

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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

COMMUNISM "MAKES PERFECT SENSE" TO INDIA'S UNEMPLOYED YOUTH

DELHI (India), June 21— "We have spent more than two decades in education, only to discover that it has left us with little of value," said a young worker. "It feels like a scam that convinced us we could survive the harsh reality of unemployment. We came to this rally because ICWP members were distributing the pamphlet 'Communist Education for a Classless Society.' A group of about twenty young people quickly took copies."

Massive rallies are taking place across India. About 340 million young people aged 17 to 24 are unemployed. The Chief Justice of India (CJI), a mouthpiece for fascist Modi, reportedly said that "unemployed youth are like cockroaches."

Amid an unprecedented heat wave, with temperatures near 48°C (118°F), hundreds of thousands of unemployed youths took to the streets. They mocked the CJI and formed the Cockroach Janata Party. ICWP members joined these massive rallies. While Delhi faced severe water shortages, protesters were met with water cannons and tear gas.

We had prepared for these attacks. Our response was to distribute thousands of copies of *Red Flag* and the "Communist Education" pamphlet. Young people eagerly accepted the literature. Many read it during clashes with police. One said, "I am so glad you are here. Many other political parties are telling us to get more education. We want a new system. This system is broken. It can't be fixed."

Over two months, we have built close connections with hundreds of young people. We understand their frustration. Most ICWP members have also experienced unemployment. We joined ICWP because only communism made sense to us.

Suresh is 21 years old. His parents sold their small piece of land so he could get a job. He has spent 48 hours in the sweltering heat for the national exam. He was furious when the exam results were leaked, and the

See INDIA YOUTH page 3



DELHI, June 20, 2026



Honduras, June 1— Teachers and medical staff on a one-day strike for the higher wages and better working conditions promised by the government. Chronic underfunding and delayed payments have worsened conditions for workers and disrupted basic public services. But only communism can destroy wage slavery and end poverty worldwide. See "Hondurasgate", page 3

YOUNG COMRADES IN MEXICO DISCUSS COMMUNIST STRUGGLE AND HUMAN NATURE

ESTADO DE MEXICO, June 14—This weekend, as we began our monthly meeting, we comrades were excited to share experiences with a comrade who visited us here. We were joined by veteran and young comrades. Most of us were young, accompanied by our families. Some are in high school and about to enter college.

We reported on how we are organizing the ICWP in Mexico. Afterward, we read the article from our newspaper *Red Flag*, "Genocide in Palestine Calls on Us to Organize for Communism." Most of the comrades agreed that they are inspired by the struggle of comrades from far away and that they are glad to see young people participating.

We also discussed "When Is a Victory Not a Victory?" And how the small struggles we wage must continue, since these struggles are never enough. Similar situations in Mexico involving corruption were discussed. We must not settle for that kind of reform "victory." Victory for our class is when our brothers and sisters join us in building communism.

A comrade asked the comrade who visited us for her perspective on the fact that in countries like the USA, there are moves to strip women of their right to vote. The comrade explained what the vote is and how it doesn't benefit the working class. Given that we face a similar political situation, we share the view that, regardless of the vote, the system will remain the same within the capitalist electoral system.

A young comrade asked how the communist movement is viewed from an outside perspective and what "the ideal communist" is like. We understand that in many cases, the figure of the communist is present in everyday life and that new comrades emerge even if they are not aware of it.

See YOUNG COMRADES IN MEXICO page 2



Uitenhage (South Africa), June 20—VW workers exiting work take *Red Flag*. See Reading *Red Flag* Helps Us Fight for Communism page 4



Members of Iran's national football (soccer) team hold child-size backpacks in memory of 168 schoolgirls in Minab killed by a US missile on the first day of the war. See Iran: Who's Winning and Who's Losing, page 8

Communism versus Anarchism (Part VIII)

SOCIAL RELATIONS OF PRODUCTION ARE KEY

“I’m a bit of a fan of anarchism,” said a friend. “I am always interested in hearing arguments for or against a state apparatus. Is it a requirement (if temporary) for organizing? Or a structure to be co-opted by capitalist counter-revolutionary forces? Both?”

This series has addressed these questions based on revolutionary practice.

Communists and anarchists have agreed that the capitalist state must be destroyed. Its “bureaucratic machinery” smashed. And disagreed about whether to replace it with a workers’ state.

Both have sided with “the struggle of the producing against the appropriating class.” But what should replace that exploitation? The social organization of production is inseparable from questions about “the state.”

The anarchist Kropotkin proposed “social organization from the simple to the complex by means of the free federation of popular groups of producers and consumers.”

Marx expected “co-operative production” [communism] “to supersede the capitalist system.” He concluded from the 1871 Paris Commune that “a working-class government” would “serve as a lever” for destroying the economic basis of class society, “and therefore of class rule.”

A “free federation of groups of producers” might not seem contradictory to “co-operative production.” But it was.

Anarchism presupposed small-

scale private ownership and production. Small producers would barter, sell, or exchange goods with other small producers. This would be a market system.

Communist “cooperative production” meant “the transformation of capitalist private ownership of the means of production into social ownership.” Large-scale production would rely on planning, not markets.

In 1871, Paris was France’s biggest industrial center. The average production unit had seven workers. Organizing “from simple to complex” might have been easier to imagine than “social ownership.”

Petrograd in 1917, in contrast, had 38 plants employing over 2000 workers each. They comprised over two-thirds of the total workforce. Over 60% of Petrograd’s industrial workers were metalworkers. Capitalist private ownership seemed ripe for transformation into “social ownership.” That is, transforming the social relations of production.

Urbanites relied on the rural hinterlands for their food. Both the Paris Commune and the Bolshevik Revolution emerged from great-power (imperialist) wars. Both faced immediate food crises. In Paris, even zoo animals were slaughtered for food.

