



Israel's terrorist attacks on Lebanon provoke wider war



Mass funeral held in Beirut on Sept. 23, 2024, for Hezbollah military commanders assassinated by Israeli airstrikes.

of Health. Explosions occurred during the funerals of Sept. 17 victims.

The targets on both days were primarily civilian sites, such as homes, offices, hospitals and vehicles.

Thousands of Lebanese people, including health care workers, have been blinded, injured, maimed and burned. This cowardly act by Israel constitutes a war crime.

In addition, a number of Hezbollah liberation fighters were killed by Israeli airstrikes following the cyberattacks, including Senior Commander Ibrahim Aqil. The U.S. government praised the assassination of Aqil.

U.S. imperialists did not condemn the cyberattack which should come as no surprise given their ongoing support for Israel's genocide in Gaza.

Israel, whose goal is to widen the war in West Asia, has signaled that it is preparing for a ground invasion of Lebanon as the Zionist state escalates more airstrikes against Lebanese civilians and non-civilians resulting in over 500 killed and over 1,600 wounded as of Sept. 23.

The right to self-defense

Hezbollah has every right to take any measures it deems necessary to undermine Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people. Over 41,000 — and probably closer to 200,000 — people in Gaza have been massacred by the Israeli genocide since October 7, 2023. About one-third of them have been children.

Iran and Iraq sent medical personnel to Lebanon to assist in treating the many wounded. This includes



Flood Manhattan for Lebanon rally, Madison Square Park, Sept. 24, 2024.

WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

eye injury specialists from Iran. The Popular Mobilization Forces of Iraq sent 15 tons of medical aid along with 20 doctors to Lebanon. Palestinian Dr. Ghassan Abu Sitta announced plans to travel to Beirut to help the wounded with reconstructive surgery. Also Syrian, Jordanian and Egyptian governments have offered medical aid.

Medical personnel from all over Lebanon have transferred to hospitals and clinics in the areas in Beirut and the south with the most wounded people to provide emergency care.

These acts of medical assistance express the massive solidarity with Palestine and Lebanon felt throughout West Asia and all over the world and demonstrated by the million-strong marches held in Yemen, Jordan and other countries.

Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary-General of Hezbollah, has made it clear that Hezbollah will continue and redouble its support for Palestine and that it is prepared for a prolonged battle.

In what Hezbollah has declared as the new phase of the struggle against Israel as "Open Reckoning Battle," the liberation force has hit hard illegal Zionist settlements like in Haifa as well as Ramat David, a major Israeli air base and the Rafael Military Industries Complex.

The Lebanese government has pledged that its military will support Hezbollah along with support from the Iraqi and Yemeni resistance.

From Palestine to Lebanon, oppressed people have the right to rebel! Solidarity is not a crime! Victory to the Axis of Resistance! □

From Palestine to Lebanon, oppressed people have the right to rebel! Solidarity is not a crime! Victory to the Axis of Resistance! □

EDITORIAL

Workers World condemns in the strongest terms the Sept. 17 terrorist act of the Israeli state:

the cyberattack involving thousands of coordinated pager explosions that killed 21 people, including two children. The son of a Lebanese Member of Parliament Ali Ammar was also killed and the Iranian ambassador to Lebanon, Mojtaba Amani, was injured.

Israel had the pagers programmed to explode simultaneously on command. This heinous attack was orchestrated to punish Hezbollah for carrying out military actions in solidarity with the Palestinian Resistance.

On Sept. 18, another Israeli cyberattack took place in Lebanon involving the use of walkie-talkies and other electronic devices resulting in an additional 20 people dead and 450 wounded, according to Lebanon's Ministry

Almost 500 Starbucks stores — Union drive goes forward

By Martha Grevatt

Starbucks Workers United held "Red for Bread" actions outside stores across the country during the weekend of Sept. 20-22. Supporters held informational picket lines and leaflet distributions to educate customers and passersby on why Starbucks workers need a union. September was the third month that SBWU held hundreds of coordinated actions under the "Red for Bread" theme.

Customers have generally been friendly to union backers, gladly taking leaflets to learn why Starbucks workers need a union.

In an email sent to supporters, SBWU stated: "Right now, delegates from nearly 500 union stores are bargaining with the company to upgrade our pay, benefits, scheduling and much more. Just this week workers at the SR 535 and Vistana Centre in Orlando became the 494th store to join the union. And it's not too early for allies to help us celebrate store 500!"

The union expects to win more elections before the end of September — enough to bring the total number of union Starbucks stores to more than 500! □



Philadelphia rally defends Haitian refugees

The New Sanctuary Movement organized a rally Sept. 19 in Philadelphia with Churches and Communities Helping Haitian Migrants to push back against Donald Trump and JD Vance's racist and xenophobic comments about Haitians.

The rally was held in front of the National Constitution Center, where Donald Trump's debate with Vice-President Kamala Harris took place Sept. 10. Speakers included several religious leaders and two City Council members, Nick O'Rourke and Kendra Brooks. O'Rourke criticized both the Republican Party and the Democratic Party for deporting many Haitians and called out U.S. imperialism for many of Haiti's problems.

— Report and photo by Joe Piette



'Stop the Shock' at Rotenberg! 3
Justice for Amanda Cahill! 3

- Abortion bans cause deaths 4
- Billionaires' mayor okays 76ers arena 4
- Defying protest restrictions in Buffalo 4
- Boeing strikers determined to win 5
- Teamsters concession to Trump 5
- On the picket line 5
- PFLP on pro-genocide candidates 7

Get a daily digest of articles in your Inbox. Sign up at www.workers.org/subscribe

New Telegram channel: t.me/WorkersWorldParty

Celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day! Support Workers World

MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD 
this week

Boston's proclamation on Oct. 6, 2021, that the second Monday of October every year would be Indigenous Peoples Day "in lieu of" Columbus Day was a victory for Native peoples, since the U.S. settler-colonial project, which resulted in genocide and the theft and devastation of their lands and cultures, began and continued in what is now Massachusetts.

Two days later, a federal Indigenous Peoples Day was proclaimed. President Joe Biden acknowledged the atrocities which "European explorers inflicted on Tribal nations and Indigenous communities." These pronouncements came about due to the strong, unified struggles by Indigenous peoples and their allies, notably at Standing Rock against the Dakota Access Pipeline, the courageous, militant fight that shut down the Keystone XL Pipeline and more.

The movement for recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day began in the 1970s. A delegation of Native nations to the U.N.-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas, held in Geneva in 1977, first proposed replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day; their resolution passed.

Then, in July 1990, representatives from 120 Indigenous nations from throughout the Americas met in Quito, Ecuador, at the First Continental Conference on "500 Years of Indian Resistance." They unanimously passed a resolution to transform Columbus Day in 1992 "into an occasion to strengthen our process of continental unity and struggle towards our liberation."



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Indigenous Peoples Day, Oct. 10, 2021, Philadelphia.

In 1992, Berkeley, California, became the first U.S. city to adopt Indigenous Peoples Day. Since then, 17 states, Washington, D.C., and over 130 cities have dumped the Columbus Day holiday honoring the racist, genocidal conqueror and recognized Indigenous peoples, their history and cultures on that day.

Workers World has continually supported the righteous struggles of Native peoples on the streets and in our newspaper. WW joins Indigenous communities to demand: Free political prisoner, Leonard Peltier! Sink Columbus Day! Celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day in every city, town and state! Land back!

Join the WW Supporter Program

This pro-worker, pro-socialist newspaper depends on our readers' backing. The WW Supporter Program was launched 47 years ago to help print and mail this socialist newspaper and for 30 years has supported workers.org, where new articles are posted daily and the weekly paper's PDF is displayed.

