

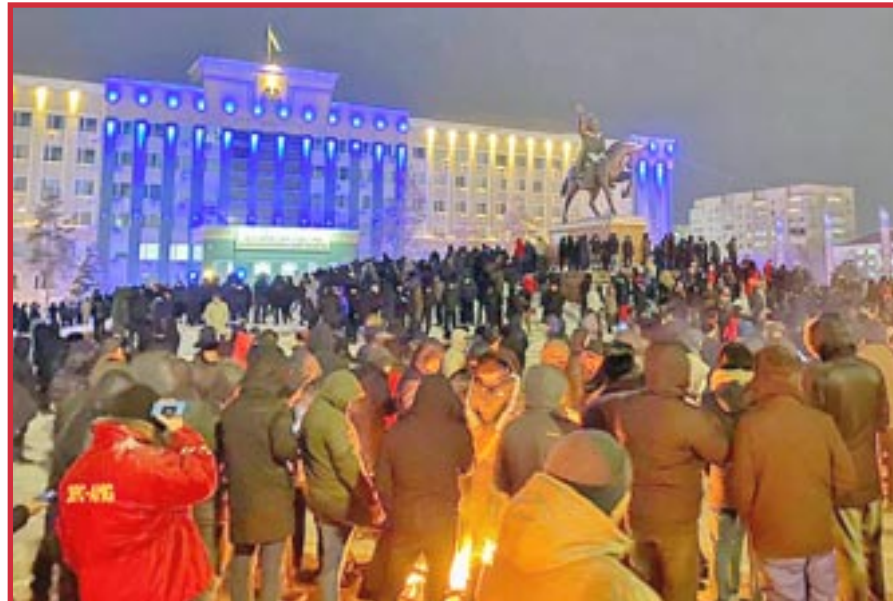
RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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

MASSIVE PROTESTS SHAKE KAZAKHSTAN See page 2



El Salvador Comrade:

FROM THE GUERRILLA TO FACTORY ORGANIZING FOR COMMUNISM

EL SALVADOR - For 20 years I have been working in the free trade zone, better known as the maquilas. Here in this International Communist Conference, we are comrades who have different jobs, but we are fighting for the same goal.

My uncles were FMLN guerrilla fighters. I was about six years old when one of my uncles had already fallen in combat. I don't remember him. But I remember my other uncle. I asked him, "Why do you go around carrying a rifle?"

He said, "Do you see all this land? It is all owned by only one person. He doesn't need it. We are fighting so that all of this belongs to everyone who works on it."

So I told him, "I want to go with you."

He just started laughing again and told me, "Eat a lot so you can handle the rifle."

I ate a lot and every time he visited, I asked him, "Can I handle the rifle?"

And he always told me, "You need a little bit more."

Time passed until the "peace" agreements were signed, with which he did not agree, because they were the ones who fought, and they had no voice or vote. Their dream of a change ran out.

In 2014 a fellow worker invited me to have coffee. He took the opportunity to tell me about the existence of the Party. He said there were more members inside and outside the maquilas and also outside the country. That it was an international party, of many workers fighting for a communist world.

That was where I first met our *Red Flag* newspaper. He explained to me that in this newspaper you find many experiences of men and women workers in other countries with the same

See: [COMRADE IN EL SALVADOR, page 4](#)

New Comrade in India:

INTENSIFY COMMUNIST STRUGGLE TO END RACISM, XENOPHOBIA AND SEXISM

DELHI (India), January 2— "Women of Jamiya are leading the fight!" (Jamiya ki landkiao ne rasta dikhaya hai!) So proclaimed thousands of women facing tear gas and water cannon two years ago, after scores of Muslims were massacred here by the fascist police. An iconic image of four women protecting a fallen male comrade showed that women can fearlessly defend working-class brothers and sisters.

I was among the Jamiya students who participated in these demonstrations. Today I have decided to take the fight to defend the working class and join ICWP for the communist revolution.

I am 22 years old, from a very poor Muslim family. We have lived in fear for seven years since BJP came to power. Their fascist supporters would come in large numbers into our all-Muslim area. They came with sticks, metal rods, and crude petrol bombs, always followed by police to

protect them.

Two years ago, police and their fascist friends came in very large military formations. Not a single person could be seen in our densely populated neighborhood. The police started smashing doors, windows, and shops. People screamed and cried as leaders of the fascist BJP directed police where to shoot and burn houses. We don't know how many people died, but many were brought to the hospitals with bullet and burn wounds.

Police repeated these tactics when they attacked the predominantly Muslim Jamiya Milia University. Students in the library, canteens, and dormitories were dragged out and mercilessly beaten.

I was among thousands of women of Jamiya who spontaneously responded to these police attacks. For many of us, this was the first political demonstration. It changed my life forever. I told

See: [NEW COMRADE IN INDIA, page 4](#)

Volume 12 Number 17, January 5 to 26, 2022

INSIDE:

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DEVELOPS NEW LEADERS, PAGE 2

EL SALVADOR INDUSTRIAL WORK: BUILDING COMMUNIST RELATIONSHIPS, PAGE 3

UKRAINE: WIDER IMPERIALIST WARS, PAGE 5

CLIMATE CHANGE & CAPITALIST DISASTERS, PAGE 6

COMMUNISTS FIGHT RACISM & NATIONALISM, PAGE 8

ICWP 2021 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: DEVELOPING NEW COMMUNIST LEADERS

EL SALVADOR— “I fought in the country’s armed movement in the 1980s to open a gap to seek equality through the Salvadoran communist party, but it disappointed and betrayed us. A capitalist communist party that lost the vision of communism. We have to talk to our children and grandchildren to explain to them the reason for our struggle and to see the real change to communism through the party that is being built today, ICWP,” said a farmworker comrade ex-guerrilla of the FMLN, during the Conference.