Property ownership in the French countryside evolved inconsistently, even chaotically. Czarist land-reform in Russia had tried to destroy feudal landlords’ power while isolating peasants from the Bolsheviks. Traditional village

communes were destroyed for the benefit of a handful of rich peasants. Many peasants ended up worse off.

Neither communists nor anarchists had a strong rural base in 1871 France or in 1917 Russia. Or a good grasp of rural class relations.

No wonder the Bolsheviks struggled

to fulfill their promises of “Peace, Land, Bread.” Amidst an almost continuous civil war. They adopted their agrarian program from the Left-Socialist Revolutionaries. It abolished private property in land. But it organized production mainly around small plots.

Kropotkin saw it would be impossible to organize cooperative production without winning over the masses. But neither anarchists nor communists did this. So Bolshevik efforts to establish collective farms were not immediately successful.

Party organization (built through an “All-Russian” newspaper) enabled the Bolsheviks to take power. In contrast, Anarchists relied on the masses’ spontaneity. They tailed, rather than led. When waves of mass protests subsided, they were left stranded.

That happened in 1917 in the revolutionary struggles against the Tsar. And then against the capitalist Kerensky government. And later, when they unsuccessfully promoted a “third revolution” against



Soviet railway workers, 1922

the Bolsheviks, resorting to unprincipled alliances with pro-capitalist forces. **Anarchism was a dead end.**

Communism was not. The Paris Commune lasted only a few months. But it was a rich source of lessons for the working class. The October Revolution left the Bolsheviks in power for years. Their successes and their errors became an even richer source. They created the basis for far more advanced practice and theory. For the Chinese Communist Party in the 1920s and 1930s, and now for us in the 21st century.

Chinese communists saw that the future depended on large-scale social production both in industry and agriculture. And on a Bolshevik-type party leading a socialist state.

We think that the Chinese experience shows the need and the possibility of organizing on communist, not socialist, lines.

Without socialism, there will be no socialist state. The final article in this series will discuss this.

YOUNG COMRADES IN MEXICO from page 1

He also raised the question as to whether it is natural to arrive at the conclusion of a communist society and whether it is in our nature. In response, comrades who are biologists offered a scientific perspective. They explained how this ideology has been shaped in young

people by hierarchical structures found in nature, when in reality such structures are exceptions.

We discussed how humans have become estranged from nature and how power structures in society are justified. We explored different perspectives on why humans should be

viewed as part of nature and why any process that occurs is not an isolated case.

The young comrade discussed how Generation Z is questioning whether it’s right to have children and how living a cruel life is viewed. We understand that the ability to choose whether or not to have children is a privilege and how this is viewed from a communist perspective. If we make the decision to bring a life into this world, we must understand that it comes to love the world and that the struggle isn’t always painful.

A veteran comrade commented that he finds it inspiring to hear perspectives from outside Mexico. But

he would like to see more local issues covered in our newspaper. He said that it is necessary to hold meetings more regularly.

We concluded that, even though the process is slow, we must not lose hope in our work. And that bringing comrades into the struggle will be achieved step by step in a communist revolution. We were very pleased with this meeting, sharing food and experiences. It gives us a breath of fresh air, hope, and redoubles our resolve to continue building our communist party ICWP.



CHECK OUT THE ICWPEDIA:

the online communist mini-encyclopedia. Available through ICWPRedFlag.org or at icwpedia.org and the QR code to the right



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www.icwpredflag.org — Twitter @RedFlagBandera
NEW E-mail: contact@icwpredflag.org
Instagram: @icwprf Facebook: icwpredflag
Phone: US: (323) 812-9155
South Africa 078 642 6794
Write to: P.M.B. 362
3006 S.Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007, USA

HONDURASGATE: INTER-IMPERIALIST CONFLICTS AND ATTACKS ON THE WORKING CLASS

EL SALVADOR, June 23— “If blood must be shed, so be it,” stated Nasry Asfura, the current president of Honduras. “The money to get Trump to pardon Juan’s sentence came from Israel, in order to eradicate the cancer of the left.” He stood alongside representatives from the United States, Israel, and Argentina—with the collaboration of former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández—in order to attack the governments of Mexico and Colombia.

These conversations were revealed by audio recordings leaked by the US Democratic Party, according to reports in the capitalist press.

Other agreements related to “Hondurasgate” include the new Honduran government expanding the Zones of Employment and Economic Development (ZEDE). These zones entail Honduras handing over municipalities directly into the hands of US employers. It is an

attempt to prevent Chinese capitalism from continuing to expand in that country.

This makes inter-imperialist conflicts more evident. And in the process, it eliminates all the reforms that the working class has won through decades of struggle in this part of the world: the eight-hour workday, year-end bonuses, social security, and pensions.

Hondurasgate is a massive network for media manipulation of the working class in Latin America. It is an all-out war against any form of revolutionary organization and information for the masses, like *Red Flag*. Fascism spreads through the violence of the capitalist system. We cannot ignore that these capitalists will target the International Communist Workers’ Party. And that no attack should go unanswered.

In the face of these plans for conflict among capitalist governments, the International Communist Work-

ers’ Party will respond with greater political organization and the mass distribution of *Red Flag*. This is a communist newspaper written by workers, for the entire working class and soldiers everywhere on Earth.

Furthermore, there is a constant need for political education of the working class and members or former members of the armed forces. We must eliminate any vestige of the seeds of capitalism from our minds and spirits.

The cycle of slavery and suffering imposed by the capitalist system can only be defeated through the organization and mobilization of the masses for communism by joining the ICWP.

