INdia, January 22— “My name is Amit Kumar. I am 38 years old. I have been a contract worker at the Ford factory for the last 12 years. My wife and four children live in a small village about 1600 km from here. Eight workers like me occupy my small room. Our work is very irregular. Next month if we don’t pay rent, we will be out in the street. I saw a copy of Red Flag. I am here to talk to you.”

Comrades from our ICWP auto workers collective visited Amit. He lives about 10 km from us. Even the smallest car cannot drive here. This colony is one of several organized by the kind of work people perform daily.

“Since covid, our work has become highly irregular. And now, we are just one step from being homeless,” Amit told us. “If I get paid, I make Rs 14000 ($190) a month. My rent is Rs 2000 and the remaining money goes for my children’s school. As you can see, there is very little food. When we don’t get paid, we eat every other day some chapati (tortilla) with chili and salt. The hot chili makes us drink water, so we don’t feel hungry.”

The party comrades had brought homemade food. Another worker who lives with Amit was there. He has been reading Red Flag that Amit shares in his room. Perhaps the other six guys are also familiar with Red Flag. Our mood changed as we talked about Red Flag.

“When people are desperate, looking for something to eat next day and the only way they get it is Workers, Unite Against Divisive Capitalist Lies! MOBILIZE A NEW “ARMY OF HUNGRY MASSES”

CHENNAI, INDIA 2019
ORGANIZE FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION IN THE FACE OF FASCISM AND WAR
SEE PAGE 2
Bosss Build Racial and Religious Factions: 
BOEING WORKERS DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD THE ICWP IN AN ERA OF CIVIL STRIFE

SEATTLE (US), January 22—“When the U.S. descends into civil war, it will happen fast,” said C, a Boeing retiree and long-time comrade.

What makes him think this might happen? What kind of civil war? And most importantly, how will this—if it really is likely—affect our present efforts to build the ICWP and communist revolution?

The U.S. has been in big trouble for decades and won’t go back to ‘normal.’ Civil strife, including fights between law enforcement and anti-racists, has been escalating especially since 2017. Those who are direct victims of attacks based on “race” or religion might be more attuned to the increasing prospects for fascism, but most workers can see the writing on the wall. We should not be surprised. But we should be better prepared.

Racism and religion define most of the emerging factional groups in the US, India and elsewhere. But this is not a “battle between extremism and democracy” as liberal media portray it. Since 2010, massive protests have surged around the world. CIA advisor Barbara F. Walter calculates that there have been more protests in the last five years than at any time since false flag researchers began to collect data in 1900. In 2019 alone, political protests erupted in 144 countries, on every continent.

These protests have increasingly failed even to achieve reforms, leaving masses angry. Influential advisors on the Council of Foreign Affairs warn of more and deadlier civil wars. They are concerned about whether their imperialist empire can survive.

The Key to Party Growth Is Right Before Our Eyes

Predicting the future is not the main point. This is the present reality.

We must be keenly aware of what is driving mass struggles. The main point is for comrades to learn how to recruit new members to the party during the escalating battles. What happens in the streets can help us advance communist understanding in the factories and everywhere.

The millions who have protested and rebelled against the evils of capitalism will not spontaneously join ICWP and develop into seasoned communist organizers. Our party must bring our communist line not only to the demonstrations, but also to key industries, the military and youth. We must develop the communist relationships and collectives necessary to help new friends who hate capitalism become new members who organize for communism.

We have powerful examples from the work of Party comrades in India. Comrades in Bengaluru reported last fall about an ICWP meeting of garment workers who were attracted by the struggle of farmworkers 2000 km (1200 mi) away. Many ICWP comrades participated in that mass movement and wrote about it in Red Flag. Now the Bengaluru comrades are building ties with more garment workers and developing new communist leaders.

In Seattle, Boeing workers have more on their minds than an immediate threat to their livelihoods. Boeing might rupture, with the company spinning off its defense and space sections, leaving the commercial airlines division $42 billion in debt. This menaces the jobs of active workers and the pensions of retirees.

But when a comrade told Boeing workers closest to the party about a recent Martin Luther King Day rally, it generated as much discussion as anything else. While the official speakers bragged about their six-figure salaries, the rank-and-file joyfully engaged comrades in serious and lengthy discussions about communism.