Finally, after so much waiting to be able to be all together, we held the International Conference of our ICWP party which we had been waiting for so long with the emotion that each one of the participants carried.

More than seventy comrades and friends attended via Zoom and in person. New comrades from eastern Canada, Texas, and the UK joined new and veteran comrades from South Africa, the US West Coast, and El Salvador. It has been a crucial and important moment for communism and our working class around the world. We had the opportunity to strengthen the masses, which is our direct objective. We unified ourselves for

the struggle for communism.

For two years we had not had a conference like this one, due to the global health problems that we all face, the COVID 19 pandemic. Many of our comrades were affected. But despite all these problems we continue to struggle, to advance in industrial work, facing the obstacles to being able to conduct our cell meetings.

We designed new methods and adapted to a new stage because it brought us together in a virtual way. Thanks to all this, we were able to maintain our communist struggle and our line, to continue to organize with commitment and responsibility, as we demonstrated in our International Conference.

The conference showed important points such as the leadership of women within the party. There was communist ideological struggle against racism, xenophobia, and sexism. We discussed the key role played by our *Red Flag* newspaper. The International reports and the report of the work in the maquilas focused, with analysis and evaluation, on building the collectives and creating new communist leaders.

A comrade worker commented, “We are class

brothers and sisters, one family. We are one class, and one Party.”

An 11-year-old who participated in the conference, the daughter of a comrade, commented, “I did not understand. I didn’t know what communism was because on television or in schools they tell us very different things. And when I listen to all of you, I like that we are part of the party in search of a common good; that we have a voice in equality and equity. I am happy to be part of this.”

Stories, experiences, and ideas were shared that united us as a communist family.

It was a key moment for growth, where everyone united under the same line of our Party. The world’s working class felt a human warmth and international support to move forward for our struggle.

It has been an experience of personal and collective growth and at the same time it strengthened the foundation that only the communist revolution can put an end to capitalist oppression and fascism.

Long Live Communism!

GREETINGS FROM INDIA TO OUR COMRADES ALL OVER THE WORLD!

We are members and friends of ICWP reporting from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bengaluru, and Chennai. We are involved in daily struggles to advance our communist vision to the working class in garment factories, the automobile industry, and farm workers.

Recently 2000 factory workers got very sick after consuming food in the canteens of the Foxconn factory. Eight of these workers died. Immediately after this tragedy, 8000 Foxconn workers occupied the highway, joined by many others.

Some ICWP comrades and friends in the garment industry also joined. We explained to the masses that every tragedy, every death, every coronavirus victim has a signature of the profit system that is capitalism. We can only get rid of this system with communism, a society based on need that will not require money.

Profit maximization is killing millions of people around the world. We need to struggle to build communist members, led by ICWP. We are already building these forces in a mass way. We face all the obstacles of the bosses who try to mislead us by religion, caste, nationality, gender.

We are encouraged by our comrades in El Salvador to sharpen our understanding of communism. The bosses in India have imposed GST

(like VAT tax) from 5% to 12%. This increase will cause 15 million people to lose jobs. The Covid crisis has thrown millions more into unending unemployment lines. Added to this, the youth are facing up to 60% unemployment.

Only communists have the outlook to destroy this system. We are planning a meeting in India next month. One working-class, one party, one fight, communism! Onward comrades!



Chennai, India, Dec. 18, 2021: Foxconn factory workers protest contaminated food

MASSIVE PROTESTS SHAKE KAZAKHSTAN

AS WE GO TO PRESS:

Mass protests in Kazakhstan started among oil workers on January 2 after the government cancelled gas and oil subsidies, putting the cost of fuel out of reach for the masses in this energy-producing country.

There are huge income inequalities in this former Soviet republic, which is ruled with an iron fist by a pro-Moscow party. Now the first protests in years have exploded into anti-government fury. Fuel subsidies were reinstated but protests continue to spread across the country de-

spite a government crackdown.

This is a major political crisis not only for the Kazakh rulers but also for Moscow. The sharpening class contradictions in socialism (state capitalism) show the potential for communist revolution everywhere.



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FACTORY WORKERS CREATE COMMUNIST RELATIONS AND FIGHT TO ATTEND COMMUNIST CONFERENCE

EL SALVADOR— “We already have a commitment to the Party to attend the international communist conference and we are not going to fail. The Party and the *Red Flag* were with us in the moments of greatest crisis due to the Covid-19 pandemic,” said worker M.

This was in response to the factory bosses who said, “You must sign up to produce this order (Work during the holiday season).” This started a sharp political struggle between the workers and the boss.

“Because we do have to produce their profits, even on vacation, and they even deny us permission to go to a medical appointment,” answered a worker leader of ICWP.

A group of workers, men and women, signed up to work for fear of employer reprisals, such as layoffs. But another group remained firm in participating in the conference.

The central focus of work in the industrial area has begun to evolve as the International Communist Workers’ Party, through organizational practice, is aiming to mobilize the working class to fight directly for communism.