Workers.org contains news and analyses of global and U.S. struggles, bulletins from national liberation movements and articles translated by our staff. Our writer-organizers report on anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist struggles and help build people's movements against racism and war—and for the rights of Black, Latiné, Indigenous, Asian and Arab peoples, women, gender-oppressed people, workers, migrants, LGBTQIA2S+ and disabled individuals. This website is a resource for political activists.

While WW's staff is voluntary, the 12 issues printed yearly and the website incur expenses. Although many online publications require payments to read their articles, WW does not. **Our articles are free to all readers.**

Can you donate \$50, \$100 or \$200 a year? Contributing \$50 or more will entitle you to receive 12 print issues a year, email links to articles posted online, and, upon request, a copy of the book "What Road to Socialism?"

Your donations help get class truth to more readers—and are appreciated. Write monthly or annual checks to Workers World. Include your name, address and email; write "Supporter Program" on the memo line. Mail to Workers World at 121 West 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. □

♦ In the U.S.

- Union drive goes forward at Starbucks 1
- Philadelphia rally defends Haitian refugees 1
- No more deaths from abortion bans! 4
- Philadelphia: Billionaires' mayor okays arena 4
- Students, workers defy UB protest restrictions . . . 4
- Portland Boeing strikers are determined to win . . 5
- Teamsters election position: concession to Trump . . 5
- On the picket line 5

♦ Around the world

- China – Socialist or imperialist? – the difference . . 6
- Tariffs, the U.S. and China 7
- PFLP: Both candidates support Zionist genocide . . 7
- DPRK women's soccer team outshines U.S. 7

♦ Tear down the walls

- No torture at Rotenberg! Shut it down! 3
- Justice for Amanda Cahill! 3

♦ Editorial

- Israel's attacks on Lebanon provoke wider war . . . 1

♦ Mundo Obrero

- Harris audiciona para ser la mejor guerrera 8
- El xenófobo racista Trump busca un 2º mandato . . 8

Workers World
121 W. 27th St., Suite 404
New York, NY 10001
Phone: 212.627.2994
E-mail: wwp@workers.org
Web: www.workers.org



Vol. 66, No. 39 • September 26, 2024
Closing date: September 25, 2024

Editors: John Catalinotto, Martha Grevatt, Deirdre Griswold, Monica Moorehead, Betsey Piette

Web Editors: ABear, Harvey Markowitz, Janet Mayes

Tear Down the Walls! Editors: Mirinda Crissman, Teddie Kelly

Production & Design Editors: Gery Armsby, Sasha Mazumder

Copyediting and Proofreading: Paddy Colligan, Steve Gillis, K. James

Contributing Editors: G. Dunkel, K. Durkin, Sara Flounders, Otis Grotewohl, Gloria Rubac

Mundo Obrero: Deborah Rodriguez, Carlos Vargas

Copyright © 2024 Workers World. Verbatim copying and distribution of articles is permitted in any medium without royalty provided this notice is preserved.

Workers World (ISSN-1070-4205) is published monthly by WW Publishers, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Phone: 212.627.2994. Subscriptions: One year: \$36; institutions: \$50. Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited. Articles can be freely reprinted, with credit to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or photocopy from NA Publishing, Inc, P.O. Box 998, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0998. A searchable archive is available on the Web at www.workers.org.

A headline digest is available via e-mail subscription. Subscription information is at workers.org.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404 New York, N.Y. 10001.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and

worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. □

If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact:

National Office
121 W. 27th St., Suite 404
New York, NY 10001
212.627.2994
wwp@workers.org

Atlanta
PO Box 18123
Atlanta, GA 30316
404.627.0185
atlanta@workers.org

Bay Area
P.O. Box 22947
Oakland, CA 94609
510.394.2207
bayarea@workers.org

Boston
284 Amory St.
Boston, MA 02130
boston@workers.org
instagram: @wwpboston

Buffalo, N.Y.
335 Richmond Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14222
716.883.2534
buffalo@workers.org

Central Gulf Coast
(Alabama, Florida, Mississippi)
centralgulfoast@workers.org

Cleveland
cleveland@workers.org

Durham, N.C.
919.322.9970
durham@workers.org

Houston
P.O. Box 3454
Houston, TX 77253-3454
713.503.2633
houston@workers.org

Minnesota
minnesota@workers.org

Philadelphia
P.O. Box 5634
Philadelphia, PA 19129
610.931.2615
phila@workers.org

Portland, Ore.
portland@workers.org

Salt Lake City
801.750.0248
slc@workers.org

San Antonio
sanantonio@workers.org

Seattle
seattle@workers.org

West Virginia
WestVirginia@workers.org



No torture at Rotenberg! Shut it down!

By Gloria Rubac

The Stop the Shock Coalition will protest outside the Judge Rotenberg Center (JRC) on Oct. 5 in Canton, Massachusetts, to demand an end to the torture, including shock therapy, used on disabled people housed at the center.

This coalition has over 30 member organizations, including the Disability Justice and Rights Caucus of Workers World Party, National ADAPT (American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today), Autism Career Pathways and the Autistic Peoples of Color Fund. The coalition has held previous demonstrations, rallies and press conferences to bring attention to the torture of disabled people at the center.

Fifteen miles southwest of Boston, Canton is headquarters to Dunkin Doughnuts and Reebok. The population is 75% white, and the median household income is over \$130,000. U.S. Census Bureau 2020 data reports that 61.9% of the 24,370 people living in Canton have a bachelor's degree or higher.

On the surface, this center's lush, manicured lawns, large shade trees and colorful metal flowers and butterfly sculptures may resemble a small college campus in a nice little town, but this belies the fact that inside the walls of Rotenberg torture is practiced.

U.N. report links Rotenberg torture to six deaths

Manfred Nowak, the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on Torture, said he was shocked after reading a report on Rotenberg by Mental Disability Rights International in 2010. (tinyurl.com/5da96ffr) The 67-page report was titled: "Torture not Treatment: Electric Shock and Long-Term Restraint in the United States on Children and Adults with Disabilities at the Judge Rotenberg Center; Urgent Appeal to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture."

As the U.N. report shows, Rotenberg has used shock treatments known as GED or graduated electronic decelerator treatment for decades, and this is linked to the deaths of six children. One child, Andre McCollins, was shocked and tortured over 30 times, because he refused to take off his coat. His mother, Cheryl McCollins, has become a dedicated activist and organizer, working on the Oct. 5 protest.

There have been past protests at the JRC in Boston and in New York State where the Board of Education has been an enthusiastic conspirator complicit in shipping New York children with disabilities to be shocked,



GRAPHIC: LITTLE LOBBYISTS

tortured and murdered. Most of the residents are actually from New York. A state law, named "Andre's Law" after Andre McCollins, which would ban sending New Yorkers with disabilities to Rotenberg has been proposed in Albany at the New York legislature.

In 2020, the Food and Drug Administration banned GED devices, citing an "unreasonable and substantial risk of illness or injury." The FDA said evidence pointed to both psychological and physical risks including burns, tissue damage, worsening underlying symptoms, depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder. But the

regulation was overturned by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in 2021, saying FDA officials had overstepped their authority.

Since that time, Congress clarified that the FDA does have the right to ban the devices, which prompted the agency to file another proposal. The issue of GEDs will face more litigation in the coming period.

System fails people with autism spectrum disorder

The Rotenberg Center is the only place in the country that uses the controversial skin shock therapy. Many of the 250 residents at Rotenberg are on the autism spectrum. According to Massachusetts General Hospital, autism spectrum disorder, ASD, affects 1-in-36 children.

ASD is one of the fastest-growing developmental disorders in the United States and lasts throughout a person's lifetime. People with ASD have difficulties with communication. This can look like significant challenges with spoken language or with social communication. (tinyurl.com/5n992d9z)

Texas plans to execute a man with autism on Oct. 15, although there was actually no crime committed. This case reveals the ways the criminal justice system can fail people with diagnoses like autism.