“Racism is not about Black and white. It’s about ideology,” C noted. “Capitalism teaches us to focus on me getting to the top. Communism teaches us to think about the collective good.”

Workers need Communist Revolution. Not Democracy

C criticized Biden and the Democratic Party sharply for pushing democracy and elections. They support capitalism and hence can’t be relied on to defeat far-right fascists. “We have to fight fire with fire,” he concluded. The fire next time must be communist revolution.

The communist fight against racism, sexism and xenophobia is more important than ever amidst civil strife and civil war. Our ability to provide communist answers has expanded wherever we have recruited from mass struggles. From India to South Africa to the US, when we take communist ideas to mass demonstrations, we can see how open so many people are.

The capitalists realize the danger these potential communist presenting to their system. Even in the U.S., over a third of people under forty tell pollsters that they prefer communism. Capitalism’s promise to reform has become a bad joke as poverty and inequality skyrocket.

As the capitalist crisis intensifies, different ruling-class factions vie for the allegiance of the working class. In the U.S., the main imperialists want a multi-racial armed force. Yet the Pentagon just reported that they have failed to quash racist divisions.

Similar fractures have emerged in the South African army. Governmental institutions worldwide face these internal conflicts caused by the crisis of capitalism.

Capitalism’s civil strife – like its imperialist wars – pits worker against worker, race against race. Communist revolution is the way out of this deadly chaos. When we pick up arms, let’s do it for the collective good of our class.

Fascists Mobilize Around Sexism as Well as Racism

USA, January 25—The annual anti-abortion march in Washington, D.C. this year brought out thousands (including buses of students organized by churches) despite icy weather, Covid, and their opposition to the capital’s anti-Covid regulations. They look forward to the US Supreme Court soon overturning “Roe v. Wade,” the decision that made abortion legal (but often still inaccessible) nationwide. The USA, Poland, and El Salvador are the only countries currently rolling back women’s access to reproductive health care.

The German Nazi Party’s slogan was “children, church, kitchen.” Today’s fascists aren’t much different. Their “replacement theory” builds racism around the declining birth rate among whites and the increasing share of BIPOC people in the US and Europe. Making it harder for white people to get abortions is part of their solution. Denying health care to BIPOC people is another.

As we have said before, anti-abortion laws will make abortions more dangerous but won’t reduce them. The “anti-abortion” forces oppose the best ways to reduce abortions: freely available birth-control and material support for new mothers and babies.

Communism will do these things and much more: Collective responsibility for childcare. Shelter, food, health care according to need. Collective decision-making about how we each can best contribute to our common good. That includes helping women make choices about childbearing.

It’s a big mistake to respond to anti-abortion Christian theocrats with Democratic Party reformism. Fascist initiatives reflect the deeper reality of US imperialism in decline and world capitalism in crisis. That’s why a mass communist fight against sexism and racism is so important now.
Capitalism, Covid-19 and the Schools:

**MASS PROTESTS SHOW POTENTIAL TO MOBILIZE FOR COMMUNISM**

“It seems that much that has happened related to the pandemic has to do with money,” said Latricia, a high school student, in a meeting organized by a comrade. We had just read a report correlating the rise of Covid cases and the rise of the stock-market, both to record levels.

In just two years of the pandemic more than 800,000 Americans have died. In those same two years the US billionaires got $2.1 trillion wealthier. Latricia has got it right.

And WHO are the dead? Low paid essential workers (which in the US means a high concentration of Black and Latinx workers) and the old (75% of the dead are over 65). It’s the working class that are dying. The bulk of the deaths are among that population that cost the capitalist state money in Social Services. Oh yes! Latricia’s observation was spot on.

Of course, this is a global pandemic. More than five and a half million people have died of Covid worldwide—always mainly impacting older and poorer workers.

Money might be in control, but it isn’t all powerful. From Oakland (USA) to Paris (France) students and teachers have been striking and rebelling against the billionaires’ thrust to keep schools open throughout the Omicron surge. “They don’t want to close the schools and businesses because it cuts down their profits,” pointed out Henry, another student.

“If they open up our schools, social distancing will not be possible,” said Luisa. “True,” Alex responded, “but they don’t care about our health and well-being.” These billionaires are willing and deliberate mass murderers.

