participate in person and others via audio or video links. They will build on advances in our communist work and propel the mobilization for communism forward.

How do we build, expand and recruit to one International Communist Workers Party to make this a reality? These conferences will address this question above all else. We will use communist philosophy – dialectical materialism—as a tool to

analyze our work so far and to plan to do more and better.

Every Party collective has much to contribute, in particular our young comrades and friends.

Our strategy is to mobilize the masses for communism. That includes soldiers and sailors, students and unemployed youth and many more who are struggling just to survive.

The immediate industrial crisis has made the choice between capitalism and communism par-

ticularly stark for industrial workers. They, and soldiers, must become a key force for communist revolution.

These political debates must be won in the workplaces and barracks especially. The lessons learned spread throughout society. Communist politics will steel these workers and prepare them to lead the masses to revolution.

The upcoming conferences pose an immediate opportunity for our growing Party collectives in

Think about our political work: What contradictions describe and define it? What do we mean by a “contradiction” in this context? How do we resolve these contradictions?

We are fighting for a world without money, but we live in a world where we need it.

These conferences will require our Party to collect at least \$10,000 more than we need for our usual operating expenses. Comrades have already stepped up, but we need more. And quickly!

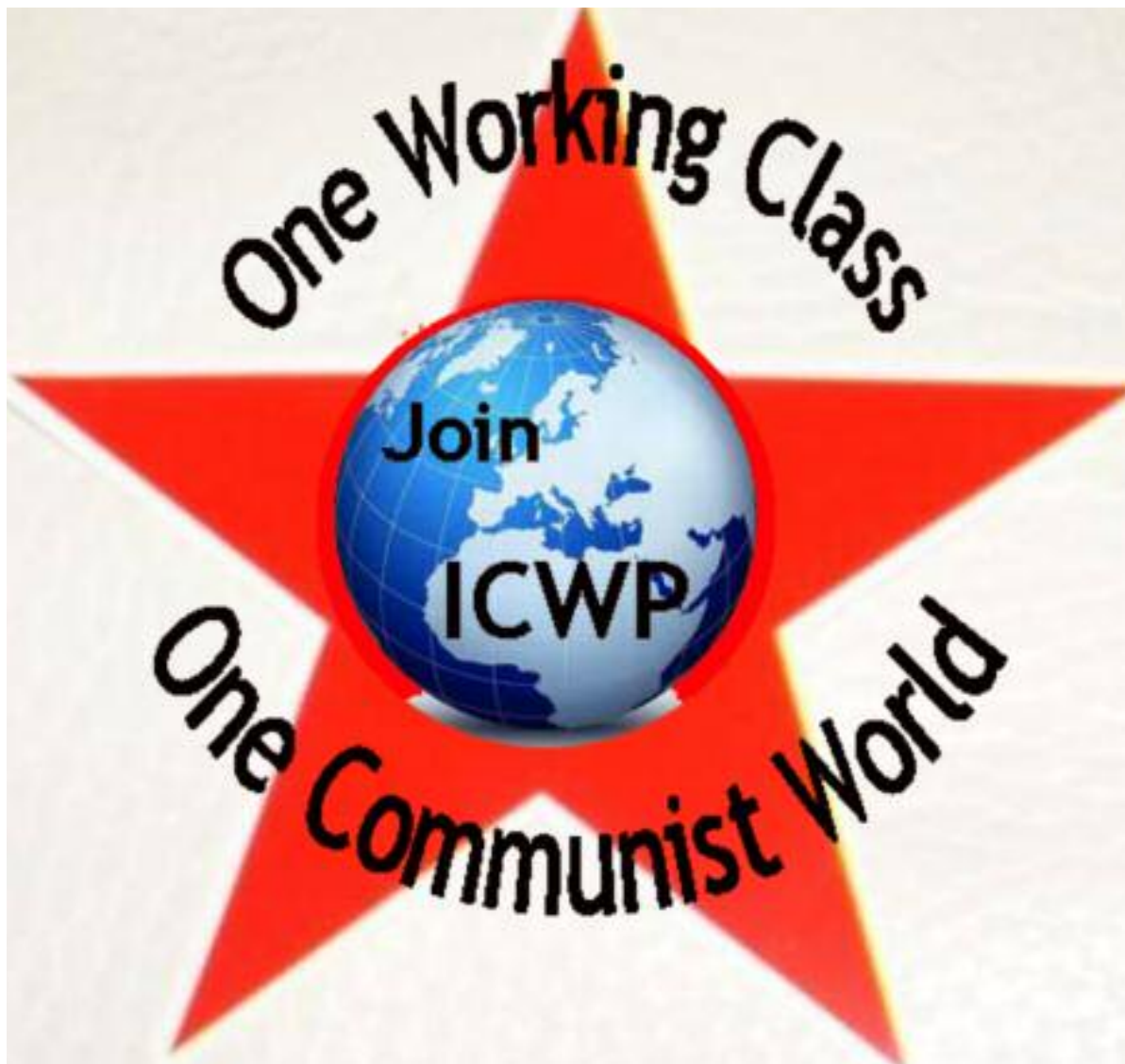
We must collectively raise money to fly international comrades and friends from new areas to these conferences. There are expenses associated with each conference, including that of video equipment.

It requires money to advance the communist work necessary to fight for a society without money. We resolve this contradiction as we always do. We rely on the commitment of every collective, member, *Red Flag* reader and other friends.

