

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST WORKERS' PARTY  WWW.ICWPREDFLAG.ORG



Working-class students in Delhi, India, October 2023

INDIA: COMMUNIST GARMENT WORKERS ORGANIZE GAZA SOLIDARITY ON THE JOB

BENGALURU (India), December 29— The garment worker collective here was very moved by the letter from Gaza. We decided to distribute *Red Flag* in our neighborhood and ask people to donate to support our work in Gaza. We went to the homes of regular readers. People were eagerly waiting for the *Red Flag* because workers were familiar with the war in West Asia (Palestine/Israel).

As soon as our neighbors saw the Gaza letter on the first page, they started reading it. Usually, when we distribute RF, most people say they will read it during the week. Some people were in tears as they read the letter. Without even realizing it, they grabbed whatever money they had and put it in our can as a token of their support.

"This is communism, comrade. I did not know you have such people in your party," said a woman who has worked in the garment factory for five years. "I don't have a lot of money, but what I have here, is going to help people like you. I know comrade Hamza is our comrade."

We asked her to join our Party that fights directly for communism. She said, "I am thinking about it seriously.

The letter from comrade Hamza has touched my heart." We had similar responses from most of our regular readers.

This is the first time we have asked people to contribute to *Red Flag*. We learned that we can truly rely on the masses. The workers are struggling to have two meals a day, but they opened their hearts to a communist cause. We will ask workers to contribute regularly because it always leads to a much deeper discussion about the need to end imperialist wars with communist revolution.

I was so encouraged by the heartwarming response in my neighborhood that I decided to take another step. I work in a small garment shop of about 150 workers. I have nine regular readers. We all decided to read the Gaza letter to everybody in the shop during our lunch period. The workers not only gave us money, but they are talking about communism as the only solution.

It is perhaps a small step. But there are many comrades in our collective engaged in similar struggles at their workplaces. We will get their report later.

We are on the path to building a mass party.

EL SALVADOR: YOUNG WORKERS LEAD ICWP INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

EL SALVADOR, December 30— "What does it mean to be a member of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP)? What are the functions? I am not going to say I am a member of the Party and stand idly by," asked a worker during the International Communist Conference.

"You have to participate in the discussions in the collectives, organize and be part of the political activities," a comrade responded. "This leads to a growth of knowledge of the communist line, creating the conditions for building a mass party."

Creating a base in each factory is essential to establish communist relations among the men and women workers.

"We are not born communists, we become

communists," said another comrade worker. "We are all part of a process. We are developing. This conference is an opportunity for that. The young people who are here must continue this struggle. We are going to win. We cannot give up! Political work awaits us, to continue strengthening ICWP."

This conference was a success in many ways. We improved the attendance on previous years, with eighty comrades participating. Many young workers from four factories in El Salvador actively participated in the discussions. So did comrades from the US, India, Mexico, South Africa, Honduras, Spain, and Costa Rica.

We began by stating that we find ourselves in

a deep crisis of capitalism, growing fascism, and wars between the imperialists for resources, territories, and markets. The genocide in Gaza shows the horror of capitalism. All this makes the unity of the international working class to fight for a communist world necessary and urgent.

We saw a video of the mobilizations of ICWP in several parts of the world. This encouraged greater participation in the future.

The comrades in South Africa, ten young leaders, described their political work at the factories. They asked how to develop collectives within the factories.

A comrade who organizes collectives in the See CONFERENCE, page 2

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EXPANDING WAR IN MIDEAST: COMMUNIST ORGANIZING EVER MORE URGENT

January 3—Over 22,000 Gazan workers and children are known dead, with uncounted numbers buried in rubble. Eighty-five percent of Gazans are refugees.

Five thousand Palestinians were arrested in the West Bank since October 7 and over 320 killed by Israeli troops and settlers. Many more had to flee. Over 1,000 Israelis dead.

Imperialist butchery justified by Zionism's fascist lies!

And it's getting more dangerous daily.

An Israeli strike on January 1 kills a senior

Iranian officer in Syria. Iran vows to retaliate against Israel – or the US.

Iran-backed Houthis in Yemen attack commercial ships in the Red Sea. The US Navy responds by sinking three Houthi ships, killing all on board.

Israeli forces assassinate a Hamas leader and six others in Beirut, Lebanon in a drone attack.

Today, two bombs kill at least 103 Iranians in a procession marking the fourth anniversary of the US assassination of Iranian general Soleimani. Iranian Ayatollah Khamenei promises

a "harsh response."

On one side: Iran and its Hamas, Hezbollah, and Houthi partners with quiet support from Russia and China. On the other: an increasingly isolated Israel and the US.

Will this be the trigger for full-scale World War III? Nobody knows whether it will be this or a Taiwan crisis or something else, but it's coming.

We can only defeat imperialist war and butchery with communist revolution. We need to prepare for that now.

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maquilas of El Salvador responded. "You have to start with two or three and develop relationships with them through *Red Flag*." Comrades in South Africa raised fists in agreement.

Next, a comrade reported emotionally on his experiences organizing in the US Army. "The military report really captured my attention and that of the group in general," a worker commented. "I could observe it, making very clear what we have discussed in the collectives, about the need to organize in the military."

"I am talking with three comrades from the factory where I work," reported a young man. "I want to create a link with them and then I plan to pass *Red Flag* to them." This is an advance because he had previously seen passing the newspaper in the maquila as impossible.

Another comrade said, "We in the factory collectives continue meeting, discussing *Red Flag* articles and making plans to increase distribution and organize more comrades."

A young worker spoke of the importance of the family nucleus knowing about ICWP. "It is a strong support, as in my case, and so is organizing neighbors and workers."

Internal Contradictions Are Primary

We discussed materialism and idealism. A comrade explained the importance of communist philosophy. Dialectical materialism sees internal contradiction as the primary thing for the changes we need.

