

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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

MARCH ON MAY DAY

DEFEAT FASCISM & WAR WITH COMMUNIST REVOLUTION



South Africa 2016



El Salvador 2016

India General Strike:

ICWP COMRADES SPREAD COMMUNIST IDEAS AND PREPARE FOR MAY DAY

CHENNAI (India), April 17— “When I see the news of scores of people dying every day in communal frenzy and the continuous explosion of hate crimes by BJP and RSS fascists,” declared a comrade’s neighbor, “I say, communism is the only way that can root out these problems.”

A two-day nationwide strike in late March blocked roads and trains and shut down banks and other workplaces. Public and private sector workers protested the fascist Modi government’s privatization plan and anti-labor, anti-farmer policies.

The strike demands and slogans were all about reforms. But the mass actions created opportunities for ICWP comrades to organize for

communist revolution.

“Today we are inviting all our coworkers and friends to a meeting to plan for the general strike in India,” said a comrade whose collective was busy mobilizing on the weekend. “Four million people have died from coronavirus, gasoline prices have doubled, people cannot afford food, there is a rising unemployment.”

Another comrade graphically described the conditions in Chennai and all over India. Everybody sees neighborhoods of Muslim homes razed to the ground by police and fascist mobs. We see girls and women raped in the Dalit districts. The government responds by spreading hate movies like The Kashmir Files. They give free apps

[See INDIA GENERAL STRIKE, page 4](#)

El Salvador Sweatshops:

COMMUNIST WORKERS PLAN COLLECTIVE RESPONSE TO BOSSSES’ ATTACKS & MARTIAL LAW

EL SALVADOR, April 16— “As you know, the war between Russia and Ukraine is affecting us,” the boss said. “We are paying more for thread, fabric, and transportation, so we won’t be able to pay the wage increase that was supposed to be mandated. However, we must meet the goals of production.”

“I have been tremendously angry for a week,” said Comrade V, “ever since the factory boss grabbed the microphone and made more than seven hundred workers turn off the machines, to make this announcement.”

The boss is wrong. The war is between NATO, sponsored by the United States, against Russia, on Ukrainian territory. The bosses don’t care about the workers’ mis-

erable conditions caused by wage slavery and the effects of the war.

The bosses do not give advance notice when they are going to meet with the workers, to prevent them from preparing or participating. The meetings are closed, with no opportunity to speak. That shows the bosses’ fear of the working class. They even forbid you to look them in the face. There is a story about a worker who stared at this racist boss and got fired for it.

“Why don’t we as a party respond to this? Why don’t we put forward an open position?” asked a comrade.

We must understand that our ideological struggle against the capitalist system also develops with the creation of an environment of strug-

[See SWEATSHOP DISCUSSION, page 3](#)

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End the Capitalists' War on the Working Class:

MARCH ON MAY DAY FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

The history of capitalism is the history of war against the working class.

Everywhere, bosses use divisive ideologies like racism, casteism, sexism and xenophobia to justify this war. As inter-imperialist conflict sharpens and capitalist crises mount, attacks on the international working class accelerate.

From Ethiopia to Ukraine to Yemen, civil wars are proxy wars among US, Russian and Chinese imperialists. Larger wars, worse famines, and more extreme ecological disasters lie ahead. Truly, capitalism is synonymous with death.

Only communist revolution will give life to the masses. Only communist-inspired masses can build the new world we need.

A world without borders or nations. A world without wage slavery and exploitation. A world where the masses directly make decisions that affect our lives and produce directly for our own needs.

On May Day we focus on developing the forces necessary for communist revolution. We invite you to join the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) to mobilize the masses for communism.

Bosses Turn to Fascism, Communists Expand Political Work

Super-exploited workers in the El Salvador maquilas (garment factories) endure the combined weight of imperialist exploitation and sexist and racist oppression.

Today the El Salvador masses live under the martial law. Armed federal troops invade working-class neighborhoods, arresting tens of thousands of youths. Meetings are banned. Publishing revolutionary literature is dangerous.

Yet comrades and friends in the maquilas continue their communist political work. More workers are reading and distributing *Red Flag*. They collectively debate communist solutions and strategies to recruit more revolutionaries.

From communist work in factories like these will come forces dedicated to fighting for our new communist world.

Capitalist bosses everywhere resort increasingly to fascism as their system falters. ICWP must respond everywhere by nurturing close communist relationships that will develop more communist organizers, under increasingly oppressive conditions.

War And Fascism Go Hand in Hand

The violence and the extreme nationalism, racism, and sexism that we associate with fascism are rooted in capitalism's essential nature.

How could a tiny super-rich minority continue to steal the masses' lives and labor without a vast repressive apparatus of cops, courts, jails, and armies? Without poisonous ideologies to divide and weaken our international working class?

Democracy is a mask on the fascist capitalist beast. In times of crisis, the rulers let the mask wear thin or rip it off. Imperialist rulers and colonizing powers have always imposed fascism on those they have colonized and on

minoritized groups within their own borders.

Capitalist rulers almost everywhere cultivate violent fascist militias, often directly tied to the government. Billionaires support others under the cover of democracy.

Ukraine incorporated the racist, fascist, ultra-nationalist Azov battalion into its armed forces. The Russian military also absorbed fascist forces. The US has its own. The result is a deadly war against workers as fascist imperialists fight fascist imperialists.

