

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



September 19 - One hundred thousand people, led by college and high school students, marched on Bangkok's Grand Palace against Thailand's monarchy and its fascist military government. This capped a month of growing protests, larger and bolder than ever. There are calls for an October 15 general strike.

This fight is for democratic reforms. It reflects a divide within the old "establishment" and perhaps the sharpening conflict over whether Thailand will remain allied with the US or tilt decisively toward China.

But the youth want real change: "Let it end with our generation!" A million tweeted #whydoweneedaking? What's needed is a revolutionary fight for communism. #whydoweneedcapitalism?

INDIA: FIVE WEEKS, THIRTY COMRADES, FIFTEEN THOUSAND COPIES OF RED FLAG

September 20 — "Let's organize the masses for communism, we need to find each and every new comrade in our neighborhood," said comrades in India. About two dozen comrades in three different cities were overjoyed to receive 15,000 copies of a shorter edition of *Red Flag*.

They wasted no time, knowing that our call for communist revolution is the only way out of the horrors of coronavirus, massive unemployment and unending poverty that grinds us down.

Reforms only lead back to intense wage slavery. Union officials are toothless and cannot make any difference as the bosses march to fascism and war. Socialism in Russia initially succeeded in the workers seizing state power. But it proved to be another form of wage slavery that became ruthless capitalism.

It is either wage slavery or liberation from it. The International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) chooses the path of communist revolution that will end an over 600-year history of wage slavery. The masses mobilized for communism have the potential to eradicate capitalism. We are a small party with a correct line. The confrontation between the working class and our class enemy must lead to a massive ICWP.

Understanding this, dozens of comrades started organizing *Red Flag* in seven different languages. We have friends, neighbors, and coworkers all around us who read different languages. Among 30 comrades, we aimed to distribute about 500 copies each. For each comrade, we identified other coworkers and friends who can take anywhere from 10 to 100 copies each. We were able to send 500 copies each to comrades in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

We have now spent over five weeks and our Red Flags are almost all distributed. We want to

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Boeing CEO Runs for Cover:

URGENT!

COMMUNIST ORGANIZERS NEEDED TO END RACIST BOSSES' WINDOW-DRESSING

SEATTLE (US), September 21—Aerospace workers are deeply affected by the mass, anti-racist uprising in the streets. They hotly debate the meaning of the pitched battles between anti-racists and the forces of fascism. Now is the time to deepen and widen our fight for communist solutions, with the goal of recruiting new members to the International Communist Workers' Party.

Boeing has a long, racist history involving everything from hiring to disproportionate numbers of Black and Latinx workers in the lowest paying jobs to racist threats on the job. Our comrades' jobs have been threatened when they organized multi-racial, anti-racist struggles on the job.

Even in South Carolina, Boeing has not hired many Black workers. But racist divisions and super-exploitation have resulted in wages about

two-thirds lower for all in the South Carolina plants. Racist super-exploitation becomes even more necessary as multiple crises drive Boeing's balance sheet deeper into the red.

The anti-racist uprising has forced Boeing CEO Calhoun to seek cover. In a memo to all employees, he promised to hire 20% more Black workers. One-fifth of a small number is still a small number. It's window-dressing.

Adding insult to injury, the company refused to say how many Black workers it currently employs, or what they do, or to give a timetable for the new target. They won't begin reporting on the racial breakdown until late next year, even though they have those numbers now.

As the company continues to lay off tens of thousands, the percentage of Black and Latinx workers will shrink. The personnel department

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International Committee Meeting Focuses on Developing New Communist Leaders: **REVOLUTION MIGHT BE IN THE AIR, BUT WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNIST TIES WITH WORKERS TO BRING IT DOWN TO EARTH**

“I appreciate the comments made by the transit worker,” said a Texas comrade after the September International Committee meeting.

The transit worker, a new comrade, described how he gets to know his fellow workers. He never misses an opportunity to inquire after their health and financial well-being. And he’s always willing to help!

At a follow up meeting of mechanics and other workers he went into more detail.

“I’ve tried two approaches,” he said, referring to his attempts to expand the party’s reach and recruit new members. Sometimes he just bombarded his friends with political ideas. Other times, he developed close multi-racial friendships as well. He thought the second option worked better.

This strategy rang true with the Texas comrade.

She has marched with anti-racist protestors (alongside members of her family) as have almost all of our friends and comrades. She described the extensive network of friends she has and the many social/political groups she participates in. She thinks the way to spread these communist politics requires that you really know people.

“I haven’t been as active as I should be,” she admitted to other comrades after the meeting. “I can do more.” After discussions with other comrades, she made a plan to contribute to *Red Flag* and help form a new Texas ICWP collective.

Newly active comrades like these point the way forward. They are focused on spreading communist ideas and recruiting to the International Communist Workers’ Party.

Progress Means More ICWP Communist Organizers

The meeting featured similar progress in many places. New communist organizers are emerging in India. They are visiting striking auto, mining and garment workers. Comrades in the El Salvador maquilas described their multi-year devel-

opment of larger and larger collectives in the factories.

