

# RED FLAG



## MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



**LIVORNO (Italy), May 20 — Dockworkers refuse to load weapons on a cargo ship headed for Israel. See page 3.**

### El Salvador

#### **EXPANDING COMMUNIST WORK TO A NEW FACTORY**

EL SALVADOR, June 18— Workers wondered: “Where do you come from?” “They are a new union.” “They are from the fmln.”

“We are women and men workers just like you,” we explained, “comrades of an internationalist party: the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP). The organization that is necessary to fight for a better world, without bosses and without any currency.”

This week a group of us workers, accompanied by an army veteran, went to the maquila factories in the center of the country. It was part of our plan to expand and recruit more workers for the ICWP.

We distributed 40 *Red Flag* newspapers. Almost everything went well for us. The workers took the newspapers without wasting any. We distributed to both men and women workers.

The weakness in our action was that they were holding a celebration inside the factory on that day and not many workers came out to the street.

We put phone numbers into the *Red Flag* newspapers for them to call to contact us. As time was very short, we explained to some workers a little more about the emergence of our Party. After distributing the newspapers, we left happy and satisfied.

Comrades, let’s continue fighting for the vision of the ICWP! For the next visit we have decided to go to the exit where the workers leave these factories in the afternoon and distribute 150 newspapers. We will bring more comrades to support us in the activity.



### Corporate “Diversity” Circus Won’t Do the Job:

#### **COMMUNIST COLLECTIVE PRODUCTION IS KEY TO ENDING RACISM**

SEATTLE (US) — At the current rate, it will take Blacks in the United States 95 years to reach workforce parity at Boeing. Scores of Boeing workers greeted this news with disdainful laughter.

Then the floodgates opened. Black, Latinx, Asian and white workers poured out their anger about racist and sexist abuse they had experienced or witnessed.

A Black comrade, C, bitterly recounted how a supervisor and some racist white workers tried to get rid of him.

He and a white comrade discussed how collective production would lay the basis for ending racist culture. The discussion centered on how capitalism must pit worker against worker to increase profits.

In contrast, communism relies on cooperation

to produce for our collective needs. The whole society, not just production, will be built on communist relationships. We build such relationships in the Party and among our base now.

C and other comrades expect there to be fewer racist workers in communism, and more workers dedicated to fighting racism and sexism. The struggle continues in the Party to see how communist relationships will lead to an end of racism on a massive scale.

#### **Illusions Lost**

Huge arguments about racism and xenophobia spread throughout the plants last year. ICWP organized dozens to fight for communist solutions among their fellow workers. Crew meetings were split asunder as the Party’s base squared off (sometimes literally) against fascist forces.

See **BOEING**, page 3

Volume 12, Number 8 June 22 to July 15, 2021

#### **INSIDE:**

**BITCOIN: IMPERIALIST CONFLICT BEHIND CURRENCY WARS, PAGE 2**

**LA, USA: TRANSIT WORKERS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT COMMUNISM, PAGE 3**

**CHENNAI, INDIA: AUTO WORKERS BUILD ICWP, PAGE 4**

**US-CHINA CONFLICT SHARPENS; WORKERS & SOLDIERS NEED REVOLUTION, PAGE 5**

**CENTRAL AMERICA: MIGRATION, US IMPERIALISM & CLASS STRUGGLE, PAGE 6**

## Imperialist Rivalry Behind Currency War

# COMMUNISM MEANS NO MONEY, NO EXCHANGE - PRODUCE AND SHARE TO MEET HUMANITY'S NEEDS

EL SALVADOR, June 20—"I need you to help me, because I don't know anything about this Bitcoin currency," said a comrade.

"In the expanded meeting, this will be the first point," said a comrade leader from the factories.

Several comrades and co-workers have approached our collectives of the International Communist Workers' Party, to ask us about Bitcoin. This is because the Legislative Assembly approved the law for this currency to be used legally here. There have been meetings of the collectives in the factories where the main point has been this virtual currency.

"The groups of bankers are not very happy with this Bitcoin law because they will stop receiving their profits; the richest people in the world will stop swimming in their swimming pools full of money," said a comrade Party member.

"Bitcoin or any other digital currency that competes with the dollar, or any other physical currency, responds to the interests of other economic groups [of capitalists] that will be the beneficiaries, never the workers," responded a comrade from Spain.

Central banks around the world are studying the possibility of creating their own digital currencies, as a way out of the capitalist crisis. The Salvadoran government of Nayib Bukele is allying with China and Russia in this inter-imperialist war. This is the fight for the markets and superprofits generated by the working class, but that will not benefit the workers.

Bukele is using cryptocurrency as a way out in the face of drastic measures imposed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. These institutions respond to the economic interests of the USA. They have expressed their opposition to this law.

After meetings with the US ambassador, they have suspended loans to the Salvadoran government. They have also stated that this kind of virtual currency helps the big capital investors make this country a money laundering paradise.

But in these capitalist fights, the only thing that is generated is the continued wage slavery of the working class. In capitalism, no currency will benefit the working class.

### Communist Society Will Not Use Any Kind of Money

This week in the fields, the rural areas, we also discussed Bitcoin with comrades of ICWP, ex-guerrilla combatants.

"Bitcoin doesn't seem to be a good option for workers. In the 1980's when the war started in this country, we did not carry money. It was the organized masses who sustained our armed struggle. We didn't use money for many years. A group of supporters produced what we needed to survive," said the comrades.

"Thank you for sharing this type of discussion with us; our class consciousness must help us to move forward and be clear that the bosses' money only serves to attack the working class.