For communists, no worker is "foreign."

But fascists build their movements through vicious racist attacks on workers born elsewhere. From the U.S. Proud Boys to the South African Dudula, murderous gangs take aim at so-called "foreigners." From Erdoğan in Turkey to LePen in France and Netanyahu's Likud in Israel, xenophobic fascist electoral parties are in (or close to) power.

India's Prime Minister Modi inflames Islamophobic mobs to assassinate Muslims with fascist Hindu nationalism. His party emerged from the paramilitary group responsible for decades of murderous anti-Muslim pogroms.

But fascism is not the property just of specific parties or gangs. There are no "lesser evil" capitalist parties. Bosses use many different variations of capitalist ideology to win the masses to their deadly system. It's fascist capitalism itself that we must destroy!

Young Workers and Soldiers Will Fill Our Revolutionary Ranks

Hundreds of millions respond to the attacks on our class with courageous fights against racism, casteism, sexism, and xenophobia. Massive demonstrations against racist police murder have involved and motivated tens of millions. The Indian farm revolt was even bigger.

From among these masses we are starting to develop new organizers to fight for and build our communist world.

Youth who are recruited or conscripted into capitalist-imperialist armies will bring with them these broader struggles. US military leaders admit that their army is split between racist and anti-racist soldiers who fight each other. Anti-racist friends have organized some of these fights. Comrades have reported similar struggles within the South African army.

The Indian army intentionally recruits the most super-exploited Dalits. No Muslims are allowed in the armed forces! The fascist government hopes to pit Dalits against Muslims. But its plan will backfire. ICWP members have started to meet with troops. The most oppressed will not fight for their oppressor forever.

We can win masses in the bosses' armed forces to turn the guns around to become a key force for communist revolution.

For a New Communist World

Hundreds of millions have fought for a century to bury fascism and the divisive capitalist ideologies that support it. Time and time again, capitalist evils reemerged in even more vicious forms because we stopped short of ending wage slavery. The material basis for these lethal horrors lies in capitalism's wage system. Fascism and war amplify them.

Communism will end the wage system and replace it with collective production for our collective needs. It will unleash the power of the working class to finally eradicate these divisive ideologies and practices.

The revolutionary forces to bring this about will come from the workplaces, the youthful masses in the streets, and from revitalized communist political work in the armed forces. To make revolution possible, we must win the support of the broader masses.

This May Day let's prepare to take the war to our capitalist oppressors. In the face of their war on our working class, let's develop the forces necessary for worldwide communist revolution.



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Standing with Amazon, Boeing Workers:

BUILDING FORCES FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

SEATTLE (USA), April 15— Some friends suggested that this May Day, the ICWP should celebrate the recent union victory at Amazon.

Thousands voted for the first union at Amazon, despite the company's vicious, racist attacks on union organizers. Mainly they want better working conditions and more pay. Since then, workers at fifty other Amazon warehouses have started union campaigns.

Despite the brave organizing drive, comrades and friends wondered if this kind of trade union campaign can develop the forces we need for communist revolution.

In recent years, the ICWP Boeing collective has fought against the separation of families at the US border, mobilized against racism inside and outside the plants, and more. Workers halted production as hundreds debated communist solutions, among other things. Some Boeing workers became advocates for the whole working class instead of limiting their struggles to reforms within the factory. The Boeing union obstructed our efforts every step of the way.

Comrades talked with an Amazon subcontracted delivery worker, who hopes for a local union campaign. He was very interested in these stories of union betrayals and communist organizing in and outside the plants. For the first time, he is examining his relationship to the international working class.

Current Crisis at Boeing

Boeing's current crisis mirrors the general crisis of U.S. imperialism. Boeing plans to attack our class to salvage what's left of the US ruling class's imperialist ambitions.

The Boeing Board has no credible way to end its three-year crisis in commercial production. The company has lost a billion dollars on the Dreamliner in recent months because of manufacturing flaws. The Federal Aviation Agency required Boeing to install additional safety features on the MAX 10 this year when it authorized the resumption of production. Executives are already lobbying for an extension. The list goes on. Boeing has laid off at least 30,000 workers and is still nearly \$60 billion in debt.

Aerospace "experts" wanted Boeing to sell the last profitable section of the company: the Defense, Space and Security Division. They want to spin it off as a stand-alone company. The Board of Directors has remained silent.

If that happens, most of the company debt will be foisted onto the commercial division. But even amid this crisis, CEO Calhoun pulled in an estimated \$21 million.

The bottom line: Boeing will sacrifice pensions and jobs of commercial workers to save

U.S. imperialism's war production.

A retired Boeing worker remembered what happened to Michigan (US) auto workers during the 2008 recession. He worked in various industries there. He fears that the attack on auto and steel workers then will pale before the attack on Boeing workers if the spin-off occurs.

He expects secret negotiations between the company and the union over the 2024 contract. In the past, these secret negotiations resulted in massive cuts. This time will be worse. The whole Seattle area will be devastated, not just the Boeing workers and retirees.

A Glimpse of a Communist Future

What should communists aim for in a situation like this? In Russia a century ago, the first battle of the revolutionary civil war took place outside Petrograd. Workers there displayed supreme heroism and political devotion to the cause of proletarian revolution.