During this discussion it came out that a major internal contradiction is fear (of repression, of rejection of our ideas). Everyone feels this. We concluded that we can overcome fear with patience and consistency, collectively learning and



using communist practices.

Comrades reported on the Movement of Workers and Farmworkers of Costa Rica (MTC). One concluded: "I am a communist and I need to commit myself more in practice. And I reaffirm it, especially because you had confidence to invite us, respecting our differences, without any kind of conditions on our thinking and practice. My fraternal and militant affection, my respect from my heart, and my fist raised together with you. Thank you, friends in the struggle!"

Finally, in workshops, we discussed three questions about *Red Flag*. One of the good results was the expansion of a group with men and women workers to read and discuss *Red Flag*. There, they will share doubts and resolutions to advance in the organization of a mass ICWP.

We emphasized the importance of *Red Flag* as a revolutionary weapon of struggle, organization, and information. We saw the need to develop more writers, and to increase the distribution of the paper.

As the conference closed, a comrade ICWP leader asked, "Who is going to take the step of becoming part of the Party today?" Four comrades stepped forward to join ICWP's communist ranks: two maquila workers and a health worker from El Salvador, and a teacher from Costa Rica.

Our future, a communist world, is in the hands of comrades like those who participated in this conference.

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

Successful ICWP Conference in El Salvador Reflects Growing Work

Greetings to all ICWP comrades!

We attended the recent annual ICWP conference with my family, accompanying the comrades in communist solidarity.

It was full of participation and inspiration, reflecting the communist struggles. Reports like the one from our comrades in South Africa gave especially important contributions about

their work.

Comrades from Costa Rica and an ex-military comrade gave their reports on how they live day by day in struggle against the capitalists. We maquila workers also reported about the internal and collective struggles that we have, inside and outside the factory.

It was a very dynamic and active conference. I invite all the comrades of the world to keep moving forward and not give up in the struggle. This year we had a good number of new partic-

ipants at the conference and in the party.

This reflects the work that we're carrying out in all the collectives. We have not been silent. We have raised our voices. The boss trembles, the capitalist trembles.

It is time that we rise up more and more. Let's continue forward so that no one can take away our strength and achievements. Comrades, with struggle, we will achieve our goal.

—Comrade Maquila Worker, El Salvador

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ISRAELI YOUTH REJECTS CAPITALIST DIVISIONS: “I AM A DIFFERENT PERSON NOW”

ISRAEL, December 31— “I grew up in a staunch Zionist family in Jerusalem,” Adam told a comrade in Israel. “At 18, I wanted to join the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). I was rejected because I had serious medical conditions. Then I joined a conservative Jewish seminary, and by chance I met a Palestinian man who worked in the seminary farm.”

“For the first time in my life, I met a Palestinian man,” Adam continued. “I assumed he was a terrorist out to get me. This is what we are told in Israel. He had finished his work and was frantically trying to get home 6 km (3.6 mi) away on the other side of the border. He said it would take him four hours.”

When Adam saw the Palestinian worker the next day, he asked why it would take four hours to reach home. The farmworker explained that he had to cross at least half a dozen checkpoints. At each checkpoint, he would be interrogated and humiliated. He would stand in long lines to board the next bus. All the checkpoints are heavily guarded with automatic weapons and cameras. And even after crossing the border, he would be harassed in his own house by the Zionist IDF. He said this happens every day.

Adam could not believe this. He decided to cross the border with his Palestinian acquaintance. When he reached the occupied West Bank after four hours of grueling interrogations, he felt his life would be in danger because he had been told that the Palestinians were terrorists. Instead, he was welcomed. People offered him food. He

decided to spend the night there. A stranger offered him a place to stay.

Adam said that night in the house of a complete stranger changed his life forever. If a Palestinian worker asked for a place to spend a night in a Zionist neighborhood, they would be lucky to be alive. Adam said that spending eight hours surrounded by Palestinians broke down all those barriers that capitalism has created. He felt an immense sense of solidarity.

“I spent one day in the occupied territory and saw how much repression they are facing,” Adam said. “I cannot believe that this has been happening for 75 years. We need to eradicate this inhuman way people are forced to live.”

The Israeli comrade told Adam that if Israeli and Palestinian workers joined in a fight for communism, it would inspire millions of workers around the world who are outraged by the horrors Israel has created in Gaza. He shared the letter in *Red Flag* from a comrade from Gaza.



Tel Aviv (Israel), December 30—Hundreds defied fascist wartime restrictions in an anti-government protest, with signs saying: “Corruption and lawlessness. Fire him now!” “1400 on your watch. Abandoning the hostages. Down With the Government” “It’s not just Netanyahu – Jews and Palestinians need to unite to end the Zionist government, all capitalism and imperialism. Communism will free us from all wage slavery and division.”

Adam said, “I want to learn more about communism,” Adam replied. “If a person like me, brought up as a staunch supporter of Zionism, can change his outlook by peeking into the life of Palestinians for a few hours, I know that it is ruthless capitalism that has separated us. I will do everything in my power to smash this ghastly system. I am a different person now.”

With comrades like Adam and Hamza, our party is becoming a beacon of our bright communist future.

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ICWPREDFLAG@NYM.HUSH.COM

Organizing for Communism in the Military: Necessary and Possible

I recently attended an international party meeting where a US Army veteran comrade gave an excellent report about his accomplishment in organizing in the military. He followed it with a presentation about the Israel/Palestine conflict.

The comrade mentioned the possibility of organizing soldiers in Hamas’s armies and soldiers in the Israeli Army with our communist politics. I just want to say that this is absolutely possible. In fact, it will always be a necessity to organize inside the armies of all capitalists around the world, including the US military. Organizing in the barracks is difficult, but it is possible.

