EL SALVADOR, September 30—“I feel discouraged and even sick, because I no longer want to work in the maquiladora every day,” said a worker. “Every day the workplace harassment is more, and the bribes are more, and the profits that we are making for bosses are also much more.”

One of the Party cells of women and men maquila workers has discussed workers’ conflicts with each other over getting a few extra coins over the minimum wage. There are comrades who have understood the lesson that the more production in the factory, the greater the profit for the boss. “We must have more solidarity among the workers,” commented a leader of the International Communist Workers’ Party.

“In one production module, two workers, after arguing about producing more dozens of shirts than normal, ended up hitting each other,” commented a comrade organized in the ICWP.

After listening to the comrade’s story, we reached a conclusion: in this capitalist system, it is like that today. But from there comes the need to organize more workers for the party to end all these types of confrontation that the same system has created to divide our class.

And it became a reminder that in communism, bosses won’t exist, nor will money, nor competition among workers.

DELHI (India), October 3—The world’s second-largest city came to a grinding halt: shuttered Metros, snarled highways, trains not running. Thousands of farmers, farmworkers, and supporters are massing in Punjab and Haryana to protest farm laws that will hand over large swathes of land to corporations.

In the pouring rain, twenty comrades of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP) are showing the masses that communism is the only solution to this corporate sell-out.

The fascist ruling party BJP openly allies with India’s largest multinationals. The Congress Party and various farmers’ unions say they want a better deal for the farmers. But their proposals would make farmers perpetually dependent on private banks to pay for fertilizer, pesticides, seeds, and distribution of their products. This illusion has already resulted in the death of over 300,000 farmers.

We need communism where the masses will run every aspect of society without money. That means no banks, no mortgages, no wage slavery. At our rally in Punjab, every comrade passed out stacks of leaflets with this message.

We went to farmworkers and small farm owners who are in imminent danger of losing their land. Our message contrasted sharply with various farmers’ unions. We were surrounded by these pro-capitalist organizations. We were bold and at the same time careful. Our main task was to pass out our literature and get to know new people.

Our new comrades led the way by raising communist slogans that were instantly echoed by the masses. It is hard to translate our slogans, but they sent a clear message that Modi and Gandhi (the Congress Party leader) fight each other in the day but make deals at night. Communism will finish off all these enemies. Many such slogans expressed our communist vision.

At one point, the farmers’ union leaders came very close and tried to intimidate us. We sensed that several were armed with sticks. We instantly recognized that the situation could get out of control. Our new comrades continued raising slogans. The masses followed it up, roaring their reply. The union bosses made a hasty retreat, but they warned us that we were too small.

Despite the constant downpouring of monsoon rains, our day had a very positive outcome. Each comrade brought some new worker. Some brought their neighbors. We estimate that at least 100 people attended the meeting. We are building very close bonds with these workers as we build our mass organization in the countryside.

See INDIA STRUGGLE, page 3
COMMUNISM WILL LIBERATE WORKERS’ KNOWLEDGE TO MEET THE MASSES’ NEEDS

I work in a small factory where we manufacture medicines and pharmaceutical products. The management, preparing for a government inspection, are paying huge amounts of money to consultants to re-assess the quality systems and equipment we have used for years. Production has stopped until the consultation is complete. Who don’t they consult the workers on the shop floor?

A whole industry is devoted to publishing books on quality issues. A workmate said, “Instead of wasting money on consultants they could have got us all to read the books on this subject”.

Years ago, a few of us pointed out improvements which could be made and we were ignored. Now they listen to highly paid ‘experts’.

On a previous job, I worked in a large pharmaceutical corporation on a mass production line. I operated a computerised bottle-filling machine from the USA. I got to intimately learn the machine’s quirks and the ways it worked.

Then, once, the machine broke down. The company brought over engineers and electricians from the US to find out what was wrong. But these ‘experts’ had great trouble with the general running of the machine. They had to ask me to stay behind and do overtime to show them all its quirks! Having a certificate saying you are an ‘expert’ does not mean you know everything or that your labour has more value than a so-called ‘un-skilled’ worker.