In the factories, production of war materiel for the revolution went on day and night. The contribution of factory workers did not end at the fac-

tory gates. For example, over five hundred workers from the Putilov Works and fifty carpenters rushed to the trenches with their tools.

These workers also brought weapons hot off the assembly lines and trained revolutionary soldiers how to use them. They repaired vehicles and weapons on the front lines. Masses of factory workers from all over the city did the same.

Building a communist base in the factories really means unleashing a politically motivated working class that matches the feats of the Petrograd industrial workers. The working class cannot free itself from the yoke of capitalism by limiting itself to economic or reform demands.

Capitalist bosses rely on wage slavery to force us into submission. Communist workers act based on political commitment, not out of fear of losing their jobs. Mobilized by the ICWP, we can accomplish what seems impossible. By focusing our struggles on the needs of the international working class – not on unions– we will build the forces necessary for communist revolution.



April 10—In the Greek city of Thessaloniki, port workers and others fought police, trying to stop the delivery of NATO weapons to Ukraine. Earlier, Greek railway workers had refused to transport US and NATO military materiel through the port of Alexandroupolis to Romania and Poland, from where it was supposed to go to Ukraine. They ridiculed employers' statements that "What do you care what the trains carry, it's your job and you are obliged to go."

Instead they insisted that "We, the railway workers, work to provide affordable and quality transportation to the people and for the transport of goods which can be used to meet their needs, not to become part of the country's involvement in plans which are dangerous for the people."

Under capitalism, workers are forced to serve the bosses' needs. Only in communism can we all truly serve the masses of people. Class-conscious industrial workers like these will be key to communist revolution in Greece and everywhere.

SWEATSHOP DISCUSSION from page 1

gle against this rotten system and in our advance for a communist world

"I believe that if we as a Party took the floor at that moment and had said that we too are paying more in the stores for everything we need, more workers would have felt united with us," reflected comrade V. "I know that this is not what we in ICWP are fighting for. There is a contradiction here. We are fighting for a definitive change, for the communist system, where there will be no exploitation of our working class and no money."

But this situation and the comrade's suggestion have made us discuss what we should do the next time this happens.

Comrades from other parts of the world have also made their points about this. They have

made it clear that the workers should discuss and learn more about how these struggles help us advance with the Party's communist ideas.

Recruit more workers to turn off the machines of capitalist horror

Now we are inviting workers for a communist May Day and telling the history of the Chicago martyrs. They fought for the eight-hour day. But today we work eight hours, and what they pay us is not enough to live as we deserve. We do not fight for reforms that make wage slavery last longer. What we need is to break this chain of exploitation. This will happen only by fighting for communism

We have discussed the strategic plan, where men and women workers from the factories will have their action to carry out, and other activities

will be carried out by comrades from other areas.

We need to expand the distribution networks of *Red Flag*. The newspaper is a key tool to organize more workers to the party. It is also important to make and distribute communist leaflets.

The bosses' terror is turning against them. Even in the face of their fascist measures, the workers are willing to continue the fight for the communist revolution. We will be with our *Red Flag* in the main streets of the capital here on May 1st.

Women and men factory workers, former guerrilla fighters, teachers, students, workers and comrades from other areas will fight the bosses and their servants. We do not advocate reforming capitalism, but destroying it with communist struggle, organizing for the International Communist Workers' Party.

WORKERS, SOLDIERS, YOUTH: CHOOSE COMMUNIST REVOLUTION, NOT IMPERIALIST WAR!

April 17—We will know soon enough whether the war in Ukraine will spark World War III. We know already that it is shaking what's left of the post-World War II order.

The NATO/Russia war in Ukraine is total war. It impacts industrial, agricultural, financial, military, and cultural life. Like the US war in Iraq and the Russian war in Chechnya, it is reducing cities to rubble. For example, Russian bombardment smashed the port of Mariupol and the roads and bridges leading to it. Wheat desperately needed by masses in Egypt and East Africa can no longer come through Mariupol.

Kyiv could be next. After Ukraine sank Russia's flagship vessel in the Black Sea (with NATO assistance), Russia destroyed a plant that probably produced one of the missiles used in that attack. The next day, Russian rockets hit a Kyiv military hardware plant.

This "border clash" is changing the world. It is currently the front line of a contest between two contradictory plans for world domination. The first is the post-World War II US-led North Atlantic integration (NATO). The second is taking shape through China's ambitious "Belt and Road Initiative" and the export of Russian energy.

US, Russian, and especially Chinese imperialists don't want world war. They fear it. They know that the first two World Wars ended in mass workers' revolutions that seemed improbable beforehand. But fearing war does not mean they can avoid either the war or its consequence, a revolution.

This time, we need worldwide communist revolution, not revolution for socialism. In both Russia and China, socialism followed its inevitable internal logic to become the imperialism there today.

Imperialist Propaganda Aims to Win Loyalty of Soldiers and Workers

Imperialist wars require not only weapons of mass destruction – bombs, tanks, hypersonic missiles – but also weapons of mass deception. We mean the stories and lies the rulers push through official media and the so-called free press.

