

RED FLAG

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



Nairobi, Kenya, June 23, 2024

KENYA, BENGALURU: YOUTH IN REBELLION

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Dhaka, Bangladesh, July 18, 2024

A RAY OF HOPE: SPREADING COMMUNIST IDEAS AMONG ISRAELI RESERVISTS AND BEYOND

TEL AVIV (Palestine/Israel), July 28— A reservist in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) told comrade S that during a severe heat wave in Gaza, almost all the homes were destroyed and there was very little food and no clean drinking water. “People are living in unhygienic conditions with tons of raw sewage. But IDF brings a portable unit fitted with clean water, ice, shower facilities, full kitchen right in the middle of horrible living conditions. And then they expect soldiers to attack the population of Gaza.”

Many of these reservists are too afraid to disobey IDF orders. But many faint and are unable to carry out those orders. This demoralization is widespread, so IDF relies more and more on drone strikes and air strikes. It tried to bring in only carefully selected staunch Zionist soldiers. But there aren't enough of those.

Comrade S has received *Red Flag* for two years. When the genocide in Gaza unfolded after October 7th, he started to think that greed for energy resources in the Middle East was at the root of everything. He felt that unity of Israeli and Palestinian workers was the only solution. He knew many friends and relatives who used to visit Gaza and the West Bank.

He also started reading *Red Flag* more carefully. Then came a letter from comrade Hamza in Gaza. Comrade S started talking with comrades in the US about organizing ICWP on both sides of the Gaza/Israel border. Such unity with a communist outlook of destroying wage slavery could inspire millions of workers everywhere.

Comrade S started cautiously distributing the *Red Flag* at large demonstrations in Tel Aviv. Because of the many restrictions, cen-

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Auto Workers Confront Impacts of Electric Vehicles and AI

BUILD COMMUNIST COLLECTIVES AND DISTRIBUTE RED FLAG IN THE FACTORIES

CHENNAI (India), July 29— “An electric car has less than 20 moving parts. A typical automatic petrol gas car has about 1,200,000 moving parts. We are looking at millions of job losses by 2030,” said comrade Mohan at an ICWP collective meeting. Chennai, India is becoming a hub of electrical vehicles (EV). The factory where Mohan works is going to be converted into an EV plant. India is aggressively planning to produce 55 million EVs by 2030 compared to 35 million in the US.

A typical petrol car requires frequent servicing, replacements, and expensive repairs employing millions of workers. EVs will eliminate most of these workers. At Mohan's plant, they make crankshaft and transmission engines. When the plants are retooled to manufacture EVs, they will be

making motor shafts which will eliminate 80% of existing workers.

Mohan's coworkers are scared, fearful, angry, and concerned about the future. He distributes RF to some of the 2000 workers. And by now, every reader has seen different articles talking about communism. Mohan said at the collective meeting that he believes that only communism can eliminate profit hungry capitalists, but he feels intimidated by the task. He feels overwhelmed.

But Ramesh, another ICWP member who works in another plant said if he can regularly distribute 20 RFs and have a collective at his place, that could reach out to hundreds more. We need to take the initiative. This collective gives us confidence in what we discuss and read in RF. He gave an example where comrades in El Sal-

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GROWING MIDDLE EAST CRISIS, PAGE 8

PREPARE FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION TO END ALL EXPLOITATION

EL SALVADOR, July 29— “The exploitative boss has no interest in improving the life of the workers. Today you die and tomorrow there is already a replacement. That happened in the factory where I work,” said E. “Production continues. We are the ones who generate the wealth that goes into the pockets of a few, so you have to organize and fight.”

“We workers need to organize against the bosses, in every factory or workplace where we are,” pointed out P, a worker leader. “We must battle against this system that keeps us slaves to their profits. We will only solve this with the Communist revolution.”

“I work in a factory where we have some benefits,” said a worker leader of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP). “They give us basic necessities, a \$15 a week bonus, weekends off, and we don’t get direct insults from the owners. But this is part of their strategy. We are still always enslaved to a wage. They do this to prevent us from organizing and demanding what is fair. The profits are always in the millions for the boss.”

Workers from four factories took part in these conversations during a recent communist political school. Five new participants talked about why they were attending. One said, “We are a couple of workers. My partner and I used to work in the factory where most of the workers here work, but we moved to another factory. We have received the Red Flag newspaper, and we want to learn more.”

Another new comrade said, “There should be laws saying that the wealth and profits generated by

the workers in the maquilas be distributed equitably.” A health care worker pointed out, “We should fight for a system where workers organize for a better life, for a communist system, like the one we all seek.”

J, an industrial worker, said, “It’s hard to believe that we workers can advance factory production. The bosses know how to do that.”

Another worker replied, “We workers are the ones who produce all the commodities, everything of value. The bosses are nothing without us. Put a single machine to produce and you will realize that, by itself, it produces nothing. The profits of the bosses are generated by us.”

“The workers who are here know a lot about political economy,” a comrade commented. “I am only going to try to recall what we have discussed in many communist cell meetings and extended meetings. We must study how the social relations of production come about and

how workers, day by day, are robbed of their labor power by the exploiting boss. How the class struggle is determined on the basis of the bosses’ exploitation.”

In pre-class societies, food and everything that was needed was shared according to the needs at that time. This is a reference point for how it will be in communism, producing collectively for humanity, now using technology.

“As the comrade said, the bosses, as owners of the means of production, cannot ever generate profits from the goods. Because only men and women workers, through our labor power can transform raw materials into goods. The bosses appropriate the use value that the workers have produced and make it an exchange value for their profits.”

“They make us work for a pittance of a wage, not enough to cover the basic food basket to feed our families, and they are millionaires,” pointed out an ICWP worker leader.

“In communism we will produce

what is needed to meet the needs of the working class. But what is communism?” asked a worker who was attending for the first time.