Labour creates all value. And often the lowest-paid work is the most essential—think farmers, cooks, and custodians—while those at the top are ‘Red’ or ‘expert’. Should class struggle and political study and cultural activities. Charles Bettelheim wrote about these struggles in Cultural Revolution and Industrial Organization in China.

However, many did not see at the time that the existence of wages encourages the perpetuation of managerial ‘experts’ and indeed the division of labour which sustains it. Workers will end up competing if it means more wages to survive on or getting an easier, better-paid desk job.

The left lost this struggle and China is now a capitalist power. The revolutions in the 20th century led by the Communist Parties were eventually defeated from within by the elevation to power of these very ‘experts’.

We fight for a communist world without ‘experts’ and the division between “mental” and “manual” labour. We will create cooperative working conditions without wages and money. We will produce for human needs and not for ‘efficiency’ or profits.

THE PROLETARIAT OF NATIONS WILL UNITE AS ONE

I work in a small factory where we manufacture medicines and pharmaceutical products. The management, preparing for a government inspection, are paying huge amounts of money to consultants to re-assess the quality systems and equipment we have used for years. Production has stopped until the consultation is complete. Who don’t they consult the workers on the shop floor?

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JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST WORKERS’ PARTY

International Communist Workers’ Party

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Volume 12, Number 13, October 6 to 27, 2021

NOTHING MOVES WITHOUT THE WORKING CLASS

UNITED KINGDOM, October 4—The results of low pay and lack of respect for industrial workers are becoming clearer during the current fuel shortage.

For decades, Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) drivers have been paid badly to work in a very stressful job with long hours and time away from home. Haulage firms, in recent years, also relied on temporary staff, often migrants. Now a combination of Brexit, poor conditions and low wages has led to a lack of HGV drivers.

This has meant petrol (gasoline) sitting in tanks in port. Delivery to petrol stations has been slow. This has led to panic buying at the petrol pumps, and stations have run dry. Many working-class people now cannot get to work in areas poorly serviced by public transport, and there are shortages of certain goods and services.

Today the government has deployed 200 military tanker personnel, including 100 drivers, to deliver gasoline to service stations. These workers in uniform are British capitalists’ back-up to guarantee capitalism’s functioning and profitability.

Industrial workers and soldiers are key to overthrowing this capitalist system and to building a communist world. We are reaching out to workers, including truck drivers and military personnel, around the world.
SOUTHERN AFRICA—A comrade who was part of our group briefly said he had “a problem reconciling our political line with his own views.” The struggle to recruit him will be helpful with other friends who share some of his ideas.

We had assumed that he was on board without deeply struggling with him to find out whether he agreed with our line. This conversation was an opportunity to try to understand his thinking.

He asked how society can function without money. We explained that in capitalist society, the material basis for most of the problems, if not all, is money. Money is the reason for poverty and greed, the reason for corruption and homelessness.

To destroy capitalism, we should do away with money completely and live by communist principles, where each person contributes according to their ability and commitment and receives according to their needs. That would be the most logical thing.

We need to explain further to the masses how this will be done practically. There are some examples which we can use. Before class society, people shared everything without money. After the Chinese Revolution, masses of people set up communes, mostly in rural areas. They produced and shared everything collectively without money.

Also, in the Cultural Revolution in China, there were barefoot doctors who were ordinary workers who learned in classes and then in practice how to cure diseases and treat wounds. They took their knowledge straight to the masses to help them, as they worked alongside them.

Christian was open to our ideas. He’s been a member of the South African Communist Party (SACP). We explained we don’t think that the model the SACP proposes is beneficial to the working class. The SACP is in alliance with the African National Congress, who are openly serving the bosses, not the working class. The SACP is supposed to be the vanguard of the working class. They are not taking any leadership. Hence the working class generally is suffering here.

Christian views socialism as the final product to emancipate the working class, which is wrong. Socialism was never meant to be a final product. It was meant to be a transition period. Communism was supposed to be the final goal. They are not advocating fighting directly for communism.

We agreed on many things. But our point of contention is: how do we achieve our stated goal, to liberate the working class? He believes we can do that through socialism and we believe that only by fighting directly for communism, will we be able to liberate the working class.