In the US, rejuvenated comrades in older concentrations are stepping up. Also, our orbit is expanding to new locations. New *Red Flag* voices from New Jersey, Texas, and Portland, to name a few, are reporting on local anti-racist, anti-fascist fights they have joined.

The struggle to bring communist politics up-front intensified. For example, comrades at the meeting asked questions about how to overcome obstacles to expand the circulation of our paper, especially as we are involved mass struggle. We have to continue to work on this, having confidence in and relying on our friends and their friends.

New ICWP Leadership Emerges

We heard from a multi-racial cadre of next-generation leaders who organized an international forum on putting communism up front in the fight against racism and fascism. The next forum will focus on bringing this struggle from the streets to the schools and worksites.

Our party and the working class need more communist organizers like them.

But nothing is guaranteed. Neither the mass militance on the streets, nor the increasing activism of our members and friends will spontaneously lead to communism. Widespread anger has brought multitudes into the streets. But even that is not enough to produce communist organizers.

Our collectives must make plans to spread our ideas, and

recruit and develop new communists, no matter what the activity. If the first plan does not work, we must have backup plans. Where we have a cluster of party friends, establishing new party collectives must be a priority.

Millions of workers and students are in the streets. Millions more debate the issues at their workplaces, at school, and among family and friends.

At this time, mobilizing the masses for communism requires that we concentrate our efforts on developing the new leaders necessary to bring communism to as many of these battles as possible. Everything should be geared to recruiting, rejuvenating and developing communist fighters.



LOS ANGELES, USA, September 19—An ICWP contingent went to a protest and march against the murder of Dijon Kizzee at the hands of the Los Angeles Sheriffs on August 31. Two young comrades carried a banner. The murder occurred a few blocks from where they live. They had been absent from the party for a while. They were very encouraged by their participation in the march and agreed to form a ICWP club and meet regularly. Along the march, we distributed more than 200 copies of *Red Flag*. We met a South African friend we knew from a previous march. We showed her the photo of her in *Red Flag* from that march and the text that accompanied it. She was incredibly pleased. She indicated that she could help translate *Red Flag* into South African languages that she understands.

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consciously avoided recruiting in ZIP codes where a large number of Black and Latinx workers live. Only recently have a few people of color made it to the shop floor. Now they are losing their jobs.

By next year the number will be significantly smaller. Twenty percent more Black hires may not even bring the number up to the percentage before the layoffs started.

This is par for the course. Reform under capitalism doesn’t end the disease of racism. Actually, it prolongs it. And the atrocities become even more horrendous on the job and throughout society.

Only communism can abolish this disease. In capitalism, the extra profits from racist super-exploitation are essential. In communism there will be no profits. Instead, we’ll produce for our collective needs.

Communism will succeed based on a united working class fighting for our communist society. The racist, sexist and nationalist divisions the capitalists have nurtured will be defeated by communist masses.

Bosses’ “Racial Equity Task Force” Is No Solution

As the workers discussed how insincere this 20% pledge was, the company added another sop. The board of directors will create an internal racial equity task force.

This is not the first time Boeing has used this ploy. In 1999, Jesse Jackson sold out Black and Latinx workers by accepting a \$10 million dollar bribe for his Rainbow/PUSH NGO. The company covered up the betrayal by establishing a similar task force. These internal task forces are about as effective as the offices of police accountability.

The dynamic in the streets is already mirrored

in the plants. Fascist sympathizers and our communist base fight it out for the hearts and minds of these key industrial workers.

Our Struggle Extends Beyond the Factory

The fight against racism, sexism and nationalism extends way beyond the plant. The unwanted hysterectomies performed at the Georgia immigration detention center hit a nerve. A recently laid-off worker made a point of letting everyone know “the hate and disdain I feel about why the government feels it can do this to other human beings.”

Factory workers can and should be mobilized around all attacks on our class. This makes it even more clear that mobilizing the masses for communism is the only way forward.

Our priority must be to develop and recruit communist organizers. Our collective and friends are showing this article to their friends. We will follow up with the new issue of *Red Flag*.

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



WORKERS DISCUSS COMMUNIST POLITICAL ECONOMY AND MOBILIZE FOR COMMUNIST WORKERS' POWER

EL SALVADOR—"The competition is between the capitalists. They have bought compressed air machines that can cut on their own, replacing the worker. An operation that used three people, now only uses one. The cutters used to cut the cloth with scissors; now machines do it," said Comrade Maria. "I came to the factory as an operator fifteen years ago. We worked from 6 AM to 7 PM. Yes, thirteen hours a day! And I have seen all these bosses' struggles to get more profits and exploit us workers more."

In a recent leadership meeting, maquila workers and other members of the International Communist Workers' Party read the article "Capitalism's Competition for Profit Leads Inevitably to Depressions; Workers' Only Solution: Communist Revolution" (*Red Flag*, v. 11 #11).