The ICWP member raised an important question: “The virus and its variants exist, but it was capitalism and its money system that created the pandemic. If capitalism is a society based on money, can we live in a society without money? Why wouldn’t communism work now?”

A lively discussion followed. What to do with people who were not billionaires but who were greedy and selfish like them? What about people who were lazy and didn’t want to contribute? We speculated about a communist future and talked about pre-capitalist societies. Someone said people are too individualistic, but another countered that there were strikes all over the place and that strikes, where you all must stand together, are the opposite of individualism.

And that’s true. There were a record number of official strikes and wildcats (unofficial strikes) in the US and many other places last year. There is a lot of anger about the way the system reacted to the virus. Now those industrial strikes are spilling over into schools. In places like Oakland the students have taken the lead and teachers have followed (with wildcats in support of student demands). The teachers have taken tremendous care to reach out for support from the parents. And they have gotten it.

Times are changing. These are class actions rather than separate union and community struggles and they present the possibility of a stronger class consciousness emerging. In other words, a shift in the way we think of each other. Rather than harboring doubts of greed or individualism, a sense of our commonality, strength and unity will emerge. And this development of class consciousness — born out of all sorts of struggles — is a key mass element we’ll need to build a communist share-and-share alike revolution and society.

Discussions like the one with Latricia, Alex and the other students are a start. We need to invite them to read and discuss Red Flag (including our articles on the pandemic) and to join ICWP. They can be future leaders of communist class struggle, like walkouts in their own school, and in building the revolutionary movement we need.

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**EL SALVADOR UPRISING OF 1932 from page 1**

installations and towns such as Izalco, Juayua, Nahualaco and Tacuba. This was the uprising of 1932.

The charge d’affaires of the United States in El Salvador reported that telephone and telegraphic communication was cut off and the English railway, near Sonsonate departmental capital in the west, was destroyed. The uprising was widespread among many populations. The US official assured his superiors that authorities were taking energetic measures to suppress the disturbances.

The US State Department, coordinating with the diplomatic delegations of Italy, the United Kingdom and Canada, sent warships from the United Kingdom and Ireland, the Argentine and Italian military missions, and the US military mission to the Canal Zone.

The Daily Worker, newspaper of the US Communist Party, declared that “every US worker must come to the aid of their fellow workers in El Salvador. Fighting there against US imperialism is part of the struggle of the American masses against wholesale hunger and wage cuts.”

It continued, “Support the Salvadoran workers and farmworkers. Fight against the terror of Wall Street and that of the rich exploiters: Let us demand the withdrawal of all troops from El Salvador.”

“The workers and farmworkers there are fighting against hunger, imposed by US imperialism,” it concluded. “Let us demand the withdrawal of the gunboats and marines! Stop the murder of workers and peasants! All the revolutionary support to the workers and peasants of El Salvador!”

The uprising of the masses was a very important battle against capitalism. It didn’t achieve all its objectives, and thousands were massacred. But the uprising lit the path for the communist revolutionary struggle ahead. It is an example for the working class to continue the struggle against racism by organizing for communism.

Ninety years after that heroic struggle, rebelliousness is emerging again with ICWP.

The International Communist Workers’ Party commemorates those who gave their lives to liberate the farmworkers, among them Feliciano Ama, Farabundo Martí (member of the International Relief and the Communist International), Zapata and Luna. All were shot as leaders of the uprising.

Our party is inspired by these struggles to continue organizing farmworkers and industrial workers to mobilize masses directly for communism. Communist society will abolish personal wealth. No one will exploit anyone. The communist world will have no nations, classes, racism, sexism, or exploitation.

We call on all workers of the world to organize in the International Communist Workers’ Party. It is time to end this rotten capitalist system and fight for the communist system we need.
On the 1st of January we hosted an end-of-the-year dinner with ten comrades from two collectives. The dinner focused on the review of our year. Since 2020 we had a lot of challenges as a collective. Part of that was having to acclimatise to the covid-19 restrictions imposed by the government.

The issue that mostly affected us was the physical separation, not being able to meet. However, in 2021 that was different. We had mostly adapted to the situation. We performed better and met a number of our targets. These targets included writing for the Red Flag regularly, which we fairly did, and having online meetings which we didn’t do as well. But we had a few. The easing of restrictions allowed physical meetings to take place.