We must continue fighting for a world without money," they concluded.

ICWP fights for a society without money. Nothing will be bought or sold. Everything will function based on sharing. The collective organization of communist society, including the distribution of goods, will be based on need. It will depend on communist social relations, which will be the link that will unite us and enable us to succeed.

The communist masses will be motivated to struggle and produce to meet the needs of our global family. There won't be any kind of money or exchange value. Production will solely be for the masses' use.

As long as there is any form of money in a society, it will be a capitalist society, even if it is called "socialist." Money and wages chain us to the capitalist exploiters. We must destroy wage slavery. The way forward is building a society without money: communism.

We must be organized in ICWP, reading and writing for *Red Flag*. The collectives that we build today are where we learn and develop communist social relations.

This is urgent now when the inter-imperialist rivalry is at a high point, reflected in the area of trade, military, and the creation of virtual currencies. In the face of capitalist wars, we must direct our organization and the struggle of the working class towards communist revolution.

Our comrades and friends in the factories worry that Bitcoin will become a new attack on their wages and standard of living. And yes, it could be. That is why they need to join the ICWP in the fight to abolish capitalism, its money, its exploitation, and any other form of monetary transaction, physical or virtual.

The experiences of our ex-guerrilla comrades show both the need and the possibility of mobilizing the masses for a communist society.

## WORKERS AND YOUTH LEARN ABOUT COMMUNISM

EL SALVADOR, June 18— Following our plan of meetings with the collectives of comrades from the factory, six of us workers met this week after work. Another two comrade workers couldn't come because they had to work overtime for the boss.

We explained the vision of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) and what it would be like in communism. We explained that in communism we will work as much as necessary to produce the needs of humanity, no longer for the eight hours or twelve hours that the capitalists are used to.

We asked, "What is capitalism for you?"

"Capitalism is the oppression of the working class," a new ICWP comrade told us.

Then comrade A, a Party leader, explained that "capitalism absorbs us day by day with high production goals and they pay us a pittance. Capitalism takes everything."

Comrade B added, "Capitalism takes our labor power and our time so that the capitalists keep all the profits, because that is the objective of capitalism."

We added that in communism, apart from working the amount of time that is necessary, we will have more time for our family.

The new comrade told us that in order to grow we would have to start with the youth, because they are the future of the world. We told them that in communism there are young students. That is why the families are being involved: so that they understand communism.

During the whole meeting, we were enjoying a snack and then we said goodbye.



Volume 12, Number 8 June 22 to July 15, 2021



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

## TRANSIT WORKERS ENTHUSIASTIC TO BUILD FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM

LOS ANGELES (USA), June 18 — “I need more *Red Flags* to pass out in the operators’ and drivers’ cafeteria,” said a worker to Comrade G of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP) collective in public transport (MTA). “A lot of people are excited,” she added. “They’re distributing the paper again outside our division.”

N also said that he likes the information in *Red Flag*. He said that we must struggle for more workers to read it and appreciate all the positive information that it has.

A mechanic came up to us and said, “The teacher has come back to distribute *Red Flag*.”

We asked him, “Did you get the newspaper?” He showed us that he had it in his lunch bag.

The excitement for *Red Flag* among the friends and members created a positive atmosphere for our meeting of party members at MTA. We talked about the commitment of each member to communist ideas and to the growth of ICWP. We emphasized the internal struggle to encourage us to continue struggling ideologically with our co-workers, family, and friends.

We needed this discussion because during the pandemic many activities and plans were postponed or canceled. Sometimes rightly so, because three members of the group were ill at different times, and we were worried about mass gatherings.

However, we always kept trying to advance, bringing communist ideas to our co-workers and friends.

The comrades who attended this meeting were very positive and eager to advance as much as possible with the *Red Flag* networks and study groups. They eagerly welcomed the return of the comrades who distribute

the newspaper outside. Many workers commented that “*Red Flag* has returned!”

Enthusiasm for continuing to organize the party with communist ideas is growing. We are developing plans for visiting workers and contacting more members and friends from other divisions to join ICWP.

Comrades in MTA



## ITALIAN DOCKWORKERS SHOW POWER OF INTERNATIONAL CLASS SOLIDARITY

May 20—Dockworkers in the port of Livorno (Italy) refused to load weapons on a cargo ship after discovering that they were headed for Israel. One said, “We have no intention to facilitate the transportation of weapons and explosives that will be used to kill the Palestinian people, who are suffering so much.”

An independent trade union representing the workers, the Unione Sindacale di Base (USB),

organized the action. “Whenever we know about loading, unloading or passage of armaments in our port, we’ll intervene,” said the USB coordinator. He promised they would declare a strike if necessary “so that no weapons in transit in the port of Livorno will be used to kill civilians, wherever this happens.”

This Livorno dockworkers’ political strike shows the power of international working-class

solidarity. But let’s not pull any punches. Only worldwide communist revolution can end imperialism’s murder of civilians as well as their working-class family members in uniform. What will happen when organized workers start seizing those weapons and using them to build a communist Red Army? What can we do now to bring that day closer?

## BOEING from page 1

Boeing executives thought to placate angry workers by setting up a diversity taskforce. It was supposed to reveal a timetable for when enough Black workers would be hired to create a workforce mirroring the surrounding population. “Well, now we know. That’s never going to happen!” said C.

Aerospace workers continue to be deeply affected by last summer’s mass uprisings in the streets. Racism, sexism and xenophobia are still hot topics among the tens of thousands laid off. The debate has widened to include, for example, the toxic brew of anti-Asian hate and the sexist fetishization of Asian women.