A comrade replied, “I’ll tell you in three words: the wellbeing of the collective. Things are no longer going to be produced for profit but to meet the needs of our class.”

This led us to discuss the need for reading, writing, and distributing Red Flag newspaper. “We need all comrades to read the articles in Red Flag, to write so that other comrades will also read it, and it should be distributed more and more every day.”

“Each one of the families that attend these meetings should encourage the children, young and old, to become part of the Party,” said V, a young worker.

The atmosphere of political discussion felt strong. The sound of nearby ocean waves remind us that although it seems there is no movement in the sea, it does not stop; and underneath the waves, it continues to break rocks.



Palestine/Israel, from page 1

sorship, and possible imprisonment for having our literature, comrade S has found creative ways to spread *Red Flag*.

Comrade S works in the service industry. His team includes many young people. Last November, most of them were deployed in the IDF as reservists. Almost nobody wanted to be deployed. Some escaped and fled to Europe. Others were reluctantly deployed.

Unfortunately, at that time, comrade S was not yet distributing *Red Flag*. He feared the Israeli intelligence forces Mossad, Aman, and

Shin Bet. But as ICWP comrades struggled with him, and as comrade Hamza kept sending letters, he realized that he had to find some way to spread the *Red Flag*. He mentioned that “Schindler’s List” had a lasting effect on him. This movie was about a German who managed to save over a thousand Jewish people from the Nazis.

With the help of some friends in Israel, Comrade S hopes to reach out to the Arab workers who are 20% of Israel’s population, as well as those in the West Bank and Gaza. He is seeing a possibility of giving

leadership to the large-scale dissatisfaction among the soldiers by explaining around our line of building a red army.

With the help of other comrades, his vision of communist unity is becoming a plan.

Read Our Pamphlet:

GENOCIDE IN GAZA DEMANDS COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

**AVAILABLE AT:
ICWPREDFLAG.ORG/GAZA**

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Persistence, Patience, and Communist Relationships:**WINNING TROOPS AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS TO COMMUNISM**

SEATTLE (USA), July 14— “That was a great BBQ. I was so impressed by how multi-racial and multi-generational it was,” said a school worker friend who attended our ICWP summer potluck. “People brought their families and friends, and everyone got along so well, laughing together, but also talking about very important things. It gives me more confidence in what you say about communism.”

We planned this as a follow-up to the “Cancel RIMPAC” activities in San Diego. Many at the BBQ hadn’t yet heard about RIMPAC, the huge military exercise sponsored by the U.S. Navy. To spark discussion, we printed two posters of sailors rebelling against racism and the US war against Vietnam. A half dozen retired Boeing workers, including a Vietnamese couple, were particularly interested. Many were worried about growing fascism and war.

B, who works with young people and distributes Red Flag, wanted more than symbolic activities. Often the politics of “progressive” coalitions underestimate the revolutionary potential of US troops and workers. He wants to build insurrectionary collectives in the US as well as around the world.

B also thinks that limiting efforts to reforming capitalism is a diversion. His view of internationalism includes a path to revolution and anti-racism for workers in the US and globally. The struggle intensified when comrades raised that the only successful revolution would be

communist revolution.

He has many questions about the specifics of organizing in the armed forces. Why are the rank-and-file troops winnable, while the officer ranks are filled with our enemies? Are enlisted or drafted soldiers and sailors part of the international working class?

“There is plenty of revolutionary history in the US,” he declared. “Reaching out to US troops as well as those around the world is the only way to end imperialism.”

Another friend was amazed that so-called left groups still fought over whether sailors and soldiers are winnable.

M, a Seattle friend who was in San Diego for the Cancel RIMPAC event, was glad to meet a dozen ICWP members there. Although he was unable to come to the BBQ, he plans to attend the forum that veterans are organizing to expand our efforts to recruit troops to communism and ICWP.

Opportunities Among Young Industrial Workers

There were many conversations about trade union struggles. Boeing workers will be voting on a new contract on September 12. It has been sixteen years since the last contract vote. This contract fight is taking place during the decline of the US and the growth of Chinese manufacturing power.

Boeing workers and others are aware of how union leadership hides behind a progressive veneer. The group of retired Boeing workers agreed to regular social/political meetings. Current workers from the



shop floor must be included.

“How can we break through this new veneer?” asked a former steward. The consensus was that the industrial workforce has changed. It is younger and more diverse. And potentially very receptive to communist ideas.

The media churn out incessant propaganda that industrial workers are right-wing and unwinnable. That hasn’t been our experience. For example, comrades recently distributed over 150 copies of Red Flag in under an hour at a Boeing gate during shift change.

“F—k corporate capitalism,” exclaimed a Boeing worker who took Red Flag to read at work. He was not the only blue-collar worker who eagerly cursed their bosses, while some gave us their contact information.

B commented that given the geopolitics of fascism and war, we must reach out to industrial workers, much

like we must reach out to troops. Persistence and patience are key to recruiting communist organizers over time.

Discussions and social/political events like the BBQ help us build communist relationships and, as our friend said, “talk about very important things.” The task of communist organizers is to continue these conversations and act on them. That’s how we will win these friends to become ICWP comrades.



Read Our Pamphlet: Soldiers, Sailors, Marines: Key to a Communist Worker's Revolution
Available at: icwpredflag.org/mpe.pdf

Chennai Autoworkers, from page 1

vador are taking a similar approach to expanding their work by relying on new comrades.

Anger, frustration, and fear of future job loss can be converted into the desire for a communist revolution to end the capitalist system. We have about 6 to 8 comrades in our collective. We meet every month to review our work. A comrade brought up another important force that is affecting the automotive industry.