"The packing area used to have eight people. Now there are only four. They reduced the staff with machines. The other four were transferred to another area. If they don't comply they are fired. The capitalists buy machines and replace the workers, to increase their profits," Moisés pointed out. He began at the factory as a supervisor. He was sent to production for joining the workers' struggle.

"We didn't rush to reach the production goal the day of our meeting, even though we were going to lose two extra hours' pay, because we care more about the struggle to organize ICWP," continued Moisés. "They wanted us to speed up production, because, according to them, we weren't doing it right. I confronted the supervisor and told him, 'Then you come sit down here and tell me how it's done.'"

"Is it clear how the bosses get their profit rate up by exploiting the workers?" asked a comrade.

Pedro has worked in the factory for over 20 years. He answered, "Yes. We know the bosses exploit us every day, and with our sweat they manage to buy more sophisticated machinery to fight against other bosses for better contracts. We have also talked about how a worker is hired for eight hours — although in reality they work up to ten— and that in only two hours the worker has already produced their wage. The rest of the value we generate is profit for the boss."

The first time we told the workers inside the factory that we could live without money and bosses, it was a big struggle. Today many see it more clearly, after reading *Red Flag* for a while

and attending our extended meetings.

We Party members had been left in groups that had no chance to earn \$1 an hour extra over the minimum. Some people are afraid to join the ICWP because of that.

"During the pandemic they only called workers that the bosses knew were not organized with us. We Party members told the other workers that it is the bosses who need us the most. The bosses don't produce anything," explained a comrade worker.

Pedro concluded, "We read the article and realized that there is no way out of this crisis except to organize for ICWP. We have seen how people, for example in the US, take to the streets to protest against racist killings, despite the rulers' campaign of social distancing.

"We have decided to form cells with the workers when they go out for lunch for collective discussions. We will return to having study groups and bring workers from other maquila areas. In the factory we already have a new *Red Flag* reader. In another factory there are two new readers."

The struggle continues.

SOUTH AMERICA: ANGRY MASSES NEED COMMUNIST LEADERSHIP

On September 11 this year, remembering the victims of the fascist Augusto Pinochet and commemorating the bloody coup that overthrew Salvador Allende in 1973, a multitude of workers, students and Mapuche indigenous people confronted the repressive government forces, sending several of them to hospital. The workers are fed up with capitalism.

Workers around the world are now more open than ever to Communist ideas. The rebellions of recent years show that the working class is tired of the bosses' lies and deception. In South America, the workers' restrained cry burst forth after the hiatus of the pandemic. The city workers, students, and farmworkers are rising up in struggle.

The capitalist free-market economic model established in Chile after the 1973 coup led to unemployment and poverty for many thousands of workers. The increase in the capitalists' wealth, measured by macroeconomic indicators and the huge growth of their companies, has not been reflected in the workers' economy. It has only favored the capitalists.

Many feel "abandoned" by the state. They denounce discrimination and abuses based on their color and racial or geographic origin. This is true of the Mapuche indigenous people. They have been at the forefront of the protests, which began in October 2019 after the government's announcement that they would raise the cost of public transportation.

lic transportation.

In Colombia, protests against the bosses' economic measures began in November 2019, inspired by the protests in Chile and Ecuador. Hundreds of thousands of students and farmworkers marched through the streets. They confronted the police and the army for several days to protest against the measures to reduce young workers' wages by up to 25% and to partially eliminate retirees' pensions.

On September 9, 2020, thousands of workers and students resumed their protests after the brutal murder of a man by the police. During several days of heroic fighting, eleven youths were killed. More than 200 people have been injured. 194 police have been sent to the hospital, some seriously, and 40% of the police detention centers were razed.

The bosses could not contain the workers' struggle. The pandemic they caused slowed down the struggle but did not stop it.

Now is the time to

fight for a Communist Revolution. These struggles, while militant and inspiring, are not enough. Demanding wage increases or the dismantling of police forces are reformist struggles. They only favor the capitalist system because the bosses want us to think the system can function for the masses. But the bosses are only parasites who live off the labor of the working class.

It is necessary to build a mass movement led by the International Communist Workers' Party, which leads the working class to destroy the capitalist system, and to replace it with the Communist System.



Colombia: Common Grave

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summarize some of our results and what we can learn from it.

A very large number of workers opened up to us, even in areas controlled by the fascists. We learned that workers absolutely hate the bosses, their corruption, the police, their political parties. These workers have no illusions about the bosses.

Many people believed that the situation is so bad that communist revolution is the only solution. But they did not know how to fight for it. Many believed that reforms are bad, but still hope they can be achieved to overcome the burden of hunger, unemployment.

More thought that the coronavirus pandemic and unemployment can never be resolved in the

capitalist system. Some workers have friends who live in villages. In these villages everybody wants to join the military because nobody gets a job in a factory or a farm. They said many of these soldiers die in Kashmir, commit suicide, or are forced to commit fascist atrocities, including rapes.