We don't all have the same ability to contribute. We don't all have the same needs. Every party club and related collective should immediately make concrete plans for how much we can raise if we “stretch.” And then let's collect more money, from more people, than ever.

Help us plan to make these conferences prepare us as well as possible for the sharpening struggle. Let's set goals for recruitment. And for expanding the readership of our literature: a measure of our influence. And goals for expansion to new workplaces and new parts of the world.

Our International Communist Workers' Party has made big strides in our first ten years. Now we must make bigger ones. The next ten years, comrades and friends – and the future of the international working class — is in your hands.



the maquilas in El Salvador, the auto factories in South Africa and India, and those working in aerospace, garment and transit and among youth in the U.S. We need to guarantee your participation and leadership.

Comrades, how can these conferences be planned to best help you advance? How do we build the kinds of communist relations necessary to grow? Which co-workers, relatives, friends can we invite and how can we persuade them to come?

A WORLD WITHOUT MONEY from page 1

without money?”

We were able to come up with some interesting observations. We talked about how in today's society, most of the things we eat are more harmful to us than healthy because they make profit off them, like drinking Red Bull and other things like that which are easily available. Many people today have diabetes because of the things we eat.

In Communist society, we will eliminate the things that are harmful to us but are sold to people for the sake of profit. We will produce things that

will encourage more healthy living among the working class.

That will reduce the number of people who require treatment. Instead of producing things for profit, we will be producing them because we need them. We won't produce the things we don't need.

We came to this insight out of the discussions we had with those comrades.

We also focused on the question that workers create value. We explained that the most valuable

commodity in capitalism is our human labor power because it creates all value. The bosses steal that value we create and pay us in peanuts—wages.

Most workers are not aware of how profit is made and also how the bosses steal that profit, surplus value. They were surprised. At the same time, they understood that what they are creating is far more valuable than what they are getting in return.

It was interesting. This is the conversation we will continue to have with the comrades.



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WHO'S STEALING FROM WHOM?

EL SALVADOR., OCTOBER 7—The owner of the factory goes into the bathrooms to spy on the workers. He says that the workers steal his products. Here is the question: who is stealing from whom?

A worker says: “We are going through difficult times in this factory. They look at us as if we were robbing them.”

A comrade of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) replied: “Don't be surprised. Capitalism acts like this. They inject terror into the workers to enslave everyone more, while they are the ones who keep the profit.”

Another comrade said: “Friends, let's not be afraid of them. They are the ones who steal from us. They steal our labor power.”

In the factory where ICWP is concentrated, the bosses have gathered a group of thugs to frighten the workers. They gather at the front door at break time, lunch time and when its time to go home, unnecessarily searching women and men as if it were a prison.

In this period, the boss are attacking the workers with mistreatment and all types of repression.



It's a strategy to get us to quit so they don't have to pay for the end-of-the-year vacations or the bonus.

Faced with these attacks, we are taking the opportunity to talk with more women and men workers, telling them that the ICWP and its *Red Flag* newspaper will put an end to the repressive ruling class.

In communism we will work to meet the needs

of our class, not to produce profits. Money will not exist. There will be no exploited or exploiters like today when the bosses make us work for them.

This is how we have responded with the workers in the face of this bosses' attack. More Collective struggle of women and men communist workers.

Billboard in Los Angeles, USA. We hear a lot that “young people don't read.” What the capitalists mean by that is: “Young people, don't read!” Reading isn't the only way we learn things. We learn from our own experiences, by trying out ideas in practice. We also learn from the experiences of others. Reading is often a good way to do that. That's why you should write for *Red Flag*. And read *Red Flag*, and encourage others to read it. But we need to read more than that. About the history of the communist movement and the development of communist theory. About things going on in the world today. As the communist poet Brecht wrote in 1931, “You who starve, reach for a book; it will be a weapon/You must prepare to take command now.”



RECRUITING AND DEVELOPING ACTIVE COMMUNISTS

PORT ELIZABETH, SOUTH AFRICA , October 7—The last few weeks, we've been talking about how to recruit active members to ICWP. We need to make sure that they become active organizers for the Party and the fight to destroy capitalism.

We came up with the first step: Utilize *Red Flag* as the starting point to recruit.

Many times when distributing *Red Flag*, we give it to people and maybe ask for their contact information but don't ask them to join. The starting point in our conversation with them should be to ask them to join. That opens some people to consider joining. This gives us something to follow up on.

The reason we distribute *Red Flag* is for the masses to join us. If we don't ask them to join, it means we lack confidence, not only in ourselves, but also that the working class can quickly grasp our ideas and join us.

Uneven Development

Studying how some of our comrades were recruited will help not only us but the Party internationally.

With some people here, it didn't take too long to join and be active. There are comrades here who joined the first time we asked them, like comrades S, F, L and B. These are the comrades who first formed the foundation of our collective. They joined on the spot.

With others it took longer. For example, we struggled with Comrade C for more than two

years to join us. So this process is uneven. Studying these experiences helps us understand what is required to recruit active members. It helps answer the question about why workers are not joining the movement in large numbers.

Comrade C was deeply rooted in tribal politics in South Africa, or tribalism, and in nationalism. Both are dangerous ideas. In struggling with him, we had to peel away some wrong ideas. Instead of looking at things on a class basis, he tended to look at things on a racial basis. He believed that anyone who is white is an enemy of black people.