Prior to AI, the industry was completely dependent on manual labour which required a large pool of workers. Robotics, machine learning, and computerized vision

are eliminating many jobs. This AI onslaught on the working class goes beyond the manufacturing process. Many millions of jobs will be eliminated as AI becomes more mature in self-driven cars. Gig workers who rely on transporting workers and supplying meals to fast food chains will be redundant.

A comrade explained that capitalist bosses are always striving for efficiency. They need fewer workers to produce more. They build efficient machinery to achieve this. But only the workers produce a surplus value. Fewer workers will see a drop in the rate of profit. To counter this, the bosses resort to

cutthroat competition to eliminate other capitalists, capturing more markets, creating trade barriers, and eventually physically destroying other countries where there is production.

In India, Tesla cars have 200% duty which forces the Indian capitalists to catch up in the EV technology. The Indian auto manufacturers collaborate with some Chinese companies that offer them joint ventures to share new ways to produce EVs. Vietnam and Thailand are entering the EV markets. With this increasing competition for the next generation of EVs with AI, the automotive industry will produce far more than the markets require.

This inherent need for efficiency

and elimination of the workforce also gives us the potential to change the capitalist system. If Mohan and other comrades in Chennai can organize more collectives that reach thousands of workers with an outlook to end capitalism, it is a significant development that can influence the entire auto industry around the world.

Meeting regularly, distributing RF, and increasing its circulation is the antidote to the hopelessness that the bosses and the union leaders are pushing. To meet this demand our collective recognizes that we have to write and report our work in the pages of *Red Flag*.

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KAMALA HARRIS: IMPERIALIST AGENT, NOT OUR SAVIOR

USA, July 30— The hopes and goals of the dominant section of the US imperialist rulers (“liberals”) are now resting on Kamala Harris. Democratic Party heavyweights quickly supported her candidacy. Liberal celebrities like Beyoncé and Charlie XCX have endorsed Harris through their music, increasing her visibility among millennials and Gen Z voters. Her internet presence has been in part due to young people making memes out of sound bites from her speeches. “I’m voting for Kamala because we can’t let Donald Trump win and she’s a woman,” said one student during a conversation about not voting.

Identity politics and disdain for Donald Trump have led young people to lean into the Democratic Party who have once again fear-mongered their way to gain support against Trump and the newest threat, project 2025.

Black and white women and men have raised millions for Harris’s campaign. They have promised to “push her to the left” once she is elected.

But on July 25 Harris attacked demonstrators against mass murderer Netanyahu as “despicable.” She accused them all of being Hamas supporters and antisemites. These are US imperialist and Zionist lies.

She is now getting funding from major US ruling class finan-

ciers. One is billionaire Jonathan Gray, president of Blackstone (world’s largest alternative asset manager, with over \$1 trillion). Another is hedge fund baron George Soros. Others include Robert Rubin, Goldman Sachs’ former co-chairman and the US Treasury secretary under the Clinton Administration.

These billionaires are putting the interests of US imperialism’s wars for empire in the Middle East and Ukraine, and preparations for war against China, ahead of a possible increase in short term profits they could expect under Trump

For years, the liberals have promised to “push their elected officials to the left.” For example, Obama was elected as a “peace” candidate. As soon as he took office, he sent 100,000 more troops to Afghanistan to escalate the war there.

The results of trying to “push politicians to the left” are deadly imperialist wars, attacks on the international working class, the greatest levels of inequality. The mass-murder, torture, and starvation genocide in Gaza, the murderous war in Ukraine. The intensifying existential crisis of climate change.

Kamala Harris: “The US is not a racist country.”

Harris’s racist record as the San Francisco District Attorney and

later as the Attorney General of California shows she is beholden only to capitalist interests.

While describing herself as a “progressive DA,” she often withheld evidence and then used technical arguments to defend prosecutions in important cases, sending innocent people to prison

When Biden sent VP Harris to Central America to attempt to control the surge of migration to the US, she told immigrants in Guatemala, “Don’t come!”

Harris has shown her true colors about Gaza, toeing the AIPAC (Zionist, US imperialist) line. While recently expressing “sympathy” for the plight of Palestinians in Gaza, she made it clear that she will continue to support Israel. She wants to win the US masses, especially youth protesting the Biden genocide in Gaza, to vote for her and to believe in capitalism.

Instead of voting for any imperialist, we need to mobilize for communist revolution to end capitalism, its genocide, racism, sexism, and imperialism!

Harris’s lip service “sympathy” is meaningless while the US continues to fund, to the tune of \$18 billion so far in 2024, the mass slaughter in Gaza!

US imperialism needs Israel to fend off the three existential challenges it is facing today: Iran-Russia-China imperialist axis gaining

control of the oil rich Middle East; Russia winning the US-NATO-led war in Ukraine, and China growing economic and military power, and influence in the South China Sea. Kamala Harris, like Biden, will escalate preparations for WWII to defend the US empire.

Imperialist war will be at the expense of jobs, food, shelter and the health and well-being of workers in the US and of the international working class! Harris won’t protect workers’ wages and benefits. She will sacrifice them for wider war.

She is not a savior. She is an agent of US imperialism.

To defend the interests of the international working classes, instead of “saviors,” masses of us need to take leadership to organize to collectively destroy capitalism and build a communist world, in which every living being can live a fulfilled life.

It is communism and only communism that will meet all workers’ needs, without money and profit. Without genocide and imperialist war. We do not have too much time as World War III and climate change, caused and fueled by capitalism, ravage the planet.

Join ICWP and organize a collective to fight for a communist revolution and a communist world that will meet the needs of the masses everywhere.

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

NONE OF US ARE FREE UNTIL ALL OF US ARE FREE

Sonya Wilburn-Massey, 36, was a Black woman, churchgoer, daughter, mother. Early on July 6th, she called police, fearing a possible intruder. Officers arrived, asked Massey for ID, and told her to turn off the stove. Massey complied and started to remove a pot of boiling water. The deputies reacted as if threatened. Massey, confused, uttered a phrase often used in the Black church when one feels a situation has gotten out of hand. A deputy took offense, pointed his gun straight at her face, and shot her thrice.