### Useless Reports

Boeing also promised a report on workforce diversity. We finally saw it.

It showed the possibility of Latinx employees reaching numbers on par with their representation in the population as even less likely than the abysmal prospects for Black workers. Also, women in production and maintenance jobs represent less than 14% of the workforce.

Boeing executives are shameless. They say the

company is on par with others in the industry. Racism reigns supreme throughout the whole capitalist workforce. For example, aerospace subcontractors are virtual sweatshops, paying their workers next to nothing. They overwhelmingly employ Black, Latinx and women workers.

Boeing’s public relations (PR) department made sure the US media featured the firing of 65 employees for “racist, discriminatory and hateful conduct” when this appalling report was released. “Hateful conduct” includes yelling and swearing at your immediate boss no matter what the justification.

### South Carolina Plant: Racist Hellhole

The PR department also tried to bury the fact that Boeing is right now being sued for racial discrimination. A federal case in South Carolina charges that Black workers “face retaliation and a hostile work environment.” They are “routinely assigned to a building with hazardous work conditions.” Nooses and other racist threats are regular occurrences.

South Carolina has a large Black population. Even here, Boeing has not hired many Black workers. Racist divisions and super-exploitation have resulted in wages about two-thirds lower for

all South Carolina employees than those in Washington state.

All this as the company continues to lay off tens of thousands. Subcontractors are going out of business, leading to hundreds of thousands more jobs lost.

### Overcoming What Holds Us Back

C and other comrades still hesitate to jump into the work of the collective with both feet. Our comrades see the vastly expanded potential for communist recruitments. Nonetheless, there is still doubt that the party can take advantage of it and expand its influence.

Three new Boeing comrades joined the ICWP over the last year and a half. Each in their own way has greatly helped expand our work. They have circulated the paper at work, at a high school where one volunteers, among relatives, and at mass demonstrations. Some have written inspiring articles. All have contributed comments to the paper. There is no shortage of debates with their friends over the merits of communism.

In the next article, we will focus on the actions our collective must take to fully incorporate these new comrades, recruit more comrades and expand our influence.



## SUBSCRIBE TO *RED FLAG* - \$20/YEAR

Name \_\_\_\_\_ I want \_\_\_\_\_ copies per issue

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Send to P.M.B 362, 3006 S. Vermont Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90007

## AUTO WORKERS ADVANCE COMMUNIST WORK AMIDST CORONAVIRUS AND CAPITALIST CRISIS

CHENNAI (India), June 19— “We are going to remember comrade Bai,” said comrade Vishu in Chennai. “She will remain in our memory from when she visited us. My wife and children still talk about her kindness. She was a true communist.” Bai had visited Chennai from Bengaluru about two years ago when she and her other comrades took an overnight train to meet them.

That was the only time the comrades from two cities met to discuss how to expand and increase the recruitment of our party.

Word spread quickly among the auto workers when they received the news of the passing of comrade Bai. We have to continue our fight that inspired her.

### Coronavirus and the Crisis in Auto

There is talk in the auto industry of imminent collapse. Three of our comrades are among thousands who have been laid off. The Covid crisis seriously crippled the bosses’ plan to expand the automotive industry. Steel prices skyrocketed in the last two years. Now fuel prices are reaching an all-time high. These factors make it difficult for the auto industry to survive.

Comrade Vishu works in the Hyundai factory. He said, “The factory is like a ghost town. They closed the entire plant for five days in late May because many people were getting coronavirus. Now the government is trying to vaccinate auto workers.”

He added that the government considers F a priority because Chennai could provide the Chinese automobile industry with a competitive advantage. Chennai is considered the Detroit of India. In the last five years, the Chinese auto industry has seen the potential in Chennai. They were pouring capital into building their plants.

Everything has changed since the coronavirus crisis. Modern factories have become ghost towns and people are finding it difficult to find work.

### Understanding the Contradictions of Capitalism

Comrades of ICWP met to discuss our work. A comrade pointed out that coronavirus intensified the crisis, but it was not the cause. In Chennai, Indian, Korean, Japanese, European, the US and Chinese capitalists were investing money to make super-profits.

They make these super-profits by investing in automated robots which require fewer workers to produce more cars. But the profit comes only from workers, not the robots. Now we have fewer workers, more cars and less profit. The bosses try to overcome this contradiction by eliminating weaker capitalists who cannot compete with sophisticated robots. This again makes many workers lose jobs.

This cycle of more workers losing work while fewer capitalists make super-profits does not end. It creates bigger contradictions. This is what is happening in Chennai.

Big capitalist and imperialist powers like China, Europe, the US, and India are fighting for world domination. They have created huge capacity but the working class in the world cannot buy what is produced in the car industry. The bosses’ productive capacity turns into its opposite. Competing imperialists try to eliminate their rivals by making their plants unproductive either by abandoning them or by violent destruction as in war.

### Advancing the Communist Solution

Discussions like these have inspired new comrades to talk more seriously about our work. It becomes clear to us that we need to have a soci-



Tamil Nadu, India—Auto workers on strike in January, 2019

ety without bloodsucking bosses and without wage slavery or money.

All the subjective needs of the bosses to make super-profits are the cause of divisions in the working class based on caste, race, nationalism, xenophobia, sexism, and oppression of Dalits and Muslims. We can only eliminate these divisions among the masses by going to the root of the problem – wage slavery.