And as an indispensable requirement, we need a newspaper—print and digital—to reach every corner of the world. This will enable the working class to organize and avoid falling for the bosses’ lies and nationalist ploys. With a communist

newspaper, the maquila workers in El Salvador and Honduras can advance proletarian organization. And we have that newspaper: *Red Flag*.

The enemy of the working class is every capitalist, from the United States to Israel and from the United Kingdom to South Africa. For it is they who, even when defeated, will try by every means to regain power in order to continue enslaving workers and soldiers around the world.

Let us not forget the example of the Paris Commune, which was weakened by its reliance on reformist struggles, or the attempts to reform capitalism in Libya, Yugoslavia, Chile, etc. It is the communist system or nothing.

We must read, distribute, and discuss *Red Flag* more widely in countries like Honduras and throughout Latin America—among our friends, factory workers, and families. That is how the Revolution is built.

PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES, AND SUGGESTIONS TO
NEW E-MAIL: CONTACT@ICWPREDFLAG.ORG

Comrades and class brothers and sisters, revolutionary greetings!

Arriving ten minutes late to the factory—after more than twenty years of work—was enough for them to reprimand me and threaten to dock me a day’s pay plus a seventh. In addition to barring me from entering the factory. Capitalism is the most brazen thief in history.

For several months now, they’ve dismantled the production line where I worked on the machine, in an attempt to drive me and other female coworkers to despair. We

haven’t let them manipulate us as they please. We’ve resisted. Whenever they’ve tried to move me to another station, my female coworkers have shown solidarity. And as a group, we’ve refused to allow those changes.

In the International Communist Workers’ Party, I have learned that the most effective weapon is class consciousness. And that the class enemy is the boss who manipulates, threatens, and exploits workers to keep the profits for himself. Understanding my position as a worker has kept me steadfast in the communist struggle. There is

no room for believing in capitalist illusions.

But in this contradiction between employer and worker, we have also learned that it is necessary to show the working masses that it is important to fight directly for communism to put an end to the horrors of capitalism.

Political work in the factories is quite controversial, since employers and unions play the same role. Favoring the system rather than our class. And they claim that we cannot represent the workers because we lack legal status.

Our struggle is resolute against

the employer who wants to crush us, the workers organized in the ICWP.

Working in the garment factory means living a life of misery where the working class is exposed to verbal and psychological abuse. And they make it seem as if this is normal. Denying us time off even for a personal or family doctor’s appointment.

In the face of this capitalist exploitation, we must intensify the communist struggle.

—Red Worker

INDIA YOUTH, from page 1

government had to cancel the national exam for over 2.5 million students.

When he met us, he described his 48-hour train journey. Most youth who travelled with him had borrowed the last rupee to reach the exam centres in Delhi. Most will not make it. The train is so overcrowded that some young people have suffocated to death. When Suresh saw our literature, he said, “My parents are poor, and they depend on me supporting them for the remaining parts of their lives.”

As horrible as it sounds, the capitalist system does not care for Suresh or his parents. They are ‘cockroaches’. But we, as communists, care deeply for people like Suresh. ICWP members have found temporary places for people like him.

“When I came to Delhi, I did not know anyone. Now I have ICWP

comrades who talk to me about a communist revolution as the only way to create a new society for the working class. It makes perfect sense to me. I did not know or believe just a week ago that communism was possible.”

We will continue our daily classes on communism in Delhi. The fascist Modi has consolidated his grip by bribing, corrupting, and creating an atmosphere of fear by attacking Muslim and Dalit youth. But beneath this calm, there are millions of people like Suresh who could become a potent force in a communist revolution.

We have learned valuable lessons from young people in South Africa, who are studying dialectical materialism. We have already started our class for a communist change. After spending two weeks with our comrades, Suresh, who did not know a single person in Delhi, says, “I have become a com-



Chennai, India, May 14, 2026

munist by being with other communists. We share food, shelter, and our communist ideas.”

Read our pamphlet:
**COMMUNIST EDUCATION
FOR A CLASSLESS**



READING THE RED FLAG HELPS US FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM WORLDWIDE

UITENHAGE (South Africa), 16 June 2026 — “Comrades, we must have meetings in between our monthly general meetings so that we read the *Red Flag* and understand the articles better as we do them as a group, not as individuals”.

These sentiments were shared by a comrade who says she struggles to understand some of the terms we use in the *Red Flag*.

Another comrade said, “Me, comrade, I read the paper copy of *Red Flag* because I don’t have a phone. Therefore, whenever I am just sitting alone, I read the *Red Flag*. My proposal is that we should have these bi-weekly meetings and we can just compile a list of terms we don’t fully understand so that we can send it to experienced comrades to explain”.

This followed a discussion in which we were continuing our struggles of overcoming our collective challenge and contradictions of not reading the *Red Flag* as much as we should.

We discussed how a toddler overcomes contradictions when it tries to walk. How a toddler never gives up and always tries to walk and taking “baby steps” and repeated attempts. We said if we, like

a toddler, take repeated steps, reading one article at a time, one meeting at a time, and increasing the number of meetings we have, we will resolve our contradictions. Like a toddler, small, repeated steps turn quantity into quality.

Reading and understanding the articles in the *Red Flag* increases our understanding of our communist line. Hence, we then change qualitatively (our political understanding) and then we turn quality into quantity by increasing the number of comrades and workers we recruit.

Another contradiction is between communist and nationalist ideas, the idea of being disinterested in articles that do not mention South Africa. Another comrade had said, “Sometimes, comrade, and I will be honest, we see an article from Mexico, and we do not see the relevance to our lives. And even our neighbours ask, “What does Mexico have anything to do with my life here in South Africa?”