If you ask him now about these views, he would disavow them. He understands that it is imperative to have a multi-racial campaign within the whole working class to defeat capitalism and establish a communist society. We can't do this exclusively as a group of black people.

We showed that there's no plural form of race, there's only one human race.

It's important when we struggle with potential members to ask them to join all the time. We can't be content just talking with them. We have to control the narrative. In every discussion, we talk about our communist ideas so they get to see our position about many things.

Even before he joined, we invited him to go with us when we distributed the *Red Flag*, so he could see the response of the masses and have first-hand experience in putting our ideas into practice.

Another thing we learned from recruiting com-

rades who were reluctant to join us, who disagreed with our ideas but who are now active members of our collective, is the need to recruit people collectively.

We had to really explain to N what communism is, and many other things. She was not into politics, which was both a good thing and a challenge. We had to explain first what capitalism is.

The struggle with her helped us sometimes more than it helped her. When she couldn't understand, it showed us that it wasn't her fault, it was our fault. We need to explain to the masses what communism is so that they can understand it. If they don't understand, it means we are not doing a good job of explaining it.

A Comrade explained, “There were discussions when she said that every time I talked, she got confused. But when Comrade S talks, everything becomes clear.”

We needed to hear that. Sometimes when you explain something, the comrade doesn't understand, but other comrades take a different approach and the person understands. It shows that we need to rely on the collective instead of going it alone.

Workers don't mainly need to have the horrors of capitalism explained. They live it everyday. They are looking for an alternative—which we can give them. There has to be an element of urgency in our work. The objective is for workers to join us.

INDUSTRIAL CRISIS CALLS US TO BRING COMMUNIST SOLUTIONS TO A WIDE RANGE OF GLOBAL POLITICAL BATTLES

The global industrial crisis is upon us. How does this crisis translate into communist political struggle in the factories? The answer will help us recruit communist fighters.

The answer is not obvious. It requires mobilizing for communism around all the political issues of our time.

The crisis is already causing layoffs, unemployment, wage cuts and speed-up. This economic devastation will not spontaneously drive workers towards communism and into our party. Nor are these attacks the most likely to draw masses into communist political struggle. Recruitment is a multi-faceted political process, not just one that starts with economic attacks.

The crisis makes the struggle over the whole range of capitalist ideology and political life much sharper and more immediate: in the factories as well as throughout society.

For example, it was revealed last week that Boeing conspired with the Federal Aviation Agency to ignore established safety regulations during the certification of the MAX. Then they conspired to cover it up.

Now, everybody's worried about layoffs. But when Susan approached a comrade about the week's revelations, the discussion quickly turned to communism.

Why? She first got active with the party around the issue of migration. She read the party's pamphlet and gave it to her friend. She agreed we were facing fascism, as stated in the pamphlet, but she was leery about the proposed communist solutions.

All this took place as dozens circulated the party's migration pamphlet within the plants and at various demonstrations. One distributed more than a hundred at May Day and then joined the party. Another friend recruited the help of local students to massively distribute pamphlets (and *Red Flag*) at three high schools. On the shop floor, comrades and friends have organized debates on these subjects involving hundreds.

Events throughout the world have since driven Susan to the conclusion that "this system is not working. We need something else." Many of these attacks did not originate in the factory. The political struggle around our communist solutions in the migration pamphlet opened her eyes. The crisis, within society as a whole as well as her job, is forcing her to consider communism in a new light.

What motivates Susan, and many like her in factories around the world, encompasses all the manifestations of intensifying political struggle. Our industrial comrades must respond to all man-

ner of political upheaval whether it originates in the plants or not.

One day we fight against racist or sexist attacks in the plant. The next day we lead workers to bring our communist message to a demonstration against the separations of families at the border. The day after we confront xenophobes that try to blame the MAX crashes on pilots from Africa and Asia.

There was a time at Boeing where comrades were told that the most important thing was to organize mass picket lines around the economic demands of a strike. Organizing meetings to discuss communism during the strike was considered secondary, even a diversion. That is the opposite of what we try to do today. Self critically, we should do more of it.

We will share our experiences to date in the world's industrial factories at our 10th anniversary conferences. We will make plans to increase the all-around political struggle everywhere.

Red Flag will help us share our progress bringing communist solutions to every fight. It should be a tribune of the masses, advocating communism and recruitment to ICWP in a wide range of political battles. In this way, we will turn industrial crisis into growth of the party.

BRAZIL from page 1

ating their own mass graves. But this will not happen until millions of workers join the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) in burying capitalism and the bosses forever.

Our friends and coworkers in Brazil are seriously thinking about joining ICWP. But we face very serious ideological obstacles. Many believe that communist society will never allow racist murders and the destruction of the environment. But they feel capitalism is too strong, fascists and their terror too overwhelming, to be defeated.

This way of thinking that capitalism is eternal, and fascism will allow it to exist forever, is wrong. It runs counter to our collective knowledge of how human societies change.

The bosses are increasingly resorting to fascism everywhere because of weakness, not strength. The rise of fascism is an obstacle but also a potentially huge opportunity for us to recruit masses for communism. We will continue to address this contradiction in the months leading up to our communist conferences next year.



RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, September 21, 2019—Protest against police murder of Agatha Felix and other children in the favelas.

LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

Climate Change is a Distraction

"Why even bother to do anything if we only have 12 years left on this planet?" asked one of my friends. Indeed, many people seemed to be responding this way to the latest climate change "news," that, per the UN, we have 12 years to limit climate change catastrophe.

The spectre of climate change has become the ruling class's latest "cause celebre," one which supposedly unites people across the class divide. We have seen these classless events before – during the cold war it was the threat of a nuclear attack; in the 60's it was the population "explosion." These tactics are their attempt to divert us from the real cause of pollution, famine, toxic waste, etc.: capitalism and its never-ending quest for higher profits.

This climate change theory was first put forward by the Club of Rome, a bosses' think tank founded in 1968 by a British scientist, an Italian industrialist, and David Rockefeller. In 1972 they

published a report (funded by Volkswagen) predicting worldwide famines.

The famines never happened, but that didn't stop them. In 1991 they came up with the idea of climate change as a common enemy that could "unite mankind" (i.e. unite bosses and workers). Climate change was a big hit with the bosses, and major foundations are lining up to fund climate projects. These foundations include some familiar names: RAND, Bloomberg, Boeing, Ford, MacArthur, Michelin, Merck, Wells Fargo, and – of course – Rockefeller.

But even more important to the ruling class than the money is the ideology. They want to convince workers and youth that they can unite with their bosses because they have a common interest, the environment. The idea that the main problem facing workers now is climate change is a way to build cynicism and class collaboration. It is a massive distraction from xenophobia, racism and sexism and all the crimes of capitalism, in-

cluding destroying the environment.

Recently, *The Seattle Times* criticized big tech companies like Amazon, Microsoft and Google for having contracts with oil companies. But thousands of the young workers in these companies have been fighting to end their bosses' contracts with the Department of Homeland Security, ICE, CBP and the cops. Clearly the *Times* would rather these young workers focus their energies on climate change, not xenophobia, racism and sexism.

We need a society run by and for the working class, the people who actually do the work – feeding, clothing, building, creating art, music, etc. Only when the profit motive and money are totally out of the equation can we truly focus on cleaning up the environment. No task is insurmountable under communism. Collectively, guided by communist ideas and principles, we can change the world.

—Comrade in Canada

Do You Know Someone Who's Unemployed? Underpaid? Homeless? Hungry?**COMMUNISM WILL END THE HORRORS OF WORLD CAPITALIST CRISIS**

October 9 – Auto workers in the US have been on strike for three weeks. They were pushed to the wall by world capitalism's deepening industrial crisis of overproduction.

This crisis is spreading to every sector. It affects the whole working class worldwide, especially auto workers who are central to the capitalist economy.

Rival capitalists (domestic and overseas) compete for the same markets. This leads to "overproduction." Factories produce more cars and other commodities than can be sold profitably.

More industrial and service workers are hit with layoffs. Houses are shuttered while more are homeless. Foods rot while more go hungry. Hospitals close.

This capitalist crisis shows the urgency for workers to join ICWP to mobilize for communist revolution. We need to build communist consciousness in relation to every attack against our class. To end these attacks, we have to eliminate the capitalist wage system and build a communist world.

We are confident that the mighty working class will fight for and win this communist world.

Instead of working for wages, we will work lovingly to meet our class' needs. Communist relations of sharing and collectivity will replace the money system. ICWP will mobilize masses to destroy the racism, sexism, homophobia and xenophobia that remain from the wage system.

Capitalism Makes Crisis Inevitable

During the crisis of overproduction in the

1970's, markets were saturated. The capitalists' rate of profit was falling. Auto ran at 73% of capacity worldwide.

But, with the defeat of the Chinese Cultural Revolution, the Chinese "Communist" party opted for open market capitalism and intensified exploitation. This gave world capitalism breathing room.

Now that's over. Auto sales are down worldwide, especially in China. Unable to expand, capitalism is contracting. The rate of profit is falling and so is the amount of profit.

The rate of profit falls because capitalists compete for limited markets. They need automation to produce more cheaply and compete more effectively.

But capitalism's only source of profit is workers' labor power. The more they spend on machines and the fewer workers they exploit, the lower the rate of profit on their investments.

So, they drive us harder. They move factories to lower-wage areas. And so do their competitors. Capitalism's economic crises are inevitable because of its basic internal contradictions.

Why can't industrial capitalists be satisfied with lower profits? Because they have to compete for the capital they need to function. Finance capital has dominated industrial capital for over a century. It invests where the rate of profit is highest.

But when industrial crises deepen, banks and other financial capitalists compete for shrinking opportunities for profitable investment. They increasingly turn to speculation. The world economy becomes a giant casino.

This is where we are now: not just in a cyclical crisis,

but in a general crisis of capitalism.

The fight between competing groups of capitalists-imperialists sharpens. Economic wars lead to shooting wars – up to and including world war.

Today, Trump and Xi are imposing tariffs. They will eventually need war to destroy the productive capacity—factories and workers—of their rivals. The winning capitalist can then capture the biggest market share without caring how many millions are slaughtered.

Until we destroy this wasteful, destructive, inhuman capitalist system.

Abolish the Wage System

From the worker's point of view, capitalism is the wage system. We have to come to work every day just to survive.

When competition sharpens, capitalists try to drive us to ever lower levels of subsistence. They pay black and latino workers less than white workers, women less than men, children less than that. They push racism, sexism, homophobia and xenophobia to justify these attacks: the cutting edge of their attacks on all workers.

