

RED FLAG

NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST WORKERS' PARTY * ICWPREDFLAG.ORG



Aerospace: No Strike Regime Shows Workers Need Communist Revolution



WICHITA, KS—Spirit Aerospace machinists rejected a 10-year no-strike deal, voting 58% to strike. Thousands left the union meeting chanting, “Strike, Strike!” The International Association of Machinist (IAM) hacks accepted the contract nonetheless, using the excuse that they hadn’t reached a two-thirds threshold.

The old scripted dance of union sanctioned, lawful strikes and contract negotiations every three years is dying: victim of the bosses’ capitalist crisis. We have to replace it with a revolutionary communist vision that builds for wildcats and insurrection.

The IAM international president, Tom Buffenbarger, touted the Spirit agreement as “precedent-setting.” The union’s negotiating committee recommended acceptance. But “this membership decides,” said Steve Rooney, District 70 union president representing 6,000 hourly workers employed in this former Boeing plant, with unparalleled nerve.

“We think this could be a new model for other aerospace contracts we have in Wichita and elsewhere, like Boeing,” said IAM spokesman Bob Wood. More broadly, Buffenbarger wants this to be a model for industrial war contracts under his plan for “national security re-industrialization.” The International took particular aim at “peer powers” Russia and China. When a Boeing *Red Flag* reader characterized the 10-year deal as a “license to kill,” he

was saying more than he realized. Can anybody say WWII?

A Tale of Two Cities...Or Is It Three, Four?

Jumping at the opportunity, Boeing’s Seattle spokesman Tim Healy said the company wants to reopen the present contract for 25,000 Puget Sound workers, set to expire in 2012. He wants to restart the secret talks to extend the contract for 10 years that we exposed last summer.

“We need to address our long-term competitiveness,” he warned ominously.

Meanwhile, a union/government gang-up forced St. Louis Boeing workers to vote and vote again—until they got it “right.” These 2,500 military workers voted to sanction a strike, rejected the contract, reaffirmed their desire to strike four to one, and still were not allowed to walk.

The union called in the federal mediator and forced yet another vote over the weekend, barely ramming through a contract. The “new and improved” offer still eliminated defined pensions for new hires.

The federal mediator also stepped in to settle the Long Beach C-17 workers’ strike a few weeks ago. The federal government and their lieutenants in the International are now more than ever directly orchestrating the outcomes of these class struggles.

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It’s Not Just Bill Gates – It’s Capitalism!

School Reform: US Rulers Prepare For Fascism, World War III

SEATTLE -- The American Federation of Teachers convenes amidst intensifying attacks on teachers’ and other unions. Like Seattle’s aerospace workers, teachers face cuts in pensions and health benefits and divisive “incentive pay” proposals. The connections run deeper. Education reform aims to prepare a workforce for war industry and war itself, but without the “rigid and financially unsustainable teachers’ contract.” (*LA Times* 8/24/09)

Teachers, school workers, parents and students are mobilizing in Seattle and elsewhere to fight back against the attacks: “merit” pay, pressure to teach to the test, charter schools, larger classes, teacher layoffs, and cut-backs in higher education.

“Pathway to Student Success” – Or to War?

Bill Gates, Eli Broad, the Obama administration and AFT leaders are pushing education reforms in the context of the deepening global crisis and sharpening inter-imperialist rivalry. To fight to reverse their declining empire, US rulers will be forced to go to war with Iran in the near term and China eventually.

As in the past (see box, p.3) school reform is designed to meet the needs of the ruling class. US capitalism needs workers with both technical skills and political allegiance to the system in their factories and military. Hence the AFT resolution supporting “national standards” so as “to ensure

Charter schools help the bosses prepare for war on the cheap —like what is happening to Boeing workers, whose union jobs are being outsourced to subcontractors in southern California who pay sweatshop wages to immigrant workers.

Some say that public schools are “our schools.” They argue that working people fought for and won public education, our hope for a better world. This is a deception, like the ideas that government is impartial and justice is blind. Government is an instrument of class rule. In capitalist society, all schools serve the interests of the capitalist class.

that all American students learn what they need to compete in the global economy and to be active citizens in our democracy.”

Charter schools help the bosses prepare for war on the cheap in a manner similar to what is happening to Boeing workers, whose union jobs are being outsourced to sub-

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BEHIND GEN. McCHRISTAL’S FIRING:

US Bosses Fight to Control World’s Energy Resources

In 2003, the US imperialists invaded Iraq. They hoped to quickly reverse their empire’s rapid decline, accelerated by the fact that they are losing their grip on the world’s richest energy source: the Middle East.