We explain to the comrade that we have to always make sure that



Humansdorp (South Africa), June 5—Over twenty neighbours and many children crowded into a small one-room shack to hear a comrade explain why they need ICWP and *Red Flag*. They plan to meet every other week. Many of the new comrades are industrial workers.

we show the interconnectedness of events of global capitalism. Capitalists will have us believe that the problems of mass unemployment are unique to South Africa and that if we replace one political party with other then we will be fine.

One comrade said, “The global system of capitalism is like a faulty or damaged car. The capitalist will have us believe that if we change the driver of the car then our car will function better. But in reality, we have to get rid of the car and replace it entirely. That means we have to get rid of capitalism and replace it with communism”.

Therefore, we have to see ourselves as the international working class. And see ourselves as leading the international working class all around the world for communist revolution.

Reading *Red Flag* together in between monthly meetings will help us understand that we are not just “South Africans”. Rather, we are part of an international working class, with comrades in the working class in Mexico. Their struggles are our struggles. And that is how we spread communism and defeat capitalism in all corners of the world.

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Organising for Communism in Our Workplaces

I stand here as an ICWP member. My politics start where most of us spend 8, 10, 12 hours. On the job, in the factory, in the hospitals. ICWP stands for International Communist Workers’ Party, and for us communism is not just a slogan from a book. It is the idea that the people who create all the wealth, which is us, should decide how it gets used. No bosses, no more prioritising profit over people. Just workers planning production for human needs.

They tell us the system is broken. I say it is working exactly how it was designed: to keep us divided, scared, and tired. Divided by race, nationality, religion, etc. On the shop floor, in the strike line, we learn the

truth: the boss needs all of us to make their profit. This means all of us have the power to shut it down and build something new.

This is where communism comes into play. So, what do we do? We organise, not for better wages, yes, we fight for this too. But the better struggle is for communism. We talk about it at lunch time, we distribute the *Red Flag*, we bring soldiers, students, workers, etc., together because the fight for communism has no borders.

The road won’t be easy. Every boss, every government, every TV station will say we are dreaming. But we choose class over country. We are able to make the dream a reality. Join us and fight with us in the struggle for communism!

—Comrade worker in South Africa

South Africa: Generations of Struggle

“I was born in 1954,” said the mother of a comrade. “I was sent to the rural areas. When I was fourteen, our choir conductor was taken by the police because of a song we were singing. It was a Xhosa song. I will translate it for you. ‘Our land is damaged, the land of our ancestors.’”

“I passed the Matric in the rural area of Peddie. The next year, I went to Livingston Hospital in Port Elizabeth. I was training as a nurse. This was the time of riots. Houses were burnt, roads were closed, and police were shooting everywhere. Among the things people were fighting for were ‘no Afrikaans in our schools, and equal education.’”

“I quit nursing because I could not endure the injuries. I could not tolerate seeing people injured like that.”

Instead, she became a teacher. Now she is retired.

The settler-colonial regime forced masses of rural workers into segregated prison-like townships. Their languages, culture, and food habits were changed to suit the needs of capitalist profit. South Africa became an apartheid state.

Recently we took an ailing comrade to a hospital. Right at the entrance, there was a bold sign directing people to a mortuary before we could even find a sign for the Emergency. These are the remnants from the apartheid times when hospitals were taking lots of injured people, and many succumbed.

We are now organizing ICWP in the same school where the retired teacher once taught. We are meeting young students aged fourteen and up. They are getting a communist education in dialectical materialism and how to use it to change the world.

—Older comrade

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WAREHOUSE FIRE: CAPITALIST GREED POISONS US

LOS ANGELES (USA), June 22— Thick toxic smoke blows across large sections of the county. A fire in a huge Boyle Heights cold-storage facility burns for the sixth day. Residents of this mainly-Mexican/Chicano working-class neighborhood suffer the most. A stark example of capitalism's environmental racism. "The whole east side of LA County is like that," a teacher told her class.

"It's going to be a very slowly unfolding tragedy," said a comrade who lives nearby. "The poorest folks will see elders weaken, and even die, of respiratory illnesses. Possibly see premature births and birth defects in the areas adjacent to the toxic brew of industrial insulation, lithium batteries, and solar panels burning.

"The county opened shelters, but in areas only a few miles away, also affected by smoke," she continued.

Normal fire-fighting techniques don't work. Solar panels covered five hundred thousand square feet

(4.56 hectares) of roof. "Those panels are burning at upwards of 1500 degrees (over 800 °C)!" exclaimed a former firefighter, distressed at the sight of firefighters on the roof. "That roof is likely going to go!"

So fire crews in helicopters dump huge quantities of water on the facility. But the very dense foam filling the structure's corrugated steel walls continues to burn slowly. It emits gases. And all that water weakens the walls. The whole building could collapse.

Meanwhile, eighty-five million pounds (38.6 kilotons) of rotting food creates a major biohazard. Rotten meat breeds dangerous pathogens. It generates toxic liquids and more gases.

"I always think about the pressure to go back to 'business as usual' while health risks are ongoing," said another comrade. "Those who work outside in the polluted air are often our most vulnerable workers, including immigrants,

who must continue laboring to make their living."

The blaze apparently started with an ammonia leak inside the building. Lineage, the \$18 billion company that owns the warehouse, is trying to blame it on subcontractors working on the solar panels. Fire completely destroyed a similar Lineage cold storage facility in rural Finley (Washington State) two years ago after burning for sixty days.

"Not a conspiracy, just capitalism doing its thing," commented a Redditor.

Lineage, Inc. (formerly Lineage Logistics) is the world's largest temperature-controlled warehouse real estate investment trust. Between 2017 and 2023 it acquired over one hundred companies. It operates five hundred facilities across eighteen countries. With a total revenue of \$5.4 billion in 2025, the company clearly prioritizes profits over maintenance or safety!

The Lineage fire in Los Angeles shows again that capitalism is not capable of solving the problems it creates for the masses.