We had underestimated our ideological differences. Struggling with him won’t be mechanical. It’s going to be a process. Our conversation was a good start to that process. We can expand on that to talk more about communism, how will it function.

We talked about how we will organize healthcare in communism. About the state of hospitals here. We said that in communism when we are dealing with healthcare, we won’t be solely focused on building hospitals.

Many things that we do are harmful to our health and drive people straight to hospitals. In communism they should done away with. But because we are living in capitalist society, they sell these things just for profit. For example, diabetes kills more people here than HIV-AIDS. The only plan to address this is treatment, not prevention.

We need to encourage people to exercise more, to eat healthy diets. But now under capitalism they can’t. Many people can’t even afford to buy healthy food. The food they can afford is harmful to their health. But under communism, we will provide people’s basic needs, including only healthy food. This will eliminate the need for them to go into the hospitals in the first place.

By talking and exposing that dynamic, Christian was able to see that there are benefits in what we are proposing. We will continue to struggle with him sharply around our line. Hopefully, he and many more friends will see that the only way for us to achieve the liberation of the working class is communism, and the only party that fights for communism is the ICWP.

INDIA: NO MORE FASCIST MURDERS! MOBILIZE FOR COMMUNISM!

UTTAR PRADESH (India). October 4—Four farmers were deliberately killed, and dozens more injured, by an SUV driven by the son of a state minister. Uttar Pradesh is run by the fascist BJP who have terrorized the masses and were considered invincible.

Thousands of protesters surrounded the helipad where the minister was to land. When the minister realized that landing his helicopter would be too risky, he aborted the mission and alerted his son who was there to receive him to turn back.

At that point, the SUV mowed down farmers who were going back. The farmers, in shock from seeing the ghastly killing, immediately attacked the minister’s convoy. The masses dragged four BJP supporters out of the SUV and instantly killed them.

This has sent shockwaves all over India. Unprecedented demonstrations are rocking every corner of the country. French jets were reportedly scrambled in Punjab, heart of the farmer unrest. Punjab borders Pakistan and provides 30% of the Indian army.

Never underestimate the masses! ICWP comrades in India are concentrating forces in and around Delhi, including Punjab. They are on their way to showing that only a communist revolution will eliminate fascists and destroy their power.

INDIA STRUGGLE from page 1

everybody cooked for us and we were able to spend the night there.

“The International Communist Workers’ Party calls on the international working class to join us in mobilizing the masses for communism,” declares the ICWP manifesto. The comrades in India are putting this into practice. They are organizing workers to bring communist ideas to the broader masses in the farmers’ struggle.

We discussed the Red Flag article about communist society without money. The comrades from the garment factory in Bengaluru contributed that article. We met with four garment worker comrades. Next week we will meet with our friends in Chennai to talk about work in the auto factories. We will write soon about how communist society will produce food without money. Our struggle is intensifying and gathering new communist vanguard comrades.

Red Flag comments: Thank you, comrades, for this inspiring report of your powerful work! We will use this article to advance the work of the Party everywhere.
Moving Forward While Learning from the Past: COMMUNISM, COLLECTIVITY, AND COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

CALIFORNIA (USA), Sept. 26—“To combat climate change, we really need to listen to the original stewards of this land: indigenous peoples,” commented a young activist. During a local climate summit organized by a member of the ICWP, local organizers and community members gathered to process their anxieties caused by the climate crisis, and to formulate some action plans for the near future.

The group consisted of young organizers from across the county. All have been frustrated at the legislators’ lack of response to the climate crisis and specifically to the state of California’s lack of response to the historically devastating water crisis we are currently in.

This meeting occurred on Patwin and Yuki land. The organizers made it a priority to acknowledge the space they occupy as settlers on stolen land.

“It’s not enough to acknowledge that we are on stolen land,” a comrade said during one of the many discussions at the event. “We must also learn to decolonize our minds. In doing so we must learn to live in community with the land. Every piece of nature around us is alive, living and breathing and experiencing the world just like we are.”