This officer had been on six different police forces in four years. He had been ejected from the US Army for two DUI’s. Perhaps that’s why he is one of the few officers charged with murdering an innocent Black person to be immediately fired. But he will likely be one of the many to receive a lighter sentence because he “feared for his safety.” Why was someone with his history even allowed on the force?

Black people are still being killed by the police. People still call on police for help and end up dead. That’s why people across the US

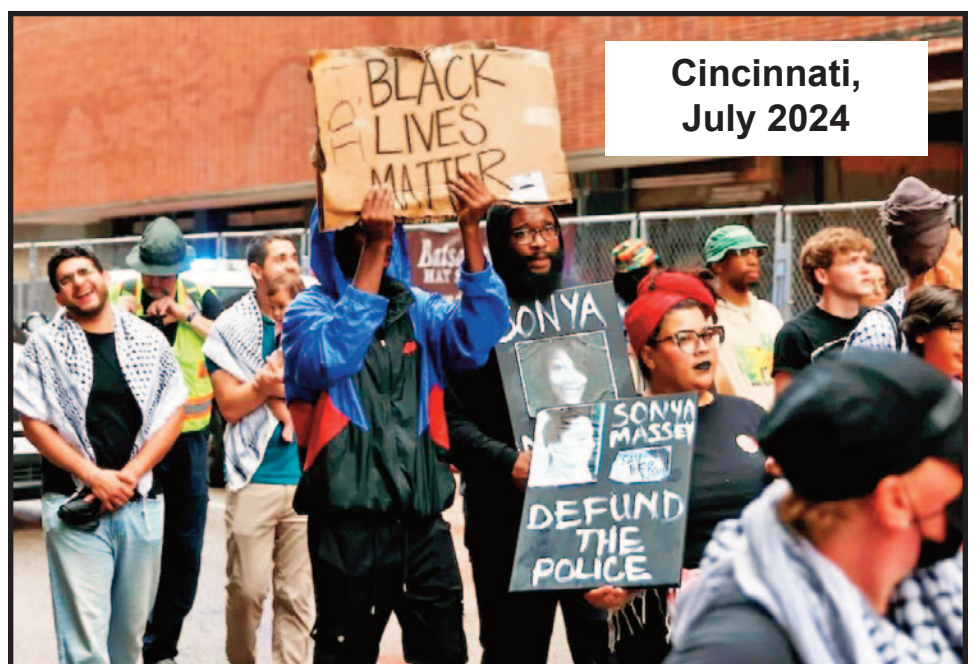
continue to protest Massey’s murder.

“Nobody’s free until everybody’s free.” (Fannie Lou Hamer, 1971) Such phrases are prominent in the movements for Black Lives and for abolishing the US “Justice” system. Many revolutionaries and radicals extend it to Palestine, the global south, and every people interrupted by US capitalist interests.

Most Black and Brown people, and others, understand US killer cops’ obsession with victimhood. In Palestine, it’s understood by innocent men, women, and children called “terrorists” for simply trying to live on land not yet stolen from them by Israeli settlers and soldiers.

This mutual understanding is strengthened because the US government funds the killing of Palestinians by the Israeli government. And when people realize that police forces across the US are trained by those same Israeli forces. This shared suffering is cause for solidarity. That’s why calls for a free Palestine rang out at vigils honoring Sonya Massey.

The problem is deeper than one bad cop or a few bad soldiers. It’s



Cincinnati,
July 2024

that the systems of power do not protect the masses. They protect the interests of those already in power, who consider deaths like Massey’s, and the genocide of Palestinians, to be inconsequential and normal.

Minimally, Black Americans and Palestinians can unite in the interest of staying alive. More profoundly, they and others unite under the realization that the systems that oppress us are almost one and the same and must be dismantled.

—Activist in Los Angeles (USA)

Read Our Pamphlet:
**TO END
RACISM:
MOBILIZE THE
MASSES FOR
COMMUNISM**

Available at:
icwpredflag.org/RP/rpe.pdf

CHINESE NATIONALISM IS A FASCIST IMPERIALIST CREATION (PART I)

China isn't communist. It's imperialist! Chinese nationalism lumps "the Chinese people" together, victimized by anti-Chinese violence and genocides. It is racist, xenophobic, anti-worker, and anti-communist. Like all nationalism, it is against the interests of the Chinese and international working class.

Workers in China rose against President Xi Jinping's arbitrary "zero-COVID" policies in 2022. The Chinese imperialists and nationalists libeled them as part of the "foreign anti-China forces who sought to destabilize China."

These protests were never reported by the Chinese rulers' media. During November 2022, hundreds of migrant textile workers in Guangzhou broke through lockdown barriers. They breached checkpoints, marched through the streets, and fought with local health authorities.

Foxconn factory workers protested massively against strict measures that affected the wages and living conditions of newly hired workers.

Weeks later, a fire in the Xinjiang capital of Urumqi killed at least ten civilians. It sparked the main wave of protests across China. Many believed that the victims had been trapped by a COVID lockdown. Many protesters belonging to the majority Han Chinese ethnic group joined with people of other ethnic and religious groups against the authoritarian fascist regime.

Chinese nationalism argues that the Chinese people have suffered so much from imperial domination that they need a "great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation by defeating foreign anti-China forces and their backers."

It exploits the memories of horrific tragedies, such as the 1937 Nanjing Holocaust and the era of European and Japanese imperialist domination of China from 1839 to 1949. That is meant to justify its own imperialist expansion, cultural repressions, and anti-worker, nationalist hate and violence.