Garment workers described how, every day, they are forced to enter sweatshops with only about 30% of workers still working. They constantly fear coronavirus and eviction from the slumlords. The condition of the remaining 70% is beyond imagination with workers and kids skipping meals for days.

Some garment workers we know have openly defied the system by collecting food and distributing it to everybody. They have joined health-

care workers to distribute masks.

Recently we met mine workers who are fed up with the union officials. They said they want to fight for 'real communism'.

These are only a small part of what thousands of workers have said to us in only five weeks. Each of their stories and struggles has shown us that they are open to communism. We must embrace their resilience and their resolve to end capitalism.

We are a new party. But we are growing. We do not have all the answers but the working class, with the communist outlook, will make sure that the bosses' days of 'horrors without end' are about to end.

POLITICS, THE PANDEMIC AND THE U.S. POST OFFICE

USA, September 21 - The US Postal Service (USPS) is a bone of contention in the political drama between Republicans and Democrats. They're fighting over whether to help a financially struggling post office guarantee on-time delivery of millions of mail-in ballots and mail-in votes for the November elections.

The postal service is now seen, more than ever, as a critical institution during this time of pandemic and a presidential election. It's important for the bosses to continue their perpetual show of their most symbolic event of democracy, voting.

Amidst the pandemic, people might be afraid to go vote in person, so millions might rather vote by mail. Democrats want to give the USPS billions of dollars in loans and grants so it can continue operations, but Republicans refuse to do it. Democrats call this an attack to democracy, while Republicans claim that large-scale voting by mail would be a catastrophic fraud.

Voting is how capitalists legitimize their rule over the working class. So, every four years, they put on their show and do the impossible to make sure workers vote.

"Most postal workers don't vote," said a mail carrier. "They are more concerned about financial stability. They worry a lot about talk of privatization, especially younger workers. We talk about how it's based on profits."

"Private" or "Public," the Post Office Is Big Business

The post office has been struggling to pay its bills for many years. It does not receive government funds like all other government agencies. Instead, it supports itself with the sale of postage, products and services.

But the Internet caused a drop of over 50% in mail volume, especially first-class mail, the highest revenue generator. The post office has been losing billions of dollars, especially since the 2008 economic crisis.

A 2006 congressional mandate forced the post office to create a \$72 billion fund to pay for retiree health benefits 75 years into the future and made it worse. Now the post office can't afford to pay employees all the extra hours of overtime needed to process and deliver millions of ballots.

For many years, politicians have been trying to privatize the post office, calling it "obsolete" and "unnecessary." Trump called it "a joke". But companies like UPS would like to buy the post office. As a private business with unregulated prices, it could generate billions of dollars in annual profits.

Trump's new postmaster general, Louis DeJoy, is a big Republican Party donor. Since June he's made radical changes that deeply affect efficiency. He said they were necessary to "save" it from financial collapse. Some of those changes

have been halted temporarily until after the election, due to congressional pressure.

Throughout the history of the USPS, big businesses and corporations have benefited the most. They use it to collect debt from the working class and to send intimidation letters if you default on your debt. They use it to cheaply advertise, sell and send merchandise around the country.

As we fight for a communist world one of our main objectives after the revolution will be to set up a good distribution network. We'll need to deliver food, medicine and other supplies where they might be scarce or cannot be produced. It will certainly not be like a capitalist post office because there will be nothing to sell, advertise or collect. Only under a communist society will we have a delivery system that works for and by the working class.

In communism we won't "vote" about who gets shelter, health care or food. In communism it's criminal to argue about something that fundamental the way Congress argues about it today. Communism will be totally different. The masses are going to make decisions. They are closer to the reality of what's needed.

There won't be parties like Democrats and Republicans scrambling for power to rule over the masses. The International Communist Workers' Party will be the organizing apparatus that enables the masses to run the world ourselves.

ORGANIZING FACTORY WORKERS FOR COMMUNISM

EL SALVADOR—The International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) was founded with the purpose of mobilizing the masses for communism. We are organizing on this principle in the industrial areas, where there is the greatest concentration of workers.

Some members of the communist collective in the factory started out in the union structures. Some comrades gave us *Red Flag*. It was then that we began to learn about another way to fight, why we should organize ourselves directly for communism.

We undertook this task. We have grown modestly, but our collective in the factory is strong. We are spreading the idea that only communism can end the voracious exploitation to which the working class is subjected.

It has not been and will not be an easy road, but we are advancing. Today, in the pandemic crisis, many of the usual ways of protesting are restricted. For a long time, we had no personal contact with the workers. This made us look for other ways to communicate and reflect on what

is needed to continue making our party grow.

We are not silent or passive. We continue in solidarity. We continue to put communism in the minds of the workers through calls and distributing *Red Flag* electronically. Now we are again able to pass it out in print. Our comrades received it well. Some said, "We really missed reading *Red Flag!*"

The bosses are using social distancing to try to prevent us from communicating. However, our cell always finds a way to overcome these limitations. We meet briefly at the factory exit. We talk on the buses. These are challenges that we have to overcome collectively,

We have planned how to continue organizing more workers into the ranks of ICWP. We discussed some obstacles:

—The difficulty of holding extended meetings as we did before the pandemic.