In our room of about a dozen people, we went into how we are distributing *Red Flag*. Some comrades took a stack of *Red Flags*. Others were reading *Red Flag*, but they could not explain to their coworkers the need to read it. This discussion helped us in trying to overcome this obstacle and encouraged us to take many *Red Flags*.

This was a very healthy discussion that resolved the contradiction between readers and distributors. We have more distributors with conviction. As we progress, we will struggle with the distributors to bring new comrades to join and come to the meetings. Some comrades in the meeting were so enthusiastic that they joined the Party.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO  
ICWPREDFLAG@NYM.HUSH.COM

### Fight Against Sexism and Homophobia Shows Need to Abolish Private Property

“I liked your article,” wrote Alice. “Makes me long for a more collective way of living.”

I had sent her an article from this year’s International Working Women’s Day *Red Flag*. It talked about how eliminating class society will transform everyday life and family relations and allow us to end sexism.

She and I go to the same “social justice” church. Every Sunday, and in smaller groups, we talk about how to end racism, sexism, and homophobia. And I often share something from *Red Flag* with the whole group, or with a few friends.

This month we’ve talked about how to end homophobia. I’ve shared our pamphlet “The Communist Fight Against Sexism” and the article “Fight Against All Attacks on LGBTQ Members of our Working-Class Family.” I talked about how homophobia and transphobia are linked to the oppression of women—and how that is based on class society and private property.

#### Class society controls women’s sexuality in order to control private property.

Pre-class societies were egalitarian, without private property or gender-based inequality. Private property, in cattle herding and farming,

created the conditions for class society about ten thousand years ago in most of the world. With private property came systems of inheritance through the father’s family line. This required monogamy, at least for women. It imposed strict limitations on female autonomy and sexuality.

These restrictions require rigid adherence to male and female gender roles. They discriminate against behavior that does not conform to those gender roles. This holds everyone back from developing our full humanity.

The fight against homophobia and transphobia means the defense of all our working-class siblings and the unity of ALL the working class regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. This is as necessary for our victory over capitalism as the unity of workers of all genders

and “races.”

But to build a world without sexism and homophobia in all their forms, we must put an end to class society. Only by fighting directly for communism and eliminating private property, can we eliminate patriarchal family structures.

In communism, all productive property will be owned and worked in common, and there will be no private property for men to pass down to their children. Only then will we be able to see society as one human family, where we produce for the good of all and take care of all the children (and adults).

This is the discussion that I will continue to have with Alice, and all my friends, allies, and comrades in the church and beyond.

-Communist churchgoer

Read our pamphlet  
**THE COMMUNIST  
FIGHT AGAINST  
SEXISM,**  
available at  
[icwpredflag.org/sxse.pdf](http://icwpredflag.org/sxse.pdf)



## Boeing Workers Fight Company's Anti-Chinese Racism

### ONLY COMMUNISM WILL END RACISM AND IMPERIALISM

US, June 21—The recent meeting of the G7 (US, Canada and five European countries) agreed to pause their years-long trade war in aerospace. US rulers called this another example of western unity to counter the threat posed by China. Actually, the agreement reflected not strength but the weakness of the US, of Boeing, and of the Machinists' Union (IAM).

The anti-Chinese narrative no longer rings true to vast sections of workers. Neither do the other racist, imperialist stories the bosses use to shore up their system. Still, expect the capitalist media to push this storyline aggressively, particularly among key industrial workers capable of war production.

The myth of an invincible US empire, home of justice and freedom, no longer carries the same punch it used to. The capitalists know it. Across the world, hundreds of millions have fought over the last few years to expose racism and almost every other capitalist fairy tale.

The central question now is how comrades can take advantage of this opportunity to build an International Communist Workers' Party large enough to mobilize masses for communist revolution.

#### Boeing Worried, Union Supports Racist War Propaganda

Boeing has been the aggressor in World Trade Organization litigation to punish Airbus for EU subsidies. Its effort came to a whimpering end on June 15, with nothing to show for seventeen years

in court. Meanwhile, Airbus has delivered twice as many jets as Boeing so far this year.

In a side deal, the US and Europe will pressure China over similar subsidies. But it's unlikely that Germany—Europe's biggest economic power—will actively participate. China is scheduled to start delivery of its own competing aircraft by the end of the year.

This side deal worries the Boeing CEO. He warned that Boeing won't be able to ramp up 737 Max production next year if China refuses to accept its planes. Without Chinese deliveries, Boeing is in peril. If its commercial division can't recover, the US government will have to subsidize it to the tune of \$billions. Just what the US bosses accuse China of doing!

Massive layoffs of Boeing workers continue. The IAM is no match for this capitalist crisis. To divert attention from the union's impotence, the IAM Boeing local President praised efforts to coordinate with the EU to challenge China's trade practices. He asserted this would stop production from shifting to China.

The IAM has used this racist anti-Chinese distraction for over twenty years. When communists and our friends organized to stop Boeing from

using Seattle prison labor, IAM leaders tried to shift the blame to Chinese "forced labor." They never mentioned the racist super-exploitation of immigrant Chinese labor, which built the US trans-continental railroad, or the racist massacres of Chinese people in most major west coast cities.

When the International IAM was finally forced to come out against US prison labor, their opposition was only rhetorical. Back then, Boeing communists did not fully appreciate how reformist trade unionism is irrevocably connected to the company's capitalist agenda.

Over the last year, ICWP comrades have been able to mobilize even more Boeing workers to counter the anti-Chinese narrative. Now we must consolidate this advance by convincing more workers to join party collectives.

Today, we fight for directly for communism: the only way to end racist prison labor, wage slavery, trade wars and imperialist wars.