I remember the first time I told my roommate in the US Army barracks that I was a communist. Every day we would have breakfast at the mess hall. After many political conversations and breakfasts (and because we were roommates) I finally told him I was communist. He started reading our literature, and the relationship went to a higher level.

After this moment, I was more confident to talk about communism with other buddies in my unit and friends. By the end of the year, with the help of our party’s military collective, we were able to fly three of my soldier friends to the May Day March in Washington DC.

If this is possible, we can infiltrate other armies. ICWP has a rich history of organizing in the military. We continue to organize soldiers today.

During this international meeting, I also learned that comrades in South Africa are strategically politicizing and organizing their military friends. This is truly inspiring because

the reality is that it will take an international Red Army to destroy capitalism once and for all.

Who makes up the military? Soldiers are the sons and daughters of the working class. It is these soldiers that are trained to operate their machines and shoot their weapons. Clearly it is possible for working class soldiers to turn the guns around for communist revolution.

—Red Army Veteran

Building Communist Relationships Across the Capitalists’ Borders

I send you my cordial greetings, comrades. As a new member of this group of comrades, I want to say that I felt very good and supported by your ideas at the conference. I learned to share with different comrades from El Salvador and other places. I met other comrades via zoom.

It was a very beautiful and pleasant experience in which you learn to interact with comrades from other countries, and present ideas with a single purpose. Our purpose is to destroy capitalism and raise the “*Red Flag*” high and say, “Yes we can do it, comrades, with this revolutionary struggle from day to day.”

Personally, I say, “Up with *Red Flag*, up with communism! Let’s keep fighting, comrades, for a world where there are no borders, united by the same ideology with knowledge to defeat capitalism. We men and women workers will overcome fear and, united massively, we will be strong.

Thank you for this new experience and the opportunity to share with comrades from different countries.

—Comrade Charlie in El Salvador

One International Communist Workers’ Party

I feel very happy to be here at the conference for the third time. Here I can feel the solidarity of communist camaraderie, sharing with international comrades. We see that for our party there are no borders. We are all united by the same struggle.

By sharing ideas and experiences, we see that we all face the same struggles against sexism, against social injustice, which is full of discrimination and exploitation of our class.

I have grown and learned a lot in this conference. I see that we must put communist relations into social practice by working collectively to understand the struggle and how to achieve a communist revolution that will defeat this capitalist system. We will only achieve this by being members of the ICWP, and with a constant struggle.

—Comrade in El Salvador

An important article and several letters are WEB only this issue due to lack of space.

Israeli Refuseniks Should Turn the Guns Around

Letters:

ICWP Conference: “We have a world to win!”

Resolving Contradictions, Becoming a Communist

We Are One International Working Class

ICWP Comrade and CSU Striker Share Experiences

See: icwpredflag.org

MASS ANTI-GENOCIDE PROTESTS SCARE US RULERS: THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK!

LOS ANGELES (USA), December 20—“US Congress grilled three university presidents about ‘antisemitism’ on their campuses,” a comrade explained to a young protester on Human Rights Day. “They want them to label as ‘antisemitic’ and ban groups like Students for Justice in Palestine and Jewish Voices for Peace for calling for a ‘Free Palestine.’”

“Wow,” said the protester. “This is like McCarthyism!”

“It’s like Nazi Germany. In the early stages of fascism, Jewish and other anti-fascist teachers were expelled from teaching,” answered the comrade, giving her *Red Flag*. They exchanged contact information.

The US imperialists face the loss of their empire to their rising Chinese and Russian rivals. They are panicking at the sight of multi-racial youth massively demonstrating against the US-backed Israeli government’s genocide in Gaza. The word “revolution” is common.

These rulers need a loyal, patriotic work force and military to fight their coming wars, including World War III against their rivals. So, they are striking back.

US universities were founded as capitalist institutions. Billionaires make sure they stay that way. Billionaire investment banker Bill Ackman has attacked Harvard’s first Black Woman President, Claudine Gay, as a “Diversity hire.” This is a racist dog whistle meaning that she got the job because she’s black, not because she’s qualified. The real reason is that he doesn’t think she has come down hard enough on students demonstrating against genocide.

She was forced to resign, despite faculty support, over made-up charges of plagiarism over two decades ago. Before and since the hearing, she has faced disgusting racist slurs. This racism is in the service of US imperialism: to support the genocide in Gaza and to intimidate other educators who oppose it.

For months, rich donors to the University of Pennsylvania campaigned against the President

and Chair of the Board. Amid pro-Palestinian demonstrations, donors threatened to withhold tens of millions of dollars. Ross Stevens threatened to take back his \$100 million contribution. Penn’s Wharton Business School Advisory Board demanded a change in leadership.

All because Penn’s President refused to sanction, expel, or fire students or faculty who condemned the genocide in Gaza.

Just as the Nazis did, the capitalist billionaires need to tighten their control over their universities. They conspire to guarantee ideological control of the working class and middle class, who they complain have become too “anti-racist” and “pro-socialist.”

They want to fire teachers who criticize Israel’s Zionist government and the world’s imperialists’ complicity in racist genocide. They want to outlaw student groups like Students for Justice in Palestine for “antisemitism.” This group welcomes all students, including Jews, who oppose Israeli government racism against Palestinians.

US rulers and their lackeys want to make it a crime to say that Zionism is fascist, that the Israeli government is fascist and is committing genocide. That the US government is complicit in genocide. The US House of Representatives recently passed a resolution asserting the lie that anti-Zionism is antisemitic.

Teachers can/will be fired for opposing this. “Democracy” is actually the dictatorship of capital over all of us. The universities belong to the capitalists. They dictate what is taught and researched according to capitalism’s needs. Universities MUST toe the capitalists’ line.