One aim of this propaganda is to motivate front-line soldiers to kill and die for the bosses' profits. Imperialist rulers see these young workers as expendable. Russia is sending some soldiers to Ukraine without even food supplies! Some are fighting, but some are already refusing. The US army never fully recovered from its lost war on Vietnam, when soldiers' and sailors' rebellions rocked bases, stockades, and Navy ships.

Another propaganda goal is to condition the civilian masses to accept the catastrophic violence, destruction, and costs of the war itself. Today there is the skyrocketing cost of gasoline. Tomorrow, a key service, like a day care center, will close when its government subsidies are diverted to an anti-tank Javelin missile for allies in Ukraine.

The US propaganda buildup started in January. A chorus sang of an innocent Ukraine facing a Russian invasion directed by a mad and isolated dictator. Ever since, among all the war victims and refugees from Ethiopia and Yemen to Haiti

and Central America, the media single out only blue-eyed Ukrainians for humanitarian aid.

The lie was mainly one of omission. Unsaid was that the US deliberately provoked a Russian response, fearing Europe's tilt toward the growing China-Russia alliance. Or that it was the US-led sanctions on Iran and Libya that drove Europe to seek energy resources from Russia. Or that seventeen European countries had signed on to China's "Belt and Road Initiative."

The US began dismantling arms agreements with Russia. In 2019, for example, it cancelled the INF Treaty. That meant it would no longer limit the number of intermediate nuclear missiles it would build. It stationed increasing numbers of missiles along Russian borders. The Defense Department downgraded its "War on Terror" to focus its military doctrine on Russia and China.

Eventually the Russians had to respond. That's how the capitalist system functions and how imperialist war starts. Its consequences include food insecurity, starvation, inflation, and economic recession in addition to the front-lines death and destruction. But these provoke resistance and rebellion. Under these and similar social conditions, the plan of revolution for communism increasingly gains traction.

Nothing is guaranteed. But *Red Flag* is presenting the working class with a clear choice: imperialist war or communist revolution. We invite all readers to share and discuss it with friends, family, and co-workers. Now is the time to build study-action groups and ICWP collectives!

INDIA GENERAL STRIKE, from page 1

to young people that graphically claim that India can become a global power only by eliminating Muslims.

A friend, now unemployed, worked in an auto factory for twenty years. He comes to our collective meetings sometimes. We asked him what prevents him from coming regularly and if he can distribute *Red Flag* to others.

He said, "I am angry with everything I see. I know the system must change. But we are very small; there are billions of people around the world. When will we see communism?"

Many people have similar questions. We decided to answer them. A young ICWP comrade said, "There are billions of workers in the world. What unites them is that they struggle to survive under the wage system. The minority are the bosses who benefit from it. They should be worried about their survival."

This sparked new thinking in the autoworker. He agreed that rich bosses use communalism (religious divisions) and sexism to prevent us from uniting as a class to fight for communism.

Red Flag Helps Recruit More Communists

We noticed that he had an unread copy of the last issue of *Red Flag* in his room. We decided to read that issue and the new one aloud. This took almost one hour. He, along with us, found more answers by reading it collectively. We realized that it is not enough to give someone a *Red Flag*. We must read it and talk about it, and that is a process of becoming a communist. He readily accepted more *Red Flags* to give to his friends and decided to come to our meeting for the strike.

Learning from this comrade, we decided to approach all our coworkers by reading *Red Flag*. Almost everyone took

several extra copies. By Sunday afternoon we had distributed over four hundred copies. It showed in the collective meeting for the strike. Our room was overflowing with new workers.

We proposed that the strike is an opportunity for us to put forward communist revolution as the only solution as the bosses are desperately trying to do the opposite. From Ukraine to Sri Lanka and everywhere, the bosses are killing the masses for maximum profit. The unions have become tools of the bosses and they create illusion of change, but they hide brutality of the wage system. The workers and soldiers must organize others to join the International Communist Workers' Party.

Most of the people who came to the meeting joined our Party contingent in the march during the general strike. We distributed many papers to people who took it eagerly and liked our line. We were the only ones talking about the need to smash fascism with communist revolution.

Our strike activity was a huge success. Spreading our *Red Flag* helps us to organize for May Day.

"A SINGLE SPARK CAN START A PRAIRIE FIRE"

At our ICWP collective meeting, a retired soldier (now an autoworker) gave a small speech about the history of the Indian army during British rule. In February of 1946, a group of Hindu and Muslim naval ratings (enlisted sailors) decided to go on a strike due to lack of food. For the first time there was a unity of the Hindu and Muslim naval ratings.

It spread from one ship to another. The British ruthlessly suppressed the mutiny. But there was overwhelming support from the masses in Bombay (now Mumbai). The workers collected food and provided first aid to the wounded. The mutiny spread quickly from Karachi to Iran and as far away as Indonesia. The Congress Party and the Muslim League condemned the mutiny. Only the Communist Party of India supported it.

This mutiny eventually put an end to the British rule in India, but not to the mass misery caused by capitalism. However, we can learn from it. The soldiers are our class brothers and sisters, and we need to train them to be communists. This comrade is helping to do just that.



COMMUNIST IDEAS WIN WORKERS TO REJECT REFORM, MARCH ON MAY DAY

SEATTLE (USA), April 1— “Next time we will have to start the discussion earlier. There is so much more to talk about, and this was very interesting,” said a friend at the end of our pre-May Day dinner.