Robert Roberson, who has autism, took his little daughter Nikki to the hospital in 2002 when she rolled out of bed and was unresponsive. Nurses and doctors thought Roberson's responses were not appropriate. His expression was flat, he took the time to dress his daughter, and he showed no emotional distress for Nikki. So, they didn't believe his story. He was charged, convicted of capital murder and sent to death row.

Roberson's planned execution has caused a wave of attention to his autism from researchers, journalists and support organizations who offer guides for people with autism and their parents on how to interact with police. (tinyurl.com/bdd6bv47) □

Justice for Amanda Cahill!

By Joe Piette
Philadelphia

Protesting the recent deaths of Amanda Cahill and Michael McKinnis due to inhumane conditions inside Philadelphia jails and calling for an end to mass incarceration, dozens of activists disrupted and shut down a criminal legal system panel at the Parkway Central Free Library on Sept. 17.

As Philadelphia Department of Prisons Commissioner Michael Resnick was introduced at a panel discussion ironically entitled "Excessive Punishment and Mass Incarceration," about half of the audience stood up in protest, including Cahill's cousin, Kayden Hujack. As she and 40 other protesters held up signs, Hujack demanded justice for Cahill, 31, the mother of two young children, who died in a Philadelphia city jail cell on Sept. 7.

Cahill died while being held following a police sweep in the Kensington section of the city earlier this month targeting narcotics users and people with open warrants. McKinnis, 61, was arrested at home on three outstanding warrants and was being held in the Curran-Fromhold jail. He was found deceased in his cell on Sept. 14. Both were being held in unsupervised intake units awaiting medical screening when they died.

Hujack yelled and her comrades repeated in call-and-response fashion: "Under your watch, my cousin Amanda Cahill died. For hours, women in their cells banged on their doors. They all called for help. Nobody came. How does that make you feel?"

As panel participants were escorted off the stage and quickly fled the room, the people's mic repeated Hujack's charged words: "Justice for Amanda Cahill. You took my cousin's life. She suffered for six hours and



Amanda Cahill's cousin, Kayden Hujack, leads chants charging Philadelphia Prison Commissioner Michael Resnick with murder, Sept. 17, 2024.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

45 minutes. End the torture now. Justice for Amanda. Close the Philly jails now. Michael Resnick, you have blood on your hands."

Jails are death traps

These most recent deaths in this city's jails are not a new phenomenon. A November 2023 Workers World article reported: "Many community meetings and protests over the last three years outside City Hall and at the city's four prisons criticized rodent infestations, small food portions, the use of solitary confinement, severe staffing shortages and other inhumane policies in Philadelphia jails." (www.workers.org/2023/11/74858/)

An August 2022 PrisonLegalNews.org article reported: "Philadelphia's jails appear to be failing on nearly every level, from staffing and security to medical and mental health care, occupational opportunities, library and recreation time and even the provision of the

most basic human needs such as food and sanitation."

There were recent warnings from community activists, health and policy experts, former Prison Commissioner Blanche Carney and Bruce Herdman, current chief of medical operations for the Philadelphia Department of Prisons, that the system was incapable of safely handling an influx of arrests and providing adequate medical care inside already chronically understaffed and overfilled facilities.

Instead of using harm reduction mobile units and other programs to save the lives of chronic drug users in Philadelphia's Seventh District, city officials decided to order sweeps of people using drugs in impoverished Kensington neighborhoods, placing many of them in the already overwhelmed city jail system.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, Sept. 17, noted: "This summer a federal judge found the city in contempt of court for failing to remedy unconstitutional jail conditions and ordered the city to pay

\$25 million into a dedicated jail-operations fund to be overseen by the court." The impact of documented violence, prolonged solitary confinement and inadequate health care in the jails endangers everyone, including the physical and mental health of those newly detained through the drug sweeps.

Putting more people in jail is not the way to solve or prevent community health issues in Kensington. Instead of enacting a public health approach to the long-time, ongoing crisis, Resnick, Mayor Cherrille Parker and other city bureaucrats are instituting policies that kill people.

The solution isn't that hard to understand. If the city invested in more health care, libraries, after-school programs, job training and other community programs instead of mass incarceration, Amanda Cahill and Michael McKinnis would be alive today. □

No more deaths from abortion bans!

By Kathy Durkin

Since the Supreme Court of the United States overturned legal abortion in June 2022 with its Dobbs decision, 22 states have enacted abortion bans or very restrictive laws. This ruling has had severe consequences for pregnant people in these states, especially those who are Black, Latiné and Indigenous and living in the South.

Many states require pregnant people to be on the verge of death or facing “irreversible harm” to obtain lifesaving abortions. So doctors — afraid of imprisonment and losing their licenses — are denying medical intervention until pregnant people are at death’s door. Sooner or later, these draconian laws were bound to result in fatalities.

In September, ProPublica reported on the deaths of two Black women, both parents, 28-year-old Amber Nicole Thurman and 41-year-old Candi Miller in 2022 in Georgia, which has a strict abortion ban. Thurman had severe sepsis and was hospitalized for 20 hours until doctors operated. By then it was too late. Miller, who had three chronic health conditions, had a rare reaction to abortion pills. Afraid to seek medical care due to the ban, she died at home.

Medical experts, including 10 doctors, said these deaths were “preventable.” Outrageously, it took two years for them to be discovered.



Amber Nicole Thurman and Candi Miller

Abortion bans disproportionately harm Black women. Georgia has one of the country’s highest maternal mortality rates. There, Black women are three times more likely to die than white women from pregnancy-related complications.

SisterSong: ‘Take action!’

SisterSong, a women of color reproductive justice collective based in Georgia, sounded the alarm for Black women on Facebook Sept. 16: “Today, we are mourning the loss of Amber Nicole Thurman. When Amber sought medical care, doctors delayed providing lifesaving care as Georgia law criminalized the procedure Amber needed.”

“Experts deemed Amber’s death preventable, but this is the result of heartless attacks on our bodies. This is the reality of being a Black woman seeking care in an anti-abortion America. ... We must Trust Black Women to lead the fight to defeat extremist politicians who oppose bodily autonomy.”

Danielle Rodriguez, SisterSong’s Georgia Coordinator stated: “We cannot allow Amber’s death to be in vain. It is time for us to take action. We call on every person who believes in the right to safe, accessible health care to stand with us. Contact your local representatives and demand they repeal Georgia’s abortion ban, which is killing our loved ones.”

On Sept. 18, SisterSong posted: “We are in the midst of a reproductive health crisis! We refuse to sit idly by while Black women lose their lives due to the criminalization of care caused by restrictive abortion bans. If you are ready to organize to put an end to the control of our bodies, we welcome you. Reproductive Justice envisions a world where all of us can make decisions about our bodies and determine our futures.”

“We need all hands on deck to demand accountability for Amber Nicole Thurman and Candi Miller. If we don’t act now, their stories — and the untold tragedies yet to come — will only become more common.”

Remember Amber Thurman! Remember Candi Miller! □

Philadelphia: Billionaires’ mayor okays arena

By Betsey Piette
Philadelphia

Philadelphia Mayor Cherelle Parker came out strongly in support of billionaire developers on Sept. 18 when she announced that she will present a legislative package to the City Council for approval of a controversial plan by the 76ers basketball team to build an arena in Center City. The pre-recorded announcement, released to select media in a closed-door session, was strongly denounced by protesters with the Save Chinatown Coalition who were gathered outside City Hall.

For over two years, thousands of demonstrators have protested the arena they say will do irreparable harm to the city’s historic 150-plus year-old Chinatown.