When we talk about fighting to abolish money, to end sexism, racism, xenophobia, and class differences and to work based on meeting our needs, these issues have interested our class. Many have shown interest and asked what they need to do to join the Party. And now they are in the Party.

The role of the Party within the factories is to create communist relations. This includes strengthening friendships among co-workers with the goal of recruiting more workers. It includes having coffee, sharing small details on birthdays, and solidarity in difficult moments as we did in the strongest moment of the health crisis, among others.

These struggles have made it possible to create and maintain a communist base and to show that the future will be communist relations of production, for the benefit of all humanity. In the new society we will not have bosses, and we will be able to produce what we need most urgently. That can only be realized under communism since we will not be producing for profit.

Obstacles we face

*The sexism created by the capitalist system that makes it difficult for women to participate in politics. In addition to sexism by the bosses and co-workers, there were examples of workers who did not attend the conference because their spouses objected to their attending.

*Anti-indigenous racism against farmworkers and city workers

* The nationalism that seeks to divide us by borders.

* Changing the workers’ schedules, strategies of the bosses

* The pandemic that hampered the Party’s organic processes such as extended meetings and study groups.

In the face of these difficulties

*We use social networks to communicate and distribute *Red Flag*.

*We give attention to the women comrades who can give leadership in the organization.

* Strategies like strengthening relations between men and women workers, which have made it possible to add more workers from other factories

* Meetings that include the family groups of the men and women co-workers; also going to tourist places increased participation in the Party.

* The study of dialectics in study groups, which helps us understand that changes are pos-

sible.

* Discussion cells that help keep party members active

* Distribution of our *Red Flag* newspaper as an effective tool to inform and organize

The relatively mass participation, mainly of women, in the conference provided a secure foundation to build new collectives and leaders of the working class.

We have a Communist World to win!



London Comrade:

GREETINGS TO COMMUNIST CONFERENCE IN EL SALVADOR

I would like to convey my respect and admiration for the comrades in El Salvador who have the dedication and practical experience in the struggle of the 1980s and beyond of building a real movement for creating the conditions and relations for communism.

I would like to tell you about the small steps that we have begun to take in London, UK to spread communist ideas and materialist thinking in the workplace.

I work in a pharmacy manufacturing unit in a public Hospital. I have been a Communist, Marxist-Leninist a long time but in no organisation until I found the ICWP. I have always expressed my political views to my fellow workers. But now I can talk to my colleagues about the issues *Red Flag* talks about and introduce the international aspect of the working-class experience.

Many of my colleagues are migrant workers or their offspring, so they often have some interest in other countries. However, it’s not simply a case of me telling them about events reported in the paper. Through discussions with these workmates, I have learnt from them, and they have raised important questions which communists must take seriously.

I had one workmate who is from an Indian family, and I shared articles on the farmers’ struggle in India with him. He has relatives who are farmers in the Punjab, and he is well aware of the fascist nature of the BJP regime. He believes the current relenting of the BJP regarding the farmers is a ruse and that the Indian and Pakistani ruling class are secretly making a deal to plunder the Punjab between them.

A Somali comrade who grew up in Britain has been very interested in the *Red Flag* articles written by comrades in El Salvador. We have discussed how communism will eliminate money and the wage system. While she likes the idea, she thinks a few greedy people will sabotage it. I answer that these are ideological and cultural remnants and will require a Communist Party to defeat them.

Another workmate raised important questions from an article about agriculture. She grew up in Romania under the revisionist Communist Party. She said that agriculture was collectivised there, but it wasn’t

popular because the peasants were too individualistic.

I told her about the Peoples Commune movement in China and said it was a question of ideological struggle and politicising the peasants which did not happen in Romania as it did in China. She said that the old landlord class in Romania became the intellectuals and officials in the ‘Peoples Democracy.’ This says a lot about how revisionism and capitalism can be regenerated when a communist movement makes serious errors.

Another workmate is from an Irish family, like myself. He approached me to talk about politics as someone told him I was a communist. He said he was very sympathetic as his father and an older brother were illiterate immigrant workers to Britain and communists. I give him the paper and he reads all of it. He especially likes the reports from Latin America and South Africa.

We can learn a lot from on-the-job discussion and distribution of the party paper. Most leftists in Britain stand on the same street corner for years with petitions demanding minor reforms and trying to sell their papers. The ICWP around the world understands that the workplace is the best place to engage and raise discussions.

The early communist movement based itself among the workers in the workplace. We must continue. From there we can work outwards. But it is the working class which can lead the masses in proletarian revolution to communism and has its direct interests in achieving communism.

Comrade in London



NEW COMRADE IN INDIA, from page 1

myself that I want to end this racism, xenophobia, sexism.

Nobody slept that night. People were asking the same questions: How do you defend against police, against communalism? Somebody passed around a leaflet that said, "Communist revolution NOW" and explained that nothing other than a complete change in the system will work.

I kept thinking about this all the time. What does communism have to do with what is happening? My English is not very good but I can read it. The leaflet had a link to ICWP. I found many articles about workers' struggles. There were articles about ICWP members in Delhi, but

Delhi is very big, and I could not find them. However, what I read increased my curiosity. I kept reading *Red Flag*.