—*Red Flag* reaching other industrial areas.

How we are using the newspaper.

- -Little time to talk with the workers, since the members of the modules have also changed, as

have the schedules of leaving work

To deal with these difficulties, our objectives are the following:

—Reorganize the cells so that each comrade in the main cell can meet.

—Focus on making contacts with workers in other factories; distribute *Red Flag*.

Primarily, how do we use *Red Flag*, a valuable organizational tool, source of knowledge and connection with comrades around the world?

It is vital that every ICWP member read *Red Flag* with interest and commitment, to be able to distribute and discuss it. Our goal is to encourage this. Therefore, we have decided to read it collectively in small already-organized groups.

—Prepare and distribute leaflets that will also be weapons in the fight against capitalism.

—Resume the study groups with fewer members, for health and safety reasons.

Long live Communism!

—Leading comrades in the maquilas

Read our pamphlet:

**FIGHT FOR THE
DAY WHEN NO
WORKER WILL
BE CALLED
FOREIGNER**

available at
icwpredflag.org/ffde.pdf



"We Have Space" September 20—Thousands of people marched in Berlin and other German cities, urging the European Union to take in the 12,000 migrants left without shelter after a fire destroyed their biggest camp in Greece.

COMRADE VETERANS OF CHICANO MORATORIUM BRING COMMUNIST MESSAGE TO 50TH ANNIVERSARY MARCH



Thirty thousand people gathered in working-class Latino/a East Los Angeles on August 29, 1970. They were protesting a racist conscription and military policy for the genocidal Vietnam War. Soldiers with Spanish surnames (mostly Puerto Ricans and Mexican Americans) were 19% of the US soldiers killed, while these groups were 12% of the US population.

This, while a mass anti-war movement in the streets had spread to mutinies of US soldiers in Vietnam and anti-racist rebellions in Black communities across the US had spread to rebellions in US Army stockades in Vietnam.

Three founding members of the ICWP marched in this “Chicano Moratorium.” They were members of a generation of students, soldiers and workers that fought for communist politics within the massive US anti-war movement.

They marched with 200 Chicano, Black and white workers and students organized by Progressive Labor. This contingent called for “revolution-socialism—as the only answer to the war, racist oppression at home, police terror, crummy jobs, low wages, and every other form of oppression we face at the bosses’ hands.” It put forward “the need to smash racism and nationalism, and to build a fighting, united movement of the whole working class.”

Bilingual signs and banners read: “Smash Racism, the Bosses’ Tool!” “Support All Workers’ Struggles!” and “US Out of Southeast Asia Now! No Deals!” Another 150 people joined the contingent off the sidewalks.

They distributed the PL newspaper, full of articles about anti-war struggles at US Army bases in Washington, California and New Jersey. The paper reported on workers’ struggles against racism and exploitation in factories, schools, and hospitals in the US and around the world,

As marchers sat on the grass in a park after-

ward, listening to speakers, the LA Sheriffs viciously attacked. While the sell-out nationalist leadership called for people to submit, protestors immediately began to fight back. A battle, starting with rocks and bottles and ending with tear gas, raged in the streets of East Los Angeles all afternoon.

The murderous gang known as the LA Sheriffs killed three workers that day, including journalist Reuben Salazar who had criticized cops and the sheriffs in the LA Times. Two hundred people were arrested.

The nationalists tried to blame the fight on PL. But dozens of cops in formation attacking the crowd proved that this was a plan by the ruling class from the beginning.

August 29, 1970 was the first US rebellion started by an attack on a mass anti-war march. It showed the fear the US ruling class had of the revolutionary potential of workers and youth.

Fifty years later, comrades, including two veterans of the 1970 Moratorium, brought **Red Flag** to the anniversary march. Our paper explained communist ideas in relation to workers’ struggles and imperialist conflicts worldwide. It called on marchers to join the communist struggle.

These marchers were angry about racist attacks on Latinx and Black workers, including racist police terror and Covid-19 deaths. Signs remembered AJ Weber, killed by sheriffs in 2018, and Andres Guardado, shot in the back by sheriffs this summer.

Today’s march leaders, like those 50 years ago, called for “Chicano Power.” But the nationalist sell-outs of the past have lost their revolutionary cover. They are now the Mexican-American politicians and bureaucrats who run the bosses’ system in East Los Angeles.

We’ve learned a lot in 50 years. Now we know that socialism doesn’t lead to communism. We fight imperialism, racism and nationalism by mobilizing the masses for communism.

Marchers young and old welcomed the participation of ICWP comrades. We had good conversations about communism and the need for revolution. Many saluted our signs. They grabbed all our copies of **Red Flag**. They are hungry for the working-class unity that workers need to get rid of this murderous capitalist system once and for all.