The 76ers billionaire owners have proposed moving the team from their current facility in South Philadelphia to a new \$1.55 billion arena they call “76 Place” that would encroach on blocks of Philadelphia’s Chinatown.

One impact study commissioned by the city cited harm to Chinatown with half of the neighborhood’s small businesses losing out economically if the arena is built. The study said only one out of five small businesses is positioned to benefit from a project that would only be open 150 days of the year.

Another community impact study concluded the arena “could potentially result



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Members of Students Against the Sixers Arena lead chants at Save Chinatown Rally, Philadelphia, Sept. 18, 2024.

in the loss of Chinatown’s core identity and regional significance.” The city released four studies about the potential arena’s impact in late August.

Opponents of the arena have voiced concerns over increased traffic congestion that could also hinder access to nearby hospital facilities. They cited a likely increase in gentrification and displacement that would drive up the cost of living in Chinatown and other nearby communities, including Washington Square West and Philadelphia’s Gayborhood.

Speaking at the Sept. 18 rally, Katie Garth, a cofounder of No Arena

Washington Square West, called the proposal a “land grab by billionaires.”

While the mayor and the 76ers’ owners boast that the project would “create jobs,” opponents point out that the construction workers required to build the arena could be employed to build it or another project anywhere else in the city. The jobs available once an arena opens would tend to be part-time, low wage jobs.

Hundreds of concession-stand workers currently employed by Aramark at Philadelphia’s three major sports facilities who are demanding higher wages and benefits, began striking on Sept. 23 when the company refused to meet their demands.

The Save Chinatown Coalition, composed of over 245 organizations, small businesses, community organizations and faith congregations and hundreds of individuals has been outspoken about their opposition. They have staged countless demonstrations, including one on Sept. 7, when 4,000 people filled the streets of Center City.

Mayor disrespects Chinatown residents

Historically, residents of the area already dealt with construction of a major expressway that cut the community in two; expansion of a Center City shopping mall; construction and expansion of the convention center; and placement of a federal prison in their community.

They successfully fought plans for a

Phillies baseball stadium in 2000 and two casinos in 2008. “We sure as hell are going to fight this out, to stop this arena that’s going to threaten not just Chinatown but the heart of our city,” said Mohan Seshadri, executive director of the Asian Pacific Islanders Political Alliance at the Sept. 18 rally.

In her video, Parker falsely claimed that she “has listened to” the people of Chinatown. But a member of Students Against the Sixers Arena, Faye Liu, told the rally: “The Save Chinatown Coalition has invited Parker on multiple occasions to meet with us and visit this special community. We asked in September 2023, January 2024, February 2024 and March 2024, and in every instance, the request was declined or ignored. We are asking the mayor again, before you decide whether our community lives or dies, will you come on a tour of Chinatown with us? Will you look our neighbors in the eye?”

Longtime Chinatown community member Debbie Wei told those gathered for the rally: “Mayor Parker still hasn’t met with Chinatown after all this time yet feels she can have a stance on whether our community should live or die. This was never about one person, and this fight is far from over. We are going to fight this, and we are going to the mat. It’s on.”

Rally participants responded to Wei with loud chants of “Mayor Parker, shame on you!” □

Students and university workers defy protest restrictions

By Daphne Barroeta
Buffalo

On September 20, a group of 30 to 40 students and university staff assembled on the University at Buffalo’s North Campus to disobey new rules put in place by the university to restrict protest — especially protest for Palestine. The contingent was led by the Communist Student League (formerly the Marxist Youth League), with support from State University of New York (SUNY) Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement, the UB Young Democratic Socialists of America; and the Buffalo branch of Workers World Party.

Civil disobedience targeted the bans on sound amplification equipment and on

using sidewalk chalk.

One of the higher-ranking university police officers attempted to confiscate the sound equipment but was blocked by three of the protest marshals. He quickly retreated and was given orders to observe only. The contingent marched to two high traffic locations on campus, where messages supporting Palestine and condemning the university administration were chalked onto sidewalks, concrete planters and brick walls.

This demonstration is part of a series of actions protesting the new university policies and the SUNY system’s ties to Israel.

Go to tinyurl.com/mrm4vx96 for more information. □



Demonstrators on University of Buffalo campus, Sept. 20, 2024. PHOTO: XIOLA BAGWELL/THE SPECTRUM

Portland Boeing strikers are determined to win

By Lyn Neeley
Portland, Oregon

Over 30,000 Boeing workers, members of the Machinists union (IAM), have been on strike in the Pacific Northwest since Sept. 13. Portland is one of the cities where the IAM has kept up militant picket lines. Workers World spoke with strikers on the picket line on Sept. 22.

Amid the constant stream of supportive honks by drivers passing by, strike captain Dan Peterson said: “In Portland, we are 1,244 strong, and I’m proud of each one of us. We do the hard stuff, working with the hard metal machines. We expect Boeing to negotiate a fair contract. What they’ve offered us so far is a slap in the face. We will be here until they do.”

Peterson added: “They expect us to work a lot of overtime we don’t always want to do. We want them to stop mandatory overtime.” He said workers are fighting for better wages, benefits and safety from a company that has been making

critical errors, critical mistakes and blaming the workers for it.

Scott, a striker, said: “Boeing is not negotiating. We’ve only gotten a 4% increase in the last decade. We’re getting the same benefits and wages we’ve gotten for the last 16 years.”

One activist out with the strikers works inside the Boeing plant with other members of the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA). They are not on strike but are walking the picket lines in support of the machinists.

Sally, Scott’s spouse, said the families will be standing beside the strikers the whole way.

“We have the working class on our



WW PHOTO: LYN NEELEY

In front from left: A member of SPEEA, Scott and Sally, Sept. 22, 2024.

side,” said another striker. “We’ve had a ton of support from the community, other unions and union officials.”

IAM International President Brian Bryant spoke to the strikers at a large rally on Sept. 19 outside of Boeing’s facility in

Portland. He told the audience: “They need to come to the table with an offer that truly reflects what our members need, what their workers need, and that’s something that makes up for the 10 years of wage stagnation, the 10 years of a loss of a pension, 10 years of the continuous increase in health insurance costs.” (kgw.com, Sept. 19)

At the rally, Oregon AFL-CIO President Graham Trainor told the strikers, “Now, it’s time for Boeing [executives] to stop listening to the 50th floor and start listening to the factory floor, and settle a fair contract!” National AFL-CIO President

Liz Schuler has also expressed support.

Scott said the strike has increased the solidarity the workers at Boeing already had. It has strengthened the whole community. It helps other workers in our class and the community at large. □

Teamsters election position: a concession to Trump

By Martha Grevatt

With the November election less than 45 days away, most organizations, including unions, have made their endorsements. Nine of the 10 largest unions in the U.S. have endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris for president. The lone exception is the Teamsters union (IBT) which, in a statement released Sept. 18, indicated it was not endorsing either Harris or former President Donald Trump.

Unfortunately, this break with tradition — which under other circumstances might have been welcome as a progressive challenge to the Democratic Party’s stranglehold on the labor movement — actually represents a capitulation to the reactionary Trump forces.

According to the Teamsters’ own statement, the non-endorsement was approved by the union’s General Executive Board after “in independent electronic and phone polling from July-September, a majority of voting members twice selected Trump for a possible Teamsters endorsement over Harris.” (teamster.org)

This poll should have been a wake-up call to the Teamsters leadership! Such a high level of support for this fascist candidate indicates that a mass anti-racist educational campaign is urgently needed. The union statement should have announced that it was going all-out to win its rank and file away from the white-supremacist and xenophobic ideology that Trump epitomizes. Such a campaign would build working-class solidarity

against the capitalist class, including its ultraright wing.