Why are massive cold-storage facilities needed anyway? That's "capitalism doing its thing." Large-scale commercial frozen food is one of many terrible results of imperialist commodification of food. That is, food is produced to be sold profitably in international markets.

That's yet another reason we need a communist society. To produce and distribute healthy food that meets people's needs. Not for sale. Not only for those who can afford pricey farmers' markets or consumer co-op shares. For everyone. And more of us will be involved in producing that food as communism brings together city and countryside.

Fight for our class! Fight for communism!

THE STROKES AT COACHELLA: MUSICAL CRITIQUE OF US IMPERIALISM

LOS ANGELES (USA), "Honestly, I think the MO of major record labels/ companies has transformed from promoting true artists to simply profiting, like any other business nowadays," said a friend. "Unfortunately, that means promoting mindless music or idolizing toxic lifestyles that in turn influence the listeners and create a vicious cycle for oneself or even a community. Rare it is now to find artists who swim against this stream. And when you do come across them, it's like a breath of fresh air, and a glimmer of hope."

The friend was talking about The Strokes' performance at Coachella, an annual music and arts festival held in California.

Coachella is capitalism's playground for profit, distraction, and depoliticization. Where many escape into a commercialized bubble, cut off from the harsh realities that built the Western capitalist world. Yet, when The Strokes closed their set with their track "OBLIVIUS," they refused to play the game. Instead, they turned Coachella into a political

protest.

It started with visual footage of the Taj Mahal draped in tacky, flashing Western Christmas lights. It was a metaphor for how Western consumerism flattens global cultures. Later, a fifty-foot screen forced a direct confrontation between the comfortable crowd and violent history. A video montage detailed decades of global interventions. Overthrow of elected leaders, political assassinations, domestic civil rights struggles, and recent military conflicts.

Specifically, it showed the devastating impact of US-Israeli military strikes, noting that over thirty Iranian universities and academic centers were heavily damaged or destroyed. It climaxed at the very end of the song, displaying stark footage of Al-Israa University, the last standing university in Gaza, being bombed and completely leveled in a massive on-screen explosion.

The band transformed a concert into an interactive history lesson.

This performance shows how art can become a political weapon.

Some argue that ruling powers maintain control not just through laws, but by making exploitation feel normal. Challenging this requires a cultural struggle from within these very institutions.

Artists are uniquely equipped for this fight because music bypasses our natural defensive barriers. A tired worker or a cynical teenager might tune out a political speech, but they will actively stand in a festival crowd. Art pulls the audience in with melody and energy, dropping harsh truths.

Julian Casablanca, leader of The Strokes, paced the stage in a shirt that twisted the corporate Amazon Prime logo to read "Amazon Crime". A direct criticism of capitalist monopolies. The lyrics of "OBLIVIUS" carry this same defiance, directly addressing class struggle through their lyrics:

"Act like a fox but think like a sheep (Wall Street)" becomes a jab at financial elites. They see themselves as clever predators, but they are just unthinking, compliant cogs serving a broken economic machine.

"What side you standing on?" is the central question of the track. It strips away excuses and presents a hard choice.

"Don't wait so long... / You never wait for some / Other generation" is a stark warning against passivity. If the current generation waits too long to act, the system will seamlessly consume the next one in their place.

Critics might point out a contradiction: The Strokes operate deep inside the belly of the beast. They are signed to a major label, funded by corporate sponsors, and play luxury festivals.

Everyone living under global capitalism is forced to participate in the system to survive and communicate. There is no "outside" space. The Strokes use unique tools available to them to throw a wrench into the gears from the inside. By using Coachella's massive platform to expose corporate greed and historical imperialism, the band proved that even in a hyper-commercialized bubble, the reality of class warfare cannot be silenced.



Tirana (Albania), June 2026— Hundreds of thousands continue to pour into the streets in the biggest uprising in thirty years. "It's about everything that is wrong with Albania," said one. They are protesting blatant government corruption and Jared Kushner's plan to build a luxury resort on Sazan Island. It's called the "flamingo revolution" because the plan threatens wildlife and delicate ecosystems. But what's wrong with Albania is that its "communism" was never anything but socialist state capitalism. Now it's openly capitalist. Masses declare, "Albania is not for sale!" In real communism, nothing will be for sale. Not land, not our labor power. Masses will make decisions collectively and organize production to meet human needs – including protecting the environment.

Bolivia: Objective Conditions Ripen for Revolution

COMMUNISTS MUST CREATE SUBJECTIVE CONDITIONS FOR A COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

June 19— Bolivia is rocked by one of the most serious social upheavals in years. Workers, miners, teachers, transport workers, farmworkers, and indigenous organizations have practically paralyzed the country for over seven weeks with nationwide strikes, protests, and road blockages.

Two capitalist contradictions drive these events. First, the fight between the US and China-Russia for world domination. Bolivia, with its vast lithium deposits, critical minerals, and strategic geographic location, has become a crucial arena in this struggle.

The second contradiction is between the Bolivian working masses and the capitalist-imperialist exploiters, national and international. The Bolivian masses are rebelling against the unbearable living conditions and super-exploitation that this inter-imperialist rivalry imposes on them.

These linked contradictions are playing out worldwide, not only in Bolivia. They may define humanity's future for generations.

Contradictions among capitalists-imperialists are a direct result of their competition to maximize profits by exploiting workers, the only source of their wealth and power. The capitalists who produce the cheapest make maximum profits and control the world. This, however, is decided on the global battlefields. Thus, their fight for the cheapest workers' labor power, natural resources, and greater market

share inevitably leads to war.

Their problem is that capitalism has a built-in tendency for the rate of profit to decline over time. Capitalists are therefore like a dog constantly chasing its tail. They are always chasing and competing for an illusory, maximum profit. This makes war a permanent feature of capitalism. That is why there are world wars.

