

# RED FLAG



## MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



SEATTLE, USA



LOS ANGELES, USA



MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA



IDLIB, SYRIA



GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

### ICWP EVOLVING DURING MASS UNREST

June 9 – Our brother George Floyd – an African American worker – was publicly executed on May 25 by four Minneapolis (USA) fascist cops. Louisville (USA) cops murdered our sister Breonna Taylor in her own home on March 13. The simmering anger of the masses boiled over into multi-racial rebellions that continue across the USA and around the world: France, Germany, South Africa, Australia, Mexico, South Korea, Japan, Belgium, Tunisia and more.

Killer cops are a global pandemic. Faizan, 23, tortured to death in Delhi by fascist police after protesting India's xenophobic citizenship laws. Geovanny López, a construction worker, savagely murdered in a Guadalajara, Mexico jail. Collins Khoza in Cape Town, South Africa. Kumanjayi Walker, 19, in rural Australia. Adama Traoré in Paris, France. Say their names! Communist revolution will avenge their deaths!

In the US: A Minneapolis police station burned to the ground – and a *Newsweek* poll found that a majority nationwide approved! Bus drivers in New York and Minneapolis refused to take arrested protesters to jail.

See [GEORGE FLOYD](#), page 2

### Building Communism Internationally: WORKERS EVERYWHERE ARE MORE ALIKE THAN DIFFERENT

DELHI (India) — “Our black brother in USA was murdered by police. We must respond to this ICWP leaflet quickly,” said a comrade. “In communism this will never happen. We need communism. That means more communists now.” The word got out quickly. Other comrades in Delhi met that evening and contacted workers in Bengaluru and Chennai.

In emotional and angry meetings in all three cities, comrades agreed to rewrite the leaflet to reflect the similarities between the killings of George Floyd and 23-year-old Faizan in Delhi.

Faizan and friends participated in a mass demonstration against India's xenophobic citizenship laws on February 23rd. As they walked home, they came under sustained attack from the paramilitary forces. Five of them were severely beaten. As they lay bleeding, fascist police started torturing them. They filmed a video of policemen forcing them to sing the national anthem.

For two days they were tortured in the police station. Faizal succumbed to his injuries. The family found his body with broken jaw, bones, and skull. He was among several dozen who died in Delhi fighting the fascist citizenship laws.

Our leaflet compared the murders of George and Faizan. Capitalism is a killing machine. Countless Dalit, Muslims, migrants in India meet the same fate as black, Latin and immigrant workers in the US and Europe, in Brazilian favelas and segregated townships of South Africa.

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## GEORGE FLOYD from page 1 Mass International Anti-Racist Rebellions Create New Opportunities **ICWP EVOLVING DURING MASS UNREST**

In Hollywood, marchers called on National Guard personnel to join them. And young worker comrades in Los Angeles talked to Guard members about the need for communist revolution.

One reported back: “Our work is evolving, and I believe that we are in ways as well. These uprisings are our opportunity to grow the party and help people channel their anger towards any single issue they show up for.”

### **International Leaflet: “Join the ICWP”**

*George was killed by the same racist system that has allowed over 100,000 to die of Covid-19 in the US alone – disproportionately black and immigrant workers. By the same system that is starving millions from Mumbai to San Salvador to Port Elizabeth with fascist lockdowns. By capitalism.*

*Only communist revolution can destroy this deadly racist system.*

*That’s why every one of us needs to join the International Communist Workers’ Party right away. We need to build and mobilize collectives of the only organization that can lead our class to its liberation and end racism forever.*

And workers responded. “I am from India, Kerala,” wrote one. “I want to Organize People for ICWP in My Location.” He is multilingual and will help with translation. Others in India have joined, too. A group is forming in Sweden.

### **Qualitative and Quantitative Changes**

The protests may die down by the time you read this, but there’s no going back. Much has changed in a few short weeks. You can call it a “tipping point” or a “cusp” or “the straw that broke the camel’s back.” Whatever you call it, the mood of the masses and our potential for recruitment have made a qualitative leap.

Qualitative changes emerge from quantitative changes, like earthquakes that burst forth from



small, gradual changes deep in the Earth’s crust.

The present social earthquake emerged from the deepening global crisis of capitalism. We have talked about this before and we will again. The internal contradictions of the capitalist economy. The resulting intensification of inter-imperialist rivalry and conflict, erosion of infrastructure such as public health, the inevitable immiseration of the masses. The sharpening of racist and fascist repression as the capitalist rulers struggle to maintain control and prepare for war.

### **Communist commitment is needed to end Capitalist terror**

Communist commitment isn’t an abstract principle or state of mind. It is realized in concrete collective struggle. Communist struggle to determine what’s needed and to make it happen.

Commitment means holding ourselves and each other accountable to take actions that are necessary but new or difficult for us. It’s learning from our mistakes and from our successes.

And that is the core of our communist vision:

Training ourselves and many more to be communists. Voluntary participation in the collective struggle to transform the world. Building the International Communist Workers’ Party.

### **A New Era for Humankind**

Communist revolution will usher in an era qualitatively different from the class societies that have dominated the world over the last 8000 years.

An era when the masses, organized into an International Communist Workers’ Party, will collectively make and carry out all decisions about production, distribution, and social organization. No money or wages or profits or competition! No police occupying our communities!

Instead, comradely social relations and the needs of the masses. Workers will organize ourselves to deal with any problems that arise and to defend our new society.