Chinese nationalists paint all Chinese workers and Chinese capitalists as victims. It promotes the false beliefs that "the world is always against the Chinese, that there are anti-China insults and incidents everywhere, foreign anti-China forces are always seeking to destroy China."

As everywhere, however, there are two classes. Chinese workers and Chinese capitalists have nothing in common. The so-called "national interests" are just the interests of the capitalist-imperialist ruling class, never the workers' interests.

The Chinese and international capitalists have created nations, nationalism, and borders. This is to divide and control the working masses and to advance the imperialist ruling classes' interests. The rulers use superficial differences such as races and ethnicities to make workers feel divided amongst each other.

Chinese workers have much more in common with the Japanese and Western workers and workers everywhere than with any capitalist-imperialist on earth. Our international working class, including Chinese workers, share a common interest: ending capitalist-imperialist terror everywhere.

Some left-leaning Chinese citizens are waking up to the realities of nationalism. One wrote online, "Nationalism is a state-sponsored ideology that is unique to capitalist

societies. Nationalism serves to convince people to be loyal to a particular country or government. Nationalism makes people feel they belong to a particular country.

"The government needs nationalism to make people obey. They use nationalism to make people think that what they are doing is not just obeying the government. Instead, they try to convince people that they are doing something much more important. This important thing is called people's 'obligation' to the country."

This critic is right. However, opposing nationalism in words isn't enough to end it. We must fight nationalism in practice, by uniting workers across national boundaries and from different ethnic groups and religions. The anti-nationalists can become revolutionary fighters for communism once they realize that communism is the only answer to capitalist-imperialism, and that all nationalist ideas are deadly to the international working class.

After the 1911 revolution, Sun Yat-sen proposed that China "follow the example of the United States of America" to unite China

into "a single cultural and political whole." That meant encouraging assimilation and discouraging indigenous culture.

Since the defeat of the Chinese Cultural Revolution, the Chinese imperialists have been putting Uyghurs and other ethnic

minorities into concentration camps for such things as sending Islamic religious recordings to family members or downloading e-books in the Uyghur language.

The Chinese rulers fear a mass revolutionary communist movement. They know from Chinese history that the masses have the potential to fight for and implement communism. Nationalism, racism, and repression are their main tools to try to prevent the rise of a new communist movement. Such a movement would aim to end capitalism, the rule of money and the market, once and for all.

The Chinese imperialists are guilty of genocidal crimes against humanity, attacks on communists, enslavement of the masses, and imperialist wars. They will never acknowledge the true history of their crimes. The imperialist rulers know that once the truth enters mass consciousness, it becomes a threat to their interests.

We invite workers worldwide to join the fight against capitalism-imperialism. Workers of the world, unite! Fight for communism!



TEXAS (USA), March 21—A thousand asylum seekers, displaced by capitalism, gathered at a US/Mexico border gate on the Rio Grande. About 425 broke away, crossed the wire fence, and lunged at members of the National Guard. They were stopped at another fence. Authorities arrested 221 of them on serious charges of rioting and assaulting a public official.

Capitalism unleashes attacks and aggression daily against the international working class. Exploitation, starvation, war, genocide, and more. This inhuman system cannot continue. Join the International Communist Workers' Party and mobilize the masses of the world for a communist world without borders or nations.



READ OUR PAMPHLET:

FIGHT FOR THE DAY WHEN NO WORKER WILL BE CALLED FOREIGNER

AVAILABLE AT:

ICWPREDFLAG.ORG/FFDE.PDF

“Your defiant chants reach us thousands of miles away”

STUDENT REBELLION IN BANGLADESH INSPIRES GARMENT WORKERS IN INDIA

BENGALURU (India), July 30— “My grandfather joined the Mukti Bahini (freedom fighters) in 1970 in East Pakistan. The Pakistani army was massacring villages and cities. He had no choice: either join Mukti Bahini or get killed.” A comrade in Bangladesh told this story as that entire country was engulfed by student demonstrations. The government shut down the internet, called in the army, killed thousands of people, and arrested many tens of thousands.

A student group in Dhaka started the protest in early June. Bangladesh is experiencing 40% youth unemployment. Runaway inflation and lack of jobs have affected many students whose parents supported their college education. Many of those parents are garment workers, most of them single women. They were at the forefront of a massive protest which, within a week, became a countrywide insurrection against the government.

The root cause of the insurrection goes back to the 1970 civil war in East Pakistan. The current Bangladeshi government wants to give Mukti Bahini descendants preferential treatment (quota) in employment.

East Pakistan (population about 60 million) was seen as an occupying force. It was economically controlled by the Pakistani army, mostly from West Pakistan. East Pakistan was carved out of India during a bloody imperialist-imposed religious division in 1947.

British imperialism ruled the province of Bengal. It made East Bengal into East Pakistan because most of the population were Muslims. Predominantly Hindu West Bengal remained with India.

Fifteen hundred miles separated West Pakistan from East Pakistan. West Pakistan continued to dominate East Pakistan’s economy.

The successful revolution in China (1949) inspired workers in East Pakistan and West Bengal to organize Maoist communist parties. From 1972-75, communists in Bengal led a massive violent insurrection. They envisioned spreading the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution from China to India and East Pakistan.

However, Chinese communist leaders were becoming capitalists. A powerful communist movement in India would threaten them. So Chinese rulers supported the US in arming the West Pakistani military to suppress the masses in East Pakistan. They killed over three million people.

That completely alienated the masses. The population of East Bengal, with the help of India and the Soviet Union, formed the Mukti Bahini liberation force, drove out Pakistani forces, and created Bangladesh.

In the 1970s, Mukti Bahini was a guerrilla army. It sometimes fought US-supplied tanks with only sticks and stones. The masses had great hopes that it would change the capitalist system. But once in power, it turned into a hierarchical capitalist army of a new capitalist class.