When capitalism is left intact, world wars install a new rising hegemon. They temporarily restore the rate of profit to what the capitalists-imperialists consider "healthy" by investing in rebuilding global war's massive destruction. This is just the calm before capitalism's next more deadly and destructive storm.

World Wars Create Objective Conditions for Revolution

As the world's rulers expand their current global war, they must intensify the exploitation of the entire international working class—workers, youth, soldiers, and the unemployed. Every penny they spend on producing weapons and rebuilding their war industries is taken out of our hide.

The massive workers' rebellions in Bolivia and elsewhere are happening because our class can't live like before. This is a precondition for revolution. Communists and other activists should see these rebellions as clear calls that our class is ready for revolution.

Whether there will be revolution, and what type, depends on the subjective conditions. That is, what

the working masses, including soldiers in the rulers' armies, are won to fight for.

Subjective Conditions

Determine What Happens.

Workers Must Fight Directly for Communism

All of today's mass uprisings against capitalism are plagued with reformism. In Bolivia the masses' unifying theme is demanding the resignation of President Rodrigo Paz. They and masses elsewhere must learn that capitalism cannot be reformed to meet our needs.

This is the task of communists and others who want change. We, and nobody else, will create subjective conditions that will enable our class to fight directly for communism. Anything else will only perpetuate our wage slavery, the source of the capitalists' happiness and wealth and our poverty and misery.

Only communism can end wars forever by eliminating capitalist exploiters and their wage slavery. Communism, a classless society, will produce only to meet human-

ity's needs. Nothing will be bought or sold. There will be no market and no money. No economic competition.

Collectivity and comradeship will be the basis of communist social relationships that will help us build a world without borders or nations, without racism, sexism, or any poisonous ideology that divides and dehumanizes us.

Capitalism continues to make our lives harder and harder. But there is no time to despair. Communism is, and will be, humanity's future. Thanks to the millions who preceded us, our class is closer to victory than ever. The objective conditions for revolution are ripe and expanding. We will create subjective conditions to fight for the communist world we need and deserve.

That means spreading communist ideas and actions, distributing *Red Flag* more widely, and especially building collectives of the International Communist Workers' Party to lead the fight to victory!



PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES, AND SUGGESTIONS TO CONTACT@ICWPREDFLAG.ORG

Bolivia: Farmworkers Fight for Survival

Brothers and sisters of Bolivia, today the voice of the countryside rings out louder than ever. The farmworkers are not asking for a favor. They are demanding what has always been rightfully theirs: land to work, water to plant, and respect to live with dignity.

The current struggle of Bolivian farmers is a struggle for food sovereignty and for an economic model that does not leave rural communities behind. For decades, they have sustained the entire country's food supply through their labor, growing potatoes in the highlands, quinoa in the valleys, and corn on the plains. Without them, there are no tables set in the cities, no markets to fill, no country to sustain itself.

This mobilization is not violence. It is survival. It is the response of those who have historically been marginalized by policies that favor large agribusinesses and interests that concentrate land ownership while small-scale farmers barely survive. When a farmer blocks a

road, they do not do so on a whim. They do it because their children have no school, because their harvest is not enough to cover the cost of fertilizer, because the price they are paid for their product does not even cover the effort of their day.

Supporting farmers is supporting Bolivia itself. It is defending biodiversity, native seeds, and the ancestral knowledge that has cared for our land for centuries. It is committing to an economy that does not destroy ecosystems to export raw materials but rather strengthens local production and fair trade.

The state has an obligation to listen, to engage in dialogue, and to build real solutions: access to fair credit, rural infrastructure, fair prices, and protection against unfair imports. Repression is not the way forward. The way forward is to recognize that without the countryside, there is no city.

Today, it is our turn to stand with those who rise at 4 am, those who work under the sun and rain, those who defend Pachamama as a mother and not as a resource. The

struggle of the farmworkers is the struggle of all of us who want a more just, more sovereign, and more humane country.

— Physical therapist, daughter of a farmworker of Ecuador

Red Flag responds:

Thank you, comrade, for your eloquent and deeply moving letter. For centuries, Bolivian farmworkers and the indigenous population in general—in Bolivia, Ecuador, and other Andean countries—have been at the forefront of the struggle against the extreme exploitation imposed on them by international capitalism.

It is the same struggle waged by billions of workers across the globe for a dignified and respectful life. For a world where human life is the most valuable and cherished thing. For a world where nature and humanity are not callously destroyed by capitalism's insatiable thirst for maximum profits.

Only by putting an end to that vile exploitation can we free ourselves from all the evils we suffer. And from all the capitalist ideologies that

divide us, weaken us, and often pit us against one another.

Only by putting an end to wage slavery—the material basis of that vile exploitation—can we be free workers and live in peace and harmony. This requires a communist revolution led by the ICWP and the building of a world without money. A world without markets—where nothing is sold, especially our labor power.

A world without barter—where we collectively produce everything humanity needs solely for our benefit and not to fill the million-dollar coffers of the capitalists. A world where we will all contribute according to our dedication and abilities and receive according to our needs.

The struggle of the Bolivian working class has brought this issue to the forefront. It cries out for a communist revolution and underscores its urgency in the face of the global capitalist collapse and the looming Third World War.

FIGHT AGAINST IMMIGRANT KIDNAPPINGS EXPOSES FASCIST CORE OF CAPITALISM

LOS ANGELES (USA), June 23— “We’ve been organizing against ICE for more than a year,” said a thoughtful young activist. “I’ve been surprised to see how many people don’t know our rights. Even police and federal agents don’t know we all have rights. But then,” she added, “the government doesn’t respect our rights. There’s that, too.”