An era where the end of borders and private property has eliminated the material basis of war, of racism and xenophobia, and of sexism. Where communists will lead masses in a fierce and class-conscious fight against racist practices, habits and ideas until they are eliminated.

That change, too, will emerge from the quantitative changes we make by doing communist work on a day-to-day basis.

Talking with co-workers, friends and family about communism and how it relates to the issues they care about.

Producing communist leaflets and *Red Flag* and distributing them as widely as possible—especially in the factories and military barracks.

Leading communist class struggle and bringing communist ideas to the masses wherever they are fighting back.

Holding study groups. Recruiting more members. Developing more communist leaders. Raising money.

Above all, building more and larger collectives of the International Communist Workers’ Party.

*In communism, everyone’s contributions add up to more than the sum of the parts. Collectively, we’ll create an earthquake that will topple mountains of oppression – and build the communist world we need.*



LOUISVILLE (USA) – Masses protest the murder of Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old medical worker shot dead in her bed on March 13 by plainclothes cops who broke into her home.

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## Boeing Worker Says He's Ready:

# ANTI-RACIST THOUSANDS INSPIRE FIGHT FOR COMMUNIST UNITY

### Turn the Guns Around

"You can't take on the military," said a Boeing worker after marching with Seattle high school students over the weekend. We were discussing the political direction we will fight for in the days, months and years ahead.

"It's true you can't talk of revolution without winning the troops," said his comrade.

"That won't happen here," he countered. "Maybe in the countries that you talked with at the ICWP International Committee meeting, but not here."

"During the Vietnam War, the generals were pleading with the President to withdraw. 'We are going to lose the army' was their message."

"That was then, not now," he countered.

Within days, a dozen generals came out against using army troops against the protestors. The worker who had thought you couldn't take on the military had another idea. If you get some "at the top" to oppose using arms against those demonstrating, then maybe you could neutralize the army.

"But communist revolution requires many soldiers to turn the guns around. A communist movement relies on the commitment of rank-and file soldiers, not the bosses' generals."

"Can that really happen?"

The former Joint Chiefs Chairman, Gen. Martin Dempsey, revealed the generals' real fear: "We have an all-volunteer force... Were we to lose the trust and confidence of the American people, it would make sustaining that all-volunteer force more than difficult," he told National Public Radio.

Given the history of soldier revolts, this brings up the unspoken but very real fear the brass have that working-class soldiers will join the revolution. We discussed the communist work we must do in the army to make that happen—now.

**Get our pamphlet  
SOLDIERS, SAILORS,  
MARINES: CRUCIAL TO  
A COMMUNIST  
WORKERS' REVOLUTION  
available at  
<http://icwpredflag.org/MIL/mpe.html>**

SEATTLE (US)—*I got the call at 11 AM Saturday. One of the young women I coach told me to rush over to Franklin High School. When I got there, I saw what would become a march of about 400 south end high school students. They were marching to join the huge protest downtown [over ten thousand] against the racist killing of George Floyd and others.*

*This contingent was organized by the student who called and an Asian woman I didn't know. It was a group of many races and nationalities, all friends.*

*They asked me to say a few words. I told a quick story of the 1967 Detroit rebellion I lived through when I was 13.*

(<https://icwpredflag.org/wp/wordpress/?s=Detroit+rebellion>)

*I mentioned how I woke up to a National Guard tank parked outside my house. The mayor gave orders to shoot us, but the soldiers said no.*

*I've learned that short historical stories from the heart and personal experience seem to work best with these students. Everyone listened and it sparked more discussion. It's great that our youth are not only physically involved in the movement, but mentally as well.*

*I marched with them for over 2 miles.*

*When you combine their youth with senior experience, you create truth with power, which will unite. We now have the rise of a movement that's going to excel and create UNITY. Just remember, it won't be easy, it'll take time for our thoughts to marinate and come together.*

So said a Boeing worker involved in last week's protests.

What creates the unity, and unity for what? We debated this long and hard with our friends at Boeing and elsewhere. Everyone in our orbit noted that multi-racial, multi-national groups of friends swelled the ranks of these mass actions.

Workers asked: Is this unity only for the moment? Or can it be nourished and sustained enough to lay the basis for communist revolution? There were doubts.

The kind of unity we need to make a communist revolution requires intense struggle over communist ideas and practices. We

struggle against the bosses' racism, nationalism, economic attacks, raging pandemics, and more. Even more importantly, we must fight against bosses' ideas in our ranks, and for communist ideas. That's what we mean when we say, "Struggle with, struggle against!"

One worker said that she understood the struggle between capitalist ideas and communist ideas. "That's just human nature," she said.

These clashes of ideas have real-world implications for our class. They deserve to be pondered and debated if communism is to succeed.

We should welcome this internal struggle among the masses and the working class. It points the way to building communist collectives.

For example, the worker who marched with the students participated in the fierce debates about what comes next: communist revolution or more of the same-old reform. This struggle was possible because we are not only co-workers, but tight friends and comrades. Afterward, we asked him to join our party Zoom collective, to help write our leaflet on the lessons of the crisis at Boeing, and to continue our communist work in the schools and at the plant.

His answer: "I'm ready for all that!"



SEATTLE (US) June 7—Boeing comrades join 5,000 at the largest rally anybody can remember in the Rainier Valley, one of the most diverse working-class neighborhoods in the US. Comrades participated in at least five demonstrations last week, distributing over three hundred *Red Flags* and 1500 communist leaflets.