Going into 2022, we are learning from the experience that we had in 2021 and trying to improve our work. Primarily, focusing on sustaining and expanding our article writing. That is, developing and encouraging more comrades to write for the Red Flag—not just a few.

We have set a target of developing a comrade (comrade N) to take on a leadership role. This comrade has the potential and time since he currently is not working nor studying. He has written articles in the Red Flag before but on an inconsistent basis. We are struggling with him trying to find out what is holding him back. If we can manage to win the full commitment of the comrade, that would be great for the party as he will act as a coordinator between different collectives. This will ensure smooth progress in our work.

We have identified as a weakness that over the years the collective has increasingly relied on a few comrades. This is a collective mistake that we wish to rectify since the collective must function as a whole, not just rely on a few individuals. We understand that some are more committed than others. However, we also know that it is the collective that is central to the work of our party.

So, for 2022 we are more focused on strengthening the collective by increasing and strengthening the commitment of every individual in the collective. This will ensure that the collective relies less on a few individuals, and instead on more comrades.

We also have plans for recruitment and the consolidation of the Rustenburg mine workers who are friends of the party. We have the May Day celebrations to look forward to. We will further discuss these plans in the coming weeks to move the party forward.

—Comrades in South Africa

NEW COMRADE AUTOWORKER IN INDIA from page 1

is by working, they feel demoralized,” said Amit. “But I am not alone. There are 28,000 workers like me. All over India, there are hundreds of millions. We are facing unemployment, young people have no jobs, petrol and gas prices are rising every day and cannot catch up with the inflation.

“Afater reading Red Flag,” Amit continued, “I realized that the capitalist bosses have created tremendous ways to keep us disunited. They have created hatred between Hindu and Muslim workers. All these TV channels spread this lie 24 hours a day. There is talk of getting rid of the Muslims by ethnic cleansing. While people are thinking of genocide, they are not going to think about poverty and unemployment.”

We had a very long conversation about how capitalist bosses maximize profit by dividing the workers based on caste, religion, and gender. The maximization of profit is at the root of capitalism. We can only end it by eliminating the bosses: this is communism. Communism will also end money because the working class will get what it needs, not based on the profit motive of our class enemy.

Amit and his coworkers are interested in attending our next meeting. But they are still not convinced about how their hunger and their urgent need to meet the rent money connects to our communist cause. This led to another very long conversation about the role of the old communist party in India in the 1940s.

As world war raged, Indian workers were forced to serve British imperialism. Imperialism created an artificial famine in Bengal when the rice that used to feed the local population disappeared to be sold for more profit abroad.

The Bengal famine of 1943 killed 3 million out of 60 million people there. The Communist Party organized a hugely popular ‘army of hungry masses’ that brought tens of thousands to the streets of Kolkata. However, their demands were reformist. They asked for land reforms to give more land to landless workers. In the city, the industrial workers demanded higher salaries.

And today 25 lakh (2.5 million) Indians starve to death every year. Landless rural workers are the largest part of the population.

Our party has a clear vision: communist revolution to end this capitalist system that survives by offering reforms to bribe one group against another by caste and gender. Last week we saw 8000 Foxconn women workers striking against the bosses. Some of our workers were there to show support by spreading Red Flag.

We can make bigger strides by creating communist leaders among Dalits, Muslims, women, and other industrial workers. What Amit and his friend told us is the story of millions of workers. When we listen to their stories, their aspirations, their obstacles, the working class is giving us the clue to fighting for communism. It is our job to recruit them to ICWP.

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION
Scientists played by Leonardo DiCaprio and Jennifer Lawrence try to overcome political, bureaucratic and media obstacles to warn the world of impending doom. They organize on the social networks, and many people respond. Some viewers will be inspired by this response and see it as a call to organize better and sooner.

But the fact that all the organizing is done by a couple of scientists hides the key role of organized workers and a communist party. Viewers are left to wonder why from this movie and may very well conclude that the workers are helpless victims.

In a scene at the end of the film, there’s a “Last Supper” moment, where there is harmony, forgiveness, love and union for the working class. This includes those who fought to the end, standing up and fighting for their ideas and convictions, but did not defeat the system.

The end is a desperate but worse scenario as the ruling-class billionaires and presidential couriers, unlike the subjugated masses, escape the doomed planet, ultimately to meet their own doom.