Things were changing very rapidly around me. Inspired by the Jamiya women, thousands of working-class women of all religions staged an indefinite demonstration on the freeway against racist, xenophobic laws. When the pandemic ended these demonstrations, we saw millions hungry and homeless desperately trying to go home to their villages. I read in *Red Flag* that some ICWP comrades were involved in food distribution. They explained how the pandemic attacks the working class and we need a society without money.

This was a big turning point in my journey to communism. I saw millions of people, who had been cooking, cleaning, building roads, cleaning streets, thrown out like garbage because they had no money. These are the people who do everything. So many

people died because they had no money. I was convinced that society without money will solve everything. I didn't know how to do it, but I became a communist in my mind.

As I continued to read *Red Flag*, every article inspired me. I finally read (in Hindi) the one-page "Mobilize the Masses for Communism (MMC)." This opened my vision to the MMC pamphlet and "The Communist Fight Against Sexism" (in English). Both documents made a huge impact on me. I discussed them with some friends.

As we were discussing the sexism pamphlet, we read about the horrific murder of a young woman in Hathras. Our comrades in Bengaluru responded to it by asking everybody to join the fight for communism. This further cemented my commitment to communism. Hathras is very dangerous for Dalit women. When the young woman was raped and killed, it was a young female journalist who went to Hathras at 2 am to report to the world.

I realized that not only do we need a communist revolution, but we need women now to take the leadership. My journey to communism became real when I met comrades of ICWP in Delhi a few months ago.

Our struggle for communism is only going to intensify. I am making a firm commitment to write in the future about how we are recruiting more members. Wishing all our comrades around the world a new year full of struggle for communism!



EL SALVADOR COMRADE, from page 1

problems.

I wanted to know more. I participated with my family for the first time in a party meeting, which was led by a cell of young people. I liked it very much. I kept meeting and receiving *Red Flag*.

Then May Day came. I decided to go for the first time to march for communism. The surprise that I was not expecting was when I saw a group of farmworkers waiting for us to join the march with them. I said this is the road that I had lost and that I finally found again.

From that day on I decided to work for the working class in the ICWP.

How do we women do political work in the party? It's not easy because we have work at home and in the factory, but we always find time to organize more co-workers for the party.

In the party I have learned that women and men can do political work. That is, we do it by recruiting more members for the communist struggle, taking responsibility for the collectives.

Likewise, at home I have understood that the

responsibilities must be shared.

A few months ago, we visited other maquilas. We took our *Red Flag* newspaper. We have followed up with a couple that we hoped to have here now, but it is not easy. They haven't closed the door to us, but I think there is a little fear of what they don't know. But we are not going to give up.

We are talking with another co-worker. We already talked to him about the Party, and he told us that he wants to know more.

I also use

the same technique that they used with me. I invite a co-worker to have coffee to talk to them about communist ideas. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't, but perseverance is what works to overcome the obstacles.



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Capitalism Kills, Even in Times of "Peace"

During the recent international forum in El Salvador, a committed comrade said, "After feeling the warmth, then the blood comes. That's what my mother objects to." She was referring to the blood that is spilled by the working class in the battles, the confrontations and finally in the revolution against the enemy.

I responded that even in times of "peace" under capitalism, the working class, the oppressed of the world do not live in peace. There is widespread violence against us of all kinds, including police violence, gang violence, and the violence of starvation.

When I was six years old, my family lived in a small town in Mexico where there was no elec-

tricity, drinking water, school, or any type of medical care.

My little brother was born and my parents, like me, were very happy for Rafaelito's arrival. One month later, he got sick. Since there was no doctor in town, my father asked a man with a truck to take him to the nearest clinic. It took us two hours to arrive.

When we got to the clinic, the doctor put the oxygen mask on my little brother. I could see the moisture of his difficult breathing in the mask. Soon the mask was clear. My little brother had stopped breathing. The doctor told my parents, "If you had arrived a little earlier, with proper treatment, your son would have survived."

At that time, I did not understand why my lit-

tle brother died. My mother said that God had wanted it that way. Later, I came to understand that it was capitalism that killed him. Capitalism kills, even in times of "peace."

The comrade also referred to the comradely "warmth" we feel when we join the party and when we build communist relations in the revolutionary struggle. With this warmth we will put an end to a system that kills daily our working-class family worldwide.

And we'll share this warmth in a world of true peace where the principle of "to each according to their need and from each according to their commitment" will be the guide of a new humanity.

Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)

UKRAINE: NEED COMMUNISM TO END INTER-IMPERIALIST CONFLICT

LOS ANGELES (USA), December 29— “I read the *Red Flag* you sent me, interesting,” messaged a friend. “I would like to ask you a few questions, especially what is going on in Ukraine.”

I called him back. After chatting about work, I brought up Ukraine. I explained that there are specific issues like the Nord Stream pipeline. But the essence of the situation is great-power imperialist rivalry mainly between the US and Russia.

The inner logic of a capitalist economy means continual expansion. Over 100 years ago, European capitalist-imperialist powers had already conquered most of the world’s people. Through war and diplomacy, they had divided the world amongst themselves. Since then, two world wars and a host of regional wars have meant the rise of some imperialist powers and the decline of others.

Capitalism’s constant need for expansion makes imperialist war and environmental destruction the defining features of the present era.

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic was, for 70 years, part of the Soviet Union. Its industrial and agricultural sectors developed greatly as part of the Soviet economy. Politically and culturally, however, Ukraine remained divided between pro-Russian and Ukrainian-nationalist factions.