## US and Allies on Collision Course with China and Russia

### WORKERS & SOLDIERS MUST PREPARE FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

The G7, NATO and the US-EU Summits, which ended June 13-15, sharpened the rivalry between US, Chinese and Russian imperialism for world domination.

This rivalry is the main aspect of the main contradiction in the world today. Directly or indirectly, it impacts everything affecting our lives. It is driving the world to deepening economic crisis, fascism and world war.

Dialectical Materialism is the communist philosophy of change. It teaches us that capitalism (like everything else) is a dialectical contradiction. It is two camps – the workers and capitalists – united yet in struggle against each other.

The capitalists struggle to keep oppressing and exploiting workers. The workers' struggle is to end this exploitation. We must make this the main contradiction in the world by sharpening it in favor of the working class.

The International Communist Workers' Party aspires to lead this by organizing to grow massively internationally. To mobilize millions of workers, soldiers and youth in an armed revolution for communism. Only this can stop the bosses' plans for World War III.

#### Bosses' Contradictions are Insoluble.

At US President Biden's urging, these summits took a harsh stance against China and Russia.

They were divided, however, over the issue of endorsing a new Cold War with China and Russia. European capitalists have diverging interests with US bosses and among themselves.

Europe needs China's trade and investments. China is the EU's main trading partner and Russia has a chokehold on Europe's energy supplies.

European capitalists realize the wind is blowing from the East. The developing world has almost two-thirds of the global economy compared to one-third by the West. Fifty years ago, it was exactly the opposite.

So, they compromised on the US "Build Back Better World" (B3W) initiative. This global infrastructure project is meant to compete with China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). BRI is China's massive infrastructure project of ports, roads and trains to link Asia to Europe and Africa.

Capitalists can unite temporarily but their diverging interests lead to conflict. Although united in exploiting the workers, they must fight over the spoils of this exploitation. If we are not engaged in revolutionary war against them, they are free to fight each other.

#### US Imperialism Can't Stop China's Rise

While announcing the B3W project, the US, Australia, Japan and European partners met in Paris to revive and expand the Blue Dot Network (BDN). This infrastructure project also aims to derail China's BRI.

Biden said that the infrastructure needs of the "underdeveloped world" exceed \$40 trillion. Both projects may never materialize because they depend on private investors who may shy away from investing heavily in impoverished countries. China, meanwhile, has invested over \$4 trillion in BRI.

#### Contradictions Among US Rulers and Their Allies

Last week the US Senate passed a bipartisan bill providing \$250 billion over five years in technology research and development to compete with China.

"We declare our intention to win this century, and those that follow it as well," exclaimed a Republican senator who co-sponsored the bill. He is dreaming. The Chinese imperialists are investing \$560 billion yearly in technology research and development.

Other US rulers have no such illusions. They aim to get NATO on their side in a war against China and Russia. At US urging, NATO for the

first time ever referred officially to China's rise as a "systemic" challenge. NATO still put Russia in its crosshairs as its main enemy.

In NATO, as in the G7, not all members support the US stance against China or Russia. These developments, however, are pushing Russia and China closer together.

#### Contradictions Among Workers: Resolution Leads to Higher Unity for Communism

The working-class camp is also a dialectical contradiction of unity and struggle. Workers everywhere have the same material interests: to destroy capitalism and build a communist society that meets our needs. To build collectivity and defeat individualism.

Our differences are mainly ideological: Communist ideas versus all the poisonous ideologies class society has developed to keep us divided and exploited.

Communists are part of the working class. We do not want to become exploiters or amass wealth. We aim to destroy money, abolish the wage system, and rid our class of racism, sexism, xenophobia and all anti-working-class ideologies and practices.

Our goal is a classless world without borders or nations. Where we produce and share everything collectively according to need, treating each other with respect, dignity and love.

That will take a communist revolution in which soldiers and sailors are indispensable. The imperialists are planning their war and we must plan ours. We must organize Party military collectives to guarantee communist work in the bosses' armed forces from India to South Africa to Mexico to the US.

**Dare to struggle! Dare to win a communist world!**

# THE HISTORICAL CAUSES OF MIGRATION AND THE REVOLUTIONARY ALTERNATIVE OF THE WORKERS IN ICWP

EL SALVADOR— “Now my sister is facing difficult conditions,” said a worker at a vaccination center. They were talking about the latest United States Supreme Court ruling against immigrants in Temporary Protected Status (TPS). The only way to stop this type of measure is by fighting for a communist system. Where we workers have no borders, where money doesn’t exist, nor sexism or racism. Where we produce based on the needs of society and not for the bosses’ profits. This will be achieved through the struggle organized by the International Communist Workers’ Party.

Recently the US Vice President visited Guatemala and Mexico as part of her international tour to address the causes of migration to the USA from Central America and Mexico.

One of her most iconic phrases was “Do not come.” In this, Kamala Harris dealt a heavy blow to the thousands of workers who daily try to cross

the US southern border because of the misery caused by exploitation and organized violence (gangs, drug trafficking). In addition, she flirted with the Republican voters in her country, who consider the option of the southern border wall to be the definitive solution to migration.

The attacks against workers continue by the governments in Mexico and in the so-called “Northern Triangle” of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. Workers face super-exploitation, attacks on environmental defenders, on those who fight for access to drinking water in the poorest communities in the region, especially on women. People have died in the struggle against metal mining.

“They are the same as Republicans; they deport more people,” a friend from the healthcare area said as we talked a little about the issue. In her speech Harris intentionally hid, for her interests, the historical causes of migration to the

United States.