It was the first time since the pandemic began that many of us could have an in-person collective discussion with so many comrades and friends. They wanted to hear about what to fight for and if we could win. The discussion focused on the differences between communism, capitalism, socialism, and fascism. It was effective in moving many of the participants closer to the ideas of ICWP and to understanding why only communism can free the working class from wage slavery.

We watched a video of last year’s May Day produced by comrades in El Salvador. A comrade asked, “What political ideas should the ICWP raise at this year’s May Day marches?”

A friend commented, “We had a victory today. The New York Amazon warehouse voted to unionize.” A comrade replied by recounting her own experience trying to unionize at Metropolitan Life in San Francisco (US). Workers spent many months getting enough cards signed to have a union vote. It looked like the union would win. But the night before the election, the union

pulled out. Union misleaders no longer wanted to organize those workers because they feared communist leadership.

Another comrade described experiences at Boeing where the union tried to block communist-led campaigns against racism and xenophobia.

These examples led to an in-depth discussion of revolution versus reform, and whether reform can ever win for the working class. Almost everyone spoke up. Some comrades said that what workers think and do about Ukraine, Black Lives Matter, the separation of families at borders, sexism, communist ideology, etc. is what will win them to revolution, not reform demands.

Everyone who spoke agreed that capitalism is a horror. But some thought that socialism might be a step towards communism. One comrade used an analogy to explain why we must get rid of any vestige of capitalism, including socialism (which maintains the wage system). If you don’t dig out weeds by the roots, they will only come back. This is what happened in Russia and China. Their intent was to fight for workers’ power, but because they thought socialism was a necessary precursor to communism, the weeds of capitalism returned in full force.

There were many questions about fascism: “What is the prime example of fascism? Did

Black people always live under fascism?” One comrade said, “One sign is extra-legal paramilitary violence, like the Proud Boys in the US.” A second Boeing worker and a construction worker chimed in: “It is a police state, Jim Crow laws. Many Black workers around the world have always lived under fascism, like apartheid in South Africa.”

These discussions were not academic. These workers and friends view this knowledge as important for their lives. As they make decisions about participating with us, they want to understand communism and the role of the party.

One friend commented, “I’m glad we have a month to prepare for May Day. It gives us time to put these ideas in an accessible form.” We will ask her to help create our signs. That will be an opportunity to discuss all these questions further.

Many friends who came to the potluck, motivated by their increased understanding of communism and our party, said they will join us on May Day. Our collective plans to follow up with all of them, not only about May Day, but about participating in party collectives and joining ICWP. These conversations and the actions which follow them will help our party grow into the mass party necessary to fight for and win a communist world.

COMMUNISM WILL END HUNGER, EXPLOITATION, AND SEXISM

USA, April 18— Nearly one in three people in the world did not have access to adequate food in 2020. The same was true of the million child-care workers in the US: one in three was food-insecure that year.

This in a country with over six hundred billionaires. That produces more than enough food for everyone living here.

And an agricultural industry that squeezed \$120 billion in profits in 2020 from miserably paid essential farmworkers with few if any Covid protections. Most US child-care workers make little more than farmworkers. Like farmworkers, many are immigrants. Over 90% are women.

The work most necessary to sustain and nurture life has little value in the capitalists’ labor market. Supervising ad accounts can pay ten times more than supervising children. Growing a company’s profits can pay hundreds of times more than growing vegetables.

The capitalist rulers want nothing but the best for their own children but find nothing wrong with workers distracted by hunger minding other workers’ children. They reduce our children’s vast human potential to their future availability as wage slaves or cannon fodder.

Communism will be exactly the opposite. We will treasure and develop the potential of all, starting in infancy. We’ll put the highest value on vital work like producing food, raising children, making clothes and shelter, caring for the sick. We’ll encourage everyone to share it. Everybody, from young children to the elders, will contribute as they are willing and able. Nobody will go hungry while others eat their fill.

It will take more than guns to win and build this new society. It will also take conscious and concerted work to identify and overcome capitalism’s divisive lies.

We must expose and defeat sexist stereotypes and practices about “women’s work” like childcare.

Before industrial capitalism, most everyone in

a household worked in or around their shelter and adjoining land, even if they didn’t own the land. But the rise of the capitalist wage system created a divide between wage labor (outside the home) and unwaged labor (inside the home).

Wage workers produce profits for the boss. The unwaged labor that produces and reproduces labor power is vital to capitalists because that labor power is the source of their profits. But this household “women’s work” had no market value.

Factory owners loved to superexploit unmarried women and children, building whole industries on their misery. They justified sub-poverty wages with the lie that it was “extra” (not necessary) household income.

In the 20th century, capitalists found new ways to turn domestic services into commodities on a massive scale. Processed foods. Health care in hospitals instead of homes. For-profit childcare centers. And more. As more households found they needed more than one full-time wage laborer to make ends meet, there was more demand for these commodities. And more opportunities for capitalists to profit from wage labor.

But “women’s work” still carries the stigma of being “not really valuable.” Some people think that childcare workers, for example, are only “supplementing” family income.

Communism will end the gendered division of labor, which is an important part of the material



basis of sexism in capitalist society.