I was a Teenager during the Chicano Moratorium of 1970

The anti-war movement found me when I was almost fourteen, in middle school in a working-class barrio of Los Angeles, CA. The War in Viet Nam was in full swing, drafting all the young men who had graduated from high school and weren’t in college. Some, only sixteen or seventeen, signed up before finishing school. Many didn’t feel all that connected to “patriotic duty.” But it was considered honorable and “manly” to enlist.

Since 1968, Chicano students – some inspired by the farmworkers’ struggle – had been walking out of high schools against racism. I had marched in a couple of protests at our local high school. I’d heard speeches about the large number of soldiers who were Black and Latino compared with the percentage of the US population that we made up.

A lot of guys came home addicted to heroin, or smoking so much marijuana, as to be almost disabled. Seeing this, a few blocks from my home, at my grade school and our local playground, drove me into action. Of course, this was an unjust and unnecessary war! Of course, the numbers were unfair, the draft, the lack of educational advancement for non-White youth, the dumping of shell-shocked vets onto their hardworking parents and siblings!

I found a nearby center called the Moratorium Organizing Committee. The men who ran things looked me over doubtfully: a very young and eager volunteer. I was partnered up with a suitable young teen lad, handed a clipboard and given a short sample speech.

The Moratorium Organizing Committee’s aim was two-fold: To educate the local people as to the reality of poor or working-class soldiers doing most of the fighting and dying, thousands of miles away in Asian jungles; and to petition to allow a massive protest to take place on August 29, 1970.

I couldn’t march that day, but it was the start of a lifetime of organizing. I was happy to help distribute **Red Flag** in the 50th anniversary march!

—LA Comrade



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ICWPREDFLAG@ANONYMOUSSPEECH.ORG

What If the US Presidential Election Results Are Contested?

Red Flag/Bandera Roja had a good article about the election but it had a serious weakness: for the most part it assumed that either Biden will win or Trump will win. It argued that either way we won’t see much difference.

It did mention the possibility that the “declared loser” might not concede defeat. In fact, there is a good chance this will happen, and even that there won’t be a declared loser.

I think it’s quite likely that election night and for a while after there will be no consensus on

the outcome. As one commentator said, don’t think “election night”, think “election month”!

I’ve discussed this with many friends, family, ICWP supporters etc. and they unanimously agree. Amongst them, the opinion is that it is inevitable, given the closeness of the race and what’s at stake, that the election will be contested. They predict big demonstrations and counter-demonstrations, with police and armed fascists battling anti-racists.

Where it will go from there is hard to see. Trump has threatened massive force against people demonstrating against his (declared)

victory and his buddy, Roger Stone, is calling for a military coup. What if the military is divided?

Unfortunately, my friends are also (almost) unanimous that there is nothing we can do. I argue that we do have a choice, which is to end this hellscape with communist revolution.

I admit that at the moment we are not strong enough to take advantage of the opportunity. But that means it’s vital that they join ICWP to ensure that the next crisis, or the one after that, will be capitalism’s last.

Worried Comrade

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Red Flag thanks readers who have written with criticisms, comments, and stories. We encourage more to take part in the ongoing struggle to develop our communist political line.

Prepare Our Future Leaders

I wake up every morning still thinking about the drowning youth of Mzantsi, South Africa. Our leaders, whom we voted for, are busy filling up their pockets. The politicians are milking millions of Rands. It is unbelievable.

Look at our youth in South Africa between the age of 18 years to 35 years. Most of them don't work and many end up on alcohol and drugs.

Who is to be blamed? The answer is obvious. It is the system the politicians use to rule their countries. We are facing a huge responsibility as the members of ICWP. The struggle continues to teach the youth around the world about Communist revolution.

New Member of ICWP

My Experiences Since Joining ICWP

I joined ICWP 3 years ago. Then I went to Marikana to Mobilize the Masses with my Comrades. It was an unforgettable experience, although there were obstacles. We learnt that there is a lot to be done.

Every night we discussed the dialectics & everything we were discussing. We encountered some of the things the next morning, and that was encouraging.

We need to see growth in the Movement. Practice the principles of the movement, not just try to please family and friends.

We might not have enough material to do that, but planning everyday will help you want to do more than you can think. Like me for example. I don't need to carry 100 **Red Flag** papers to mobilize. Everywhere I go, I carry 2 to 4 Red Flags and start explaining about the Movement and its goals.

If anyone has ideas about mobilizing, please share them in the **Red Flag**.

Comrade in South Africa

Dialectical vs. Mechanical Negation

"Collectivity reigned in human society for hundreds and thousands of years before class society. We're bringing it back! The negation of the negation!" Rafael exclaimed.

"Does everyone understand this 'negation of negation' idea?" asked Marcia.

"Googling it now," said Vilma. "Give us your breakdown of it, though."

"Negation in formal logic is 'not,'" Marcia responded. "It is raining. Negation: It is not rain-

ing. Negation of negation: It is NOT not raining (i.e., it is raining). Mechanical negation.