After occupying Iraq, their plan was to pump 6-8 million barrels of oil per day (bpd) and flood the world’s oil market to break and buy out their com-

petitors – mainly Venezuela, Iran and Russia. They would thereby regain control of the world’s major energy resources, and force China to be at their mercy for its energy. US imperialism would once again be by far the world’s dominant imperialist power. Although they murdered over a million Iraqi workers, they failed miserably. Iraq’s oil production stands at about 2 million bpd.

They then executed Plan B: escalate the “good war” in Afghanistan to pacify it enough to secure the building of TAPI (Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India). This pipeline, bypassing Russia and Iran, would reverse Russian and Chinese energy gains in the Central Asia-Caspian Sea region by giving the energy bosses there a corridor to

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No Workers' Blood for Oil Profits!

Turn the Guns Around! Fight for Communism!

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transport their resources to more lucrative world markets.

If successful, it would have dealt a mortal blow to Russia's aspirations of displacing the US as the world's main energy supplier, while forcing China to depend on US-supplied energy. It would also have helped them finally pacify and exploit Iraq, further isolating Iran and forcing its eventual capitulation.

Pacifying Afghanistan, however, was an impossible task. The US-NATO forces are losing the war. Meanwhile, China and Russia have signed long term contracts to buy most, if not all, of the present and future energy production in the region. This means that even if the US bosses are able to pacify Afghanistan and build the TAPI pipeline, they will have very little, if any, energy to transport.

US Bosses Sacrifice US GIs for Plan C

"A US government report last year said that private Saudi backers were the chief source of finance for the Taliban." (*The Times* of London, May 31, 2010)

"Pakistan's powerful intelligence agency not only funds and trains the Taliban insurgents fighting the US and NATO troops in Afghanistan, but also maintains its own representation on the insurgency leadership council," claims a report issued by the London School of Economics. (*LA Times*, June 14, 2010)

This is clear proof that US bosses are murderous beasts that not only massacre Arab workers, but cynically sacrifice US soldiers for their blood-soaked profits and empire.

US bosses know that their allies are training and arming the Taliban to kill US and NATO forces. Why do they allow it? Because they hope that Pakistan's and Saudi Arabia's influence on the insurgents can bring them to the negotiating table so they can implement Plan C.

What is The Bosses' Plan C?

To negotiate with the "moderate" Taliban to set up a Taliban government that would allow the US bosses to withdraw most of their forces to attack Iran.

McChrystal's job was to weaken the Taliban so they would agree to negotiate.

An Afghan Taliban government could energize the area's fundamentalist Islamic movements to promote "regime change" in the Central Asian countries. That could void the Russian and Chinese energy contracts.

These fundamentalist forces might be used to destabilize parts of Iran and fight alongside the US in its impending war against Iran. They could also destabilize China and Russia's Muslim regions and be formidable allies in the US bosses' eventual war against these two rivals.

The Real Prize: Iran

Iran has the second-largest oil and gas reserves in the world and is the perfect land bridge to transport Central Asian-Caspian energy to market, bypassing Russia.

Conquering Iran would also help the US pacify Iraq, giving the US bosses full control of the energy-rich Middle East. Russia's dream of becoming the world's energy supplier would be dashed. China's economic and military growth could be stopped.

In a world hurtling toward world war, US imperialism would have eliminated Iran as a potential Russian-Chinese ally, gained a strategic military base, and be positioned to starve China of its crucial war energy needs. If they can win.

Bosses' Growing Desperation to Implement Plan C Behind McChrystal's Firing

General McChrystal's removal is a clear indication that the US imperialists are getting ready to implement Plan C. His military strategy was a failure. Instead of weakening the Taliban, it weakened the Afghan government and the US, making it harder to negotiate a favorable settlement while alienating England and most of the US' NATO allies.



General Petraeus – formerly McChrystal's boss – now has his job. He's promising to make the war "safer" for US GIs by increasing air support and killing more Afghan civilians. This deadly fascist logic is meant to win soldiers, sailors and marines to fight enthusiastically in the bosses' Plan C bloodbath. Make no mistake: war on Iran will mean massive casualties among US troops and Iranian troops and civilians.

US, Russian, Chinese and other bosses are determined to fight to the last drop of our blood in the inevitable world war that's approaching faster than you think. Soldiers need to know who their real enemies are – the bosses and the brass – not other workers. When millions of soldiers worldwide - supported by millions of industrial workers - reach this conclusion, the bosses and their capitalist-imperialist system will be history.