It’s why women childcare workers make so little – even less than men doing the same jobs. It’s why there is a growing gender gap worldwide in the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity.

It’s why one in three childcare workers in the US went hungry in 2020.

It’s why women workers are so often in the lead of militant mass movements, from Black Lives Matter in the US to the farmers’ strike in India.

And it’s one more reason for all workers to join the International Communist Workers’ Party.

TO REVERSE THE CLIMATE CRISIS: MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

“We are all doomed,” a friend told a comrade. “There’s nothing we can do now because we can’t make the changes we need to make to reverse climate change and restore balance in the world.”

The comrade disagreed but didn’t really explain why ending capitalism with communist revolution will allow us to reverse the damage capitalism has done.

The bosses’ media claim that “human activity” causes this damage. But climate change is caused by capitalism and its driving force, maximizing profits. Capitalists profit from mining coal, exporting petroleum, and creating greenhouse gases. For them, the drive for profit surpasses all other concerns. Therefore, they will not stop the profit-making activities that are causing the climate crisis.

Communist revolution is the only possible solution to this crisis. No more capitalists, no more profit, no more wage slavery which is the source of all profits. We’ll focus on those things that will benefit our class and figure out how to make them happen.

Communism will make reversal of climate change a top priority, along with feeding and

housing the masses and providing healthcare. Technologies that already exist for sequestering carbon and desalinating water will no longer be “too expensive.” If we need them, we’ll mobilize the labor to make and deploy them.

Communism will unleash the creative power of the masses to devise and use the technologies we need, rather than leaving that work to a few scientists and engineers constrained by the bosses who benefit from it. Workers’ ingenuity and resourcefulness will no longer be stifled by their “job category” or the need to create profit.

We will integrate science and engineering with production, “mental” with “manual” labor. Everyone will have the opportunity to do both. There will no longer be a stigma about work that gets your hands dirty, nor glorification of intellectual work. Both are essential for human fulfillment. People will be able to explore many avenues of thought and work.

Capitalism tells us that individual actions caused climate change and until each person changes their lifestyle, things will only get worse. But individuals recycling or not eating meat or driving electric cars cannot possibly solve this immense problem. Individualism is a capitalist

ideology rooted in capitalist competition.

The working class needs a collective outlook for our survival, for organizing revolution, and for building a communist society. Communism focuses on what is best for our class, including the stewardship of the earth, so essential to our survival and well-being. With no money or profit motive, human needs are front and center. We’ll take care of each other without buying or selling anything.

Changes to ensure the habitability of the planet will come from our focused collective force, not from individual choices. Better public transportation and planning, curbing emissions from animal agriculture and factory farming, decreasing toxic waste, and more. Communist collectivity can achieve this. Capitalism’s unrelenting selfish pursuit of profits can’t.

Every one of us can make a difference now by choosing to become a communist and mobilize the masses for communism. Join or start a collective of the International Communist Workers’ Party so that, together, we can organize co-workers, classmates, family, friends, and neighbors for the communist world we so urgently need.



Gaza, April 15, 2022—A large force of Israeli police raided the Al Aqsa Mosque where thousands of worshipers had gathered for early morning Ramadan prayers. Police tear-gassed and beat worshipers. They fired stun grenades and rubber bullets at those in the mosque, who improvised barriers and threw rocks at the cops. The police attack injured about 150 Palestinian Muslims. The Al Aqsa Mosque had long symbolized resistance to Israeli fascism. A large demonstration was expected there later that day.

Fascist Jewish groups in East Jerusalem had reportedly asked for the police raid on Al

Aqsa. Some claimed that rocks had been thrown from Al Aqsa into an adjacent area near the Wailing Wall, where Jews pray. Israelis have long tried to drive Arab residents out of East Jerusalem, and Palestinian nationalists have proposed it as the capital of a Palestinian state.

Muslim Ramadan, Jewish Passover and Christian Easter coincided this year. Some had hoped that this would be an occasion for unity among followers of the three religions, which all have holy places in East Jerusalem.

However, religious conflicts are driven mainly

by capitalist nationalism in Israel/Palestine and elsewhere. Capitalist use religion to divide and oppress workers and organize mass violence against them, especially against Muslims in Israel, India, Myanmar, and much of Europe.

Only a communist revolution can overcome these religious conflicts (communalism). Some people will still practice their religion in communist society, if they still feel the need, and if it’s not a cover for anti-communist organizing. But we won’t allow religion to divide the masses.

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

THEY TOOK EVERYTHING FROM US, EXCEPT COMMUNIST IDEAS

A few days ago, they brought me the new edition of *Red Flag*. I talked with the comrades about the situation that I lived through here, and that the fmln no longer represents the interests of the working class. I participated in the civil war in the 1980’s and I continue fighting for a better world. I commented that I am participating in the efforts of the Indigenous communities in my area.

We remember what happened in 1932, the genocide and dispossession of the land, when

it was forbidden to wear our traditional clothing and speak our language, Nahuatl. At that time they murdered thousands of peasants, including Feliciano Ama, Francisco Sánchez and Farabundo Martí, leaders of the peasant insurrection.

I believe that cut off our branches, they cut off our trunk, but the roots remained. With these words I emphasize what has happened in El Salvador to the Indigenous communities in the west and center of the country.