Garment Workers Today Organize for Real Communism

The new Bangladesh capitalists saw a need for large-scale industrial development. Since garment production in the US and Europe was becoming expensive, they embarked on building a garment industry. This grew rapidly. Now it is the second largest in the world. The



percentage of women workers grew from 26% women in 1970 to almost all women workers now. They produce 80% of Bangladesh’s foreign exchange.

The conditions of women garment workers are appalling. Sexual abuse, child labor, lack of pensions, long hours in crowded factories in 40 C (104°F), unsafe buildings – all these are causing more women to see the need to change the system of wage slavery.

Our party ICWP has been able to contact some workers who got the Red Flag. One worker we have known for many years is taking more interest during this rebellion. He is a mass union organizer. Although he has joined another party, he is sympathetic to us. He has put us in touch with other garment workers.

The comrades in Bengaluru are excited about this development. The garment collective wrote a leaflet calling for turning mass re-

bellion in Bangladesh into a communist revolution. It says in part:

“Your defiant chants reach us thousands of miles away. You have a 500-year history of fighting back. From the British occupiers to the capitalists now, it points to one and only one solution. We need to destroy capitalism and its wage slavery.

“We can build a new society where we will decide our destiny without greedy capitalists. We will build houses, clothes, and food we need. This is not only possible, but it is the only solution.

“To do that you must join our party. When women workers join ICWP, they can give leadership to fight against capitalism. Women and men workers will be more enthusiastic. We have some workers in Sri Lanka, and together, we will fight and win.”



Winds of Change Shake Capitalism’s House of Cards

KENYAN YOUTH IN REBELLION

SOUTH AFRICA, July 24— Massive youth-led protests in Kenya started as a digital activism movement, with young people angry over a government tax bill. It has since evolved into a leaderless widespread protest across all of Kenya. It calls for the President, William Riuto, to resign and for government reforms to wipe out corruption.

From the start, ICWP predicted this protest had the potential to spread to other places in Africa and beyond. As we write, the governments of Uganda and Nigeria have arrested thousands of young people as they try to suppress similar protests.

This shows that the rotten Capitalist system is like a house of cards. When the winds of change blow, it wobbles. What is lacking in

these protests, however, is a communist outlook and leadership. With that leadership, the winds would reach hurricane force! Without it, the protests can only lead to temporary gains. Those gains would be reversed over time.

Now, as we speak, there is a great exodus of young people from the African Continent. Millions have left in search of “better opportunities” in America, Europe, and the Middle East. Because of racism, xenophobia and capitalist imposed poverty, most are denied legal means to travel. As a result, the Mediterranean Sea has become a graveyard for thousands of our class siblings.

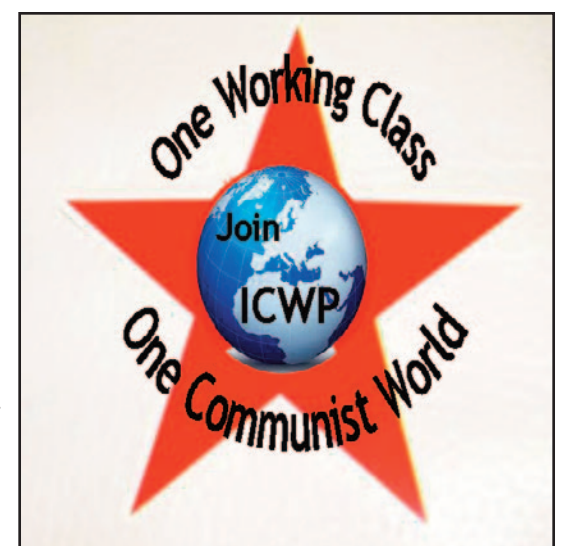
That is why, as ICWP, we strive for a communist society worldwide. With communism, there won’t be borders to cross. People will move

freely. What’s more, we will eliminate the material basis for racism, xenophobia, and poverty. We will eliminate Capitalism.

Now more than ever we need to strengthen the work of the Party by building more collectives. Young people around the world are being left out by the bosses’ system. Some have turned to alcohol and drugs because of hopelessness. That is why we need a strong Party to overcome these challenges.

Lastly, we need to utilize social networks to reach out, not only to these young workers in Kenya, Uganda, and Nigeria, but also here in South Africa. Anything short of communist revolution will land us right back in the misery we face today.

“On a personal note, or should I say a personal criticism,” said a young leader, “I need to show more confidence in our political line by talking about it more to my friends, colleagues, and neighbours. Honestly speaking, we have a superior line.”



COMMUNIST REVOLUTION REQUIRES SOLDIERS AS WELL AS WORKERS

EL SALVADOR, July 28— “I joined the FMLN when I was 12 years old,” said a former guerrilla comrade. “The repression had reached unendurable levels. They massacred my family. That shocked me and many families. I was a child, but I began to understand that my incorporation into the struggle was necessary.

“The organization of soldiers is key to the communist struggle. I learned from my experience in the armed struggle in the civil war that it was necessary to send young comrades to the army to learn the use of weapons. Others were recruited while they were in the army leading their struggle against the repressive apparatus. Today we are in another moment. I think what the veteran communist comrades did was particularly important when they brought ICWP literature to the Cancel RIMPAC conference in the US.”

During the struggles here in the 1970’s, workers of different communities organized collectively to grow and supply food to the guerilla fighters. They also built houses for all. Those who had land put it at the service of all. That did not please the exploiting capitalists, who began to perse-

cute and repress them. The armed struggle became necessary to confront the genocide that was unleashed at that time. Many of these workers are today part of ICWP.

The participation of soldiers in the government army was important. They organized themselves into the guerrillas and turned their weapons against the murderers who repressed and killed the working class. These soldiers who were sent to massacre their own class had the courage take the necessary step of joining the struggles to better the conditions for the masses of El Salvador.