This meeting took place in Northern California, right outside of a tremendous agricultural zone where a majority of California’s almonds are grown. Almonds are the state’s biggest and most important economic export. Eighty percent of the world’s almonds are grown in California.

“Almonds use one of the highest amounts of water of any crop but of course politicians don’t care about the environmental effects of mass almond production because all they care about is money” said another comrade present, who runs a community garden out of a neighborhood in the Bay Area.

The discussion jumped to what communism plays in all of this. “We need to look into what happened in previous communist systems and apply lessons from them and that all lives are worthy of honor and dignity.”

They shared everything amongst their communities because they knew that the only way to live justly was in a way that promoted collectivity. All of these traits are consistent with communist ideals. It is unjust and unfair to destroy the Earth for the gain of a small group of people who economically thrive off of exploitation of all kinds.

As communists, we commit to resisting exploitation by the bourgeois class, and as working-class communists we have a responsibility to commit to the intersectionality of that fight. When we fight for communism, we must recognize that we are fighting for a way of life that has existed before but underwent an attempted era of exploitation, especially when the forces of capitalism became too powerful for indigenous communities to bear.

The communities that lived in accordance with communism, of course without naming it, managed to live in accordance with the earth while doing so. While moving forward in our praxis and fight for communism we must remember that we have knowledge to gain from looking to the past, and even some current, ways of life led by indigenous communities.

The Earth is begging for communism, collectivity, and an end to the exploitation!

Disagreements about Dialectical Materialism

The recent series on dialectical materialism made some good points but has serious problems that should be taken care of.

The first problem is the length. The two installments add up for almost 1400 words. That’s a lot of reading, and at a fairly high reading level (grade 9). We should never forget that many of our readers have been poorly trained by the bosses’ educational system and have a lot of trouble reading long and complex texts.

This is especially important for articles on dialectical materialism, which has a reputation for being difficult. Publishing 1400 words on a basic introduction just reinforces this stereotype.

The second problem is with the content. The articles claim there are actually two kinds of materialism, the “old” and the “new”. I have studied materialism for a long time but this distinction is new to me.

And nowhere, in one place, is there a concise definition of either one or the difference between them.

At one point we are told that “The old materialism simply said that everything that is real is made of matter.” Sounds fine to me!

Yet it seems to follow that the “new” materialism says that some things that are real are not made of matter. Like what?

We have at least one answer: it says, without qualification, that “Ideas are not material”. Not material? If they aren’t material, what are they?

This is blatant idealism. Everything that is real is matter (in motion). Ideas are forms of motion of human brains. No brains, no ideas.

The spread of ideas is a material change in the real world. The emergence of consciousness (hundreds of thousands of years ago) was one such change. More recently the emergence of communist consciousness is also a significant change in the real world. Eventually it will lead to the emergence of communism itself.

We need a truly materialist dialectical materialism to help us spread communist consciousness and change the material world. The “new” materialism is not what’s needed.

—Comrade in Canada

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October 2—Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States (AUKUS) announced a new military alliance on September 15. It directly challenges China in the Indo-Pacific region, which has 60% of global maritime trade. It also intensifies rifts with Europe. The new deal cancelled an Australian contract to buy submarines from France in order to build US-designed nuclear-powered subs instead.

But the future is in the hands of the international working class, not of the US, Chinese and other imperialists. “The right-wing government in Australia has exposed fault lines as the trade with China diminishes, mountains of wines and minerals are piling up unsold, and the workers’ jobs are no longer secure,” writes a Red Flag reader in Melbourne, Australia. “Millions of workers are looking for a better alternative. Communism is rising from the ashes. Please send us Red Flag for some of my friends.”

AUKUS is the latest stage in the Obama-Biden administration’s 2011 “Pivot to Asia.” Now, ten years later, the global positions of the US and the UK are weaker and that of China has become stronger.

Brexit and the UK’s current trucking crisis have exposed the UK’s desperate struggle to maintain remnants of its dying empire. Once the dominant global naval power, it can no longer maintain remnants of its dying empire. Once the UK’s desperate struggle to maintain remnants of its dying empire.