"But in the material world, the negation of negation often does NOT get you back where you started. Ginny is a baby. Look at Ginny - she's not a baby anymore — she's a little girl. Look at Ginny now — she's not a little girl [that is, NOT not a baby] — she's grown. Obviously, she's not a baby again. Dialectical negation.

"Class society negated pre-class societies. Our job is to negate capitalism (and with it, all of class society) in a way that allows for further development (communism). Not to 'negate capitalism' by bombing the planet to smithereens! That would put major obstacles in the way of further human social development.

"Classless communist society (negation of negation of pre-class society) will not be the same as early pre-class societies because it will be informed and shaped by everything that has happened since."

Vilma had her own example: "tRump is not not amoral." She asked, "And you're saying that a new vision and a classless society would be informed by experiences and knowledge from past successes/failures. Yes?"

"Yes," Marcia responded. "That's why we have to learn a lot from past successes/failures." And you are correct: He is not not amoral. He is amoral. Mechanical negation. Or dialectical negation: He is beyond amoral."

Los Angeles Comrades

Imperialist Wars and Communist Revolution

In March 1871, during the France-Germany war, the French working class "stormed heaven" (Marx). For the first time ever, the working class seized power and held it for 72 days.

The French imperialists and German capitalists stopped their war and united to attack the revolutionary masses in Paris.

This was another "first": the heroic French working class temporarily shifted the world's main contradiction from great-power rivalry to the working class versus the capitalist class.

The German capitalists then released 250,000 captured French soldiers who were used by the French rulers to drown in blood what became known as the Paris Commune.

They were, however, unable to stop the Commune from inspiring the international communist movement. Forty-six years later, in the fourth year of World War I, the communist Bolshevik Party led the Russian working masses to power.

This, the second time that the working class seized power, temporarily liberated one sixth of the globe from the yoke of capitalism-imperialism. This reverberated among the world's suffering masses, including millions of soldiers

being slaughtered for the imperialists' profits and empires.

It also sent shivers down the spines of the world's warring capitalists-imperialists. Terrified that "their" workers and soldiers might follow the Russian example, they hurriedly ended the war and invaded Russia. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared their goal openly: "To strangle Bolshevism in its cradle."

Again, the working class had shifted the main contradiction in the world from inter-imperialist rivalry to capitalism versus a communist-led working class.

Fourteen imperialist armies invaded Russia, joining forces with the counter revolutionary Russian White Army. The Russian working class defeated them all after five years of bloody war.

Millions were inspired worldwide. Many communist parties were organized on the Russian model. Many of them organized armed insurrections. Although all failed because of their internal weaknesses, for decades the class struggle's main aspect worldwide was the international working class versus the capitalists-imperialists.

This temporarily prevented the imperialist butchers from going to war again on a global scale. But the Communist International's 7th Congress (1935) adopted the line of building unity with the liberal capitalists/imperialists to defeat fascism. Then the imperialists felt free to start their global war in 1939.

In spite of the alliance, the western imperialists were still bent on destroying the socialist Soviet Union which still stood as a beacon of hope for the world's oppressed masses. They bankrolled Germany's formidable military buildup, hoping Hitler's fascist hordes would vanquish the Soviet Union. It did not happen. Instead, the Russian Red Army turned the tide of the war in its favor, defeating the German Sixth Army at Stalingrad in early 1943.

It was the beginning of the end of Hitler's "Thousand-Years Reich." The prestige of the communist-led Soviet Union surged to new heights. Fearful that inspired masses might start revolutionary insurrections internationally, Russia's "allies" (US and Britain) demanded the dissolution of the Third Communist International. Stalin complied in May, 1943.

Based on this history: Can the working class today change the main contradiction in the world like the Russian working class did in 1917? This time to communism versus capitalism—before WWII explodes?

We think this can happen in the US and what ICWP's role should be. We encourage Party collectives and **Red Flag** readers worldwide to write about similar possibilities where they live and their role in them.

Comrades in the US



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DEPRESSION, IMPERIALIST WAR AND COMMUNIST REVOLUTION (PART II)

The previous article, “Capitalist Competition for Profits Causes Depressions,” showed that competition and the falling rate of profit make capitalist economic depressions inevitable.

Worldwide depressions and world wars create, on a global scale, the potential for communist revolution.

This is exactly what the 1929 depression and World War II did. They intensified and spread the class struggle between capitalists-imperialists and the working class.

The current depression, and the looming World War III, will do the same. Already, hundreds of millions of workers are in motion against capitalism.

In 1929, workers around the world were radicalized. The 1917 Russian Revolution had led masses to believe firmly in the need for a revolutionary communist party to lead them to victory. Millions organized and joined communist parties in over 65 countries. They flocked to the Third Communist International.

But their revolutionary potential was betrayed by that International. Starting in 1935, it fought only for reforms and allied with Western imperialists in World War II in order to “fight fascism.”

History shows that capitalism, based on wage slavery, can’t be reformed to meet the masses’ needs. It must be destroyed violently.