The contradiction that this film presents is that it shows the horror of the system and criticizes its worst contemporary features but offers no hope of change. Those of us who are communists know that social transformation and revolution is the only way to overcome this system that is parodied in this film. And some viewers will be inspired to fight harder by seeing the urgency of the disaster we face.

But the majority of those who see this movie will say, “This system is terrible and cruel, but there is nothing we can do.” And that’s a lie. As communists, we know that when the masses mobilize and engage in struggle, communist revolution can end this system forever.

Movie Review: “Don’t Look Up!”

WE SAY “LOOK TO THE WORKING CLASS!”

This film “Don’t Look Up!” is quite good at criticizing the lies and deceit of the ruling class, its short-termism, its self-indulgence. It is a parody of climate disaster denialism, free-market attempts to solve it, and conspiracy theories surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. However, it is ultimately a pessimistic and sinful surrender to the system it is attacking.

“Don’t Look Up” is a clear example of the immediate present where the same mistakes are made over and over again. You can see the same corrupt politicians abusing power, personified by far-right demagogues. There are capitalist entrepreneurs who are a parody of our modern technological billionaires. They take advantage of situations for their own well-being and always exploit reality and appropriate it to their advantage. There is a ruling class unable to mobilize society and science to overcome the imminent calamity of the collision with a giant comet.

In 1918, the Bolsheviks organized society as “war communism.” As an emergency measure, they eliminated money, but they didn’t think that the masses (or the system of production) were ready for this long term.

After the war, Russia was in chaos. There were rebellions of workers, peasants, and soldiers. In 1921 the Bolsheviks retreated to the New Economic Policy (NEP), which meant openly capitalist relationships.

The first socialist Five-Year Plan replaced NEP in 1928. Bolshevik leaders advocated struggle toward more collective ways of life but undermined that by maintaining a wage system that pushed the masses to seek personal gain. Workers were urged to earn bonuses by producing more; students to get higher grades and promotions; and women were rewarded for producing more babies.

This contradiction sharpened as factory and farm workers, including party members, fought for a more collective approach. While few workers or Party cadres questioned the wage system itself, many struggled against its divisively competitive policies.

Socialism was actually state capitalism. Although the means of production were no longer in the hands of private capitalists, the economic system still rested on money, banks, wages, and production for sale. Having rejected that people can be won directly to communism, Party leaders had no choice left but to accommodate capitalist relations.

Defeating the Nazis in World War II was a great achievement of millions mobilized most significantly by communists. Many – including about 20 million in the Soviet Union – died fighting for a world in which the working class, led by the Party, would become the human race.

Many counterrevolutionaries also died. This was war, and traitors had to be dealt with swiftly and summarily. Unlike many other countries, Russia had no fascist “Fifth Column” because they were dealt with before they could do further harm to the revolution.

But the Soviet leadership lacked confidence in the working class. They had decided in 1934 that defeating fascism would require aligning with “lesser-evil” capitalists such as the USA and Great Britain. This meant organizing around nationalism and a vague classless “anti-fascism” rather than for communism.

The defeat of the Nazis in 1945 thus laid the basis, not for world communism, but for a new Soviet empire that renounced and suppressed world revolution. The failure of the Bolshevik revolution to achieve communism became obvious in 1989, but Russian communism was already defeated once its leaders determined to mobilize the masses for socialism, not communism.

We have learned from both their victories and their mistakes. We fight directly for communism and know the working class will be won to this. This is the only way the Party and our class can triumph.

We invite newer and younger comrades to send in your questions about the former Soviet Union and other aspects of communist history. Future articles will try to answer them.

We Learn from the Russian Revolution

FIGHTING DIRECTLY FOR COMMUNISM IS THE ONLY WAY TO TRIUMPH

Some comrades and friends want us to talk more about the strengths and weaknesses of the Russian Revolution.

Our pamphlet Mobilize the Masses for Communism talks about the weaknesses of the Bolshevik party. It explains that Soviet socialism could not “become” communism. Its main point, however, is what ICWP will do differently: what we have learned from the mistakes of the Soviets and others.