That is why I made the title of this note “They took everything from us” on the 90th anniversary of the genocide. I think a lot of time has

passed, but our roots are still alive demanding justice, reparation with dignity.

The seeds are being planted and are germinating, the communist ideas are reaching more workers and we must take them to more Indigenous communities.

In this month of April, a tribute will be made to our mother earth since April 22 is International Earth Day, although she has been taken from us. I have invited comrades to attend our Party activities and I think it is a good opportunity to make some contacts there. I am still a fighter for the communist revolution.

Comrade Ex Guerrillero

USA: HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZING BUILDS COMMUNIST WORK AMONG SOLDIERS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS DISTRIBUTE COMMUNIST LEAFLET ON UKRAINE CRISIS

LOS ANGELES (USA)—Our high school collective read the “ICWP Statement on the Ukrainian War,” and summarized it into a leaflet entitled “What does the Ukraine crisis mean for you? Communist revolution will put an end to deadly wars for profit!”

Students passed out close to one hundred leaflets hand to hand to other students. “One of my teachers got ahold of the leaflet and put it up on his wall,” said Gloria, smiling. “I guess he liked it.” This teacher is now receiving *Red Flag*.

Sonia said, “I didn’t think other students would be interested in topics like this because usually they only think about sports and videogames, but this one kid said he liked it and wanted an extra copy for his mother.”

The leaflet discussed how the war in Ukraine is an imperialist war for profit that affects the US, Europe, and Russia directly and China and the rest of the world indirectly. It is affecting the international working class, soldiers, and students everywhere. This is our opportunity to present the communist alternative to the devastation the profit-hungry bosses are inflicting on our class.

The leaflet called for a communist society where nothing will be produced for profit. Capitalists won’t be able to make money off things that affect all society. Communist society will eliminate wars for profit. In a society without money, the working class will be able to build roads, houses, and hospitals and everything else that meets our needs.

The leaflet concluded that our main struggle is to reach out to students, workers, and soldiers with our communist outlook. The world is entering into a period of more intense wars, fascism, xenophobia, sexism as the bosses brutally attack our working-class brothers and sisters to break our resolve to fight back. We, as well as the future generations, should live in a world free from all of this. We will counter these attacks with communist organizing. We have tremendous confidence in the international working class to end the deadly profit system. We invited readers to join the International Communist Workers’ Party and distribute *Red Flag*.

The leaflet could have been clearer that the war in Ukraine was provoked by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), mainly led by the U.S. As the French minister of finance declared, “We [NATO] are waging total economic and financial war against Russia, Putin, and his government.” The United States, Canada, and several Western European nations created NATO in 1949 to confront the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), which was led by Russia. In other words, the war in Ukraine is a proxy war, a war mainly between two superpowers. In this case, it’s a war between Russia and US/UK/NATO.

The youth in our high school collective are hungry for a system which is more suitable for the entire working class to thrive in. These students are taking the first steps in mobilizing the masses for communism and joining ICWP.

As Latricia put it, “With our distribution of this leaflet as well as *Red Flag*, students’ interest in taking down the system of capitalism with communist mobilizing has grown. The *Red Flag* gives students information about how the working class is exploited and how we can get rid of that exploitation.”

These students attend a high school where ICWP has historically mobilized students for the military and communist work elsewhere. Past students have matured and entered education and other fields in the work force. High schools under capitalism are meant to reproduce capitalist relationships with the new coming working class. The managers, supervisors, and CEOs, all the way down to the working poor. Individualism, materialism and business’s bottom line—profits—are the ideologies of today. As we continue organizing in the schools, we hope to continue to win students like these to organize their families, friends, and comrades near and far, as we grow the party to end all wars by mobilizing the masses for communism.



Read our military pamphlet:

Soldiers, Sailors, Marines: Crucial for a Communist Workers’ Revolution

available at
icwpredflag.org/mpe.pdf



MILITARY RECRUITERS IN US HIGH SCHOOLS

I’m amazed, especially in the current period, where some so-called leftists underestimate the need for armed forces to make revolution and to defend the revolution, yet the capitalists have no problem going to high schools and recruiting youth to be part of their armed forces to defend their reactionary regimes. Sounds like most of the fake leftists don’t have a bit of sense of how to make revolutionary struggle and to defend the gains of the revolution.

—Comrade teacher

“I BECAME A COMMUNIST IN HIGH SCHOOL. THEN I JOINED THE US ARMY.”

We’re an international party. What we do can help build the international communist movement on the other side of the world. We saw that truth in action when we read the article from a comrade in India who shared our military pamphlet with soldiers in Kashmir.

We were part of the collective that wrote the pamphlet. It came out of work that we did, where high school students became communists and went into the military to organize. When they got out, we worked together on the pamphlet.

One of us says, “I became a communist in high school. Because of organizing at school and then going to the Central Valley of California to organize with communists in the fields, I was already a soldier with communist ideas when I joined the US Army.

“I found that my fellow soldiers joined the military for a variety of reasons, but none of them said that they were there to protect capitalism. And we found that many of them were open to communist ideas.

“Military recruiters came to our high school. They told us how great the opportunities were in the military, that we’d get training for a good job, and become a stronger person. But they never told us that we would be there to protect the oil, or defend US imperialism, or that it might cost our lives.