The union statement rightly criticized both Trump and Harris for not committing to support railroad workers’ right to strike and Biden’s record of blocking a railroad strike in 2022. But a Teamsters-wide anti-racist mobilization would strengthen class unity around defending the rights of railroad workers, who include IBT members.

Instead, Teamsters President Sean O’Brien is continuing down the slippery slope, beginning with his horrendous speech at the Republican National Convention in July, of treating racism and bigotry as non-issues.

What should unions do?

The revolt inside the Teamsters against O’Brien’s appeasement of the Trump forces has already begun, but it has been limited to the narrow confines of endorsing Harris. That is the clearly stated position of the newly formed Teamsters Against Trump.

Many Teamster locals have come out for Harris, seeing no other way to oppose Trump — who is blatantly anti-union and recently joked with billionaire Elon Musk about firing striking

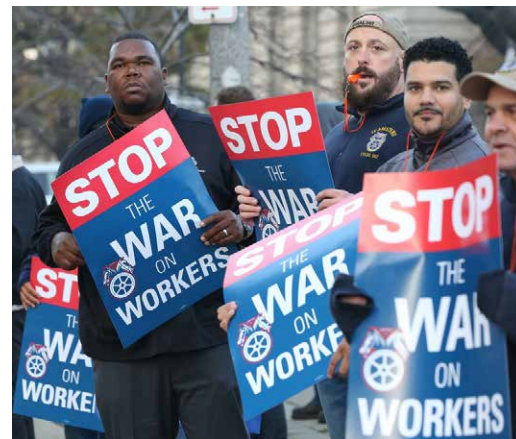
workers, which is illegal — beyond falling in line behind the Democratic Party.

A progressive non-endorsement would bear no resemblance to the Teamsters’ recent statement. For starters, it would call out both candidates for supporting the genocide in Palestine. It would oppose the China-bashing and warmongering oozing out of the mouths of both Harris and Trump.

But in fact the Teamsters union has not even taken a position on Palestine. This is in contrast to most of the largest U.S. unions, who at least have called for a ceasefire and an arms embargo on Israel, in spite of endorsing Harris.

A progressive non-endorsement would call on the workers and oppressed to build a militant, independent, class-wide movement against the capitalist class and all its wars. This movement might include a new third party — a working class party to oppose both parties of big business.

But for right now the job of launching such a movement will fall on rank-and-file workers. □



Cleveland city workers, members of the Teamsters union, rally Nov. 2, 2022.

administration’s disregard for these essential workers who keep the campus functioning.

The rally was held outside a fraternity house that the university had recently purchased for \$3 million. The location was picked to call attention to the university’s priorities when it comes to how resources are spent. After the rally, when Local 200 went back to the bargaining table, the university was much more amenable to meeting workers’ demands. On Sept. 7, the workers voted overwhelmingly to ratify the new contract, which gives them a 10% raise, effective immediately!

Apple workers protest in Oklahoma

Apple Retail Union-Communication Workers of America members in Oklahoma City succeeded in making their store the second unionized Apple location to secure a contract with Apple. Workers at the first unionized Apple store in Maryland ratified a contract in July.

Apple is notorious for union-busting tactics. Getting a contract took two

years! According to CWA Local 6016 President Antonio Flores: “Two years I feel is completely ridiculous. It shouldn’t take two years to negotiate a contract.” (oklahoman.com, Sept. 4)

Union workers held an informational picket on Sept. 3, holding signs comparing average workers’ salaries to the exorbitant compensation the bosses receive. After a strike authorization vote passed, that put pressure on the Apple executives to return to the bargaining table and settle on a contract the workers could accept.

The highlights of the three-year agreement include wage increases up to 11.5%, guaranteed paid time off, health benefits, worker involvement in scheduling and the establishment of health and safety standards. The contract also provides job protection in the event of the store closing or relocating, providing severance or relocation pay for workers.

“Today my 80 coworkers and I have just secured a tentative agreement with the world’s most profitable corporation,” said Kirsten Matson, member of the Apple union. “For more than a year, we stood strong at the bargaining table, because we knew that by standing together we could

secure the pay raises, protections and benefits we deserve.” (cwa-union.org)

Sanitation workers strike in Maryland county

The sanitation worker strike in Maryland’s Anne Arundel County outside Baltimore, which began Sept. 4, is in its fourth week. Teamsters Local 570 represents about 70 workers employed by Ecology Services, who are demanding higher wages and better safety conditions.

Union representatives report that the company’s trucks are “dangerously ill-equipped,” lacking air conditioning, proper seating and seat belts. Sanitation workers have raised concerns about non-functional cameras on trucks and an absence of personal protective equipment. One worker suffered a severe head injury in the summer after falling from a truck due to heat exhaustion and dehydration. (thebaltimorepost.com, Sept. 17)

Workers are picketing outside the Ecology Services yard and reaching out to community members to educate them about the unsafe conditions and inadequate wages. □

when we
fight
we win!

On the picket line

By Marie Kelly

Contract victory at Syracuse University

At Syracuse University, 800 library, food service, facilities and maintenance employees exercised their might to secure a four-year contract. They are represented by Service Employees Union (SEIU) Local 200.

During contract negotiations that began in June, the workers balked when the school administration offered a measly 2.5% raise. Some of them are holding down two jobs to make ends meet, and a 2.5% salary bump would not put a dent in cost-of-living increases. On Aug. 26, they held a rally on campus to protest the

China – Socialist or imperialist? – the difference

By Sara Flounders

The U.S. imperialist ruling class is waging an ideological assault on People's China. To combat the propaganda, we must expose the reason for this extraordinary hostility to China: the class differences of the two countries' social systems.

China's emergence is a world scale game changer, with its Belt and Road Initiative, the Shanghai Cooperation agreement and the BRICS+ meeting this September at the United Nations. China has become an alternative to the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, with their brutal structural adjustment, deregulation and privatization programs (SAPs). The Africa Summit held in Beijing confirmed this.

China ended poverty for 800 million people — something beyond the power of any capitalist country. Life expectancy is higher today in China than in the United States. China's growth in living standards leads the world.

So U.S. imperialism is doubling down. Both Democrats and Republicans agree. The Pentagon agrees. NATO agrees. New sanctions, new tariffs, new rounds of propaganda directed at China are aimed at preparing for war by 2025.

In the Pacific Ocean and South China Sea, U.S. strategists are rushing to construct a NATO-like military alliance. To include Australia, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines and South Korea shows it is directed against China.

Every arm of the imperialist colossus is planning for this war. Vicious and relentless propaganda, expanding military budgets, relentless war "games" and military maneuvers testify to the danger.

Which side are you on?

Friends of Socialist China has provided a valuable framework to explain the country's most important contributions. Political movements, parties and organizations of the working class that take sides in the global class struggle are the most valuable anchor to withstand the crisis confronting the working class and all oppressed peoples. Without this anchor, workers and activists are cast adrift in the onslaught of each imperialist flood.

An important part of understanding the changing world situation can be found in Workers World Party's evaluation of China's rapid development. We say China's gains hold a liberating potential for humanity.

If we can explain the reason for U.S. imperialism's hostility and why Washington calls Beijing "the greatest threat," it can strengthen popular resistance to the U.S. war drive.

Working-class solidarity needed

Here in the imperialist center, basic working-class solidarity means defending every formerly colonized, developing country from continual imperialist efforts to reimpose U.S. domination. The countries of the Global South are attempting to break off from their former dependent, impoverished status. All these countries need solidarity.

"Which side are you on?" is the oldest formulation in the class struggle.

Especially in this moment, every possible mobilization is needed in solidarity with the Palestinians, who are locked in a profound revolutionary struggle with the brutal settler regime of Israel. This state was created in 1948 on the land of Palestine to entrench the imperialist domination of West Asia and North Africa. The ability of Iran, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen—the Axis of Resistance—to resist imperialist destruction is at stake.