## WORKERS EVERYWHERE ARE MORE ALIKE THAN DIFFERENT

### INDIA from page 1

Some friends and comrades believed that workers in US and Europe do not suffer like workers here. Often this led them to conclude that it would be difficult to win workers to communism there. These same friends believed that Hindu workers in India would not join in fighting capitalism.

Recent mass demonstrations in India saw women and men, secular, Hindu, Muslim, Dalits, all fighting the fascist police shoulder to shoulder. This working-class unity in the streets translated into recruitment of workers and students from many different backgrounds into the International Communist Workers' Party.

Our meetings discussed how capitalism tries to divide us by gender, nationality, religion, caste, culture, languages and more. Their media and culture reinforce this. Massive multiracial rebel-

lions in US, sometimes violent, have smashed the myth that workers and youth in the US cannot be won to communism.

A garment worker, overcome with emotion, said: "George is my son. We are all the same." This is profound. It opens the door wide to recruit and train new communist leaders now.

We published our leaflet in four languages. We took them to our neighbors. Most of us live in areas that are under extremely strict lockdown. But we turned this to our advantage. Neighbors and friends would invite us into their homes instead of keeping us on the doorstep, so police would not see us. This allowed us to have deeper conversations about communism and building a mass party.

In workers' homes, we get to know them more intimately. We learn about their families, their difficulties with food, poor healthcare, sanitation

and debt. We patiently explain how all of these come from capitalism and how none of this will exist in a communist society based on need, not profit. As we can, we bring food to families living in the direst situations.

We have lived in the same areas for years, even decades. We know our neighbors well. But as communist organizers we now look at our relationships differently. We used to share our common stories of hardship and life. Now we understand that we are all the same and the only solution is communist revolution.

We have recruited many workers and students to ICWP since the murder of George Floyd. Our party has expanded beyond three cities. As more and more workers everywhere see that we are the same, that our differences are enriching us rather than dividing us, we are on the path to communist revolution.

## Whatever the bosses do with their racist police...

### REBELLIONS SHOW MASSES ARE OPEN TO COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

June 9, USA—As angry multi-racial masses took to the streets to protest the racist murder of George Floyd, the rulers responded with the stick of open terror. City after city witnessed police riots. Police teargassed, beat and shot rubber bullets at protesters. They ran cars into them. Arrested them for “violating curfew” after surrounding and trapping them and not letting them leave.

Yet, everywhere the demonstrations grew bigger and more determined!

Trump tweeted that repression showed the rulers’ strength. But capitalist-imperialist rulers everywhere are terrified. *They should be.* This contagious revolutionary potential has spread to every continent. It’s clearer every day that their system can only offer the masses racist terror, coronavirus, hunger, and unemployment.

The rulers build fascism out of weakness.

They fear that the masses are awakening to the fact that we are the many; they are the few and can be defeated. They fear that we will rise in revolution and overthrow them and their murderous system. *And we will.*

Now that the “stick” has failed to quell protests, the rulers are bringing out the carrot of reform. They encourage the angry masses to try to end the racist police terror that capitalism has unleashed by defunding, dismantling, or reorganizing police departments.

#### Reforms: Victories of Mass Rebellion—Or Dangerous Illusions?

The Minneapolis City Council pledged to dismantle the Police Department. They promised to create a new, non-racist public safety system, without any specific plans.

Minneapolis and other cities are banning chokeholds. In Los Angeles, out of a police

budget of \$1.8 billion, \$100 million will go instead to community services. The street in front of the White House was renamed “Black Lives Matter.” The Seattle mayor banned tear gas for 30 days – but cops used it again the second night.

Many now see that racist violence is everyday policing—not the exception. But they think the solution is spending less money on police and more on social work-

ers, public education, drug prevention, etc. The **NY Times** said that cash-strapped cities can save money by having other agencies take over some police functions. If this happens, we’ll be told it’s a huge victory.

But the cops will remain just as vicious and murderous as ever—perhaps more so. That’s their job. Police forces originated to hunt escaped slaves and to break mass strikes. To defend the capitalists’ private property and to terrorize workers – especially black workers. The rulers have always relied on violent racist terror to keep their wage slaves under control. They always will- as long as capitalism exists.

Capitalism is sinking deeper into crisis. As the masses can no longer live in the old way, they look for a revolutionary solution. The police are the bosses’ front line for racist, fascist terror.

#### Real Victories of Mass Rebellion

Masses are seeing that we are more similar than different. That we must stand together against racism, terror and fascism. Many see that racism and capitalism are inseparable. They, especially youth, are thinking about revolution. They welcome our literature and are open to communism.

Communism won’t need police, jails, or courts. By building ICWP collectives everywhere, we will build a mass party that will defeat fascist terror with communist revolution. Communist collectives will deal humanely with any anti-social behavior that occurs because of the vestiges of capitalist ideas and practices. We’ll struggle to win over all those we can and isolate those we can’t.

**The solution is in our hands. To end racist police terror: Mobilize the masses for communism now!**



“There are simply more of them than us,” cried Minnesota governor Tim Walz as the police station burned in Minneapolis.

### MEXICO: REBELLION AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY AND IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE US WORKING CLASS

Thousands of workers, enraged by police brutality, rebelled on Thursday, June 4 in Guadalajara, Mexico. Geovanny López, a construction worker, was savagely murdered in prison. For many workers, this was the last straw. Tired of living beleaguered by the boss-caused epidemic, workers angrily took to the streets.

The police suffered the wrath of the working class. Workers confronted the uniformed assassins with everything they could, sending several of their executioners to the hospital, some even with burns. The government palace, patrol cars, motorcycles and various businesses were also set on fire.