Union leaders would have us fight a lifelong, losing battle for wages barely above subsistence. But we need to fight as one class to get rid of the wage system, and all the poisonous ideologies it breeds. Let's fight the class war for communism instead of fighting and dying for the rulers' empires and profits.

Masses of angry workers are looking a solution. That solution is communism. The masses will produce for use, not profit. There won't be unemployment. Everyone will help plan, produce and distribute what is needed.

With no money or markets or wages, no bosses or borders, there will be no crises of "overproduction" and no wars.

Urgency, patience and audacity in mobilizing the masses for communism and nothing else will bring forth the red dawn of communism.



The world economy becomes a giant casino.

This is where we are now: not just in a cyclical crisis,

FACED WITH A NEW RECESSION, LET'S ADVANCE UNDER ATTACK BY BUILDING THE ICWP

The stock markets of many countries plummeted on 13 August, heralding another economic crisis. The great recession, as the last crisis was called, is still being felt in many working-class households worldwide. If another recession were to follow, it would have calamitous consequences and, according to the bosses' economists, at the level of a depression never seen before.

The overproduction of commodities is creating economic wars between the bosses of China and the United States, and also setting the stage for a military confrontation of major proportions. The Gross Domestic Product is stagnating in several countries that are considered key, as in the case of Germany which contracted 0.1% in the second quarter. Other countries: saw contractions. United Kingdom, where GDP contracted by 0.2%, Mexico 0.1%, Singapore 0.3%, South

Korea 1.1%, Russia 0.7%, Brazil 0.2%. Italy and Argentina are in recession.

For Capitalism these series of crises have been habitual since it was established. All this will bring more racism and unemployment to the working class and will provoke more world migration at unimaginable levels.

But no matter how fiercely attacked the workers are, they will never stand idly by. with their arms folded. Struggle is an integral part of the working class no matter how many thousands of miles they have to walk through mountains and deserts, or cross oceans on paper rafts. The working class has never given up.

Certainly, the working class in this system cannot stop the crises that the capitalists cause, because we don't have the power to do so. But we can, through the International Communist Work-

ers' Party, make a revolution to remove the bosses from power, and build a classless society.

In Communism there will be no wars, no recessions, no unemployment, no racism, much less nations or nationalism. The working class will produce what it needs without having to migrate in order to live better, because we will have everything without the need for money. Today that money is in private hands, those of the bosses, and is the cause of so much inequality.

With the recession just around the corner, we workers have to close ranks and organize with Communist ideas. There are going to be tough times, but it's also going to be an opportunity to advance under attack and win more Party members. Together we, the working class, are powerful and we will know how to repel the attacks. Join the ICWP and fight for a Classless Society.

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Dump Trump? Dump Capitalism!

WORKERS AND SOLDIERS NEED TO FIGHT FOR COMMUNIST POWER

LOS ANGELES (USA), October 6 — “Why now?” asked a Los Angeles bus operator. “Why didn’t they [House Democrats] impeach Trump after the Mueller report?”

Good question.

And why not after the Trump administration put children in cages? Banned Muslims from entering the USA? Gave tax breaks to large corporations and the richest individuals while cutting programs that helped struggling workers with housing, food and health care?

Why not after Trump said there were “good people on both sides” in the Charlottesville confrontation when one side consisted of open racists and neo-Nazis?

Trump can attack the working class and not get impeached, but go after Joe Biden and it’s on.

The bus operator answered his own question: “The Mueller report seemed complicated. But then Trump asked the president of Ukraine for help against Biden in the 2020 election. People can understand that.”

But the Democratic Party wasn’t just mad because Trump went after “one of their own.” Or even because they think that Russian capitalists helped him steal the 2016 election. Or because he’s openly trying to get foreign capitalists to steal the 2020 election for him.

The “real” articles of impeachment would be:

* Trump’s erratic and self-serving foreign policy is contributing to the decline of US imperialism and US global power. (See box)

* His inconsistent economic policies (including trade wars) are destabilizing the business environment and magnifying the existing crisis of capitalism.

* His shameless corruption undermines public confidence in the capitalist political system and the capitalist “rule of law.”



Read our pamphlet:
Soldiers, Sailors, Marines: Crucial to a Communist Workers’ Revolution
Available at:
icwpredflag.org/mpe.pdf

Your Enemy’s Enemy Is Not Always Your Friend

Racist Trump put a bounty on the heads of the Central Park 5 (black and latino youth who were later exonerated for a rape/murder of a white woman) and called for their execution. But Trump’s enemy Joe Biden is no friend of the working class.

For example, Biden played a leading role in passing the laws that created the US system of racist mass incarceration. Presidential candidate Kamala Harris also did her part as a California state prosecutor and attorney-general.

Today, the US (with 5% of the world population) has 25% of the world’s prison inmates. Black people are 12% of the US population but 33% of those in prison.

Sexism is a powerful tool that capitalists use to divide the working class. Trump famously bragged that he could get away with grabbing women’s genitals. He clearly regards women as sex objects or servants.

But Biden wrote in 1981 that day-care centers were “monuments to our growing unwillingness to accept personal responsibility.” In 2006 he said he did not view abortion as “a choice and a right... it’s always a tragedy.”