But rising Chinese imperialism has its own internal contradictions.

Food delivery workers in China organized several strikes in September. They are among 110 million workers in the Chinese gig economy who face long hours, reduced wages, and who lack basic housing and health care. The glittering neon signs of shopping malls can’t hide thousands of unoccupied high-rise buildings. This economic uncertainty translates directly to a Chinese military filled with young people who are only there for the paycheck—much like the US Army.

Chinese imperialism is pushing up against the limits imposed by US-dominated post-World War II institutions (World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization). This makes a third world war increasingly likely.

Masses everywhere want an alternative to openly fascist butchers like Modi, Trump, Bolsanaro, the UK’s Boris Johnson and Australia’s Scott Morrison. Some mistakenly think that alternative is liberal politicians like the US Biden-Harris administration. But images of racist attacks on Haitian refugees and of Harris coying up to Modi should help to dispel that illusion.

The only alternative for the working class is to end the system of wage slavery that is the root of imperialism and its wars. Our youth everywhere have a great potential to defend and advance our class by fighting for communism, rather than sacrificing their lives to defend our class enemies. This poses an urgent task for our International Communist Workers’ Party. We need consistent work and a long-term outlook of building communist collectives, especially in factories and armed forces today. This will create a new generation of revolutionaries who will lead the masses to win and build our communist future!

A young veteran reported to a recent ICWP International Meeting about the importance of communist military work. The report began with some history of the role soldiers and sailors played in the Paris Commune of 1871 and the events that occurred on the Russian battleship Potemkin in 1905.

The Paris Commune was a workers’ revolution that took place in the aftermath of the Franco-Prussian War. National guardsmen stood up to the French government and took power in Paris by taking up arms against the French army. When the people of Paris took power, they established their own government in which a committee of leaders was elected. Many of these leaders were national guardsmen.

In 1905, the sailors of the Potemkin mutinied and eventually took control of the ship in protest of the conditions the officers of the ship were enforcing on the enlisted men. Unfortunately, in both cases, a lack of communist organization and leadership made the successes of both those movements short-lived. The Parisians would eventually lose power due to internal flaws within their newly established government which allowed the French government to regain control of Paris. The sailors of the battleship Potemkin would eventually forfeit the ship and go into hiding due to a lack of long-term vision.

The takeaway for the party is to recognize the importance that soldiers and sailors play in the process of any movement. Soldiers and sailors not only have specialized training, but they also have access to weapons that any serious movement will need. Therefore, the party must see the necessity of recruiting active and prior military members.

In the meeting, another comrade then spoke about his time in the US military during the Vietnam era. He focused on issues he used to build a communist collective of soldiers. A younger comrade talked about his experience organizing in the US army within the last decade. Despite having been in the military decades apart, the two comrades experienced many of the same things during their enlistments. Both saw racism, as well as sexism and classism: all the readily handy tools used by capitalism to further its imperialistic pursuits. That both the comrades experienced similar events gives us insight into the topics we can use to win over past and present military members.

For example, racism is still rampant in the armed forces. Last summer, a friend reported that his training brigade was split between right-wing boot campers and left-wing group of young multi-racial soldiers. Immediately, soldiers organized study groups on the role of systemic racism. They made the mistake of appealing to officers and the staff sergeant. The higher ups swore but did nothing about the racists.

Our friend emphasized that these racists could not be ignored. He used US history to bolster his argument. Many soldiers gave our friend their contact information in preparation for the battles within the army that they all knew lay ahead. Experiences like this are not limited to this one training brigade.

Soldiers’ future will include not only racism, but extreme sexist abuse and vicious attacks on workers in the US and elsewhere, as well as imperialist invasions. We must struggle for a clear understanding how only communism can end these attacks in and out of the army. The communist fight against racism and sexism are once again gateways to joining the ICWP.

The report ended with a call to all party members and friends. The military work cannot be done solely by the military committee members. Every collective of the ICWP needs to work on helping communist military work grow, because we all stand to gain from more service member participation.