The rebellion was inspired by the struggle of the US working class against racism. In the wake of the murder of George Floyd, the Mexican working class took to the streets. On Friday, June 5, in Mexico City, a protest in front of the US embassy culminated in clashes with the police, leav-

ing the embassy painted with graffiti. Businesses, banks and offices were destroyed and burned in the luxurious Polanco neighborhood.

On Saturday, June 6, another protest was called in Guadalajara, but it was brutally suppressed before it began. Dozens of youths were arrested by plainclothes police and tortured for several hours. Another march is expected this week.

These rebellions are spreading throughout the world. The workers have risen up in struggle, tired of enduring exploitation, racism, police brutality and capitalist lies about the coronavirus. In Mexico, the pandemic has killed thousands of workers and sent millions more into unemployment. The López Obrador government continues with its plans to expand the economy to favor bosses like Carlos Slim and Ricardo Salinas Pliego.



Guadalajara, Mexico



Mexico City, in front of the US embassy

The capitalist system is in crisis. It is the workers who pay with their lives so that the bosses can continue in power, enjoying their profits. Let’s get rid of them. The working class is self-sufficient to govern ourselves. We don’t need the bosses. We need a Communist system. Let’s fight to get it, and end racism, police brutality, and all the evils of capitalism.

We don’t want “justice” for our murdered class brothers and sisters. In the capitalist system, there will never be justice for the working class. They can put the murderers in jail, but tomorrow they will continue killing more workers. The only justice will be to destroy the bosses’ capitalist profit system.

Let’s fight for Communism! Let’s build a better world for all workers!

## ORGANIZING A MASS ICWP IN SOUTH AFRICA

June 7—Yesterday we met as a collective to implement the plans we reported to the International meeting. We focused on recruitment.

We had to first address some internal challenges. The main one was the fear of growth. We've identified this as one of the major obstacles preventing us from moving forward and recruiting more people.

In our heads, probably unconsciously, we ask ourselves if we recruit a thousand people, what are we going to do with them, how we will be able to organize them?

So instead of being aggressive in recruiting, we have taken a snail's pace. We have this notion that we need to maintain growth at lower levels so that we don't have large numbers and we have control. That was the main thing for us to struggle against.

Our main job is to recruit the masses for communism, to ICWP. We had set ourselves artificial quotas. We had to push back against this—really hard. We need to aggressively do this with no quota. So we came up with specific plans about how we will actually do this.

On Monday schools are reopening here in South Africa. We will be going out again to high schools to recruit more students so we can make a collective of high school students. Then we can establish dialectics classes. Already plans have been set in motion. About five students in Zwide will start our classes next weekend.

In terms of recruiting industrial workers to the organization, the comrade in Motherwell pledged to invite his friends from work who he has shared our manifesto *Mobilize the Masses for Communism* with. We are still struggling with them but

they are really open to our ideas. They have agreed to join. That is an important step. Our task is to explain to them what it means to join the communist movement.

In the next week or two we will focus on that. We will struggle with these new comrades so that they can also struggle with their friends and family members to join us.

We have an exciting journey ahead of us. Comrades have realized that, in whatever we do, what is primary is practice. As much as it is important to talk about our challenges and struggles, there has to be practice. Otherwise we are simply saying things.

That is the main focus of the collective on this side: getting more workers and students to join us, and not holding back.

—Comrades in South Africa

**PLEASE SEND US YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO ICWPREDFLAG@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.ORG**

### Transit Worker: Stop Discrimination from Its Root - Capitalism

In these times people are exploring different avenues to find answers on why the U.S. and many other countries are suffering. *Red Flag* is a perfect answer to those questions and shows the raw disgusting truth of Capitalism at the expense of the working class like you and me.

Co-workers realize that every person that works here at MTA is in their own bubble and when we do not feel the direct negative consequences people become passive to serious issues, such as our pandemic and the protests that are happening around the world. One stated, "I make good money, and some are unemployed, and I still received a stimulus check. That definitely does not seem right."

These frustrations are making people believe and realize that the government is failing miserably at protecting its people. People are becoming irrational due to the stresses of Capitalism that are placed on the working class. From people saying this Pandemic is not real and to stop all the protests because the economy cannot be delayed from opening.

As for the United States, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was supposed to abolish discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. This was a way to extinguish the fire burning towards a revolution in the 1960s.

Capitalism's foundation was built on discrimination and looting that will continue to exist if there is not a drastic change. We are well over 50 years of the Civil Rights Era and nothing has changed, and it is clear Capitalism is failing. Discrimination does not just turn off like a light switch. Reform is not the answer, but a revolution toward Communism is the only way.

I know for a fact that I will not put all my trust in a Capitalist Society that will constantly lie and find ways to blind us from the realities. It feeds on hate and is driven on a greedy monetary system that will kill people of the working class at any cost. The ICWP has taught me that this is not a theory, it's actual facts and a form of science that shows we are being taken advantage of by the ruthlessness of Capitalism.

I stand with the ICWP for our continued struggle towards communism. Communism is the only way to stop discrimination from the root and to abolish Capitalism for the better of mankind.

Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)

### Communist Revolution Is the Only Way

The leaflet about George Floyd is a great statement. Very painful, on the other hand, what the system has done to the people. The system has no remorse, comrades. It only wants to benefit itself. These capitalists don't care about the life of human beings. Enslavement of the people so that they work to generate profit while we are hungry and starving.