Well-intentioned demands for the university



New York, 2017—Fordham University students protest banning of Students for Justice in Palestine.

to divest from imperialism won’t work. We can’t reform universities to meet the masses’ needs. They exist to serve capitalism-imperialism!

We cannot allow calls for genocide of Jewish or Palestinian or any other group of workers. However, genocide can only be stopped permanently by a workers’ communist revolution! ICWP mobilizes the masses of workers, soldiers, students, and youth to end capitalism-imperialism and build a society where education and work collectively meet the masses’ needs.

In the place of capitalist universities, we’ll have life-long learning that combines work and study for everyone. We will tear down the capitalist division between “mental” and “manual” labor. Communist education will encourage everyone to develop to their full potential to meet the masses’ needs. No more hierarchy of degrees, titles, and certificates that now divides us.

Collectivity will replace competition. We will share our knowledge. No one will live better or worse than another. All will receive what they need and contribute to the collective what they can based on commitment and ability. That is Communism. Join us!

FROM RESISTANCE TO COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

The word “revolution” is common among the masses demonstrating against genocide in Gaza. Many are thinking about what that means—and even if revolution is possible.

Questions about revolts in the US armed forces during the Vietnam War (1955-1975) come up repeatedly. Educator friends have asked comrades for more information. Demonstrators have spent a long time with comrades trying to figure out how this history relates to the current catastrophe. Long debates have taken place in coffee shops where staff and customers read *Red Flag*.

The US imperialists have done their best to hide this history. Their media censors the revolts of US soldiers when comparing today’s resistance to the Gaza genocide to events during the Vietnam war.

Almost every section of the US Army, Air Force, and Navy witnessed major revolts during the Vietnam era. Several comrades now in ICWP helped organize these revolts.

In 1971, the Armed Forces commissioned a report on the loyalty of the troops. It concluded that 47% of the soldiers were either resisting orders or in outright revolt. Over 700 officers were killed by fragmentation grenades thrown by rank-and-file soldiers. The army had to set up special sites to test whether officers were killed

by Vietnamese National Liberation Front bullets or by US soldiers.

General Westmoreland oversaw the invading US troops. He ended up pleading with then-President Nixon to withdraw the troops. He was afraid masses of them would turn the guns around.

Lessons from the Vietnam War Era Open Doors to Communist Revolution

This history provides a useful weapon against nationalism and pacifism. It has helped change the direction of our discussions with demonstrators, *Red Flag* readers, and friends from anti-war resistance to the need and potential for outright communist insurrection.

This is the first time that some friends have considered the strategy of organizing within the armed forces.

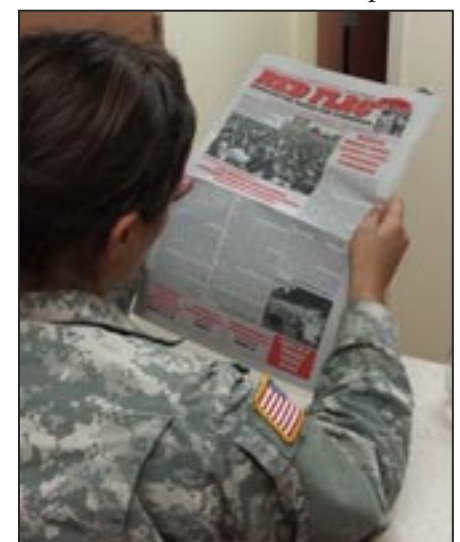
“I thought joining the army was against everything I stood for,” said a college student. Now she is rethinking it from a communist perspective.

At the recent ICWP conference in El Salvador, two comrades who are more recent US Army veterans told how they introduced communism to fellow soldiers. They also called for comrades and friends to join the military work.

The US armed forces are not the only military with a history of insurrection. Nearly every cap-

italist army has seen revolts, often with active communist participation. Working-class soldiers were key to major revolutions. International fraternization among the troops paved the way to those victories.

The more we expose this weakness of the imperialists, the easier it is for masses to see that a new communist world is indeed possible.



- Read our pamphlet:
- **SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES:**
- **CRUCIAL TO A COMMUNIST**
- **WORKERS’ REVOLUTION**
- Available at:
- icwpredflag.org/mpe.pdf

Confronting Climate Change and Imperialist War

WORKERS' INTELLIGENCE, NOT AI, WILL CREATE THE COMMUNIST WORLD WE NEED

An existential threat to all life on Earth grows relentlessly. Climate change melts glaciers in the Himalayas and the Alps. It creates unpredictable hurricanes, floods, and fires worldwide. It drives to extinction species that are critical to life on earth.

Meanwhile, capitalists send workers to die and kill each other in Russia, Ukraine, Palestine/Israel, and many other conflicts.

Capitalist rulers try to distract us with contrived election campaigns, inflation, deflation, and interest rates. With the usual drivel of Christmas shopping. With fake climate conferences like COP28, dominated by fossil fuel industries. And now with the alleged wonders and future economic value of artificial intelligence (AI).

The fanciful – if not insane – lie of liberal and neo-liberal economists is that free market capitalism can “innovate” and “disrupt” and magically reverse the fundamental laws of physics. By simply creating “carbon markets,” they say, we can challenge the laws of thermodynamics and continue consuming like there’s no tomorrow.

By shifting from fossil fuels to less energy-dense materials (also mined from the bowels of the earth) we can continue to amass cars for eight billion people, many of whom are starving. We can drive to our heart’s content because we won’t emit as much pollution. Most cars today are 50% plastic, made from the byproducts of fossil fuels.

They tell us we can safely ignore the horrors of child labor in the mines in Africa and elsewhere so that the global bourgeoisie can fly and drive to the Alps or Aspen to ski down slopes made with artificial snow because real snow is no longer predictable. Carbon credits, they say, will magically offset pollution.