The Soviet Union broke up in 1991. Russian leaders and their Ukrainian allies expected to keep Ukraine in the Russian orbit. But Ukraine has increasingly tilted toward western Europe and NATO. Despite internal opposition from pro-Russian forces, it is on track to joining NATO. Naturally, Russia does not want NATO

on its very doorstep.

So, the Russian capitalists annexed Crimea with its vital Black Sea naval bases. They are supporting (or running) a pro-Russia insurgency in eastern Ukraine. Their military buildup on their Ukrainian border was meant to pressure the US and its allies to negotiate over Ukraine’s future boundaries and status.

US imperialism isn’t prepared to commit troops to Ukraine – especially after its humiliating departure from Afghanistan. But the Russian rulers may have overplayed their hand. Russia could easily get bogged down fighting a nationalist insurgency in western Ukraine. That would risk further nationalist unrest elsewhere.

But, in the not-so-long run, the US-Russia imperialist conflict is likely to sharpen. Same with the US-Chinese imperialist conflict. Increasingly large and dangerous wars are likely.

“But why would Russian communist leaders act like capitalist imperialists?” my friend asked.

“Because they are ‘communist’ in name only,” I replied. “Look at their actions, not what they call themselves.

“The original Soviet leaders thought that the path to communism ran through a long period of so-

cialism. They tried to develop the ‘forces of production’ by retaining central aspects of capitalism, like wages and markets.

“They thought that communist leadership could transform this system – state capitalism with strong safety nets – into eventual communism. Instead, this system transformed the leaders into a new capitalist class.

“We’ve learned from this disaster that the only way to achieve communism is to fight for it directly, and to mobilize masses for exactly that goal. Does that make any sense to you?” I asked.

“I would like to read more about it,” my friend answered. “Please keep sending me the newspaper.”



Ukraine:

IMPERIALIST RIVALRY HEIGHTENS, THREATENS WIDER WARS

January 3—At Putin’s December 24 press conference, he explicitly warned for the first time that if the US and NATO decline to provide the security guarantees Moscow wants, his future actions will be guided by “the proposals that our military experts will make to me.”

That threat responded to NATO’s move to include Ukraine, and to the US arming Ukraine. Russia has sent 175,000 troops to Ukraine/Russia border.

The crisis in Europe is not about just Ukraine. It’s a fight between two rival imperialist powers. It’s about the US trying to contain Russia. Rising Russian imperialism can’t accept NATO’s further eastward expansion, US military deployments in Ukraine or the creation of anti-Russian states along its borders.

Biden refuses to guarantee that NATO will not expand into Ukraine and beyond. There is less and less wiggle room between the imperialists.

Russia and the US gave opposite reports of the recent Putin-Biden conversation. Russia claims

an agreement that a coming diplomatic meeting in Geneva will involve the US and NATO guaranteeing that NATO will cease its expansion eastward and that the US will declare it has no intention of deploying offensive strike weapons in Ukraine.

But the White House said, “there were no declarations as to intentions. Further [Russian] invasion of Ukraine will entail additional [US/NATO] assistance.”

European Union (EU) leaders urge Russia to turn to diplomacy rather than invasion. A war in Ukraine would greatly expand Europe’s refugee crisis. The European Council on Foreign Relations says that neither NATO nor the US has the capability to take on Russia in case of an invasion. Western Europe depends on Russia for its gas supply. EU leaders do not want war with Russia.

Declining US imperialism faces a rising China and Russia and seeks to clip Russia’s wings before taking on China.

The US, trying to contain China, made an agreement with Japan to build a military base on an island 67 miles from Taiwan and 167 miles from China. China will eventually find this unacceptable.

China and Russia have increased their alliance and military cooperation everywhere. It’s even possible that China could move against Taiwan while Russia moves to take over more of Ukraine—forcing the US to either confront its two imperialist rivals at the same time or accept losses on one or both fronts.

Whether in this crisis, or a coming one, the rivalry between the capitalist-imperialists is leading to world war over profits and empire. All of them are enemies of the working class.

The imperialist bosses have bunkers to hide in. It is the masses of workers and soldiers everywhere who suffer and die in the capitalists’ murderous wars.

The masses’ hatred of capitalism and its wars will grow. This presents communists with the opportunity to mobilize the masses for communist revolution to end the bosses’ wars for profit and build a world based on mobilizing collectively to meet the masses’ needs—without money, wage slavery, borders or imperialist war.

Masses of workers, soldiers and youth mobilized in Russia and China to turn the bosses’ wars into revolution. US soldiers and sailors in Vietnam refused to fight for US imperialism while the Vietnamese masses fought with determination, forcing the US to withdraw from Vietnam.

The work communists do now in mobilizing co-workers and youth, especially soldiers, lays the basis for communist revolution in the face of the bosses’ war preparations.



Read our pamphlet:

Soldiers, Sailors, Marines Crucial to a Communist Workers’ Revolution

available at

<https://icwpredflag.org/MIL/mpe.pdf>

COMMUNIST REVOLUTIONARY STORM WILL BLOW AWAY CAPITALIST DISASTERS

USA, December 30—The Mayfield Consumer Products factory was in Kentucky, not in the “Tornado Alley” stretching north from Texas through Oklahoma. It was December, not the spring peak tornado season. But sirens had sounded a warning earlier, and now they were wailing again.