Reformism was the burial ground of the old communist movement. Even communist parties

that had led violent revolutions to overthrow capitalism, instituted socialism, not communism.

Socialism was supposed to be a step to communism. However, it kept money, wages (wage slavery) and production for the market. This made it, in essence, state capitalism administered by the communist parties.

Those communists eventually became capitalist exploiters and oppressors of the working class. They got rich from the surplus value they stole from the workers’ labor power.

That is why ICWP fights for communism and nothing less. Only communism can eliminate the capitalist money system and its wage slavery. This will lay the basis to forever eradicate racism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia, borders and nations.

Workers and Youth on the March: Mobilize Them for Communism

As today’s depression, fascism, racist police terror and war unfold, greater numbers of workers and youth will be put in motion. They yearn for a radical change.

It is ICWP’s duty and honor to mobilize them for communism. Only communist revolution and the building of a communist world can end capitalism’s deadly competition and quest for profits.

In communism nothing will be bought or sold. In pre-class communist societies, our hunter-gatherer ancestors shared the products of their labor, as best they could, amongst all. The com-

munist we fight for is based on that principle.

Communist relations of respect and love, not money, will motivate everyone to fight for and build a society where everyone contributes according to their ability and commitment. ICWP collectives will plan, produce and distribute everything according to need.

Only communism can liberate the earth from the ravages of capitalism. Capitalism has turned it into a commodity and “it is subject to just as much exploitation as labor.” (Engels)

Communism will enable humankind to run on renewable energy, not fossil fuels. Living in harmony with nature, we will reverse global warming and all of capitalism’s ecological disasters.

Masses have responded enthusiastically to *Red Flag* in the US, South Africa, India, El Salvador, and elsewhere. This gives us confidence that they will mobilize for communism. For this, we must build Party collectives that become indispensable to their lives at work, schools, neighborhoods and military barracks.

This is the most important task for humanity’s future. Will angry masses be won to nationalism and fascism? Or to the communism we need? The alternatives are fascism and World War III, or Communist Revolution. Our choice is clear.

It is a monumental task. We can’t do it without your and your family’s, friends’ and coworkers’ participation. Join us!

Fight Racist-Sexist Atrocities in US Immigrant Concentration Camp

NOT WITH CALLS FOR REFORMS — WITH COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

A line has been crossed.

We’ve known about the terrible health conditions in US immigration prisons — paid for by workers’ tax dollars. Most are for-profit prisons. The US government guaranteed investors a minimum of 40,000 prisoners per day, at \$700 each.

But now a courageous nurse has brought to light a sickening new horror. In the Irwin County (Georgia) ICE Detention Center, women have been subjected to hysterectomies (surgical sterilization) without full knowledge or consent.

Dawn Wooten, a Black LPN, risked her job by exposing this racist-sexist atrocity. Her allegations remind us of the Nazi war criminal, Dr. Joseph Mengele, who tortured Jewish children and women in Auschwitz.

They remind us of Dr. J. Marion Sims, “father of American gynecology.” He developed his techniques through 30 experimental surgeries, without anesthesia, on Anarcha, Betsy, Lucy and seven other enslaved women in the 1840s. Regarded as property, they couldn’t refuse or consent.

And of the Rockefeller-funded mass sterilization of women (and some men) in Puerto Rico from 1954-1965.

And of the Latina and other immigrant women in labor who were pressured and tricked into “consenting” to sterilization at LA County Hospital in the early 1970s.

And thousands of Indigenous women sterilized by the US Indian Health Service in the same decade.

And hundreds of Black women sterilized in California prisons through at least 2014.

We are inspired by the action of Dawn Wooten, a worker who stuck her neck out on behalf of immigrant women at the mercy of fascist ICE. Three non-profit organizations are pursuing the issue.

More of us need to rise to these times.

We have fought before against racist-sexist abuse. The struggle against LA County Hospital brought reforms. Monuments to Sims are falling. Yet we haven’t eradicated it. They are still doing it.

These times call on us to destroy capitalism, the system whose very nature brings forth these atrocities. Where everything — including medicine and prisons — is driven by money and profit.

Capitalism makes sure that everyone has someone to keep underfoot so you feel like you’re not at the bottom, you’re doing better than someone else. Racism and sexism divide and disempower the masses.

Capitalism turns everything and everyone into commodities to be bought or sold so capitalists can profit. It feeds us the idea that others are there for us to use as we please — as prison guards and doctors

have done at Irwin and other immigration concentration camps.

This idea is a big part of sexism. It enabled the powerful men exposed by the #MeToo movement. It enabled coaches and gynecologists at Michigan State, USC, UCLA and other universities to get away with sexually abusing hundreds of young women athletes.

These times call on us to build communism. A society based on working collectively to meet everyone’s needs without money or profit. Where we are comrades, not commodities.

Where the fabric of everyday life will support the struggle against sexist and racist habits and ideas instead of reinforcing them. Where sexist-racist abuses will be prevented, suppressed, and increasingly rare. And, one day, unimaginable.