Shifting Imperialist Alliances Lead to Crisis and War

Young Communist Workers and Soldiers Will End Deadly Capitalist System

Soldiers, Sailors and Communism: Past and Present

Conrades in South Africa distributing Red Flag to soldiers
In Defence of May Day banner
In the last issue of Red Flag, some comrades sent a letter criticising the banner “Building the Worldwide Proletarian Revolution” used on May Day by comrades in El Salvador and its use in the newspaper. I think this criticism is mistaken.

The letter stated that we are fighting for communist revolution and not a proletarian revolution. But the proletarian revolution is for communism.

The comrades say in the letter that the goal of the revolution is not a proletarian state. Of course, that isn’t our end goal. But this does not mean a liberated area creating capitalist relations. We know now the mistakes of “building socialism” by the old communist movement which led to capitalism.

The comrades say that private hospitals are building luxurious and sophisticated structures. This is the only one that has doctors and the only one that takes in patients in extremely delicate conditions,

In El Salvador right now we have two problems. The first is that the management of the Covid-19 pandemic by the government is subordinated to the publicity of the government. In other words, there’s no real information about the Covid-19 pandemic on the part of the ministry to protect the image and marketing of the government of El Salvador.

There is also a surge in cases among teachers and students. The Ministry of Education issued orders not to close the schools in spite of the fact that approximately 55 teachers and 8 students have died from the virus, according to reports in the local press.

Second, it’s been sixty years and governments everywhere along the political spectrum still haven’t renovated the only hospital at the third level of public hospitals. This is the only one that takes in patients in extremely delicate condition, and the only one that has doctors with this sub-specialty. This in spite of the fact that private hospitals are building luxurious and sophisticated structures.

We are learning to function collectively. This also requires that the comrades dedicate more time to reviewing the content of the material that we are going to show to the working class. We can only achieve this through discipline and understanding of the line of ICWP. These are important lessons for more comrades to get involved in this activity.

We appreciate the comrades’ criticism because it has led us to review the origins of the proletariat. Historically, it is there where the struggles have been born, and they are pointing the way and correcting errors of the old communist movement.

-Comrade in El Salvador

Capitalist Governments Create Health Disaster for the Masses
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-Comrade in El Salvador

THE COMMUNIST FIGHT AGAINST SEXISM
AN INTERNATIONAL PAMPHLET
AVAILABLE AT ICWPREDFLAG.ORG/SXSE.PDF
Workers: Fight the Whole Capitalist System!

"Will there be some activity for the September 15 [Independence Day] march in the capital?" asks a student.

"The struggle is not only against the government of New Ideas in El Salvador. It is against the entire system. We can’t march with the business groups or bosses’ unions," responds an ICWP comrade.

The September 15 protests in San Salvador against the dictatorial policies of the government show that, once again, a bourgeois and capitalist government has not, cannot, and will not solve the problems of the working class, like crime, economic crisis, environmental disaster and gender inequalities.

Days earlier, ICWP collectives discussed whether it was strategic and safe to participate in this march. Some thought that it was not, due to the convergence of business groups and ideological institutions of businessmen opposed to the current government. Other comrades spoke about the importance of the protest, the presence of workers who sympathize with revolutionary ideas and the opportunity to get to know them.

Due to the patriotism and opportunism of the electoral left in El Salvador, it was decided not to attend. Instead, a small group of comrades from the International Communist Workers’ Party would accompany the march from outside. At strategic points they would watch the protest and observe its development.

These anti-government protests are a plan of capitalist strategists to divert the workers’ attention from the real causes and solutions to the structural problems here, which are also shared by workers in other capitalist nations.

It is a false sense of doing the right thing, charting a path that will lead again to another government under a state and economic system controlled by the bourgeoisie. The International Communist Workers’ Party is building the political-ideological communist line of the workers’ international movement day by day. Today, September 15, was no exception.

ICWP collectives took advantage of this free day to discuss online articles, proposals for letters, and to strengthen social relations between cells and among their members. As this letter is being written, discussions continue about the line of the ICWP. This is a sign of the commitment of each of the members of the communist cells that make up this movement.

The ICWP calls on the working class to organize and march against the economic policies and measures of the bourgeoisie. The enemy is not just one person or one government. It is the entire state and ideological apparatus of the bourgeoisie.