In the hours between, some workers asked and were refused permission to go home. “If you leave, you’re more than likely to be fired,” one worker overheard managers tell four workers.

“I asked to leave, and they told me I’d be fired,” another said. He had asked, “Even with the weather like this, you’re still going to fire me?” A manager responded, “Yes.”

Over 100 workers were inside this candle factory when a tornado ripped through with 190 mph (310 km/h) gusts. At least eight died. Many more were crushed under falling walls or severely burned by hot wax.

Capitalism, not the weather, killed those workers.

Some workers, desperate for the poverty-level wages, wanted to stay through the storm. Others had to stay because they were prisoners from the county jail.

Mayfield Consumer Products was never a great place to work. Mandatory overtime was common. A 2019 inspection revealed serious safety violations. These included problems with electrical equipment, exit routes, and personal protective equipment. More recently, the company said it was working “to clean up [!] the epileptic, obese, pregnant and special needs issues” – even though it had problems recruiting workers.

Mayfield: The Rule, Not the Exception

Whether you live in Kentucky or California, El Salvador or India, you probably have your own stories that expose the horrors of capitalist exploitation. It’s not one supervisor, or one company, or one industry. It’s the capitalist system.

In capitalism, the means of production (like factories) are “owned” by a small ruling class. Legal ownership – whether by private companies or by state agencies – is backed by the force of the state.

Workers must take “jobs” – that is, sell our labor power to capitalists big or small – because we depend on wages to buy what we need. Owners must maximize profits to compete in the market, putting their needs in direct opposition to the workers.

Of course, workers organize and fight back. But any small gains we win through fierce and bitter class struggle are quickly taken away. Our only way out is to mobilize a revolutionary communist struggle to destroy the capitalist state and its privatized means of production.

In communism, workers ourselves will control the means of production and our working conditions. We’ll share, not sell, the fruits of our labor: No money needed to get food, health care, shelter, or anything else. So, we’ll work to produce for the common good, not for wages.

Need Communism Now to Combat Capitalism’s Deadly Climate Change

The eight Mayfield workers who died were among seventy-seven lives lost in Kentucky. Altogether, close to one hundred (some working at an Amazon warehouse that collapsed) perished in the unseasonable five-state tornado super-cell.

Four days later, Super Typhoon Rai (or Odette) tore through the Philippines. It left over 400 people dead and hundreds of thousands hungry and homeless.

Scientists are learning how global climate change is worsening typhoons, heat

waves, droughts, hurricanes, and wildfires like the one that just devastated Colorado (US) suburbs.

Its impact on tornado systems is harder to study since tornadoes are more localized (mainly in the central US) and shorter in duration. But global climate seems to be creating the conditions for more severe tornado outbreaks, and in more places.

Capitalist-caused climate change is increasingly deadly for the working class. Excessive heat and cold alone cause an estimated five million deaths annually, half of them in Asia.

Climate change can be slowed, and its effects eventually reversed. But not by individual efforts, and not without destroying capitalism.

Communist workers’ power will enable us to quickly implement existing alternative energy technologies and to find new ones. The masses will figure out ways to reorganize everyday life to be more collective while reducing energy use in production of food and other needs.

Communism will empower us to take collective control, of our workplaces and our world. By joining the International Communist Workers Party, every one of us can help to bring this about— before it’s too late.



Nov. 6, 2021 Climate protest, Quezon City, the Philippines

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Communist Work in the Face of Fascism and Civil War

USA, January 5—On the eve of the anniversary of the fascist assault on the US Capitol, two new books and a flurry of articles argue that a second Civil War may already be starting.

Says the Canadian Stephen Marche, author of *The Next Civil War*:

“The legal system grows less legitimate by the day. Trust in government at all levels is in freefall...Right now, elected sheriffs openly promote resistance to federal authority...militias train and arm themselves in preparation for the fall of the Republic. Under such conditions, party politics have become mostly a distraction.”

Marche concludes that “The problem is not who is in power, but the structures of power.”

CIA advisor Barbara F. Walter, in *How Civil*

Wars Start, compares the US today to Ukraine, Venezuela and Myanmar. Three retired generals warned, in the Washington Post, a coup attempt after the 2024 election could lead to a split in the US army and a civil war.

The US ruling class appears to be taking these ideas seriously. Should we?

“Can you even imagine a civil war or a breakup of the US?” comrade A asked. “Yes,” responded comrade B, citing episodes from US history and the example of the former Soviet Union.

Could the US split into four countries, as Marche proposes? Could openly fascist forces, with Trump as a figurehead, win power via compromised elections or a military coup? Will the currently dominant section of the US ruling class resort to fascism on the excuse of repressing a white-supremacist insurgency?

In any case – including civil war – our historic task remains the same. Unlike communists in the past, we don’t fight to defend capitalist democracy. We don’t seek to identify or ally with “lesser-evil” capitalists. Instead, we stand firmly and openly for communism.

We work to expose the class basis and function of racist and nationalist ideologies. We unite the alienated and distrustful masses to mobilize to overthrow capitalist structures of power and create a new structure of communist workers’ power.

“People are broken because their needs are not being met in this capitalist society,” declared comrade A. “A communist society that takes care of its neediest will be better for everyone.”

We need to take this very seriously indeed.

Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)



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Report on Red Flag to the Conference in El Salvador

This report is from young comrades in El Salvador who form a key part of the Red Flag Editorial Collective:

When I was in the summer projects in the US years ago, we began a collective process of learning and struggle to be part of the collective that produces *Red Flag*. But it was in 2018 that I fully committed myself. It has been a process that has served to advance and strengthen the leadership of women, since most of us in this group are women.

At the conference, while we were listening to the report from the maquilas, the comrade mentioned that the workers were interested in knowing what the process of publishing each edition of *Red Flag* was like. So I would like to share general aspects of how it is carried out.

Upon receiving the articles or letters written by workers, soldiers, farmworkers, and students, these are translated and discussed in two meetings by the collective. Suggestions are sent back to the people who have written the article or letter. Then comes the layout of the paper, giving priority to those articles that reflect struggles and this is when the newspaper is edited. Finally, it is published and sent to be printed.

Currently there are readers from many parts of the world, but we are interested in how we are struggling politically with our base more than numbers. It would be very helpful to see more letters and articles in the newspaper reflecting how we are struggling with others using *Red Flag*.

Red Flag is the fundamental weapon that we have today. It strongly represents our International Communist Workers' Party. That is why we must know how important it is. But what are

we mainly referring to when we say that *Red Flag* is important?

Our Party has learned valuable lessons about the importance of a coherent, unified organization and also the key role that *Red Flag* plays in creating a new generation of communists.

In the newspaper our political line and our main objective, to mobilize the masses for communism, are made clear.

By distributing the paper massively or hand-to-hand, we take this line to many workers. We are planting communist ideas as well as informing in a real way what is happening in the world. When we create these networks of *Red Flag* readers, debates, discussions, and contradictions arise that soon become an advance for our party.

We call on all of us to feel part of the *Red Flag* process both technically and politically. We will achieve that by writing more, discussing what is written, being critical, and self-critical and distributing our communist newspaper.

-Young Comrades in El Salvador

My Experience in the Bandera Roja/Red Flag Collective

I remember the first time I was invited to a political gathering with workers organized in the International Communist Workers' Party. Hearing all the lived experiences and sacrifices that they have to go through day by day, I was inspired and wanted to continue to be an active part of this communist struggle.

It is gratifying for me to be a part of the ICWP and the RED FLAG newspaper. When they invited me, I felt great joy and happiness because in this way I am part of the change. And it inspires me to know that through the newspa-

December 2021 – Hundreds of migrants walking from Puebla to Mexico City blocked traffic on a major highway. Days later, thousands, approaching the capital, fought riot police. They were among over 200,000 who came through Mexico last year. They came from across Latin America and even from Africa, fleeing poverty and violence and seeking asylum in the US.

The US pressured Mexico to keep migrants away from the border. The Mexican government promised humanitarian visas and free transportation to Mexican cities. But most migrants, including children, were left cold, hungry, and on foot.

Once in the capital, migrants and supporters marched to the government palace. Their banner read, "To migrate is not a crime, the criminal is a government that represses migrants." That includes the US Biden administration, which is extending Trump's deadly "stay in Mexico" policy. And it is failing to ramp up resettlement services to meet the needs of the current wave of Afghan and other refugees.

The biggest criminal is global capitalism. It forces people to leave their homes, persecutes them at borders, and viciously exploits immigrant workers from California to Qatar. Communism will be a world without nations or borders, where everyone is at home everywhere, working for the collective good of our human family.

per we can reach the largest number of workers, who are not alone; that we are an international party.

We fight to change the oppressive capitalist system that is bleeding us. The solution is an equitable communist society where we have a common good in unity and harmony.

The *Red Flag* collective receives letters and articles from different parts of the world. As a member of the collective, I translate and send the translations to the collective so that they can be analyzed in the virtual meetings. I feel very grateful and happy to do this.

Each member of the collective shares their suggestions and additional opinions of the work carried out by each member. If there are errors in the text, we discuss changes needed in editing.

I am in a learning process to help publish the paper. I am proud to learn from each member of the collective. It is a very hard but significant job.

Our newspaper is a very powerful weapon because thanks to it, the membership of the ICWP continues to grow. It is a constant struggle. We see all this reflected in new letters with suggestions or experiences people had when reading an article or the political struggle with new comrades who send us letters. There are letters and articles from those who were invited to a group or who were spoken to and shared our newspaper RED FLAG.

I feel responsible for making the ideology of the ICWP and our RED FLAG newspaper reach many more people to encourage them, and, in turn, they will share with other people and thus mobilize the masses for the communist struggle.

Comrade in El Salvador

ANTI-WORKING CLASS “SETTLER COLONIALIST” LIES CALL US TO INTENSIFY COMMUNIST FIGHT AGAINST RACISM AND NATIONALISM

USA—“My generation and those younger are rejecting capitalism,” said a millennial friend, “as they view society through the lens of systemic and structural racism.” He and his friends apply this lens broadly, from climate change to the struggle of the global working class, from migration to the need to smash all borders.

Masses of young workers and students have developed a thoughtful analysis and hatred of capitalism. Some identify as communists and have joined the ICWP. As active communist organizers, they are committed to the fight of our one international working class. They reject nationalism, an anti-communist bosses’ ideology.

This is not good news for the U.S. ruling class. Hence the re-emergence of a pseudo-revolutionary ideology critiquing what it calls “settler colonialism” (SC).