This reflects an important contradiction in mass mobilizations against fascist immigration cops across the USA. Many workers, youths, and others are horrified by the racist kidnappings of their neighbors. They have mobilized for the first time. Most have believed in American democracy and the US Constitution for their whole lives. But now they see the fist emerging from that velvet glove.

In Minnesota on June 16, Federal officials in Minnesota announced that a grand jury had ridiculously indicted 15 Minnesotans “for conspiracy to impede or injure federal officers.” And for efforts to allegedly “violently oppose immigration law enforcement.” Officials refused to provide details. But the indictments cite Signal posts, a blog post, and plans for a speaking tour.

This attempt to intimidate protesters is not working. “It’s scary to know that the federal government is turning on its own people,” said a Minneapolis minister. “But it’s not a reason to not show up.”

In Texas on June 23, nine protesters were convicted of “terrorism.” This stemmed from a Fourth of July protest at an immigrant concentration camp in Alvarado, Texas where an officer received a gunshot shoulder wound.

The defendants received sentences of fifty or more years in prison! Many of them did not know each other or were loosely affiliated. But prosecutors lied that the attack on the officer was premeditated and part of a conspiracy.

This is an example of the Trump administration’s plan to criminalize “antifa”, which is not even an organization. “Antifa” refers to anti-fascists. So much for “freedom of speech and assembly.”

Instead of “educating people about our rights,” we need to be explaining that the US Constitution exists to defend capitalist property rights. Instead of insisting on being “legal observers,” we should be preparing politically and then practically for communist revolution.

Communism will replace hollow



Belfast (Northern Ireland), June 2026— Thousands of anti-racist protesters gathered and marched in the city center in response to fascist attacks on immigrant workers. Chants included: “When migrant lives are under attack, what do we do? Stand up, fight back!” The fight against anti-immigrant racism is worldwide. To win, let’s build the International Communist Workers’ Party everywhere.

words about people’s “rights” with practical work to meet people’s needs. It will encourage the masses to express themselves and engage politically because their full partic-

ipation is needed to build a society that serves us all.

We need, right now, to shed all illusions that capitalist democracy will ever protect or serve us.

Senatobia, Mississippi (USA), June 20—Residents protest the fatal shooting of one-year-old Kohen Wiley by a police officer outside a Walmart. Kohen’s mother and her friend had been falsely accused of shoplifting diapers. They had actually paid for them! Diapers! A baby killed over a pack of diapers! This is the latest of many racist police attacks on Black people in this industrial town of 8500 people, 35 miles south of Memphis. Last year a cop threatened Breshari Faulkner with a Taser. He pulled her from her car and arrested her over a handicapped parking space in this same Walmart lot. Two years earlier, another cop was fired for arresting a ten-year-old Black boy for urinating in another parking lot.



Community members demand “Justice for Kohen.” But nothing will bring this baby back to life. There is no justice for workers under capitalism. Capitalist laws protect capitalists’ profits, not workers’ lives. Only communist revolution can end this murderous racist system.

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NEW E-MAIL: CONTACT@ICWPREDFLAG.ORG

“I Love Boosters” who fight for communist revolution!

This Boots Riley film is about a group of women (boosters) who shoplift expensive designer clothing and resell it at a low price. When I was young, I loved designing and making clothes. I went to school (Fashion Institute of Technology) to fulfill my dreams of someday becoming a part of that world. However, I discovered that the garment industry was run by backstabbing capitalists who exploited workers to make profits. When I was watching this film, I understood the character of Corvette and how she is torn between fulfilling her dreams and fighting the capitalist system.

Corvette and her comrades work

at a chain of clothing stores where the conditions are bad and the pay is low. They hate their boss. Initially they become Robin Hood types who steal from the rich (designer) and give/sell to the poor (fellow workers). But this scheme is not enough to make a difference. When they meet a worker from China where the garments are produced and hear about the horrible conditions there, they join forces and organize an international strike.

To travel to China and back to Oakland they use a gizmo called a “situational accelerator.” It can transport a person to a different place and time. It can heighten contradictions and deconstruct them. Clever, but I don’t think this really helped people to understand

dialectical materialism (DM). But a comrade I spoke with the next day said he thought “the attempt to make DM accessible to a mass audience was a solid attempt” and he “appreciated the directness of the film in that it had a clear position, and it was interested in conveying that position to the audience.”

In a transcript of a recent program on KQED there was an extensive history of Boots Riley’s life as an activist in the Bay Area. Some of us older members of ICWP have known Boots since he was a young teenager. He was then and has continued to describe himself as a communist. However, this film does not conclude that we need a communist revolution. He says, “The idea then

was the same as my idea now, which is to get the working class involved in class struggle.” This is not enough. Just struggling for reforms will not get rid of capitalism.

Of course, we know that if he made such a film the rich people that back him financially (and Boosters was a very expensive film to make!) would never let it come out. Historically, many creative people who were communists during the 1950s were blacklisted if they expressed communist ideas. But we have *Red Flag* and we know many talented and creative people. Let’s encourage them to contribute to the paper...and create communist culture.

—A former fashionista

TALKING WITH USA MARINES ABOUT BOOT CAMP AND COMMUNISM

LOS ANGELES, May 16—“Marines, right?” a comrade asked.

“How’d you guess?” the young Marine responded.

“It’s the haircut,” the comrade responded. “I had one of those, back when I had hair. I was in the Army in Iraq, though, so it was a little less obvious. We’re from LA. We like to come down here to talk to Marines.”

We’ve been visiting Oceanside (near Camp Pendleton) for many years. Recently we have made the two-hour drive more consistently. We go with prepared ICWP literature folded into our pockets.

“What do you guys think of what’s going on?” the comrade continued.

“We don’t think about it that much,” said a second Marine. “We’ve got a job to do and we do it.”