The option and the voice of the workers is written in the lines of the Red Flag newspaper. Let’s fight to build an organized, militant, supportive international communist movement.

Comrade in El Salvador

Workers March Against Repression – Communists Show the Way Forward

The Salvadoran working class, united for a single cause, united all with one voice, against the system. No more repression, no more injustice and tired of all our gains being attacked, we have gone out to march this memorable date of 15th of September 2021, which commemorates El Salvador’s independence from Spain.

The workers have the power to end the capitalist system. It is a priority to analyze strategies that favor us in the face of this situation so that we can participate in more marches, in organizing ourselves to continue in the struggle for our cause, so that our International Communist Workers Party continues to inspire us to always struggle and give support, as the voice of the workers.

During the march we were able to have discussions with workers. They agree that they no longer want any more repression, no more to be under the yoke of power. They proclaim that this is the first march of many in which we are all united against the violation of our rights. NO MORE SILENCE, no more repression and social injustice, they proclaim the freedom of the masses in continuing to fight for the cause.

Today we continue to make history; 200 years of resistance; of constant struggle against the repression of the capitalist system. All the past governments and the current government have administered the bosses’ system.

The rulers use the word freedom at their convenience, a product of the capitalist electoral system to which we have been subjected for many years. They call it freedom—no matter how much our rights of free expression are violated, no matter how much they want to silence us, using and attacking workers by forcing them to confront and block the same workers who wanted to express their dissatisfaction and anger with what we are experiencing in our country.

We stand up because of so much injustice. We make our voice and the voice of the voiceless cry out. We all march together because on this day it was seen that justice has an ideology, because social well-being is a citizen’s right. Well-being for a full life is a right of all, not only of the rich who subjugate and subdue the masses.

We in the ICWP must take the initiative to mobilize the masses to destroy this oppressive capitalist system. We must distribute our Red Flag so that more comrades will join us in our cause.

The struggle continues.

Another Comrade in El Salvador

Red Flag note: The two letters above represent different points of view among comrades in El Salvador. We look forward to responses from other readers and collectives.

HAITI: CENTURIES OF STRUGGLE from page 8

In 1994, Biden chaired the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He declared that “If Haiti just quietly sunk into the Caribbean or rose up 300 feet, it wouldn’t matter a whole lot to our interests.” But it wasn’t true. US imperialism profited from Haitian workers’ misery.

After the devastating 2010 earthquake, the Obama-Biden administration imposed more neoliberal anti-working-class policies, at gunpoint. They promised a new port and industrial development but ended up building only a few fancy hotels. The US military took over Haiti’s airspace and crowded out much of the relief aid. The US ambassador said, “We’re not really planning in terms of weeks or months or years. We’re planning basically to see this job through to the end.”

Out of about 10 million Haitians, 316,000 died and 1.6 million were displaced. Many migrated to Brazil and then Chile. Now the Covid-related economic crisis is forcing them to the US southern border.

The Haitian masses are the poorest in the Western hemisphere. More than half live on less than $1 a day, and more than 80% on less than $2 a day.

And they are potentially among the most revolutionary. It is time to kick out the racist imperialists and fight for communism to end all racism, imperialism, and exploitation.
SEATTLE (USA)—“Yes, I saw the video of the fascists on horseback whipping Haitian migrants with their reins,” said a retired Boeing comrade, C. “But what bothers me the most is how we [the masses] got into this situation in the first place.”

His reaction raises the further question: “How do we get out of this situation?”

The short answers are: Capitalism got us into this situation. And communism will get us out.

“That’s a good way of looking at it!” said C.

Masses around the world are passionately debating these questions. Even as the news broke about the atrocities at the southern US border, nearly 60 African migrants drowned while trying to reach Spain’s Canary Islands. Spain and Morocco did nothing to avert the tragedy even though they were notified of the impending calamity. Tens of thousands of migrants are homeless on the streets of Colombia and Venezuela.

Just like Trump, the Biden administration has deported migrants, now Haitians, denying them even a chance to apply for asylum. Thousands more have been pushed back into Mexico.