Some 40 countries, accounting for

one-third of the world's population, are being strangled by U.S. sanctions for attempting to assert their sovereignty. We oppose these economic strangulation tactics, whether they are used against China, Cuba, Gaza, North Korea, Russia, Syria, Venezuela, Yemen or Zimbabwe.



But we urgently need to take the defense of China to a higher level. We need to challenge the attacks in the U.S. corporate media, in social media and in academia against China.

Imperialist "divide and rule" tactics always intend to throw dissension, disagreement and demoralization into our ranks. Keep in mind that confusing the issue is their strategy.

Sharp economic differences between U.S. and China

Voices in all imperialist centers are united in slandering China, calling it an imperialist country, no different than past imperialist looters. Their constantly repeated propaganda attacks can make slanders stick. That's why it's important to underline the class differences between People's China and the U.S.

In a capitalist economy, totally run for the benefit of corporate billionaires, the CEOs and the board of directors must base their decisions on maximizing profit or they lose their posts.

In China, whose economy is still developing and is catching up in many areas, the major productive forces are owned collectively. Since decisions are not driven by profit, rational planning is possible.

China's workers have laid down thousands of miles of super high-speed rail. Nothing like this has happened in the United States. China has gone green and solar and put a half-million electric city buses on their streets. U.S. city buses are still belching out fossil fuel pollution.

Most discretionary U.S. federal funds feed military corporations and their subcontractors, providing the highest rate of guaranteed profit.

With socialist planned production, China has enjoyed steady development for 75 years, without the recessions and rock-bottom depressions that have been a feature of every capitalist economy for centuries.

A capitalist economy relies on the state apparatus enforcing private ownership of all means of production and all resources. The police, the courts, the largest prison system on the planet, the Pentagon and the giant U.S.-commanded NATO military machine act as the enforcers.

1949 Chinese Revolution shook the world

The Chinese Revolution shook the world, arousing workers and peasants globally. It achieved victory because it was led by the Communist Party of China (CPC), which broke with the dominant imperialist powers that had looted China.

The early accomplishments made by the then totally impoverished and looted country evicted the imperialist powers

from China and opened the road to a new society. But China's tasks were full of contradictions and led to fierce debates within the Party.

In an all-out effort to strangle this new society, the U.S. and its allies walled off revolutionary China from Western trade

yet a fully developed socialist country with equality for all.

This phase of socialist construction is described by the CPC as "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics." It is also described as "market socialism" or "socialism with a market."

Step by step, China has opened a controlled capitalist market, while holding on to state ownership of the major industries and banking. Central planning remains decisive.

Role of the Communist Party

China still faces imbalances, insufficiencies and enormous difficulties from past imperialist looting and from U.S. military encirclement and economic sanctions today. The Communist Party of China keeps firm political control over this complex and uneven process.

The CPC has more than 90 million members. Its cells, elected from the ranks, are in every workplace, neighborhood, school and department. The party organizations are committed to defending socialist property and determined to protect Chinese sovereignty.

The CPC considers that while imperialist corporations have exploited and profited from hiring Chinese labor, this was a trade-off, a temporary compromise, to gain access to Western technology and factories and accumulate investment funds.

The key economic role is assigned to the state, a state controlled by the working class. Every major industry, especially banking, remains under state control — a state controlled by a massive communist party. The central banks play a crucial role in subsidizing and developing key industries.

The role of State Owned Enterprises

Today in China, hydropower, raw materials, high-speed railroads, airlines, energy, communications and most key areas of the economy continue to be State Owned Enterprises. These SOEs, a very precise category in China's state planning, have laid the basis for China's further development over a long period of time.

The SOEs also enjoy many advantages, particularly in credit lines and interest rates granted by state-owned banks. These banks play a critical role in stimulating technological innovation in all fields, such as robotics, nuclear power, space, etc.

Today hundreds of millions of Chinese urban workers, especially among the youth, are well-informed, well-trained, highly educated, in good health, with access to good jobs and modern housing units that they own outright, and they are using good transport facilities. The goal is to bring these high standards to the rural and least developed areas of China.

Small production, food delivery apps, numerous restaurants and coffee shops, artisan booths and craft facilities in both urban and rural areas are largely in private hands. Large-scale development of all the productive forces is far from complete in China.

Today in the U.S., the center of imperialism, the banks are all privately owned. They limit lending to, and the government will only subsidize, the corporations that have the immediate potential to make a high rate of profit.

Since there is little to no planning, capitalism can't solve the overarching problems humanity faces on a global scale.

Socialist economies, based on planning and cooperation, can solve many problems. Stepping up the defense of China, its revolution and its accomplishments is necessary for the collective future of humanity. □

and technology during its first 30 years.

During that time, the CPC reorganized agriculture as well as the basic industries that had survived decades of civil war and Japanese and Western colonial occupation.

Every step forward required a mass mobilization involving the great energy of millions of people. They collectively built basic schools and literacy programs, mass immunization and sanitation, irrigation, dams and infrastructure. They collectivized the land and enthusiastically broke the back of the feudal landlord system.

1978: Reform and opening up – the compromise

But the world dominated by monopoly capital was also changing fast. The leadership of the CPC became convinced, despite many heroic efforts, that the only way out of total isolation was to reach an accord with U.S. and Western imperialism.

After this decision to turn toward gaining access to Western technology and trade, China focused intensively on its own development and on gaining Western investment. This necessarily opened China's economy to hostile class elements.

Western investment of money, machinery, technology and skills flooded into China. Along with this, a capitalist class grew in China.

The compromise included concessions and profits to the capitalist class internationally and distortions of China's socialist structure. Many in the West said that the enthusiasm engendered by Western corporations' heavy investments in China had already brought China back into the capitalist orbit.

Judging by their enthusiastic focus on China, big capitalist corporate investors certainly must have assumed that they would be able to overturn China's socialist base.

The emergence of a class of Chinese millionaires and billionaires and a stratum that looked to the West and studied in the West was certainly politically disorienting. Many who had been strong supporters of China in the past assumed that the socialist base of the Chinese state was totally lost.

Both the Western capitalists and the disillusioned supporters of China were wrong.

'Socialism with Chinese Characteristics'

The most important aspect of defending China today is recognizing the socialist base of the Chinese economy and the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party in building an economy of a new type. They explain that they are building "toward socialism" or are in the "primary stage of socialism" and that China is not

Tariffs, the U.S. and China

By **Betsey Piette**

On May 10, 2019, then President Donald Trump imposed a 25% tariff on \$200 billion worth of goods imported from China. Workers World's editorial four days later noted that the tariff had little permanent impact on the Shanghai composite stock index.

When China carefully retaliated with tariffs ranging up to 25% on \$60 billion worth of U.S. goods, however, three days later the U.S. stock market plunged 617 points.

Trump then imposed an additional 10% tariff on \$300 billion of Chinese imports on Aug. 1, 2019. The Chinese Commerce Ministry then announced it would halt imports of all U.S. agricultural goods. At that time China was U.S. agriculture's largest export market.

WW noted that the fallout from the tariff battle revealed which of the world's two largest economies was more fragile and unstable. Today, the latest round of tariff wars between the U.S. and People's China continues to expose the instability of the profit-driven imperialist U.S. and the relative stability of China's planned economy.

While candidate Joe Biden vowed to remove Trump's tariffs, President Joe Biden kept most in place. Now Biden is promoting a new U.S. tariff war against China. In August he announced a whopping 100% increase in U.S. tariffs on the import of Chinese electric vehicles (EVs), 50% on solar cells and 25% on electric vehicle batteries, critical minerals, steel, aluminum, face masks and ship-to-shore cranes beginning Sept. 27.