These people are pure killers. Money is worth more than human beings to them. They don't care about us. This is very, very bad, comrades. And if you look at all the systems and all the fighting back against the system, they don't work.

Only communist revolution with ICWP works. And we have to convince people.

It is very essential for people to know that ICWP is the only organization that can free the people, that can destroy the capitalist system. I hate this system.

Let's mobilize the masses for communism, com-

rades, and free the people. Destroy capitalism and its governments. People must unite for one cause. Communist revolution is the only way. Capitalists will never love us. They love money more than us. And I don't know how much money they want to have. They are already filthy rich but they still want to get more.

What's the use of having a billion Rands? Billions are too much for one person, while others are starving. That person will die and leave that money on earth while others starve and die of poverty. The system is not right, comrades.

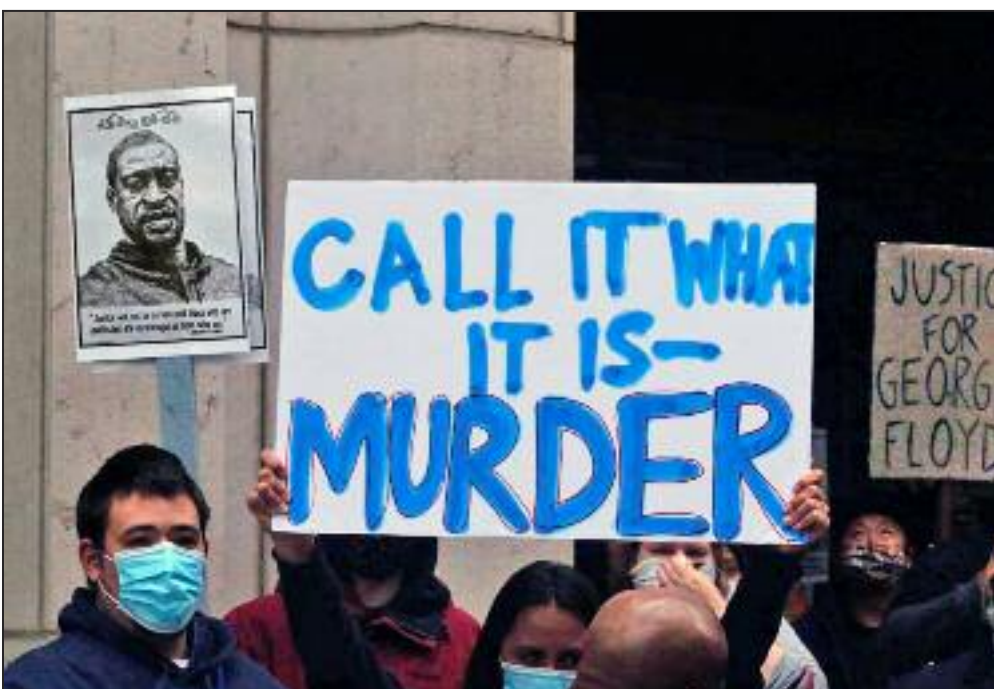
—Comrades in South Africa

### All Capitalist Politicians Attack and Kill Workers

Great article about George Floyd, comrade. Very true! No other can destroy capitalism but communism. The capitalists are taking the masses for a joke. They slave, starve and kill us. They have no remorse for the masses, black and white. All they are hungry for is maximum profits. They are thieves with a licence to steal and killers with a licence to kill.

George Floyd is just another victim of the system. How many have been killed by the police? President Ramaphosa is killing workers. He and that sellout Mandela killed our hero Chris Hani simply because he wanted to free black people. That Mandela is the worst black leader that ever led black people. He is wicked and evil and knows no good. This government of South Africa is continuing what Mandela died doing, killing black people. Nothing good will come out these politicians who are selfish, who are only concerned with getting rich out of our suffering. People will always suffer as long as they depend on this responsible government.

—Friend in South Africa



## MOBILIZING FOR COMMUNISM UNDER NEW CONDITIONS

EL SALVADOR—Our class has a history of struggle here. In the 1960s, workers' fights against the exploiting bosses intensified. Hundreds of workers, men and women, went on mass strikes in 1967. City workers, teachers, farmworkers and students organized to fight against the bosses and their servants.

Many workers who fought alongside their class to build a revolutionary movement fell fighting for their proletarian ideals. But they created a class-consciousness and to this day the International Communist Workers' Party has not let the Red Flag fall!

We have a history of repression, poverty, and death by military and civilian governments. Today we see the measures implemented by the fascist Bukele government, who, like the previous presidents, only thinks of defending capitalism. But even under these circumstances the workers have historically carried on the battle. And we continue to do so, today under the com-

munist line, which is urgently needed to unify the whole working class.

The rulers are using COVID-19 as an excuse for social control of our class. We are making changes in this new scenario, under fascist attack, which has modified the way we live.

This pandemic limits us. It drives us to look for new ways of having more solid communist relationships that are achieved when one is in personal contact. But as communist philosophy teaches us, this is not forever. We must continue carrying out the task of changing the system.

Our class brothers and sisters in the maquilas, for example, are being exposed even more in this pandemic situation, but they are making the clandestine fight to advance ICWP.

In this situation, we have had difficulty distributing our *Red Flag* newspaper hand to hand. But the newspaper has been distributed electronically.

It has been hard to visit our comrades and friends in the communities. Extended broad

meetings have not been possible. But we are communicating more frequently through networks and holding meetings through apps.