We recognize the Russian Revolution as one of the greatest working-class victories. The Russian communist party grew from 24,000 members in February 1917 to over 200,000 seven months later. Many were in the Russian army in the trenches of the first world war. These members, mostly new Bolsheviks, mobilized millions to overthrow the liberal capitalist Kerensky government and establish the Soviet republic.

The Bolsheviks declared communism as their goal. Fourteen imperialist powers sent troops to attack the Soviets, but the Bolsheviks organized more than five million workers and peasants into the Red Army to smash them. They also organized among the soldiers of the invading armies. Every invader witnessed big revolts among rank-and-file soldiers, forcing them to withdraw.

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But the Soviet leadership lacked confidence in the working class. They had decided in 1934 that defeating fascism would require aligning with “lesser-evil” capitalists such as the USA and Great Britain. This meant organizing.
Many of our friends are eager to read a new book, The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity. The authors are an archaeologist and an anarchist anthropologist. They analyze research results in their fields from the last thirty years. They call into question much of what we think we know about how people lived before the so-called “Neolithic Revolution” about 12,000 years ago.

We have been asking the wrong questions, they argue. We have been misled by influential European writers of the 18th century “Enlightenment.” As capitalism rose to dominate politics and culture, its intellectuals (like Hobbes and Rousseau) created myths that continue to reinforce capitalist ideas today.

When Engels wrote The Origin of Private Property, the Family, and the State in 1884, he relied on the best scientific evidence then available. “[Lewis Henry] MORGAN is the first man who, with expert knowledge, has attempted to introduce a definite order into the history of primitive man,” Engels wrote. “So long as no important additional material makes changes necessary, his classification will undoubtedly remain in force.”

Morgan thought that all humans, everywhere, evolved through the same stages: Savagery (hunting, fishing, gathering), Barbarism (agriculture), and Civilization (industry). His language smacks of racism and reflects imperialism. But there’s much more wrong with it than that.

Dawn of Everything contains over 500 pages of important additional material that render Morgan’s entire classification system obsolete. Evidence comes from archaeological sites like the early city of Taljanky in today’s Ukraine.

The northern California coast. Tenochtitlan (Mexico), pre-agricultural Japan, Madagascar and more.

Also, new discoveries in Egypt and the “Fertile Crescent.” And 17th-century first-hand reports on conversations between Jesuit missionaries and indigenous philosophers in the northeastern American woodlands.

Why does this matter to us? Because it extends and deepens our critique of technological determinism. We can better understand how humans have made our own history (though not just as we please or under circumstances we choose). It helps us understand the possibility of creating a new communist society.

And it reframes issues in ways that can help us resolve debates like whether communism will ever have a “state.” Or whether communism would need to organize people into small self-sufficient villages instead of cities. It helps explain why it is so central to our political line that in communism everyone will be welcome everywhere. It gives powerful reasons to reject the very idea of “property” handed down from Roman law.

This book does not ask all the questions we do. It certainly does not answer even those it asks. There are serious problems with its analytic framework. No Spanish translation exists yet. And it is not an easy read.

That’s why comrades and friends are starting a book club to read and discuss The Dawn of Everything together. Our focus will be on the “big questions” it raises. We look forward to reporting on our discussions in Red Flag.

—Comrades in Los Angeles (USA)
Teacher Walk-Out Sparks Communist Conversations

January 25—This last week the teachers at the school where I work participated in a one-day strike supporting the students who are striking over safety demands regarding the spread of Covid-19.

The core activist teachers are an impressive bunch who spent much care and energy reaching out to the parents of their students. The crisis, however, opens up wider and wider circles of people to deeper political discussions about capitalism and the need for communism to replace it.

A fellow teacher (a father of young children) was going to support the strike for “opportunist reasons” (he said he could use the day off). Talking to him, we quickly concluded that, sooner or later, we were all going to get the virus. They want us to live with Covid. Even these student demands, we agreed, were really a demand of people to deeper political discussions about capitalism and the need for communism to replace it.

As the conversation ended, my fellow teacher commented, “It is admirable to see the struggle and commitment that we are fighting.”

Why? Capitalism can sell 477 million cell phones in sub-Saharan Africa but in two years it can’t vaccinate even a quarter of the population against a killer virus. Why? Patent laws! Big Pharma wants to make a profit.

As the conversation ended, my fellow teacher was furious at putting profits ahead of people but not convinced of communism as the solution. I knew I had opened the door to discussions of communism in the months to come and plan to show him Red Flag.