SC repackages an old anti-working class, anti-communist nationalist mindset that has plagued the communist movement for more than a century. This analysis rejects a class line on racism and imperialism, providing a cover for capitalism.

In many countries, ruling-class intellectuals try to use it to deter the development of new communist organizers. It has spread from elite universities to high schools and mass media. SC is rewriting ethnic studies in California (US) to remove a class line.

A South African comrade points out that “settler colonialism” distorts what should be viewed as capitalist expansion. The South African decolonization movement should include getting rid of capitalism.

A U.S. comrade thinks that ongoing colonization (Settler Colonialism) includes simply remaining on land that is colonized. Those who are not indigenous are settlers. They are perpetuating colonialism by being on this land. “Maybe I’m confused because I’m not familiar with settler colonialism as an ‘ideology,’” she said.

Another comrade responded that when we go beyond just ending capitalism, and fight for communist revolution, we open new possibilities. Both comrades agreed that land will not be owned but will become the collective resource of the international masses.

Fake-Revolutionary Intellectuals

Use Marxist Rhetoric to Mask Attack on Proletariat

J. Sakai, SC’s theoretical guru, asserts that “Euro-Amerikan” workers benefit from capitalism-imperialism. According to his distorted analysis, the “Euro-Amerikan class” will always side with imperialism abroad and oppression at home. The interests of this so-called “white working class” form the material basis for the op-

pression of Black, Latinx, immigrant and “third-world” proletarians. He twists history to fit his nationalist, anti-working class politics.

Sakai’s critics point out that white workers have often united with those they supposedly oppress to fight the real enemy: the capitalists. For example, millions joined in the multi-racial rebellions against racism, xenophobia and sexism last year.

Faced with these facts, SC theoreticians claim such unity can only be tactical, not strategic. They assert “minority” workers are being used in this class struggle to advance “settler interests.”

Despite using Marxist terms, SC is riddled with anti-communism, as nationalism always is. Its whole point is to make us believe that huge sections of the working class are irredeemable. Sakai openly attacks communist parties as representatives of “settler interests.” He says they can never promote the revolutionary interest of the “true” proletariat.

Communists search for the material basis that drives political and social development. Under capitalism, racism and nationalism are driven by the wage system. The ruling class (bosses) must super-exploit sections of the working class. They must keep them divided from other workers to maintain the bosses’ profits.

Racism and nationalism are not the result of human nature, but of capitalism’s nature and needs.

Turn to the International Proletariat

Communist revolution will destroy the wage system. We will work together for our collective needs. Anchored among the working-class billions, the ICWP, built on a foundation of communist relationships, will wage a mass struggle to end the evils of capitalism.

A comrade who is training to be a high school teacher calls on us to answer these counter-revolutionary slurs by intensifying the communist fight to end racism and nationalism now.

“As a prospective social studies teacher, I am only supposed to teach students their ethnic and racial history and nothing about the abolishment of the institutions which have affected working class students’ lives,” he reports.

He rejects the idea that “freedom comes from knowing their own his-



1932—Black and white veterans of World War I march on Washington to demand compensation for their military service, attacked by the US Army and fighting back.

tory of white supremacy.” Instead, his idea of a useful education revolves around working class solidarity and destroying capitalism with communist revolution.

The consciousness of the masses has shifted. Capitalism is broadly hated. One way the ruling class has responded is by dredging up the failed ideology of settler colonialism.

The chorus of The Internationale, a communist anthem, ends with the profound prediction that in communism “The international working class shall be the human race.” When we sing this at ICWP events, these are more than just words. We are building one international party to mobilize the masses for communism. There is no place for national and racist divisions and the revisionist doctrines that support them.

Each new member of the ICWP speeds the demise of racist capitalism and its anti-working class, nationalist lies. Every close personal and political relationship our members make amid class struggle hastens the day the words of The Internationale become a reality.



January, 2014—Boeing machinists rally against a proposed eight-year cut-back contract

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Omicron Covid Upsurge: Capitalism Puts Profits Ahead of Safety

“I feel like more positive cases will happen in the coming week from New Years’ Eve gatherings. Should I just keep my kids home? I don’t have any confidence in the school district. They don’t even require testing. It’s all thoughts and prayers. My gut says keep them home, but capitalism says otherwise.”

This text message from my daughter-in-law reflects the concern of millions of parents as students go back to school amid a COVID surge fueled by the highly contagious Omicron variant. In the US, every aspect of medical care has

been impacted. Long lines for the few COVID tests available, over-crowded emergency rooms—again—postponement of other vital medical procedures.

Thousands of airplane flights were canceled as people returning home from holiday celebrations coincided with massive sickouts of airplane employees. Nurses, teachers, bus drivers, sanitation workers...every sector is being impacted as people get sick and stay home.

At the same time, the economic benefits that were put into place earlier in the pandemic are expiring—if they haven’t already.

So the Center for Disease Control has now

cut in half the isolation period for those infected with COVID. Instead of isolating for ten days, now someone who tests positive must only isolate for five days.

Why? Does some new scientific data say that’s safe? Nope. Dr. Anthony Fauci let the cat out of the bag. This was done for fear of economic collapse.

That’s capitalism for you. Keep the profits rolling in—no matter what the cost in human suffering. We’ll continue to fight for communism, where human life will not be sacrificed for capitalist profits.

—West Coast comrade and grandmother