And where would capitalism be without its technocrat bootlickers who ask us to believe that AI, such as ChatGPT, will magically turn the planet into a science-fiction utopia? ChatGPT is nothing but a statistical sleight of hand. It is a “stochastic parrot” that can predict the next word in a long string with good accuracy.

Its predictive abilities are far better than those of capitalist economists who can predict exactly nothing. But for AI to make its predictions, it must be trained on massive amounts of data. Some data is curated by hand by workers who get paid literally pennies per day. And the training takes enormous amounts of power, enormous amounts of cooling, and enormous amounts of space.

AI model training workloads consume three times more power than standard workloads. In 2022, Google’s data centers alone consumed over fifteen times the electric power of San Francisco’s residential consumption.

A new paper in the journal *Astronomy and Astrophysics* has shown that, at one time, the temperature of Venus was only a few degrees different from today’s Earth. How did Venus become inhospitable? The team’s simulations show how a runaway greenhouse process can turn a livable planet into an inhospitable nightmare in which hundreds of millions will suffer and die for the short-term profit of a few thou-

sand people.

None of this needs to happen. A communist society will exist to fulfill the needs of all people in a sustainable way. It can easily mitigate the inevitable effects of climate change.

Communism can eventually build a society where all sentient beings, using their own intelligence, can live a fulfilling life. Art can thrive without being calculated (not created) by the tech companies for profit. Science can advance for the well-being of all, not by using new AI algorithms for the profits of a few.

To accomplish all of this will need the concerted and synchronized struggle of the international working classes. It requires an international party that truly represents the international working classes. Join us in struggling for revolution to create a better future for generations to come.



Dubai, December 2023—Activists at the COP28 Climate Summit expose links between Big Oil and the Israeli assault on Gaza.

FOR A COMMUNIST WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS

MEXICO, January 2— Human beings have always migrated. However, migration has increased under capitalism. Today, governments want an "orderly and regulated" migration, based on their capitalist production needs.

Confronting an enormous northward migrant flow through Mexico, US Cabinet officials Blinken and Mayorkas and advisor Sherwood-Randall met with the Mexican government of President Lopez Obrador (AMLO). They agreed on regulations to try to contain the wave. Mexican authorities are putting busing thousands to processing centers to apply for travel permits.

Mexican officials used bulldozers on December 28 to clear a migrant tent camp in Matamoros, Mexico near the US border at Brownsville, Texas after Obrador agreed to do more to curb immigration to the US.

The bosses see thousands of strong arms for their factories. We communists see thousands of people with the potential to build a new communist world without borders or exploitation.

More than half the workers in every country work for the capitalists under "informal" contracts. That is, as if we were not their employees. Yet by selling their goods that we make, they only enslave us.

Millions of us are subjected to strenuous working conditions and violence. This is one reason for escaping by migration: looking for better living conditions, the "American dream." Many thousands of families are directly impacted by migration.

With a communist society there will be no need to leave our homes because we will all

have what we need.

In the border cities, the migrants are crowded, and services are insufficient. We need to support migrants and fight xenophobia. Migrants are not the problem. The problem is capitalism. Even if one million migrants stayed in Mexico, the population would increase by less than 1%.

Governments say there is not enough money to support either migrants or locals. But officials and the capitalists they represent line their pockets with money they steal from workers.

Most of us in the world are migrants. Half the people in Latin America live in cities (in Mexico, 79% since 2020). They were expelled from the towns and rural areas by the conditions created by capitalism.

It does not change much whether it is internal or external migration. The human being seeks "better conditions" of life, in other countries or in the metropolises.

The technological development that capital constantly revolutionizes creates, above all, the cultural conditions of coexistence, the moral convictions that make possible a superior humanity.

This not only creates the material conditions for such a superior society. But most importantly the urgent need for a mass communist party that organizes a society without money (abolishing trade relations), without borders, without racism and gender prejudice.

A new communist society where

everyone contributes according to their ability and commitment to the rest and receives according to their needs.

The reformists (possibilists) believe that we wage slaves have to wait for the further development of the productive forces. However, workers only need to want, as Engels said. The wealth that we as a class have produced is enough to provide the above-mentioned superior human life and to basically secure the future.

Across Mexico and worldwide, workers need to become class-conscious and build the mass ICWP to end wage slavery and borders.

Read our pamphlet:

FIGHT FOR THE DAY WHEN NO WORKER WILL BE CALLED A FOREIGNER,

Available at icwpredflag.org/ffde.pdf



Los Angeles, July 2014.

ZIONISM IS A FASCIST IMPERIALIST CREATION (PART 1)

“Zionism isn’t Jewish. Zionism is imperialist,” said a Palestinian man at a demonstration against the Israeli government genocide in Gaza. He gladly took *Red Flag*, saying that we don’t need Jewish capitalists or Palestinian capitalists.

Zionism and Judaism are hugely different things. Zionism is a political ideology and movement. It is the fascist ideology of the Israeli government. Judaism is a religion and ethnicity.

Capitalism uses superficial differences like ethnicities to make workers feel different and divided. Many Jews oppose Zionism, especially with the current genocide in Gaza. Many who support Zionism are not Jews, like Biden, all US and European imperialists, and the right-wing Christian movement.

Zionism is a racist ideology based on nationalism. It lumps “the Jewish people” together, victimized by antisemitic discrimination and genocide. To be safe, they say, they need their “own” nation state.

As with every group, however, there are two classes. Jewish workers and Jewish capitalists have opposing interests - like workers and capitalists worldwide. Our main identity is as members of the international working class. All else is secondary. Jewish workers have more in common with Palestinian workers than with any capitalist-imperialist.

Zionism has been used to justify and conduct ethnic cleansing, mass expulsions, and genocide against Arabs and Palestinians. Israel’s army is today conducting genocide in Gaza and abetting murders in the West Bank. Its generals are just like the Nazi generals who murdered Jews in the Warsaw ghetto.