U.S. crony imperialist allies in Canada and the European Union quickly followed suit with announcements of similar tariffs on China's electric vehicles.

China quickly responded with a range of countermeasures, including its own tariffs on U.S.-produced EVs. Beijing filed an anti-discrimination dispute against the European Union tariffs with the World Trade Organization. A similar measure against Canada is in the works.

Advantage of planned economy

The tariff war focused on EVs highlights an essential difference between production under capitalism and under a planned economy. In the U.S. and other capitalist countries, most production is under private ownership and most profits go to owners, including shareholders

and individual billionaire capitalists, like Elon Musk who controls a majority ownership of the company that produced the most EVs in the U.S. in 2023, Tesla.

Prices for EVs in the U.S. are often out of reach for most consumers, and there is no planned process for expanding the availability of EV charging stations.

In China, the state, managed by the Chinese Communist Party, sets production goals. The Chinese conglomerate BVD, which produces most EVs, is not state-controlled. It has, however, received state subsidies as part of China's long-term plan to reduce carbon emissions.

From 2009 to 2023, the Chinese government provided \$230.9 billion in a combination of state support that included buyer rebates, sales tax exemptions, construction of charging stations and research and development support for the industry.

BVD now produces 70% of the world's electric cars, which are sold for as little as \$10,000. The quality of EVs that BVD produces now makes them highly competitive, and the company is seeking to expand markets globally. (tinyurl.com/2tx63ud5)

In comparison, over the same 14-year period the U.S. combined military/defense budget was over \$10 trillion. This budget subsidizes the U.S.-based military-industrial complex, and the U.S. sells enormous amounts of weapons worldwide. The U.S. military, while waging wars globally, is the single largest entity contributing to global warming.

Weapon of war or boost for economic development?

Tariffs are tax revenue collected from domestic consumers of imported goods. Governments impose tariffs to limit sales of imports, which might benefit selected home-based corporations. They are an economic weapon that in past centuries have often led to military conflicts among imperialist competitors.

China has demonstrated that by elimination of tariffs imposed on goods from developing countries both trade and development can be increased. In early September at the opening of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit in Beijing, China's President Xi Jinping announced that China would unilaterally give all of the least developing countries that trade with China, including 33 in Africa, zero-tariff market access for all products.



CARTOON: CHINA DAILY

The agreement includes over \$50 billion of investments by China in African development initiatives over the next three years. (tinyurl.com/3ya62y9k)

The new trade measure will greatly facilitate trade between Africa and the world's second-largest economy. It will also provide new impetus for Africa's development through accentuating trade and investment.

Song Wei, a professor at the School of International Relations and Diplomacy at Beijing Foreign Studies University, told the Global Times, Sept. 5: "The core development concept is to unlock Africa's autonomous development capabilities through enhanced trade, rather than merely increasing the volume and quality of China-Africa trade."

China is helping African countries to break out of underdevelopment that was forced on them by Western colonialism and imperialism.

The U.S. and other imperialist states — with economies fueled by their drive for profits and exploitation of workers — find large sectors of their economies unable to sell quality goods at competitive prices compared with socialist China. The U.S. and its allies have turned to tariffs as a weapon of economic warfare. And the tariffs are weapons that hit the consumers, that is, the workers at home who will pay the price of the tariffs.

The question is not only which economy — the decaying imperialist economy of the U.S. or the developing, planned socialist economy of China — will come out stronger in the end, but will the imperialists turn to war when tariffs fail to solve the problems caused by capitalism? □

Harris and Trump both support Zionist genocide



This statement from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Central Media Office was posted on Resistance News Network on Sept. 11, 2024.

The Harris-Trump debate is a race to support the Zionist genocide, and both parties are panting over which of them is more loyal to the Zionist entity.

The last debate between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump comes to confirm once again that there is no difference between the Republican and Democratic parties regarding the Arab-Zionist conflict and supporting the occupation and the genocide war against our Palestinian people. The two parties rushed to defend the "right of the Zionist entity to defend itself" and competed to show which of them is more loyal to this entity.

While Harris, the Democratic Party candidate, outlined her vision of the conflict by adopting the misleading Zionist narrative about the events of October 7, she continued to talk about her party leading the war on Gaza directly and establishing a bridge to transfer weapons that contribute to the extermination of our people and the destruction of the Strip, and she also gave a blank check to continue supporting the occupation without conditions.

In contrast, the Republican Party candidate Trump expressed himself as the "permanent protector and savior" or "the awaited Messiah" of the Zionist entity, stressing his readiness to provide all possible support.

These expected positions expressed by the two candidates in their full support for the Zionist entity require the free voices inside the U.S. that support the cause of our people or reject the influence of the Zionist lobby to use the ballot box as a means of pressuring the two parties to stop U.S. sponsorship of the ongoing war of extermination in Gaza and to struggle to bring about a radical

change in U.S. policy towards the Zionist entity, despite the difficulty of that, at least in the near future.

What occurred in the debate between the candidates of the two U.S. parties confirms that the U.S. remains the U.S. — the head of evil in the world and the sponsor of Zionist terrorism — and there will be no change in the positions of the two parties unless the U.S. public realizes

that it is paying the price for the two parties' gambling with their future and privileges and their squandering of tax money in favor of the Zionist entity and their surrender to the will of the Zionist lobby.

The statement was lightly edited.

DPRK women's soccer team outshines U.S. team

By **Johnnie Lewis**

Bulletin: On Sept. 22, the DPRK women's team beat Japan 1-0 to win the tournament for a third time. They scored 25 goals to lead the tournament while allowing only 2 goals to their opposition.

Women of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) beat the U.S. soccer team 1-0 on Sept. 18 in Cali, Colombia, and won the opportunity to play Japan in the final of FIFA U-20 (under 20 years of age) Women's



World Cup tournament in Bogotá, Colombia.

In a sport that often features draws, as well as overtime and penalty shootouts in knockout games, the DPRK women won all their matches in regulation time.

The women's resounding victories, their smiling faces, their strong bodies, their exuberance and excitement show not only their own personal resilience and victory but that of their country and its revolutionary leadership.

Since the founding of the DPRK in 1948, it has been under near total blockade and harsh sanctions by Japan, the United States and its allies.

Japan, with the blessing of the U.S. and the West, ruled all of Korea as a colony from 1910 until its liberation in 1945 by the armies of the still-governing Korean Workers' Party and the Red Army of the Soviet Union.

During the U.S. war on Korea, 1950-53, Korea was bombed from one end to the other. People by the hundreds of thousands were indiscriminately killed either by bombs or starvation. In the north, every structure of more than two stories was leveled — imagine the devastation and genocide in present-day Gaza on a country-wide scale. □

Harris audiciona para ser la mejor guerrera

La actuación de la vicepresidenta Kamala Harris el 10 de septiembre, en lo que puede ser su único debate presidencial esta elección, mostró a la clase dominante que ha adoptado la política exterior del imperialismo estadounidense, gancho, línea y plomo con respecto a Rusia, Ucrania, China y la República Popular Democrática de Corea, por no hablar de Israel, donde ella y Donald Trump parecen compartir puntos de vista comunes.

Aunque Harris ha tenido puntos de vista progresistas en el pasado sobre cuestiones como la justicia penitenciaria y el fracking y todavía hace campaña por los derechos reproductivos, ha demostrado claramente que ha abrazado plenamente el programa de la clase dominante y es una portavoz fiable del imperialismo estadounidense.

Como vicepresidenta de Joe Biden durante tres años y medio, Harris asistió regularmente a las reuniones de la sala de situación, donde se discute y decide la política exterior. Que Harris abrace el programa de Biden no debería sorprender a nadie, y durante el debate hizo todo lo posible por dejarlo claro.