“A great effort was made, but it did not end the causes of the war, because only communism can end the horrors of capitalism,” a comrade pointed out. “This war showed the capacity of the organized workers and soldiers,” he continued, “and that even being part of the government army, they could be won to be conscious of the reality that the masses lived and the need for the change.”

The International Communist Workers’ Party fights directly for Communism. We seek the conditions to organize industrial workers and soldiers worldwide to end

imperialist wars. Capitalism is not eternal. It will have its end. ICWP’s guiding principle is to mobilize the masses for Communism. Industrial workers and soldiers are key to achieving this.

The capitalist system advances in growing fascism and widening wars. Our class siblings are used as cannon fodder to defend the empires. They must strongly take up the communist cause and make that turn to end the horrendous capitalist system at its roots.

“The soldiers we see in the street are young people of our class, the blood of our people, who join for different reasons,” said a comrade teacher. “The most common reason is as a source of income. But they are closer to us than those who use them to defend the capitalists’ interests. They are children of rural and city workers.”

Today, organizing under fascist attacks, we need to begin the work of organizing in the army.



“In this Communist project of ours, this is the best of all times, because it gathers the history and experiences that others have had,” commented the former guerrilla fighter, now an ICWP leader. “With these communist principles, we must be prepared and trained in all aspects: political, ideological, military, agricultural, health and others that are available for the quality of life that humanity needs. Only in Communism will this be possible.”

Soldiers are our class brothers and sisters. We call on all comrades, city workers, farmworkers, and students who have friends or relatives in the army to talk to them about communist ideas.

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

Racist US Rulers Rightfully Fear Mutiny

On July 17, the Secretary of the US Navy exonerated the 258 Black defendants convicted in the 1944 Port Chicago Mutiny.

Throughout US history, up to and including World War II, the US armed forces were strictly segregated. At Port Chicago, California, Black sailors were assigned to load munitions into Navy ships under hazardous conditions and intense speed up. As a direct result, a huge explosion wiped out two ships and a train. It killed 320 sailors and civilians, most Black, and injured 390 more.

In the aftermath, White officers were given hardship leave. But the Black sailors were ordered to go back to work without additional safety measures. Two hundred fifty-eight Black sailors refused.

The Navy prosecuted them all. Fifty leaders were charged with mutiny and the rest with disobedience. All were convicted. Those charged with mutiny were sentenced to 8-15 years of hard labor. All were given dishonorable discharges.

As civil rights attorney and future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall pointed out in their defense, this was not an actual mutiny. In a mutiny, soldiers or sailors turn their guns on their offi-

cers and attempt to change the course of a war. This was a job action—a strike against murderous, racist, working conditions. Only the wartime context allowed the Navy to charge these workers with mutiny.

In 1948, President Truman worried that racism in the US was hurting the US’s image in the Cold War. He desegregated the US military. Black troops have still disproportionately been sent to the front lines in every imperialist war since, but at least it’s no longer “official policy.”

Eighty years later, the US military is faced with a recruiting dilemma. As global conflict increases from local wars to the inevitable World War III, the US military must improve its image. Hence the exoneration of the Port Chicago defendants (none of whom are still alive)—and the re-naming of the Port Chicago incident from a “mutiny” to a “disaster.”

Black soldiers and sailors played a key role in leading actual multi-racial mutinies during the US War on Vietnam. We are confident that class-conscious soldiers and sailors will see through this propaganda trick, and organize to turn the next imperialist war into a revolutionary war for communism.

—Comrade who studies history

Revolutionary Greetings from El Salvador

Today on a beach here we shared a few hours with comrades from the factories. We were approximately 40 people, from adults to children.

Observing the faces of these comrades was very satisfying for me, since it is the first time that I have shared in a political work meeting. It was good to see the gestures, the smiles when we met again to deal with daily issues, problems that they face in their workplaces. It is here where they comment on their experiences.

Exploitation of workers historically has been part of the working-class experience. Our problems have been normalized by our predecessors. They are accepted with the belief that we must make ourselves worthy of better living conditions for the family. But this is not true, because the capitalist system conditions the population from the family nuclei to formal schools. It designs programs that increase the wealth of the capitalists, not for the benefit of the masses.

Today I heard what communism will be like. It will be like the paradise that we have always been taught about heaven. But we are going to build it here on earth.

Some comrades ask what hap-

pens if there are no factories or bosses. They worry that if there is not going to be work, they will not be able to feed or take care of their children. It is here where it is raised how life would be under a true communist system: conditions of struggle for equity, with quality of life, for the wellbeing of the entire working class.

Here is where the importance of more information to the population is shown with study schools about communism, reading the newspaper Red Flag and distributing it. Because only in this way will the fear and misconceptions about communism be eliminated. Also working from the family, to change the thinking in the new generations. Because undoubtedly, they will be the ones who will enjoy a different system, with better conditions equally in the different areas of their lives. It will definitely be a better world free of the exploitation of workers.

I am glad to be part of the International Communist Workers’ Party and part of this struggle for equity, liberation from the bosses’ yoke, and social wellbeing with communism for all. We will see each other at the next meeting.

Forward, Comrades!

—A Health worker.

No Capitalist Powers Can Solve Growing Middle East Crisis

EVERY SMALL STEP TO BUILD ICWP INTERNATIONALLY BRINGS COMMUNIST SOLUTION CLOSER

July 28 — “I am an Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) reservist,” a friend told comrade S in Tel Aviv. “We were deployed in Gaza six months ago. We were involved in clearing operations. It is heartbreaking to see destroyed homes and ruined lives. I am not alone, many of us believe this must end.”

Comrade S is cautious about distributing Red Flag because of the extreme repression in Israel. He shares a paragraph, a letter, or sometimes an article, with other reservists. Based on his contacts in Gaza, he thinks the IDF are completely demoralized. This demoralization and fear within the IDF are covered up by ruthless attacks on the Gaza masses.