For study groups that had already started, each cell leader plans to maintain them electronically. A WhatsApp group has also been formed to share documents of interest in addition to the *Red Flag*.

We are building solidarity as a communist principle, to respond to this moment. We have carried out three distributions of a food basket to workers, friends of the party and their families, and small amounts of cash to those most affected. Thanks to the solidarity campaigns with comrades in the USA.

We need to establish a new way of working: to organize soldiers and workers to ICWP, distribute and read *Red Flag*, strengthen communist social relations, mobilize and support struggles. To mobilize the masses for communism!

**PLEASE SEND US YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO [ICWPREDFLAG@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.ORG](mailto:ICWPREDFLAG@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.ORG)**

### Learning from the Chinese Revolution

What will communism be like? How do we know? We have general principles. But knowledge depends on the particular as well as the general, the concrete as well as the abstract. Can we know how mangoes taste without anyone ever tasting a mango?

We can't determine every detail of communism on general principles alone. Or how they will be shaped by local conditions. Much will depend on the experience of the masses, mobilized on communist principles to take concrete, particular actions.

"Where has communism ever worked?" people ask. Sometimes we say "it's never really been tried." Or we talk about pre-class societies. All true.

But as dialectical and historical materialists, we need to study the history of our communist movement. We need to know it in enough depth and particularity to learn and teach its lessons.

A recent *Red Flag* article claimed that China established socialism in 1949. That's not true. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) led a "democratic revolution" that openly embraced capitalist private enterprise.

"All privately owned factories, stores, banks, warehouses, vessels, wharves, etc. will be protected," proclaimed the CCP-led "People's Government" (April, 1949). And they were. The revolutionary government only took over enterprises previously owned by the Kuomintang (KMT) government and its bureaucrats.

The "People's Government" included the Democratic League and the KMT's "left-wing." It was not a "dictatorship of the proletariat" or "proletariat and poor peasants."

The governor of a communist-held area explained: "We aim to remove the obstacles that feudalism places in the way of capitalism so that capitalism may thrive and grow." Trade unions, said a labor leader, "cooperated with the capitalists, urging them on to make profits, from which all might benefit."

Communists promoting free-market capitalism? A contradiction! Moreover, the same communist party, at the same time, was nurturing seeds of communism.

In "The Chinese Conquer China" (1949) Strong reported that hundreds of thousands of peasants, mostly women, had formed and joined industrial cooperatives. "The most successful were those whose aim was not profit,

but the supplying of the members' needs." These coops struck a blow against women's subordination.

Students flocked to liberated zones, allying with peasants and promoting literacy and political education. Prisoners of war, quickly released, stayed to help build the new society. Leaders lived in caves, like the masses.

Mao said in 1949 that Chinese capitalism would develop for decades, maybe longer. The masses didn't allow that. By the mid-1950s, the groundswell of land reform carried over into a huge "People's Commune" movement. The contradiction inside the CCP intensified until it exploded in the Cultural Revolution.

We've written about how capitalism won that struggle. Let's also study the stories of the Chinese masses' struggles for communism, going back to 1949 and before.

—LA (USA) comrade

### Housing in Communism

The article on housing in *Red Flag* Vol. 7 # 6 would have been more useful if it had talked more about housing in a communist society. On this subject it said:

"We'll expropriate empty dwellings and mansions and put them to good use. We'll collectively plan, build and occupy forms of housing (old and new) that meet our needs.

Slum dwellers everywhere are very resourceful – and often collective – in housing themselves. Communism will liberate their creativity and power!"

Communism is much more than just expropriating private property like housing and all the means of production. Communism is mainly about developing communist relations among the masses concerning all aspects of social activity, and how to use our advances to develop and recruit more communists to ad-



PARIS, FRANCE, 2 June – Twenty thousand people, mainly youth, defied a government ban to protest the police murders of George Floyd and Adama Traoré. French cops killed Adama inside a police station four years ago. No one has been charged. Adama's sister declared: "We're fighting for George, for Adama, for Ibrahima Bah, for Gaye Camara, Babacar Gueye, for Angelo Garand... the list is too long!" We are translating more ICWP literature into French to help build our party in France, North Africa and elsewhere.

vance and spread this process even more.

Viewed from this perspective, housing would play a very important role. We need to write more on this question. I am writing this to stimulate discussion and advance this process.

Housing under communism should strive to eradicate the capitalist concept of the "nuclear family" as the basis of society. This implies collective living in relatively large communes and doing everything collectively, including the rearing of children, cooking, eating, cleaning and maintaining the premises, entertainment, etc.

Therefore, the building and layout of housing should aim to develop communist social relations to the maximum in order to change "my house, my children, my life, etc." to "our house, our children, our lives, etc."

Housing will also impact how we work and where we work, our learning, our wellbeing, health care and many other things in our lives.

In such communal living environment – integrating workers from different "races," nationalities, cultures, ages, etc. – is where the decisive battles to defeat racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, individualism and all other remnants of capitalism's toxic ideologies will be fought and won.

—Comrade Looking Ahead

PLEASE SEND US YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO ICWPREDFLAG@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.ORG

## Los Angeles (USA) Nurses Protest Institutionalized Racism

On Thursday, June 4, we received an invitation from the hospital administrator to demonstrate against institutionalized racism, all of this as a result of the death of George Floyd at the hands of racist police in Minneapolis. I immediately started asking my coworkers who would like to participate, and I honestly expected what I received: an affirmative answer from everyone.