Women in the US are 35 percent more likely than men to fall below the very low official “poverty line.” Single mothers face the highest risk.

Yet candidate Andrew Yang says the “best way” to help them would be a check for \$1000/month. Even if that check doesn’t replace other government assistance, it’s less than the average cost of day care!

“I am a capitalist,” declared Elizabeth Warren. “I believe in markets. ... They are what make us rich, they are what create opportunity. But only fair markets, markets with rules.”

Workers and youth, let’s not look to the Democratic Party to secure our future.

Communism, not capitalism, will create opportunity for us. It will end markets, especially the “labor market” where we are forced to sell our labor power by the day or by the hour. Instead we will contribute our work freely for the collective good. We’ll get what we need without requiring wages to pay for it.

Another US Civil War?

Trump retweeted a statement that to impeach him would create a “Civil War like fracture in this Nation.” Later he added that “what is taking place is not an impeachment, it is a COUP, intended to take away the Power of the People, their VOTE,” etc., etc.

Rep. Maxine Waters and others warn that Trump’s hard-core supporters might not accept

Will Trump Be Impeached for Sabotaging US Imperialism?

October 9— Trump, caving to pressure from Turkey’s president Erdogan, said he’d allow Turkey to expel Kurdish forces from northern Syria. Bloody attacks have already begun.

Suddenly the entire US ruling class – from the “radical” Rep. Ilhan Omar to the hardcore Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell – seems to be on the same page.

The US rulers have betrayed their Kurdish allies many times before. This time, Trump’s proposal to withdraw all US troops from Syria was a huge gift to Turkey, President Assad and his Russian backers. The Islamic State (ISIS) must be cheering, too.

Trump may well flip-flop again, as he did when he changed his mind at the last minute about bombing Iran. But “what ally could look at the United States now and see a stalwart partner,” asked the *New York Times*. “What foe could look at it and fear a determined adversary?”

One columnist summed it up: “Another example of the foreign policy [Trump] has run from the White House, which has largely abandoned the elaborate systems created since President Harry Truman’s day.”

That is, Trump is destroying the foundations of 70 years of US imperialism.

Unlike Omar, McConnell and the *New York Times*, we shed no tears for this murderous profit-guzzling, war-making bosses’ empire. We have no illusions that US troops make the world safer for any workers.

We, the international working class, must destroy all imperialist and capitalist bosses with communist revolution. Their crisis is our opportunity.

his impeachment or even an electoral defeat. Many have weapons and some are organized into militias. These militias are reportedly taking Trump’s tweets literally.

Where would the US military stand? We’re not the only ones thinking about that, and we don’t have an answer.

But we do know this: If our party had a much broader and deeper communist base in the US Army and National Guard, the sharpening conflict within the US ruling class would create an opening for communist revolution.

We must take much more seriously our responsibility to build that base – starting now.

LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

Capitalism Monetizes Our Very Lives: Communism Gives Life Meaning

My co-worker was clearly upset. “How can the company say each person killed in the 737Max crashes is worth \$115,000?” he protested.

He was referring to the \$40 million Boeing set aside to settle lawsuits resulting from the crashes. “What nerve!” he continued.

After a quick Google search, we learned that the family of a Chicago executive was given \$7 million after a Puget Sound airliner crash a few years ago. The person who died was a 37-year-old ad agency account manager.

Capitalist law says that, above all else, the value of a life is proportional to the potential

“earning power” of the victim. With that logic, the life of CEO Muilenburg is worth thousands of times more than our lives.

Let’s get this straight! This guy and his executive cohorts are responsible for the deaths of the 346 people killed in the MAX crashes. Yet supposedly these bosses are worth millions more than us workers, who actually create all value.

“Now I get it,” added my co-worker. “Because most of those passengers came from countries with lower salaries, their lives weren’t worth much.” Even with potential layoffs on the horizon, it’s this that riles him up.

Communism will reject this whole concept of monetizing the worth of a life. The goal of our

party is ending the primacy of monetary, exploitive relations at work and throughout society. The well-being of all (including family members) will be the responsibility of society under all circumstances.

Our lives will be filled with invaluable contributions to the collective working class and with the priceless communist relationships we form in the struggle to advance communism. There will be no money.

As much as possible under capitalism, ICWP members strive to live by these principles today. Many other workers do also. One more reason to join our party and build for communist revolution.

—Boeing comrade

Black Man Gets Murdered, White Killer Cop Gets Hugs

WE SEEK COMMUNIST REVOLUTION, NOT VENGEANCE

USA — Amber Guyger, a white cop, barged into the Dallas, Texas, apartment of Botham Jean, a young black man. She shot him dead while he was sitting on his couch eating ice cream. The cop claimed she thought she was in her own apartment one floor below. She got convicted of murder—but sentenced to **ONLY** 10 years.

After the trial, the victim's brother said he forgave her and then hugged her. The judge (a black woman) gave the killer a bible and another hug.

People are rightly furious. A cop can go into your house and do anything—and get off with a slap on the wrist. And people are slowly seeing that. People like Joshua Brown are looking for justice and getting killed because nothing like justice exists under capitalism.

The discussion on social media and with some friends has been about whether or not this killer cop should be “forgiven.” Why is that even a question?

The judge giving her a bible and a hug (in return for endorsement by the Dallas Police Association) shows that the cops and courts are part of the same system. That applies to black cops and justices as much as anybody else. This has nothing to do with grieving and healing.