“I get that,” said an older comrade who gives off good grandmotherly vibes. “And it’s true as far as it goes. And why should you share your innermost feelings with a couple of random people on the sidewalk? But you went through boot camp. You know the Nuremberg defense: ‘I was just following orders.’ And you know that didn’t

wash. And ‘just doing my job’ is pretty close to that.

“You have your own brain and your own buddies,” she continued, “and I know you think about these things and probably talk about them with the folks you trust.”

“They told us in boot camp that US troops don’t kill women or children,” said a third Marine.

“Sometimes in real life it doesn’t turn out that way,” said the comrade veteran. He told a story about a protest at a base in Kirkuk (Iraq) because the guard had shot and killed a kid at the gate.

“The sergeant was reading from a script,” the second comrade added. Three Marines agreed.

We had conversations about refusing to follow orders. The comrade veteran’s unit was sent to search for IEDs, a very dangerous task. They collectively refused.

We talked about Hugh Thompson Jr. (1943-2006), the heroic warrant officer who stopped the My Lai massacre.

We told them about what Marine military historian Col. Robert D. Heinl, Jr., wrote in the Armed Forces Journal in 1971. “By every conceivable indicator, our army that now remains in Vietnam is in

a state approaching collapse, with individual units avoiding or having refused combat, murdering their officers and non-commissioned officers, drug-ridden, and dispirited where not near mutinous.”

We talked about the contradictions of racism/patriotism. Boot camp functions to create multi-racial bonds. The groups of Marines we talk with are multiethnic. But boot camp also trains recruits to dehumanize “the enemy,” often with racist slurs.

We talked about imperialist war and how only the rich benefit.

And by the time we mention communism, the tone of our discussions is very friendly. After a conversation, most Marines take our literature. We reassure them that the Universal Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) states that the mere possession of unauthorized literature is not an infraction. This time, half the Marines immediately opened *Red Flag* and started to read it.

Ultimately, the common ground we all have at this time is imperialist war.

We encourage ICWP comrades and friends in the Los Angeles area to join our trips to Oceanside. We

encourage all ICWP collectives to develop and report on plans to reach out to active-duty military personnel.

If you are in the military anywhere, we encourage you to share the ideas in this paper with your buddies. And send us your reactions, anonymously if you prefer.



Above: Sailors on USS Constellation refuse genocidal orders during US War on Vietnam
Read our pamphlet: **SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES: CRUCIAL TO COMMUNIST WORKERS' REVOLUTION**
at icwpredflag.org/mpe.pdf



IRAN: WHO'S WINNING AND WHO'S LOSING?

June 23— As we go to press, the US rulers are obviously losing in Iran. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed last week declares an end to all hostilities, including in Lebanon, by the US and Iranian military and their allies. Iran agrees to reopen the Strait of Hormuz for the next 60 days. It reaffirms that they won’t buy or develop nuclear weapons. (This was in place before the war.) The US agrees to pay economic compensation, to lift sanctions on Iranian oil, and to unfreeze Iranian assets in the US. The bosses’ press worldwide agrees that this is a humiliating defeat for the US.

In spite of the MoU, the Israeli military (IDF) continues its campaign of death and destruction in southern Lebanon. This has sharpened contradictions within Israeli society, intensifying the crisis brought about by the genocide in Gaza.

Trump complains publicly that IDF attacks on Lebanon are undermining US authority. Yet the US “War” Department continues planning to integrate the IDF and the US weapons industry.

Iranian state media proclaimed victory. But it’s no victory for the Iranian working class. This war began with the murder of school children and the bombing of oil dumps. It has brought terror, de-

struction, pollution, and death to the Iranian masses. Months ago, the Iranian rulers were facing mass rebellions. They have been able to use this war to strengthen their hold on power and set back working-class opposition.

Trump has done so many vicious, corrupt, and demented things that it’s hard to say what might be the tipping point. But the murderous debacle in Iran has alienated supporters who believed him when he said, “No new wars.” His open indifference to the costs of war at the pump and in the deaths of service members have sent his approval ratings to new lows.

To many, the US Democratic Party looks good by comparison. It will probably win some major elections. The Democrats are unlikely to undo much of what Trump has done. They probably wouldn’t have launched this war on Iran, but they have chosen plenty of other wars. They will build on this, on the national security state, on Trump’s fascist ICE raids.

The US/Israel vs. Iran war has destabilized political alliances in the region. US allies saw that the US left them unprotected from Iranian drones. The rulers of the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and others, are reaching out to other regional and world



Tel Aviv, Occupied Palestine, 2025—Protesters against genocide in Gaza hold up photographs of Palestinian children killed by Israeli military.

powers, including Türkiye, Pakistan, Russia and China.

Alliances are shifting and forming up as US and Chinese imperialisms position themselves as global adversaries. In this process, China is the big winner. It emerges as a reliable long-term partner that will invest in industrial parks, ports, and logistics corridors to guarantee the flow of oil and oil profits. It will reap the rewards in global allies.

The working class never wins any wars except communist revolution. The rulers send us, our family members and fellow workers to fight for their interests. These wars are not our wars. That’s true in the US. In Iran. In Israel, Russia, and Ukraine. It’s true all over the world.

Our war is a class war against the bosses who get rich off of our

work—and increase their power off of our blood and sacrifice. Armed conflicts like the one in Iran show us that capitalism is an unstable system, where peace is temporary but wars for profit are always on the verge of breaking out.

In this pivotal moment, the US as a declining empire is fighting to keep its position in relation to China as a rising power. More and more wars are inevitable.

Soldiers, sailors, and Marines pay in blood for these wars. They are also in a key position to end them. When they join with revolutionary workers and youth, we can overthrow this capitalist system. We can build a communist system where we will live and work together in commitment to the common good.