At the daily meeting the next morning, I reminded everyone of the event scheduled for that day and offered them materials to make signs. I told them that this was a good time to express our position, and that I knew how necessary this was. When the meeting ended, ALL my co-workers started writing on the signs. "Let's end institutionalized racism," some said. Others reproached the police: "You are here to protect and serve us, not to kill us!" and others, "I CAN'T BREATHE" and "Black Lives Matter!"

It was so exciting to see everyone sharing ideas and selecting what phrase could represent their feelings and their thinking.

When the time came, we were all together in a group with our signs. I could see how glad my co-workers were to be able to participate.

When we were returning to work, I saw my coworkers wiping their tears and commenting effusively on how much they liked being in a group and showing their discontent. I gently showed them that a racist system where the lives of the workers, of whatever race, are worth less than their profits, that system must change now!

I am very pleased to know that my coworkers and I experienced very strong unity. The environment at work improved, and I have an open path to continue talking about the fundamental changes that the capitalist system requires and that together we can make.

—A nurse at County USC Medical Center

**Red Flag comments: Communism is the only alternative. We need to organize ourselves NOW!**

## The Fight for Communism, A Life-long Commitment

Some time ago, when I met the party, a comrade told me something that I try to keep in mind, but often forget: "You have to have patience with the working class." We sometimes become discouraged when we believe that we are not making political progress with people.

After seeing the images of a policeman putting his knee on George Floyd's neck while other policemen held his body to the ground, my family's calls began to come in droplets. Soon they were a torrent. They were looking for answers. The only one I could offer was the simplest, but the most powerful: Let's fight for Communism.

One of them asked, "But are we going to the protests?" I answered with another question: "Should we ask the rest of the family and friends if they want to go? And let's all go together!"

I called my contacts. I wanted to know what they thought, and if they were willing to go to the protests, which already looked violent on television. It was an intense ideological fight. They had never participated in such a protest, here or in Guatemala.

In all, fifteen family members and friends went together to the protest. My daughter proudly carried a first-aid backpack, including

water and bicarbonate to counteract the gas and pepper spray that police use against the protesters.

For the first time, my family was united for a single political cause, and it was to me they came to organize it. A large banner that shouted "UNITED AGAINST RACISM" that my nephews carried made me feel proud to be a party member.

I chanted the party's slogans. A few of our group joined in some, but they mingled with the reformist chants of the thousands of protesters.

After three hours, and before the situation got more tense, two friends wanted to go home. They were afraid, and they were right. They are undocumented and the fear of the immigration police is always there.

My family could have participated in the protests like the millions who have participated worldwide, but they preferred to participate with a member of the International Communist Workers' Party.

I have many years of experience participating in the fight for Communism, but now I have had the biggest lesson. I must not abandon the struggle with anyone. I must have patience, the patience of the working class.

Many times, apathy wins in us and we think it's a waste of time to talk about communist ideas if workers don't pay attention to us. But it is we who don't pay attention to those small changes that occur every time we do or say something about communist ideas.

The work I have now is arduous. I know it will be hard, but there is no going back. The fight for Communism is the goal with my family and with my friends and with the whole working class.

Long Live Communism!

—Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)

## Communists Confront Bosses' Attacks Disguised as "Health Measures"

EL SALVADOR— "A radical and objective change is urgently needed to live in a world without bosses or money," a comrade said to a woman maquila worker. He continued, "The bosses have implemented the policy of social distancing, not to care for workers' health because of COVID-19; but so that workers don't have direct physical communication and can't demonstrate against them or oppose their capitalist strategies."

This worker had called a comrade of the International Communist Workers' Party— (*Red Flag*, as we are known in the factory) and said, "The supervisors are threatening us, saying that if we don't fulfill the production quota they will fire us and send us home. They demand production of 215 dozen masks every day per module. Before, we had 30 minutes for



Kansas City, USA—White Coats for Black Lives

lunch. Now they only give us 15 to 20 minutes. That's not enough time."

Through this worker who is in the factory, we have first-hand information. Before, we did not have any kind of social or political relationship with her. We keep telling her: "They are doing things this way so that the comrades who are not working now don't get any information. They have used social distancing to get increased production and higher profits. There is no virus more dangerous than the capitalists, but we will exterminate them, by recruiting more exploited women and men workers."

We will defeat these bosses' attacks that exploit our class by winning over these workers in the factories. We will bring them to our meetings, today virtual; later, to our expanded meetings and distributions our communist literature, starting with *Red Flag*. But we are sure that now they see ICWP as the alternative.

We discussed with her what happened to George Floyd from Minneapolis, who was brutally murdered because of racism. Like him, there are many more who are dying in macabre capitalist deaths.

We concluded, "We have to organize ourselves into the ICWP and fight to overcome racism, to fight for a system where life is respected and not taken away."

The worker is still a friend of ICWP. We are sharing these discussions about our organization with her.

She told us what was happening in confidence because of the social relations that we are building. Little by little we are overcoming some fears that she has had for a long time. We have been trying to instill communist ideas so that she is getting more confidence in our party.

—Comrade Worker



# ONLY COMMUNIST REVOLUTION CAN CHANGE THE COURSE OF HISTORY

COVID-19 is ravaging the world's capitalist economy, triggering its worst crisis since 1929. It has upended many aspects of capitalist society, thrown the rulers into disarray, and put masses worldwide in motion. It hasn't, however, changed the course of history. It has only accelerated it.

Intensifying the contradiction between our class and the rulers, billions of workers worldwide can't live in the old way. Many, questioning capitalism, are looking for revolutionary solutions. This opens the door to communist revolution on a global scale.