The young black woman who lived in the same apartment complex and filmed Guyger after she shot and

killed Botham Jean, has been fired from her job and threatened. Joshua Brown—another key witness in the case and in a civil suit against the Dallas police—was murdered. The capitalist state continues to protect its racist police assassins.

Christianity tells us to “love your enemy and pray for those who spitefully use you” and to “turn the other cheek.” Mental health professionals advise those who are grieving to forgive as a part of the process of personal healing.

They're probably right on a personal level. And far be it from us to criticize how Botham Jean's brother deals with his loss. But hugs and forgiveness are not going to stop cops from killing people. How many people have been killed by cops since then? Who's hugging their kids?

Jean's mother said, “Forgiveness for us as

Christians is a healing, but there are consequences. It does not mean that everything else we have suffered has to go unnoticed. We're leaving Dallas this week, but you all must live in Dallas and you all must try to make Dallas a better place.”

We speak from the point of view of the international working class. We will never forgive nor forget a single one of the lives that have been stolen from us by a racist system of class oppression.

EVER.

We seek not vengeance but revolution. We'll wipe out the capitalist system which has stolen the lives of millions—including Botham Jean and Joshua Brown. Our anger must be channeled, not into toxic personal hatred, but into dedication to fight for a world where racist murders are not possible.

We fight for a world where capitalist exploitation, money and the buying and selling of commodities, including our labor, is but a distant memory.

And when we eliminate capitalism, we'll end the material basis of these evils of racism, sexism, homophobia, imperialism and class oppression. We'll never again have to fear the guns of a racist cop because we'll live in a communist world without cops where we treat each other like the human family that we are.



Arlington, Texas, USA, September, 2018—Protest against the police murders of Botham Jean and O'Shae Terry

LETTERS

Communism & Education

I read a letter in *Red Flag* called “About Universities,” (Vol. 10 # 12). I think it is important that the comrade has this kind of discussion in his university. The student sector has an important potential to add to the ranks of our Party.

Learning the history of the revolutionary struggle must be a collective effort. The comrades who work in the fields and the city have much to contribute to this issue, since they were important actors in the 1980s war in El Salvador.

The participation of these workers - like the men and women workers of the maquilas - is necessary in this discussion, which we will take to these sectors.

Historically, since the arrival of the Spaniards, the peasants were subjected to repression. They were stripped of their land—both small plots and communal lands. Through acts of violence and barbarism, using the army and the church, the landowners seized large tracts of land, leaving the peasants in poverty.

This provoked changes in the economic, social, political and cultural aspects of life. All that inequality, that has been a constant in capitalism, has motivated thousands to organize and fight.

In 1832 there was an insurrection known as “The Rebellion of Nonualcos,” led by the indigenous leader Anastasio Aquino in the central part of El Salvador.

One hundred years later, during a farm-worker-led rebellion, General Martínez, a genocidal army officer, ordered the massacre of thousands of agricultural workers in the western part of the country, in what is now known as

LETTERS

The 1932 Massacre.

There were also important historical events such as the strike of the railroads in 1945. That decade was one of intense reformist struggles mostly led by rural and city workers.

In subsequent years, workers, bakers, students, and teachers were developing a strong organization against the governments in turn. The seed was sown, and it germinates in each revolutionary process.

Today the International Communist Workers' Party organizes internationally to fight directly for Communism.

It is important that students talk about education, not as we know it today, but rather how it will be in communism.

There are very many examples of how during the civil war here some agricultural worker comrades learned on the march to be radio operators, to heal wounded companions, etc. (See our pamphlet, *Communist Education for a Classless Society*—available at icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf)

The questions posed in that letter should be discussed by all students around the world. I believe that science, knowledge, will be developed for the masses, science for people.

In communism, education will not be a commodity. The development of science and technological advances will be to serve the working class. We will use new methodologies so that people from the beginning of their lives are developing skills and tools for collective life and the appropriate conditions for humanity.

Communist practice must be the basis of the education process. The ICWP has a plan, to Mobilize the Masses for Communism. See:

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

icwpredflag.org/mmce.pdf Establishing networks of readers of our newspaper in schools, factories, and the army will help us expand the ideas of the Party.

We are charting the route, lets all go onward to build Communism—a classless society.

—Comrade Veteran of the Salvadoran Civil War

Airport Workers Unite- for the Good of All!

On Tuesday morning, the Los Angeles International Airport witnessed a beautiful, dynamic show of solidarity as a force made of various unions, and future union members, held a strike that temporarily halted all traffic into the airport.

This action was taken in response to low wages, lack of respect for union workers and violation of contracts by the bosses.

These actions are uniting workers from various areas of employment. Drivers from both Lyft and Uber are working on the idea of their own union: Motor Vehicle Alliance. Other unions are working in solidarity to gain the living wage of \$15 per hour. Some cities in the United States actually require a wage approaching \$34 per hour to sustain a household! We see that wages have stagnated for the average working family, while international businesses are thriving.

Though we know that merely forming unions is not the true answer to the struggle between capitalist bosses and the working class, the actions show the bosses that they need to pay attention to their workforce and its needs!

—A comrade and a friend in Los Angeles

Mass Protests in Egypt Show Limits of Arab Spring

WORKERS NEED COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

October 7 — In late September, mass protests have erupted in Egypt's main cities. Thousands are demonstrating against the conditions of poverty. They demand the end of the rule of General Abdel Fatah al-Sisi, who took power in a bloody coup in 2013.