“It’s not such a bad thing that the Army goes into these schools. Where the party has to concentrate more is winning young people to communist ideas. Whether they go into the military or not, they’ll be part of the working class.

“We have to tell them the truth about the military: that it protects the profit system around the world. And give young people the tools to go into the military and talk about communist ideas. But you’re organizing in the bosses’ military. They don’t make it easy.

“Soldiers who are ordered to carry out genocidal attacks on fellow workers like US soldiers in Vietnam and Indian soldiers in Kashmir will be even more open to communist ideas. But just imagine if we expose these recruits to communist ideas before they go into the Army—they’ll think very differently.

“So the job of communist organizers in the high schools is critical; if workers learn communist ideas before they go in, it makes all the difference.”

—Comrades in Los Angeles (USA)

Capitalism's Racist Double Standard for Refugees and Immigrants

FIGHT FOR A COMMUNIST WORLD: NO NATIONS, NO BORDERS

USA, April 14— “While Haitians are being whipped at the US-Mexico border,” exclaimed a comrade, “don’t talk to me about the Ukrainian flag!”

The responses of capitalist and imperialist governments around the world to refugees from the war in Ukraine have exposed their racist hypocrisy. While US/UK/NATO policies provoked this war, they have weaponized the plight of refugees fleeing Russian forces to build support for prolonging the war.

Contrast the Polish government’s open arms to Ukrainian refugees with the water cannons it used in November 2021 to repel mostly Syrian refugees on the Polish-Belarus border.

The US government passed ten thousand Ukrainian refugees across its border with Mexico in two weeks, while those from Mexico and Central America are still waiting. And it has put thousands of Haitian asylum seekers on planes back to Haiti—a country devastated by earthquakes and rent by political violence.

Global Refugee Crisis Makes Communist World More Urgent

A worldwide capitalist crisis of wars, famine, earthquakes, drug-gang violence, hunger, and repression has sent refugees and migrants across oceans, deserts, and jungles in the search of a safe haven. Instead of welcoming them, the capitalist rulers have intentionally forced people fleeing for their lives into a journey which is often just as dangerous as the situation they have left.

What a callous and racist response to this crisis on the part of the imperialist powers whose policies created it and whose ruling elites have profited from it! This makes it ever more urgent to fight for a communist world without nations and borders. A world where no worker will ever be seen as a stranger or a foreigner.

UK Government Sends Refugees to Rwanda

The UK government intentionally made the English Channel a dangerous crossing, trying to scare desperate people from attempting it. At least forty-four died last year in that journey—twenty-seven in November alone. Yet people continue to try.

So the UK government announced this week that the Royal Navy will begin to patrol the channel. It will send asylum seekers to Rwanda to have their claims processed. Those accepted “will then be supported to build a new and prosperous life [there].”

Just last year, the UK government was criticizing Rwanda’s human rights record. Now it has decided that Rwanda is the perfect place to “offshore” refugees and asylum seekers. And the Rwandan rulers seem to have turned this into a scam, charging sending governments for the service.

There are already 127,000 refugees from wars in the Central African Republic and Burundi in camps in this overcrowded country. And between



April 16— Hundreds march in Grand Rapids, Michigan (USA) to protest the brutal cold-blooded police murder of Congolese refugee Patrick Lyoya, the oldest son of a family that fled from the violence-torn Republic of the Congo. A police bullet to the back of his head on April 4 shattered Lyoya’s dream of a safe haven. African immigrants face the same brutality and racism African Americans encounter from the police, as well as racist anti-immigrant policies. We don’t ask for “justice” from the racist capitalist bosses. We fight for a communist world without exploitation, racism, sexism, or national borders.



2014 and 2017, Israel sent four thousand asylum seekers there. All but nine left immediately, rejoining the stream of refugees across north Africa, through Libya and across the deadly Mediterranean route to Europe.

Offshoring: Trump’s Policy at the Mexican Border

The US Trump administration put this racist and deceptive policy in place at the US-Mexico border. It signed “safe third country” agreements with the governments of Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico for them to accept asylum seekers from other countries in another. That is, people fleeing violence in Honduras might be sent to Guatemala.

The Trump administration threatened countries to coerce them to sign these agreements. For example, Guatemala signed a “safe third country”

agreement after the US government threatened it with tariffs, a travel ban, and a tax on remittances.

The Biden administration rescinded those agreements. But its primary message to migrants (except Ukrainians) is “don’t come.” Those migrants are fleeing for their lives because of economic and political conditions that US imperialism largely created to make their homes uninhabitable.

The US policy of “expedited removal” against Central Americans pushes migrant families back to their home countries by denying them access to asylum request hearings. The advocacy group Human Rights First tracked over three thousand cases of asylum seekers and migrants who were kidnapped, raped, or attacked after being blocked or expelled to Mexico during the first five months of the Biden administration.

This May Day we see crises around the world. The working class cannot live in the old way. Neither can the rulers govern as they have before.

Now, more than ever, it is time to build the International Communist Workers’ Party and organize for armed revolution to destroy capitalism, its nations, and its borders. One world, one working class, one international ICWP!

Workers have no nations. Let’s fight for a communist world that welcomes everyone everywhere!

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