Incluso cuando Joe Biden seguía siendo el favorito del Partido Demócrata, los portavoces de los medios de comunicación cuestionaban una segunda presidencia de Trump, sobre todo tachándole de ser demasiado débil en materia de política exterior, especialmente en lo relativo a Rusia y Ucrania. En marzo, después de que Trump

EDITORIAL

se convirtiera en el candidato confirmado del Partido Republicano, la columnista del Philadelphia Inquirer Trudy Rubin lo criticó por no defender la guerra de los imperialistas contra Rusia.

Como parte de la administración Biden, Harris lleva el peso del apoyo estadounidense a la expansión de la OTAN en Europa y más allá, incluyendo la amenaza militar provocando a Rusia que llevó a proporcionar el camino a la guerra en Ucrania. Ella es la segunda al mando en una administración que está escalando el peligro de una nueva guerra nuclear, y ha pedido repetidamente una dura posición anti-rusa.

Harris no ha dicho nada para oponerse a las crecientes amenazas económicas y militares contra China y la RPDC, así como a la amenaza de una guerra regional cada vez mayor en Asia Occidental en torno a la guerra genocida de Israel en Gaza, que ella apoya abiertamente.

Sin embargo, las críticas a Trump por parte de los expertos pro-guerra se quedan cortas a la hora de denunciar su misoginia, racismo, homofobia y peligrosa xenofobia, que amenaza a las comunidades de inmigrantes en Estados Unidos incluso antes de que se emitan los votos en noviembre.

No es ninguna sorpresa que la agenda de Trump, a pesar de sus negativas, se alinee claramente con los objetivos programáticos del Proyecto 2025, un documento de extrema derecha redactado por un grupo de trabajo de



Protesta en Nueva York contra Kamala Harris, 14 de agosto de 2024. Bancarta dice: 'Harris = a genocidio, Israel mata niños con bombas estadounidenses, A Kamala le importa una mierda'

la Fundación Heritage. El llamamiento del documento a la deportación masiva de inmigrantes podría haber sido escrito por Donald Trump.

Sin embargo, una columna de opinión de Mickey Edwards, fideicomisario de la Fundación Heritage, escrita el 10 de septiembre tras el debate, da menos importancia a la postura de los candidatos sobre la inmigración y más a qué candidato defiende mejor la política exterior de Estados Unidos por encima de todo lo demás. Edwards escribe: «La política interior importa, aunque sus efectos sean a menudo a corto plazo. ... Pero en el ámbito de la política exterior, y de la política de defensa, que se deriva de ella, lo que está en juego es mayor, porque los pasos en falso pueden ser desastrosos e irreversibles».

Edwards, ex miembro republicano de la Cámara de Representantes, rechaza a Trump mientras apoya a Harris. En opinión de este apologista burgués: «Comprender los retos de la política exterior es la responsabilidad más importante de un presidente de Estados Unidos».

Los trabajadores y el pueblo oprimido de Estados Unidos tienen muchas razones para rechazar a Donald Trump. Cuando se trata de Harris, su fuerte lealtad a las políticas globales del imperialismo, en particular su defensa de Israel, son igualmente razones incontrovertibles para negarse a apoyarla. □

El xenófobo racista Trump busca un segundo mandato

EDITORIAL

Mientras la vicepresidenta enfatizaba su potencial bélico en el debate del 10 de septiembre (véase otro editorial de este número), #45 recordó a todos que construyó su carrera política propagando mentiras racistas y que su tema de conversación político más persistente es subrayar su racismo y xenofobia convirtiendo a los inmigrantes en chivos expiatorios.

Trump comenzó su carrera política atacando a los 5 de Central Park, acusándoles de asesinato en anuncios publicitarios y pidiendo su ejecución. Los cinco jóvenes negros fueron condenados por un brutal crimen en 1989 y cumplieron entre 5 y 13 años de cárcel antes de ser exonerados en 2002 por pruebas de ADN. Las mentiras de Trump han sido constantes.

Como hizo en su debate con el presidente Joe Biden en junio, el expresidente respondió a prácticamente todas las preguntas del 10 de septiembre con un ataque a los migrantes. También había abierto su campaña de 2016 con ataques despiadados contra las personas de origen mexicano. Ninguna de sus calumnias, ni entonces ni ahora, eran siquiera parcialmente ciertas.

En esta noche de debate, sin embargo, #45 tenía un objetivo especial: la comunidad de inmigrantes haitianos en Springfield, Ohio. Los inmigrantes haitianos están en Springfield legalmente, ya que tienen un estatus de protección temporal, que les da derecho legal a vivir y trabajar en EE.UU. Además, el gobierno local y los empresarios animaron a los haitianos a llegar y suministrar una mano de obra necesaria para el crecimiento económico de Springfield en los últimos años.

La necesidad de difundir una Gran Mentira e ignorar los hechos nunca detuvo a Trump y no lo hizo el 10 de septiembre. Simplemente tomó una historia falsa que algunos nazis supuestamente publicaron en las redes sociales y corrió con ella. La mentira de que los



La protesta frente a la Convención Nacional Republicana anticipó la ofensiva antiinmigrante de Trump y Vance. Milwaukee, julio de 2024.

migrantes robaban y se comían las mascotas felinas y caninas de la gente tenía como objetivo sembrar el odio contra la comunidad haitiana.

Incluso después de que algunos medios de comunicación cuestionaran la mentira y de que los conspiradores Trump/Vance no tuvieran pruebas más allá de una publicación nazi en las redes sociales, siguieron repitiendo la Gran Mentira sobre perros y gatos y defendiendo sus repeticiones. Es evidente que la estrategia electoral republicana es hacer campaña contra los demócratas convirtiendo a los inmigrantes en chivos expiatorios, culpándoles de todo lo que va mal en la sociedad capitalista estadounidense. En Europa, esta estrategia ha funcionado para los partidos de derechas en algunos países.

En una entrevista en CNN el 15 de septiembre, JD Vance llegó a afirmar que incluso sin pruebas estaba bien repetir la Gran Mentira. ¿Por qué? Porque centraba

la atención en el tema de la inmigración.

Tal vez la capacidad de Vance para sacar argumentos como éste del fango MAGA es la razón por la que Trump lo eligió para postularse a la vicepresidencia. Vance también ha convertido una muerte accidental de tráfico en la región de Springfield en otro ataque a la comunidad haitiana. Vance está demostrando que cuando Trump cae bajo, él caerá aún más bajo y lo hará con cara seria.

Las amenazas de bomba cerraron las escuelas y universidades de Springfield, forzando evacuaciones y cerrando hospitales. Algunos en la comunidad haitiana dijeron que se estremecieron por las amenazas por primera vez desde que llegaron a los Estados Unidos. Trump y Vance acaban de redoblar la apuesta, aumentando las repercusiones reaccionarias de sus mentiras.

Los informes verifican que los residentes de Springfield están cenando en restaurantes haitianos para contrarrestar esta retórica venenosa, racista y divisiva. Y el padre de la víctima del accidente vehicular exigió públicamente que la gente de MAGA deje de usar la tragedia de su hijo para movilizar el odio.

Las organizaciones racistas y fascistas intentarán utilizar las grandes mentiras de Trump/Vance para movilizarse contra los inmigrantes. Sería una tontería esperar que los demócratas contrarresten este ataque racista: apenas contrarrestaron los comentarios de Trump en el debate. Bajo la administración Biden, más de un millón de inmigrantes indocumentados han sido deportados.

Aquellos que estén dispuestos a mostrar su solidaridad con la comunidad haitiana y luchar contra la ofensiva racista tendrán que movilizarse contra ella incluso manteniéndose independientes de los dos grandes partidos capitalistas. □