Wherever these migrants are forced to settle—be it the US, Mexico, or Haiti—they are not mere victims. They are potential revolutionary communist leaders.

These escalating attacks call on our party and Red Flag readers to struggle with everyone we know for the necessity of communist revolution.

A New Jersey teenager, whose family is close to the party, discussed this issue in her class when her teacher showed a video clip of the Texas Border Patrol fascists in action. She gave her grandmother an opportunity to help her delve deeply into the subject. Comrades and friends in the schools should be on the alert for opportunities like this or find ways to create them.

This is clearly a teaching moment to show the need for communist revolution.

**Spread the Discussion from Classrooms to the Factories and Beyond**

Educating doesn’t happen only (or mainly) in classrooms. Boeing comrades and friends are making a special effort to spread this discussion among industrial workers. To better prepare our comrades and friends, C. suggested a short “cheat sheet” of Haitian history highlights. “Good job! That will help,” he said after reviewing the notes.

One Boeing worker focused on the pictures of the Haitian migrants clutching bags of food as the fascists on horseback tried to drive them back into Mexico.

“This is outrageous!” he said.

“Do you know how much food is thrown away under capitalism? Just feed them! They need to eat!”

In communism, the party will organize masses to feed the masses: to each according to need. Collective production based on voluntary labor will use food, not waste it.

Another Boeing friend, who is being forced to work at a dangerous job, took the time to discuss the southern border with comrades. The images of the Border Patrol whipping Haitian refugees prompted her to declare, “You know the company would do the same to us [Boeing workers] if they could!”

Biden may succeed in temporarily banning this issue from the front pages of the capitalist media. But he and his ruling class buddies will never extinguish the anger and fight of the global masses.

We will “get out of this situation” by building the ICWP and expanding its influence. Immigrant workers will take the lead. Communist masses will build a new future, free of racism, xenophobia and deadly forced migrations. There will be no nations and no borders to divide our global family. Everyone will be welcome everywhere.

**Haiti: CENTURIES OF STRUGGLE AGAINST RACIST IMPERIALISM**

The Haitian masses have long inspired many with their fight against capitalist exploitation.

French colonialism, starting in the seventeenth century, largely destroyed the indigenous Taino people. French planters acquired large tracts of it, having the island before Columbus landed in 1492. French capitalism therefore relied on enslaved Africans to produce the raw goods that made Haiti its richest colony.

The enslaved Black workers rebelled in 1791. Their sustained struggle routed the French military and won independence in 1804.

This fight against the most profitable, most fully-developed example of European imperial sugar plantation system had global impacts. France had to sell the huge “Louisiana Terriory” to the US. This led to genocidal “westward expansion” that guaranteed the spread of slavery in North America.

US enslavers were terrified that the Haitian example would encourage slave revolts on the mainland. At their behest, the US refused to recognize Haiti for 60 years.

In 1825, French warships forced Haiti to agree to pay a huge indemnity to compensate French capitalism for its lost “property,” including enslaved people. French imperialism eventually extracted the equivalent of about US$21 billion.

US imperialists then bought up Haiti’s bank so that National City Bank of New York (now Citibank) could collect related interest payments.

That’s how a rich island became desperately poor. Haiti’s loan debt to the US ate up about 20% of its annual revenue, and it’s only gotten worse.

The notoriously racist US President Woodrow Wilson ordered a US invasion of Haiti in 1915. Major General Smedley Butler led it. He later wrote, “I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenues in... I was a gangster for capitalism.”


US imperialism was far from done. In 1937 it orchestrated a massacre of 15,000 people on the border of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. This was to enforce a racist division between “white” Dominicans and “black” Haitians.

Later, US imperialism imposed neoliberal agricultural policies on Haiti. During the 1990s, it forced Haiti to cut tariffs on imported crops. It then shipped surplus American crops into Haiti’s ports under the guise of “Food for Peace.” Haitian subsistence farmers could not compete, and many thousands lost their land.

The idea was to create a cheap labor force for factories, but the factories never materialized.

See HAITI: CENTURIES OF STRUGGLE, page 7