Demanding justice, impartiality, is incompatible with the capitalist system. The rulers’ elections are based on the investment of millions of dollars in campaigns and advertising. At the level of social networks, too, those who are behind these campaigns and candidates are business people who bet on “X” or “Y” electoral party to run the State in

turn.

As the communist leader Lenin said, “The oppressed are allowed once every few years to decide which particular representatives of the oppressing class shall represent and repress them.”

The comrades in the factories, schools and universities must understand that our only alternative is communist revolution.

The situation is very difficult for workers, both in the United States and in Central America. We cannot get rid of this horror without first overthrowing the capitalist system. And this will be achieved by recruiting more workers and soldiers for our Party in all the places where we are making progress.

We need to build networks of politically and socially active workers with the objective of building revolutionary power as an alternative to the capitalist state. That means communist cells that organize workers to face organized crime and the economic and political crises typical of capitalist states.

Millions of people united in seeking the common welfare and the protection of their families, to guarantee a dignified life for all: that is the fight for communism.

Let us refocus the disenchantment of masses of urban workers and farmworkers with electoral politics towards the political formation and building of collectives that mark the starting point of the struggle for world communist revolution.

Let’s organize the International Communist Workers’ Party!



## Learning from the History of Class Struggle in Central America

### WORKERS’ STRUGGLES HAVE NO BORDERS

Vice President Kamala Harris told Guatemalans “Thinking about making that dangerous trek to the United States-Mexico border: Do Not Come.” Many around the world were furious.

Over more than a century, US imperialism has created the conditions from which people throughout the region are fleeing.

In Guatemala and Honduras, the US-owned United Fruit Company (UFC) owned the land, the railroads, the electric company, and the government. One example among many: Under Guatemalan President Jorge Ubico (1931-1944), indigenous people were forced to carry passbooks. If they violated the “vagrancy” laws, they had to work for UFC.

Ubico’s fascist repression led to mass anger. He was replaced by liberals, including Jacobo Arbenz Guzmán. Arbenz believed that land reform would establish the basis for a modern capitalist economy. In 1952, his government confiscated a huge chunk of uncultivated UFC land

Amidst the Cold War, it wasn’t hard for the US Secretary of State and the CIA Director to red-bait Arbenz. The CIA trained, financed, and armed a group led by Carlos Castillo Armas that overthrew the Guatemalan government in June, 1954. Both officials, the brothers Alan and John Foster Dulles, had been lawyers for the UFC. That shows the real basis of the coup.

More than nine thousand Guatemalan supporters of Arbenz were arrested. Castillo outlawed unions, gave the land back to the UFC, and instituted a reign of terror which has effectively never ended.

This history explains a lot about imperialism, why people migrate, and why so many are angry at Kamala Harris.

As the story is usually told, the UFC, the CIA and Castillo are the bad guys, the democratically elected capitalist reformer Arbenz is the good guy, and the masses are simply victims.

**In the real story, the struggle of the masses of workers takes center stage.** It’s the story of the communist-led strike of banana workers in neighboring Honduras in May-June 1954. This strike against the same United Fruit Company led to a 69-day general strike.

Workers organized secretly in the banana camps and struck over pay and working conditions. The strike spread to the ports and the cities, where workers walked out in support and over their own demands.

They organized strike committees in all six centers of UFC. Workers’ committees maintained order (including shutting down the bars). They organized food, shelter, propaganda, and the extension of the strike to other areas. Strikers took over Ramon Rosas Park in El Progreso. They set up loudspeakers and used the park as the center of strike organization, food distribution, and agitation.

The strikers outnumbered the soldiers in the Honduran Army. That may explain why there was no general repression. Further, the communist leaders limited themselves to the organization of a union. The strike was over by July.

Honduran communists had been active earlier in the 20th century in a Central American-wide Communist Party. The Honduran Communist Party itself was organized during the strike with probably about two hundred members. It followed the political guidance of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union was by then advocating



peaceful coexistence with capitalism. It had abandoned the armed struggle for state power, and communists in Honduras had no strategy for that. They and communists elsewhere defined themselves as militant trade union leaders. During the 1954 General Strike, they helped lead the collective struggle of the masses, but they didn’t advocate communist or even anti-imperialist politics.

**Today we don’t make that mistake.**

We are inspired by the militant history of communist organizers in Honduras, and around the world. The workers’ committees that were set up during the strike are a microcosm of the communist society we fight for today.

But we don’t organize trade-union struggles that bargain for the terms of our exploitation. We fight for a communist world, without exploitation, and without borders. And we will win.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO  
ICWPREDFLAG@NYM.HUSH.COM

### British Workers Need Communism, Not the Capitalists' National Health Service

Health workers in Britain are becoming increasingly disillusioned and angry with the current pay proposals for National Health Service (NHS) staff. The government has announced only a 1% pay rise. The last pay negotiations two years ago saw a measly increase spread over six years which amounted to little more than 1% anyway.

Many Nurses, Doctors, Porters, and auxiliary staff died during the Covid-19 pandemic. They had inadequate protection due to the government's short-sightedness and decades

of underfunding NHS.

Many health workers who died were Black and Asian. Many worked and lived in poorer parts of the community where the virus spread most rapidly. Or they worked in low-paid jobs and received little protective equipment.

The government made much of its 'Clap for Carers' campaign throughout the pandemic. They encouraged the population to come out every Thursday at 7pm and clap for NHS staff.