Socialism (later, Communism) versus Nationalism

After the 1789 French revolution, socialist ideas spread among many, including European Jews. Especially after the racist pogroms that began in the 1820s.

As the Ottoman empire decayed, nationalism and capitalist nation-states developed globally. Nationalism helped convince workers to serve the capitalists as wage slaves and soldiers. Zionist and other nationalist ideas were pushed in opposition to socialist and communist ideas and movements.

Some Jews, mainly Jewish capitalists like garment bosses, became Zionists. Theodor

Herzl, an Austro-Hungarian Jewish journalist, founded modern Zionism as a political organization in 1897. He claimed that European Jews couldn’t be safe without their “own” nation state. After considering alternatives, Zionists chose Palestine, an Ottoman-controlled province.

Jewish capitalists funded Herzl. He knew that a Jewish state could only exist in Palestine by displacing people who already lived there.

He lied about this. He never mentioned Palestinians in public while planning their displacement privately with fellow Zionist leaders.

This nationalist/racist project represented only the interests of Jewish capitalists and British, Russian, French, and, later, US imperialists. It never represented the interests of any Jewish, Palestinian, or other workers.

In contrast, the socialist Bund in Russia represented tens of thousands of Jewish workers. They hated the Zionists.

In 1903, Herzl visited Russia after a pogrom there. He met with leaders of the Czarist government. He told them to support Zionism to “end the revolt and the defection to the socialists.” A Czarist official answered, “you are preaching to a convert.” He approved publication of a Zionist daily newspaper.

Herzl also wrote to the German Kaiser asking him to support Zionism to stem the growth of revolutionary parties “even though it has to be a carefully kept secret.”

Before Herzl, prominent non-Jews backed Zionism. Evangelical Christian politician Earl Shaftesbury advocated the Jewish colonization of Palestine. British imperialism used Zionism to lend moral legitimacy to its plans to dominate the oil-rich Middle East. Shaftesbury was antisemitic. He opposed Jewish participation in the British parliament.

Britain had eyed the Ottoman Empire well before World War I. In 1915 the Sykes-Picot



Tel Aviv (Palestine/Israel)—1970s Members of Matzpen (Compass), a socialist organization, made up of Jews and Palestinians, protest against the occupation, against expanding settlements, and for Arab-Jewish unity against the Zionist government after the 1967 war. The sign in Hebrew reads: “Down with the Occupation!”

Agreement planned how British and French imperialists would divide it up after the war.

Britain was then the top imperialist. Its empire reached from Cape Town to Cairo in Africa. In Asia, it controlled much of southern Iran through the Anglo Persia oil company as well as the whole Indian subcontinent. Palestine, at the mouth of the Suez Canal, was the strategic connection between these two parts of the British Empire.

The Balfour Declaration of 1917 helped British capitalists use Zionism to advance their imperial plans. It pledged to establish a “national home” for Jewish people in Ottoman Palestine. Only 6% of Palestine’s population was then Jewish! The Balfour Declaration never mentioned the Palestinians. Chaim Weizmann, president of the British Zionist Federation, lobbied for this declaration.

In 1922 the League of Nations gave Britain the “mandate” to govern Palestine and create a “Jewish National Home.” Zionism had become an official arm of British imperialism. “Jewish Palestine” was intentionally created to “be a safeguard to England, in particular with respect to the Suez Canal,” Weitzman explained.

NO capitalist nation helps any worker anywhere. Workers have no nations. They all belong to the capitalists.

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Nanjing Holocaust: Imperialist Attack on the Working Class

December 13th was a very solemn anniversary in China and for the international working class. On that day in 1937, Japanese imperialists captured Nanjing, then the capital of the Republic of China. They brutally slaughtered tens of thousands of working-class brothers and sisters there.

An estimated eighty thousand women were subjected to dehumanizing and often fatal sexual violence. Some were mutilated by the Japanese military. The invading army grabbed many children from their parents’ hands and smashed or stabbed them to death. In some cases, Japanese soldiers even forced Chinese family members to commit incestuous acts.

Six weeks after the massacre began, more than 300,000 of our working-class siblings in Nanjing had been massacred. One third of the city had been destroyed by arson and looting. Japanese soldiers had broken into almost

every building.

The Nanjing Holocaust and other crimes against humanity committed by the capitalist-imperialists serve as a wake-up call for the working people of the world to unite and fight for communism. History is already repeating itself in Gaza. Israeli fascists are committing the exact same genocidal acts against Palestinian working-class civilians as the Japanese fascists had done to Chinese working people from 1931 to 1945.

Capitalist-imperialists profit immensely from genocidal racist wars like these. Their education system, media, and police forces all serve the interests of the capitalist ruling class. Capitalists constantly use these to divide the working class and win people of our class to the capitalist side. The indoctrinated civilians end up fighting for the capitalists and killing civilians of the same class on the other side.

More than eighty years after the Nanjing Holocaust, many Chinese have been demand-

ing a sincere apology from the Japanese government for past war crimes. But we know this will never work. Like all the other capitalist rulers, the Japanese capitalists hide the reality of capitalism from the masses to keep the masses divided.

The capitalists know that a united working class means the end of their days of exploiting and oppressing workers. Only a worldwide communist revolution will forever end all oppression, exploitation, and genocide. Then genocidal massacres such as the Nanjing Holocaust will never repeat again.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE! WE HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT OUR CHAINS OF OPPRESSION!

DOWN WITH ALL CAPITALIST-IMPERIALISTS!

COMMUNISM WILL WIN! LONG LIVE THE COMMUNIST REVOLUTION!