—Teacher comrade

Great Results, Red Flag

“Thank you for sharing Red Flag with us, we already read it,” two friends told me when I shared our Red Flag newspaper through a message.

“It is admirable to see the struggle and commitment that we can read in the articles, to learn about the maquilas in our country, as well as to read the personal stories that moved me,” commented one new reader.

“I found it very interesting to know that in many parts of the world the workers’ struggle is reflected, that we are not the only ones facing these situations, even seeing news from India, which I liked a lot,” said another.

He added, “We feel very encouraged to continue reading Red Flag and to be able to participate in a future Conference like the one you attended.”

In the articles and letters published after our International Conference held by our International Communist Workers’ Party there were great results that inspire us. These are a clear example that we can see when we get comments from our readers where they feel admiration and the need to continue learning about the ideology of our ICWP through our Red Flag newspaper. I will continue to follow up with our new readers by sending them our newspaper. It is a constant struggle and a commitment that we must continue winning comrades who know that we are an international party without borders.

The communist struggle continues.

—Young Comrade in El Salvador

Read our pamphlet:

Communist Education for a Classless Society

Available at icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf

US and Russian Imperialists on Collision Course in Ukraine

“The situation in Ukraine looks like it will be a confrontation. Europe will lose more than Russia,” said a friend.

US propaganda blames Russia (mainly Putin). Russian propaganda blames US imperialism and its allies, mainly Biden and the Ukrainian president.

But this confrontation is not about personalities. It results directly from the laws of development of the worldwide capitalist profit system. Capitalists can only produce profits by exploiting the working class. Profits can only be realized by selling the worker-produced goods on the market.

Capitalists who can corner the market by underselling their competitors will maximize their profits. They eventually drive their competitors out of business. No capitalists accept their demise peacefully. They therefore compete fiercely for the cheapest labor, natural resources, and markets. Internationally, this competition inevitably leads to local, regional, and world wars.

The US-Russia struggle over Ukraine is about world domination. The capitalists-imperialists who dominate the world maximize their profits at the expense of other capitalists-imperialists.

Both sides are mobilizing naval and air forces. Russia is refusing to allow further NATO expansion in Eastern Europe or the placement of US nuclear missiles on its doorstep. Neither the US nor NATO will agree to Russia’s demands.

Right now (Jan. 26) it appears that Russia will move into Ukraine. Neither the US nor NATO are prepared to send troops to defend Ukraine. Any temporary negotiation to avoid a showdown would just postpone the storms to come as a rising China and resurgent Russia intensify their challenges to US world domination.

The outcome will be decided on the battlefields of World War III. Or—better!—by the international working class making communist revolution before or during this global confrontation.

This sharpening US-Russia confrontation has exposed divisions between the European and US capitalists. France and Germany rely on Russia for gas and oil. They do not want to go to war against Russia in the interests of US imperialism and have refused to commit troops to Ukraine. They send troops elsewhere with their own European Union military presence and goals in mind.

The UK, like the US, is arming Ukraine. But the German government refused to allow the UK to use its air space for arms shipments to Ukraine.

Capitalism’s nature makes wars and world wars inevitable. But capitalists rely on workers to fight their wars and produce their profits. The working class can and will fight for our own interests. Workers and soldiers have no reason to side with any capitalist-imperialist in their deadly wars for profit and empire. We must fight for our class. We need a communist world without nations, profits, exploitation, competition, or war.

As imperialist contradictions intensify, ICWP organizes workers, youth, and soldiers to join us to end capitalist competition and wars and to build the collective communist world we need.

—Comrades in Los Angeles (USA)
ONE MIGRANT’S STORY IS THE STORY OF WORKERS
WORLDWIDE

“After several days of enduring hunger, they took me through the desert, walking only eight hours, something that takes two or three days for others. At night we hid in bushes, so as not to be discovered by the Border Patrol’s drones. We heard the howls of coyotes and smelled the foul odors of decomposing bodies. I got cactus thorns in my arms and feet.” A young worker told me this story of his trip to the United States just seven months ago.

He borrowed 121,000 quetzales, equivalent to $16,000 dollars, and still owes $6,000. He is working day and night to pay off his debt. “I am sorry to be away from the people who have been with me all my life. I have a job, but not all of them are doing well, because they don’t have a job or a place to sleep,” added my friend.