His work is modest. But such small steps move us forward on the communist road that can, alone, resolve the Middle East crisis in favor of the international working class. Small steps today — especially among soldiers and sailors — will lead to much larger steps tomorrow.

As broader war — even world war — threatens to engulf the Middle East, Ukraine, and Asia-Pacific, that communist road is our only way forward.

Lebanon: Flashpoint for Wider War?

In June, Israeli military officials announced they had plans ready for a full-scale attack on Lebanon.

“If they launch a foot invasion, they will go back footless,” said M, who is originally from the Middle East. “They tried that back in 2006.”

“Israel’s goal is to destroy civilian infrastructure in Lebanon just like in Gaza,”

said H, also from that region. “However, they will still return footless because, just like Gaza, they will not be able to beat the resistance. The Lebanese resistance has not been blockaded and has access to weapons and fighters. 2006 went poorly for Israhell [sic] and now the Lebanese resistance is much more powerful.”

According to the US imperialist mouthpiece *Foreign Affairs* (July 23, 2024), “a full-scale war between Israel and Hezbollah [in Lebanon] would have consequences that dwarf the current Gaza conflict.” It “would likely cause turmoil across the entire region” without “a clear path to a decisive victory.”

Hezbollah, backed by Iran, openly advertises that its missiles can target cities and military installations throughout Israel.

In times like these, even small steps toward bringing revolutionary communist internationalism to soldiers and sailors can have very large consequences.

China’s Rising Influence in Palestine/Israel

The two main Palestinian parties, Fatah and Hamas, are bitter enemies. From at least 2012 through September 2023, the Israeli rulers allowed Qatar to pour money into Hamas. They hoped to strengthen Hamas as a counterweight against Fatah. They expected to reduce pressure to negotiate a Palestinian state.

So it was big news when these parties (and several smaller ones) signed a joint statement on July 23. They endorsed, in principle, a temporary unified government for

Gaza and the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

For Hamas, this agreement offers possibly greater legitimacy in the eyes of capitalist powers. For the highly unpopular Fatah, it offers possibly greater legitimacy in the eyes of the Palestinian masses.

The agreement contained no timetable and few specifics. It may come to nothing. The bigger news was that the Chinese government had brokered the agreement.

Two Boston (USA) analysts wrote in 2022 that “The enormous growth of China’s investments in Israel has become one of the major changes in the Middle East’s geopolitics during the last decade.” That’s why Netanyahu can ignore US peace proposals and European sanctions. And why the Israeli government can openly defy the International Court of Justice and move to annex the West Bank.

But US imperialism won’t let go without a fight. Global supremacy is at stake.

Why the Middle East Crisis Demands Communism Now

The rulers of China, India, and Russia, like the USA and Israel, are imperialists and aspiring imperialists. The logic of capitalism means they can care only about expanding their power and maximizing profits at the expense of workers’ lives and labor.

As Marx said, working people have no nation. Communists don’t fight for any nation. The masses in the Middle East and everywhere can solve the problems these blood-soaked profiteers have created only by mobilizing together for communism.

CHINESE IMPERIALISM PENETRATES ISRAEL

Chinese capitalist influence in Israel has grown tremendously since 2014. Chinese government and private enterprises invest heavily in high-tech. Also in research, agriculture, biotechnology, food, water, and construction. Chinese cars, especially EVs, are top sellers in Israel.

And Chinese capital controls two commercial shipping facilities in Israel’s main port, Haifa, plus a smaller one. India’s Adani Group recently beat it out for the purchase of the original Port of Haifa.

China is important for Israel’s Zionist rulers, who face sanctions from their historical European allies. They see the declining US imperialist interest and capability in the Middle East. They seek to compensate strategically.

A former Israeli official said in May 2014, “Slowly but surely, Israel is pivoting toward the east.” It worked to build ties with Russia, India, and China. These countries’ rulers criticized Israel’s occupation of Palestine, but they didn’t let Palestinian lives get in the way of capitalist profits.

The Jerusalem Post remarked in 2018 that the Asian Development Bank had rebuffed Israel in 1993 because Muslim countries were opposed.

But “now, because of the Belt and Road initiative, we are there with Iran and Pakistan, as well as many Muslim and Arab countries, a situation that demonstrates China’s influence in bringing countries together.”

We fight to break capitalism’s chains everywhere. To tear down capitalism’s walls and borders, undivided by religion, culture, gender, or ancestry.

To create liberated zones where we work together directly to meet everyone’s needs. Zones that will grow and merge into a world without money or markets. Without exploitation and therefore without war.

We can learn from masses in Gaza today how to reconstruct a new society literally on the rubble of the old. Beyond the goal of survival, there and everywhere, must be an organized, intentional fight for communism. Every small step you take to build the International Communist Workers’ Party brings us closer.



JULY 26— As the Olympic Games opened in Paris, hundreds of unhoused people (many of them African and other refugees) protested the forcible removal of as many as 12,500 of their numbers. Groups of people, men,

women and children, pounded garbage bins, pots, and pans. “We receive food and medicines for ourselves and our children from NGOs, here in Paris,” said a woman who was visibly trembling. “We have no idea where we might

be taken, and whether we will have these things.”

These forced relocations have been going on for a year. They include 500 yesterday and 300 more today! They had been occupying streets, forming tent cities, and

squatting in empty buildings. They were forced onto buses by militarized police & driven out of city.

An NGO organizer contrasted \$1.4 billion that went into cleaning up the Seine River with the \$10 million that the community organizations had requested to help their clients. The government denied even that — and Paris has a “socialist” mayor.

The Olympic nationalist orgy is a direct attack on vulnerable Parisians and a political attack on the whole working class. No amount of greenwashing can hide this further evidence that we need communism. With housing, food, and medicines for all. Where every worker will be welcomed everywhere.