At the same time, it has intensified the contradictions among the world's capitalists-imperialists, accelerating their drive toward fascism and World War III.

For example, the struggle between China and the US for world supremacy had been sharpening for years. The pandemic has intensified this.

Their blame game about the origins of COVID-19 should be seen in this light. Both powers are using it to foster rabid racism and fanatical patriotism to mobilize their working class to fight and die for their profits and empires.

## Imperialist Wars and Communist Revolution

War became an indispensable part of society ever since the rise of private property divided humanity into classes. Modern imperialism – the highest and last stage of capitalism – has made it a worldwide scourge.

Understanding this can steel our class and Party. It can prepare us to call for and organize armed insurrections under war conditions. It makes more urgent our need to vigorously organize in the rulers' militaries to win soldiers and sailors to join us.

We also need this understanding to win the

masses to fight for communism as the only way to end wars for profits. Worldwide communism will end all wars. It will eventually end the need for weapons of any kind.

## Struggle Among Capitalists Is Primarily Destructive

Like all processes, the capitalist class is based on the unity and struggle of opposites.

They are united in preserving their system of wage slavery. Their power, privileged lifestyle and very existence depend on this.

Struggle among them is based on competition for maximum profits. They fight for markets, natural resources, and the cheapest labor power possible.

Their struggle, like all processes, is dialectical. It is destructive and constructive.

On one hand, capitalist competition kills many capitalists as those unable to compete are plowed under. On the other, it creates millions of small "capitalists": unemployed workers and others forced to setup little "businesses" in order to survive.

Capitalist war is also destructive and creative – creative for the capitalist only. To deal with the crisis of overproduction, the capitalists must destroy the means of production – factories, machinery, tools, including tens of millions of workers.

This destruction, however, especially on a global scale, rejuvenates capitalism. Capital can now be invested profitably in rebuilding. The rate of profit is thus reestablished at a "healthy" level. Our exploitation and misery continue unabated.

## Struggle Among Workers is Primarily Constructive

Our class is also based on unity and struggle. Our primary goal is to maximize our collectivity to better survive and advance our species. Class

society prevents us from doing this.

## Our struggle is also dialectical. It is constructive and destructive.

The struggle within our class is mainly ideological. To build our communist consciousness we must destroy the capitalist ideas in us which weaken, divide, and keep us enslaved. Since worldwide our interests are the same, our struggle is mainly constructive. It advances our unity to a higher level to better fight for our class.

Unity based on communist ideological commitment fortifies family and friendship ties. It better positions us to advance the struggle for communism: organize study-action groups, distribute more literature, build more Party collectives, etc. It expands the Party's influence among the masses. It advances the revolutionary process.

## Only Our Class Can Change the Course of History

Capitalism can survive pandemics, economic crises and depressions. War rejuvenates capitalism to continue to exploit and inflict unending misery and horrors on our class.

Only communist revolution can change this by destroying capitalism and building a classless world where we workers collectively make all decisions affecting our lives.

Only a communist Party can forge the ideological unity to transform our class into that powerful agent of change. The most urgent task before us today is to build a massive International Communist Workers' Party worldwide capable of doing that.

Join us and help bring forth this historical change! It is up to our class to bring out of the destruction of imperialist war the construction of a communist society.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO [ICWPREDFLAG@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.ORG](mailto:ICWPREDFLAG@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.ORG)

## RACISM AND IMPERIALISM: LOOTED LAND, LOOTED LIVES

Looting? A black man, George Floyd, has the life crushed out of him by the knee of a cop and you want to talk about some broken windows and some stolen Nikes?

That's what the capitalist media wants you to be talking about.

So let's talk about looting—a word that entered the English language from Hindi. It means violent theft—like British imperialism did systematically in India.

In the US, unless you are an indigenous person on Tribal land, the ground beneath your

feet is looted land.

At least ten million human beings were violently stolen from Africa and enslaved in the Americas, bought and sold like human property.

Their descendants today, and I'm being brief because this deserves a book if not a whole library, suffer crushingly disproportionate rates of poverty, unemployment, police murder and death due to COVID-19.

The museums are full of looted items.

And the looting of the US Treasury during

this pandemic—corporations collected over \$500 billion in stimulus money. Everyone else was left with a \$1200 check, having to decide between paying for food or rent.

Every day that you go to work—if you're lucky enough to have a job—your boss steals the product of your labor and pays you just enough to keep you coming back tomorrow. And if you try to take home

what you produced; you'll see who they point their guns at.

In *Capital* (Vol. I Ch. 31) Marx says it better than I can.

*The discovery of gold and silver in America, the extirpation, enslavement and entombment in mines of the aboriginal population, the beginning of the conquest and looting of the East Indies, the turning of Africa into a warren for the commercial hunting of black-skins, signaled the rosy dawn of the era of capitalist production. Capital comes into the world dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt.*

You still want to talk about looting?

Not me. I want to talk about revolution. I want to talk about building a movement that can get rid of the capitalist system that is based on violence and theft. A movement that unites all of us in armed struggle against the tiny group of racist bloodsuckers and their thugs in blue and takes back the land and all that we have produced. A movement that will build a new communist society from the ground up, where we fight the racist, sexist ideas that the bosses have used to divide us, and work together for the good of all.

That's why I'm a communist. That's why I invite you to read **Red Flag** and join the International Communist Workers' Party to organize that fight. That's what I want to talk about.

—Veteran comrade