—Comrade Chan, a new ICWP comrade

STRIKING TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND WORKERS WELCOME COMMUNIST SIGNS, LEAFLETS, RED FLAG

LOS ANGELES (USA), December 6 – Teachers and workers in the California State University system held a series of one-day strikes over pay and working conditions. Cal State LA students had previously protested a planned 36% tuition increase. The strikers and supporters enthusiastically welcomed ICWP members on the picket line with signs denouncing genocide in Gaza and the attacks on the workers and students and calling for communism.

Among about a thousand participants, over 350 took *Red Flag* and 500 took leaflets. Some asked for extra copies. Some stopped to talk. About ten gave us their contact information. Two teachers we had known before, but hadn't seen recently, welcomed us. They promised to get together after the holidays to "catch up."

Our leaflet anticipated this openness to communist ideas. It said that the 2023 strike wave showed that the US is entering a pre-revolutionary period. It described three preconditions for revolution listed by VI Lenin, a leader of the Russian Revolution.

First, the masses can't live in the old way. As capitalism's crisis intensifies, dragging down workers' living standards even more, workers will question capitalism and become more rebellious. Untold number of youth already identify themselves as socialists, anarchists, and communists.

Second, the rulers can't rule in the old way. In their drive to WWII against the rising China-Russia-Iran imperialist bloc, they will intensify the exploitation of the masses, creating tremendous anger, rebellions, and revolutionary potential. They will need fascism to ruthlessly put down these rebellious masses. This is already starting: see the article "The Empire Strikes Back."

Third, there must be a revolutionary communist party with a base in the working class, especially among industrial workers and soldiers,

capable of leading the revolution. This one is in our hands. It requires us to mobilize the masses for communism, and nothing less. To explain what communism is, take on anti-communism, and discuss the need for a mass party worldwide.

Capitalism-imperialism in this historic period can only go in one direction – as Gaza and Ukraine show – towards greater, more destructive and genocidal wars. No matter what the US imperialists do to those who dare teach the truth, the masses will not switch from repudiating the genocide to supporting it.

Capitalism will never bring about peace. Collectively we can abolish the capitalists' competition and resulting inevitable wars for profit by fighting for a communist world. That's the only way forward for humanity.

Moving Forward: Building Communist Relationships

After the student demonstration, we met separately with two students and a teacher for longer conversations. We explained why we fight directly for communism. We have been in touch with them since then. We're getting to know each other.

We talked with one about why we need a party and why ICWP is that party. He's reading our literature and wants to keep talking.

The teacher asked for information about Epifanio Camacho, a communist farmworker organizer. He plans to invite comrades to his class to tell students Camacho's story and to expose Cesar Chavez' anti-immigrant racism.



Several other teachers live and teach outside LA. They are excited that we plan to visit them to talk about ICWP. They are active in the teachers' struggle and against the genocide in Gaza.

One showed the paper to a neighbor and said he liked it. She also offered it to another teacher who said he already had it and was in touch with us. They liked our article "The Empire Strikes Back" and showed it to other teachers.

We have talked with others who are enthusiastic about our literature. We are inviting them to meet with us, to learn about communism and spread the fight for it by joining or building an ICWP collective.

Another series of one day strikes will start on January 22, on all 23 CSU campuses. We plan a communist presence with a leaflet, signs, and more comrades and friends, to build ICWP and the fight for communism. Join us!

Read our pamphlet:
COMMUNIST EDUCATION FOR A CLASSLESS SOCIETY
Available at:
icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf

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Amid Tsunami of Capitalist Crisis...Fight for Cooperation, Not Competition

The party leaflet regarding the strike at Cal State claimed that this is a pre-revolutionary period, that we cannot live in the "old way". I agree we are definitely headed that way.

But I think the other side of Lenin's construction – "the rulers cannot rule in the old way" – is the primary driver today. That is, inter-imperialist rivalry, war, proxy or otherwise, Russia/China versus US, is changing all our lives dramatically.

The US-provoked Russian invasion of Ukraine is a turning point. This war, along with BRICS+ and significant de-dollarization/debt are creating desperation in disintegrating capitalism – in the "West". The rulers are counterat-

tacking relentlessly with inflation, unemployment, austerity, debasing culture and alienating ethos. Their system does not work. It cannot work. No longer. Not at this time in history. Gaza is an extension, a double exclamation point!!

We are living a tsunami of world capitalism in dire crisis. The masses must be convinced that there is only one way out – communist revolution. Nothing less, nothing else offers hope for the future.

We must hammer away at the prison that is competition – to smash it with the burning desire for cooperation.

Capitalism is based on hierarchy, competition to be the "best", the "smartest", the richest. This ultimately and absolutely inevitably leads to imperialism and war.

We fight for unity and equality. We fight for the masses, not the few "winners" – who only succeed at the door of others' misery. Down with the parasites! No masters! No experts!

How to make our flyers and agitation more communist? The key is the difficult question of competition/cooperation. Capitalism praises, "I'm better than you" thinking. We know the opposite is the story of human history and the future of humanity.

A strike for reforms, wages, less parking fees or tuition won't get us there. But the act of striking, of uniting as one, fighting as one, learning as one, puts our class on the road to communist revolution.

I am excited to follow our young comrades in this struggle. Many others are also watching.
Older Comrade

CAPITALISM'S "DIVIDE AND RULE" from page 8

The language of "settler colonialism" lumps them together with wealthy enslavers who got rich from the labor of both enslaved Africans and poor whites.

Talking about "settler colonialism" hides the true history of multiracial/multiethnic solidarity and class struggle. This history – including the Newport News strike – points to the possibility of a united working-class com-

munist revolution.

Black and white workers and sailors led protests in colonial America against the Stamp Act in the 1760s. Black and white dock workers, citizens and immigrants, shut down the Ports of New Orleans in 1892 and Philadelphia in 1913. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, veterans, tenant farmers and sharecroppers, housewives and unemployed workers, steel and auto

workers of all "races/ethnicities" fought side-by-side in struggle after struggle throughout the US.