As a member of ICWP and another member of the working class, I told him: “All of us workers in the world are migrants. Nationality is a concept that the bosses try to put into our heads from the time we are small. In a communist world, no worker and their families will have to move from their place of origin just because they cannot find a job that pays them a wage. Work will not be a commodity that is bought or sold by a boss, because money will not exist.

“We workers will eliminate it as soon as we take power and establish a communist society. Only organizing to destroy this system and building a communist world of workers’ solidarity will guarantee us a new world without so much social insecurity, either physically or our health.

My friend seems to agree, and he liked what we wrote in Red Flag. The struggle with him will continue so that he becomes more interested in the Party’s ideas and becomes a future candidate to join and participate with us. —Immigrant Comrade in the US

COMMUNISM WILL END DEADLY CAPITALISM AND ITS BORDERS

Last year more than 650 migrants died along the US-Mexico border. 4,404 lives were lost in the waters trying to reach Spain, most of them over the world’s most deadly route. January began with still more deaths. In just the second week of 2022, a 38-year-old man died in San Diego Border Patrol custody. A 7-year-old Venezuelan girl was swept up and drowned in the Rio Grande River. Two adults, a teenager and a baby from India froze to death trying to cross the US-Canada border. And a 16-year-old boy died in Arizona trying to cross the border.

As we go to press, the US Coast Guard is reporting that 39 people have died in the waters between The Bahamas and the US. Knowing about our dead on the southern border of the US and the rest of the world should encourage us to see the urgency of organizing for communist revolution. It is literally a matter of life or death.

These tragic stories will continue until we workers are well organized in ICWP. Finally we will destroy this exploitative and murderous system and build a communist society where capitalism’s deadly borders will be a thing of the past.

SEATTLE (US), January 17— “How is communism different from socialism?” Many asked this as we distributed Red Flag and the ICWP anti-racism pamphlet at the MLK Day rally here. The crowd was smaller than in pre-pandemic years, but hundreds attended, mainly young people of color.

People responded well to our ideas of not having borders or money or profits and of sharing the work and the joy. A comrade asked them to send us their comments about the paper.

While we talked about communist revolution, speakers were trying to win young people to capitalism “reform.” That’s why the US rulers celebrate MLK’s “dream” and never mention his condemnation of capitalism and the US war on Vietnam.

In previous years these rallies featured local anti-racist fighters. This year’s speakers were mainly clergy and Black capitalists. Young “entrepreneurs” talked about how they had made their money and how other young Black people can do the same.

This is a vicious attack on young workers, trying to convince them that they can enjoy the fruits of capitalism. A deadly ideology.

The people there weren’t buying this deception. Many were angered by a large electronic sign reading SPD (Seattle Police Department) Stands by You. They knew the SPD history of racist murder, especially of young Black men.

A retired Boeing worker commented that of course the ruling class will pick Black bosses to speak. The system produces these people from all races, people who are selfish and don’t think of the working class. Get mine and move to the top, while the rest get pushed to a lower and lower bottom.

But the many people who took Red Flag were not interested in discussing capitalism. They wanted to talk about what we mean by communism and what communist life would look like.

They were interested in how, unlike socialism, communism will have no money, no banks, no wages and no markets. We would live by communist principles: “From each according to their ability and commitment, to each according to their need.”

One woman, there with her partner, had lots of questions. She asked, “What about people who want to do drugs?” She said that drug use is rampant in her family. She liked the idea that in communism there would be no profit from anything, including drugs, so there would be no incentive for anyone to push drugs.

“But what if somebody wanted something special, a fancier car or jewelry?” she asked. She nodded in agreement when a comrade said, “We would produce for our needs. When everybody has housing and clothing and health care and good food, then we can decide what we want to do with other resources.”

She recently found out that she has indigenous roots and agreed with the comrade who said that many first nations had had a certain kind of communism: everyone was taken care of and there was no production for wealth.

She and the comrade exchanged phone numbers and have spoken since. Our new friend said, “Our conversation made my day!” They agreed to talk more about communism soon.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Rally: ORGANIZERS PROMOTE CAPITALIST REFORM, MASSES WANT REAL CHANGE

—Immigrant Comrade in the US

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