What's behind this situation? What can we learn from this mass movement?

"Hottest Market" and Mass Poverty

Financial commentators have called Egypt "the world's hottest emerging market." In December 2018, foreign holdings of local debt increased more than 20 percent over the previous year, and this trend continues.

But at least 60% of the Egyptian population is "poor or vulnerable" according to the World Bank.

On orders of the International Monetary Fund, more than half of Egypt's budget pays interest on debts, loans and fees. The regime completely neglects the needs of the masses: health, housing, education and subsidies. The oppressed increasingly feel the consequences of the government's role in the power struggles among capitalists worldwide

Brutality: Tool of the Capitalist State

Under the Hosni Mubarak dictatorship (overthrown in the Arab Spring of 2011) the State had a brutal system of "security" forces, compliant media, single-party rule and a controlled opposition. Mubarak legitimized his regime by allowing space for dissent in the judiciary or in formal politics. However, the opposition was later attacked in various ways, from mild threats to commercial pressures and even forced "disappearances."

Since the 2013 coup, the strategy of repression has changed. The government is now less tolerant of any dissent. It even punishes acts of "false democracy" that Mubarak allowed.

In the last six years, sixty thousand people have been arrested. Hundreds have been kidnapped ("disappeared"). Thousands of civilians have been tried in military courts. Al-Sisi's message is clear: What happened in 2011 will not happen again.

The liberal press points out that this is how a corrupt and degenerate government acts. In contrast, communists see this as the reconstitution of the capitalist State by a part of the Egyptian ruling class allied to the military. They are acting in complicity with the countries aligned to the US imperialist bloc in response to the 2011 rebellion.



October 8—Mass protests of youth, mostly unemployed, youth in cities throughout Iraq have revealed widespread anger at worsening economic conditions, lack of basic utilities and social services and governmental corruption. The government has killed more than a hundred protestors during the past week and wounded at least six thousand.

Let's Learn from Mass Rebellions.

Mass protests continue. Cairo was paralyzed. The government is trying to try to contain the movement of the masses. All access roads to Tahrir Square, where the Arab Spring demonstrations took place, were blocked.

Still, thousands gathered in Warraq, Giza, to protest against poverty and repression. They are fighting attempts to evict the residents of the most impoverished sectors of the area for the benefit of tourism. Massive marches also took place in Qena. In Cairo and Alexandria, police dispersed the demonstrations before they started.

It's not just Egypt

Protests against the economic crisis are shaking the region: Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq. These movements reject the legitimacy of traditional parties. At the same time, they expose the limits of the Arab Spring.

The audacity, courage and innovation of the Arab Spring inspired masses around the world. It demonstrated once again that history is made by the masses in motion. Nevertheless it also demonstrated that without taking power, everything is illusion.

The masses need the leadership of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) to destroy the old state machinery. Only this can create the conditions that allow new social relations between human beings to flourish. Otherwise, any movement, however massive and effective, will find itself confronted with the evils that it fought against—only more sophisticated and better prepared to defend themselves from the masses.

The ICWP does not currently have the forces to turn these protests into a revolutionary situation. But more and more Communists are reading and writing for *Red Flag* there. These groups must continue to grow in quantity and quality to build the International Communist Workers' Party.

We ask them to help begin a more systematic discussion about the struggles of the working class, including communists, in North Africa and Southwest Asia. We must learn from the lessons of the past how to take power and build the communist society that workers in the region and around the world need.

LETTERS

Comments about the South African Report

The article on page 2 in the last edition of *Red Flag* quoted the South African comrades as reporting "on their limited progress in establishing networks of *Red Flag* readers inside factories" because comrades working there and the workers they are trying to recruit are not permanent but casual (temporary).

They solve this problem by meeting "with new readers from the factories in their homes. In this way, they recently recruited three comrades who work at another plant."

This is an excellent solution to forge communist relations with the casual (temporary) workforce that capitalism in its drive for maximum profits has created not only in South Africa but worldwide. But I don't think it addresses the issue facing these workers.

Obviously they should continue doing what has proven to be so successful (visiting work-

LETTERS

LETTERS

ers and recruiting them in their homes). But I think we can do even more with a little extra added effort which could move us in the direction of answering the question of how do we organize communist class struggle on the job.

The comrades openly distribute *Red Flag* at these auto plants. We should put out a leaflet that we can use every time there is a change of temporary workers at the factories where we distribute *Red Flag*. This would massify the issue and our communist analysis and vision. This is based on our experience in the US where many more workers will take a leaflet rather than *Red Flag*.

The leaflet could address the question of exploitation, wage slavery, crisis of overproduction, racism, sexism and explain how this problem is a product of capitalism and how only communist revolution can end it. We can also link this and other problems workers face on the job to broader issues like xenophobia, fas-

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

cism and imperialist war.

Besides calling on workers to read, distribute, write for *Red Flag*, and join and build ICWP, we should put forward some short-term tactics to respond to the capitalists' daily attacks like this one. We can call on workers to organize slow-downs, strikes and demonstrations, not for making those temporary jobs permanent, but against capitalism and for communism. That is to say no demands of any type - just actions and slogans against capitalism that point towards communism.

—Internationalist comrade