The masses began to see through this deceptive propaganda campaign, particularly after the proposed 1% pay rise. Inflation is the means by which the capitalist class snatches more of our wages. Taking this into account, it is a pay cut in the long run as it has been for the last decade.

The health sector unions cannot agree on a single pay demand. They won't even threaten strike action. The leader of Unison, the biggest health union, said we should all clap slowly on a particular evening to show how disgusted with the government we are!

These leaders are pathetic. The working class can do better. The Nurses' union (RCN) is calling for a pay raise for Nurses only. The union bosses can't even agree on pay de-

mands. They try to use sectoral interests to keep workers divided.

In 1982, health workers in Britain took strike action over several months. They refused overtime in order to force a pay demand on the government. That dispute gained huge solidarity from across the working class. Miners, Shipyard workers, Teachers, Printers, Electricians, TV production workers, Sea Ferry workers and many others walked off the job in support in various 'days of action'.

All this broke the 1980 law banning solidarity strike action. No union would have the guts to do that today. Some health workers won their demands in 1982. But the government struck back soon after. It began privatising many auxiliary services in the NHS, leading to worse pay and conditions for those workers.

The NHS is like any capitalist employer. Just because it belongs to the state does not mean it belongs or works in the interests of the working class. Much of it is already in the hands of profit corporations anyway. And it has always been used as a purchasing vehicle for private enterprises to make profits.

Communism will provide real free health and welfare for all people. The West European 'Welfare states' all became means-test states, and in some areas the provision is in a poor state. This demonstrates that struggles over wages are not enough, and we need to fight for the communist system of planned distribution without wage labour and exploitation.

Comrade in England



### Communist Philosophy Teaches Patience and Persistence

"I found the letter about dialectical materialism in the last *Red Flag* to be hard to understand," said F during a club discussion about the paper. She had been active in various left groups for years and participated in an ICWP study group during the past year. After distributing *Red Flag* at May Day, she decided to join the party.

She continued: "I've always had a hard time understanding dialectical materialism. I've learned a lot in study groups, but that's something that's just not clear to me. I'm grateful for the patience you all have had with me, especially over the last year."

"It's dialectical materialism that gives us patience," responded V. She had learned communist philosophy when she was a teenager, and it has guided her practice ever since.

"We know from our study of dialectics that small changes can add up to a big change," continued V. "And even if we don't see those small changes happen, we know that if we keep struggling, the big change will happen. It's logic. It's communist science. And it's how we know that communism will work."

"That's very helpful," said F. "It had always just seemed like jargon to me."

W, a veteran comrade, added, "This week we'll go together to distribute *Red Flag* to bus drivers. We can talk about dialectical materialism in the car. You'll see. It makes sense."

—West Coast Schools Collective Comrades

### Communism: From Each According to Commitment and Ability; To Each According to Need

Many years ago, I was invited to a school about dialectical materialism, which I knew little about. A friend told me that it was complicated, that I wouldn't be able to understand it at all without reading a lot of philosophy books. But it was taught in a very understandable way. Everyone gave and heard examples from everyday life and politics about change, contradictions and struggle. I saw that, while still new for me, I could understand it, learn more, and even begin to use it. Applying it is a life-long process of learning and struggle.

This shows that while people have different abilities and experiences that they can contribute to the collective struggle for communism, these abilities are not static. Everything changes. We can all learn new abilities and improve old ones in the fight to mobilize for communism.

ICWP has changed Marx's slogan from "From each according to ability" to "From each according to commitment and ability; to each according to need." This is our slogan today and will be in communism.

Capitalist ideology claims that capitalists and higher paid professionals have more "ability" than the rest of us. They paint the world as static, and claim that ability is something in-born, or natural. They use this to justify class society's racism, sexism and all exploitation.

In fact, both commitment and ability can increase. Commitment to the working class and to communism is primary, the product of collective struggle to understand and mobilize for communism. With increased commitment people can learn new abilities. The communist masses can and will learn to do many things

that they (and we) have never done before.

A recent article said that "Comrades who work long hours in a factory...have more ability than most to build communist relationships with other factory workers." I think it should have said that when they have the commitment to mobilize their co-workers for communism, they will develop many new abilities to do that.

Today we struggle for more comrades and friends to write for *Red Flag*. Rather than depend on a few "experts," collectives struggle to reach out to newer comrades and less confident writers, who have a lot contribute, and encourage them to help write articles for *Red Flag*.

This applies to leading a study group, building communist relations and communist collectives. It means learning how to be patient, comradely and principled in the struggle for communism—a lifelong struggle for me and others.

People have different abilities that make the collective stronger. We need commitment to learn from them in order to advance.

It takes commitment and struggle for each of us to "move out of our comfort zones" and do things we haven't done before-like give a speech for the first time.

When communism abolishes money, commitment to communism, based on communist relations, will motivate people to work to produce for everyone's needs.

That will motivate masses of people to learn new abilities to eliminate pandemics, racism, sexism, nationalism and all capitalism's poisons.

Commitment to communism will guarantee that everyone's communist understanding and leadership develops.

A Comrade



## New Juneteenth Holiday: US Rulers Try to Camouflage Their Racist System

### LET'S CELEBRATE WORKERS' STRUGGLES FOR LIBERATION

USA, June 19—About 1.8 million people spent the brand-new Juneteenth “National Independence Day” holiday behind bars.

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, the day that Black and white US troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to forcibly suppress the last resistance of the enslavers.

The formerly enslaved people didn't need to be told they were legally free. “We knowed what was goin' on,” remembered freedman Felix Haywood. “We all felt like heroes and nobody had made us that way but ourselves.”