We are one working class. The rulers have worked for centuries to divide us. Communism will eliminate the material base for racism and all other divisive ideologies and practices by ending the wage system. The fight against racism and nationalism and for communism is one fight. United, we will win!

History Shows We Can Defeat Capitalism's "Divide-and-Rule"

LET'S UNITE TO FIGHT FOR A COMMUNIST WORLD

In July 1967, at the height of the Vietnam War, three thousand Black and white workers building Navy ships at Peninsula Shipyard in Newport News, Virginia (USA) walked out in a wildcat strike. They defied an injunction, fought strikebreakers, and flipped over a squad car. Joined by their families, they looted the blood-sucking pawn shops surrounding the shipyard.

Black workers who had been deprived of state medical care and a university education joined with white workers. These workers had grown up in the Jim-Crow South. They had been forced to attend segregated schools, ride in segregated buses, and drink from segregated water fountains. This strike broke the barriers that separated them. Workers in the former capital of the enslavers' confederacy now joined together to fight as one working class.

Their militant class consciousness built on massive opposition to the US war on Vietnam and on the civil rights movement and urban rebellions of the 1950s and 1960s. It is one of many such chapters in the history of sharp multi-racial class struggle in the United States.

Indentured Laborers in England's North American Colonies

Most of the first English settlers were poor. Masses of people had been forced off their land by the rise of capitalist agriculture and were homeless in the cities. The English rulers worried about what they called the "burden of the poor" and "ruffianlike disorder." They hanged thieves and sentenced beggars to "transportation" to the colonies. Hundreds of thousands of landless farmers sold themselves into indenture (limited-term slavery) for a chance to survive on the land that England was stealing from Indigenous people.

Rich colonists got title to land for bringing over people who they forced to work for them for (usually) seven years. Laborers who survived got a gun and some supplies. They were told to move west and try their luck at stealing farmland



Newport News Virginia, July 1967

from the Native population.

Recruiting settlers from the rebellious poor of England to use as cheap labor and shock troops in the genocide of native Americans. This was the English rulers' strategy. It created sharp divisions between rich landowners and the landless poor in the colonies. It pitted the poor settlers against Indigenous people. Poor farmers were won to fight the Native people, rather than their colonial overlords.

The Africans brought in chains to Virginia in the 1600s often worked side by side with English indentured laborers. They loved, ran away, and rebelled together. But the rulers created racist lies, customs, and laws to separate us. Soon they made slavery a question of African ancestry.

This is the birth of capitalism. Marx calls it "primitive accumulation." We might call it "start-up capital." Big landlords threw farmers off their land so they could raise sheep. The mass of the population became the "free laboring poor." Africans were enslaved. Native Ameri-

cans were subjected to genocide. As Marx described it, capital comes into the world "dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt."

This Racist System is Capitalism.

The Solution Is Communism

We must call capitalism by its true name. This makes it clear that the capitalist exploiters attack us all. It attacks some of us harder than others, and in different ways. They will continue to do so until we finally end capitalism with communist revolution.

Some people call this "settler colonialism." We disagree. That term keeps us from understanding that basic reality. It regards the English poor, fleeing prison and starvation, as the main agents of oppression of the Indigenous population. The real culprits were their rulers, who established the colonies and forced them to migrate for their own survival.

Poor white farmers were ground down by the need to work cheaper than enslaved people. Most were undernourished and barely surviving.

See **CAPITALISM'S "DIVIDE AND RULE,"** page 7

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India: Kashmir and Manipur Are Like Gaza

My party collective in New Delhi asked me and some other comrades to distribute *Red Flag* regularly in the industrial area. Many immigrants from Kashmir and the Northeast live there. We have done this occasionally. But the letters from the Gaza comrade affected our thinking in a very deep way.

The comrade from Gaza sees a possibility of ending this capitalist carnage by organizing Palestinian and Israeli workers for communism. This is true and applies to our immediate struggle with the workers in Kashmir. The capitalist governments have been ethnically cleansing the Muslim population since 1948 just as in Palestine.

India-administered Kashmir has a population of about 10 million, mostly Muslim workers. India's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government, led by fascist Modi, has intensified attacks on the Muslims. Kashmir is occupied by over a million Indian soldiers, paramilitary forces, and police.

There are frequent extra-judicial killings, torture, imprisonment without trial, and curfews. There are "fake encounters" where police arrest someone for no reason, turn them loose, then kill them for "trying to escape." All this has

created masses looking for a solution.

Similarly, in the North Eastern Region, the fascist BJP has been carrying out ethnic cleansing in the state of Manipur, with over three million people. Churches and mosques are bulldozed. Minority and tribal communities are displaced at alarming rates. Just as in Kashmir, the government has completely cut off internet services to hide the brutal killings taking place every day.

My comrades and I started with a leaflet and *Red Flag* distribution in South Delhi, where there are migrants from Kashmir and Manipur. Even under the watchful eyes of police, we were able to distribute many copies throughout the day. Workers instantly identified with the Gaza genocide. They described similar atrocities that have displaced them.

We extensively discussed the Gaza letter with many workers. They said that many people in Kashmir and Manipur are feeling the same way as the comrade in Gaza.

The only difference is that the Gaza comrade had been reading

Red Flag. That has changed how he sees the future. It is an important lesson for us that consistent distribution of *Red Flag* in Delhi will lead to our literature reaching Kashmir and Manipur.

We were self-critical in not being consistent, but the Gaza comrade is showing us the path for future. We promise to be with the masses in their struggle.

Comrade in Delhi, India



Hyderabad, India: Masses defy fascist Modi government's attempt to stifle pro-Palestine activists and ban protests.