But for most the new “freedom” was debt slavery (sharecropping). It was prison labor (chain gangs). At best it was wage slavery for capitalist bosses. The enslavers' whips and chains and the guns of Pinkerton strikebreakers reappeared as today's racist police and prisons.

Many of today's 1.8 million prisoners are locked up under the 1994 “Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act.” This federal law escalated the “war on drugs” into a war on Black and Brown families. Then-Senator Biden, a key sponsor, bragged that liberal Democrats fought for “125,000 new state prison cells.”

Vice-President Kamala Harris helped lock up many of the 36,000 Black people now in California prisons. Her long career as a criminal prosecutor began in the 1990s and continued when she became the State Attorney-General.

**Forced labor is still legal. The 13th amendment to the US Constitution prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude “except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.”**

During the Covid pandemic, women imprisoned in Chino, California sewed masks for 12 hours a day – but weren't allowed to wear them! Refusing, they were told, would spoil their chances of release. Prisoners got as little as 8 cents an hour for high-risk jobs like cleaning communal showers and prison hospital Covid units.

The Californian Prison Industry Authority oversees 7000 incarcerated workers on its industrial plantations. These workers, mainly Black and Latinx, created \$23.7 million in value in 2019 in fabric manufactures and another \$16.9 million making furniture.

California prisoners are front-line fighters against deadly wildfires. The most skilled get less than \$2/hour. Their prison records will exclude them from firefighting jobs when they get out.

**Capitalism itself is another form of forced labor: wage slavery.** We're forced to work for capitalist bosses, on their terms, to avoid eviction or starvation.

Many anti-racist people celebrated Juneteenth long before the US ruling class coopted their holiday in a performance designed to build patriotism. It's a cynical effort to channel anti-racist activists into elections and “national service.”

The rulers' fight against China will require Black and Latinx youth, especially, who are willing to kill and die for the racist US empire. It's no coincidence that Juneteenth celebrates US troops allegedly telling Black people they were “free.” The big lie is that the US military fights for “democracy.”

**The masses need to liberate ourselves from all forms of capitalist slavery. We can't wait for someone else to “free” us. We need communist revolution to end wage slavery, the material basis of racism today.**

We need to mobilize for a communist society that enables us to contribute our labor to create the goods and services our international family needs. That ends the conditions that lead to anti-social behavior. Deals with problems cooperatively and collectively. Tears down the prisons. Disbands the police.

**We celebrate the struggle of the masses toward this goal.**

From the Haitian revolution of 1791 – 1804 to the India mutiny and rebellion of 1857–59. From the Paris Commune of 1871 to the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917.

From the Chinese Cultural Revolution of the 1960s to the struggles against South African Apartheid and US imperialism in Central America in the 1980s

We learn from all these class struggles and many more, from their mistakes and from their advances. We learn how to build a bigger, stronger, and ultimately victorious communist movement.

One key lesson is that soldiers and sailors must join other workers and youth to help liberate our class. Not by following the orders of “democratic” rulers but by turning the guns around and destroying them.

#### ENDING SLAVERY IN THE US: RESISTANCE, REBELLION, ARMED STRUGGLE

Over twelve million children and adults, kidnapped from their African homes. Suffering the horrific “middle passage” across the Atlantic in European-owned ships. On one ship in ten, enslaved people resisted. Some defiantly chose suicide. Others organized full-scale mutinies.

The survivors were forced to labor in the Americas. Their children and most descendants were born into slavery. The English colonies, north and south, were built on their whipped and sweated backs starting in 1619. Their racialized class structure and legal systems defined American society.

The 1789 US Constitution counted each enslaved human as 3/5 of a person. Still, they resisted and rebelled.

They escaped and helped others to flee. They preserved and adapted diverse African cultures to their conditions of exploitation. They created an African-American heritage. Free Black people organized schools, churches, and more.

Capitalist rulers outlawed the overseas trade in human bodies in 1808. But older plantations exported enslaved children (often resulting from rape by their mothers' enslavers) to the newly colonized west.

By 1840, over 2.5 million enslaved Black people formed 15% of the nation's population. As “human capital” they were more valuable than all the industrial and transportation capital of the US. Their unpaid, coerced labor would make the US a world power.

Enslaved people responded to torturous oppression with larger and more violent uprisings. The terrified class of enslavers repressed them even more brutally.

Increasingly, free Black and White people defied institutionalized racism. They organized massively to abolish slavery. They included German and other immigrant workers fleeing the failed 1848 European revolutions.

Even radical abolitionists—including communists—fought to reform, not to overthrow, racist US capitalism.

Meanwhile, the economy developed unevenly between the industrializing North and plantation South. The struggle sharpened into a Civil War between their respective capitalists. Politicians like Lincoln tried, unsuccessfully, to separate this conflict from slavery.

Lincoln's 1863 “Emancipation Proclamation” supposedly ended slavery only in Secessionist states, which his government didn't control. But desperate northern capitalists had to mobilize and arm Black troops to help win the war. Then they could no longer avoid full legal abolition.

The 13th amendment to the US Constitution (ratified in 1865) outlawed slavery and involuntary servitude (except of prisoners) at least in theory.

The 1811 German Coast Uprising, led by Charles Deslondes, previously enslaved in Haiti, was the biggest revolt of enslaved people in US history.



Read our pamphlet:  
**TO END RACISM,  
MOBILIZE THE  
MASSES FOR  
COMMUNISM**

available at:  
[icwpredflag.org/rpe.pdf](http://icwpredflag.org/rpe.pdf)