The ICWP is determined to make this happen by guaranteeing that our Party is being organized among the key sectors of industrial workers and soldiers. We encourage all our young members and friends to go into these crucial sectors to organize our brothers and sisters there to fight for a communist revolution. Only communism can end imperialist wars by destroying its source: capitalism.

The Check Is In The Mail

The IAM tried to sell the Spirit contract on the promise of job security. (See p.1) The company promises to discuss with the union all contingency plans to avoid layoffs. "This contract states that the Company will use layoffs as a last resort," the union brags in its contract highlights. "Yeah," commented a Boeing machinist, "and I'll respect you in the morning."

The 10-year no-strike deal allows for 1% pay increases in only four of the ten years. "Gain sharing" and bonuses based on profitability will determine wages in the other years. Gain sharing is a modified

version of piecework: basing wage amounts on productivity.

The company and union estimate future wages based on highly inflated numbers. "The proposed contract sucks," said a worker, as she left the union hall chanting for a strike. "All the what-ifs, hopes and prayers are based on a high projection by the company. We'll never realize anything from this contract."

The company brags it got "labor stability, the flexibility it needed to adapt to the market and performance-based reward system that's a first for the IAM. If there was ever a reason to get rid of markets and substitute communist-based production for need, this is it.

"The [Boeing] bosses could have avoided those five strikes they're always complaining about if they just gave us what we needed," joked a Seattle area assembler when she heard about communist production, "and I believe in Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny and the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Like the bosses care what we need!"

Only under communism could we welcome helping hands and not be threatened by other workers. Capitalism pits not only boss against boss, nation against nation, but worker against worker. Under communism we could use the extra help to shorten the workday, or prepare ourselves to run society. We would collectively guarantee that everyone got what he or she needed.



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Communist Leadership Needed to Smash Union/Boss/Government Gang-Up

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It's becoming clearer every day that workers must take on the bosses' state as well as the company. We must be clear who are our enemies. As good as strikes are, insurrection is the only way to deal with the bosses' state. Communist revolution will smash the bosses' state once and for all.

With a 10-year no-strike deal, secretly reopened contracts and endless strike votes shoved down our throats, we have to be prepared to wildcat. Wildcats are only possible if we are ready to put revolutionary working-class politics up front.

This summer we must fight to stop the company and union from reopening our contract, railroading a similar no-strike regime down the throats of Seattle area workers. But our job does not stop there. We can measure our success by how many workers are won to building for a political strike in 2012 that puts exploitative capitalism in its cross-hairs.

Bosses' Racism Attacks Us All

The bosses' economic crisis will inevitably—and is already—leading to political crisis and war. Defense Secretary Gates has overtly called for weapons cost cuts which would affect the US's "ability [to invade] Iran and others." The US bosses must attack us before they can attack competing bosses. The world's workers lose.

The bosses are relying on the related evils of racism and nationalism to succeed. The big club over our heads is the new South Carolina assembly plant and surrounding supply chain—planned to be operational in time for the 2012 contract battle. The long history of Southern racism has divided the working class, resulting in lower-wage, non-union labor.

Of course, Boeing is no stranger to racist practices anywhere. Manage-

ment has promoted racist/sexist exploitation for years in the Puget Sound plants (see interview, p. 14).

A New Party For A New World

"Why not try communism?" asked a black Boeing workers and *Red Flag* reader and seller, relating her experience with racist, sexist harassment on the job to the broader attacks on all industrial workers. "This system isn't working!" Why not communism indeed!

The hard truth is that the bosses, their government and their agents within our midst are fighting tooth and nail to stop workers from taking power. Illusions that we can continue to live in the old way are hard to discard despite the ample evidence provided by recent events.

The first step on this long revolutionary journey is filling the ranks of our revolutionary communist party, ICWP, with industrial workers, soldiers and their allies. Every *Red Flag* sold, every article written, every struggle to put revolution, not reform on the front burner, every in-plant and outside communist study/action group we organize can help dispel illusions about capitalism and build our Party.

This summer young comrades will once again be at the plant gates and the barracks. The bosses and their union lackeys may be able to sabotage strikes for the time being, but they increase the risk of losing their ideological hold on the workers in the plants. Our victory centers on winning the working class to an ideology that serves our class: communism. ICWP aims to do everything within our power to hasten this process, building new young revolutionary leadership from among the summer project volunteers.

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contractors in southern California who pay sweatshop wages to immigrant workers.

One critic writes that Bill Gates' pet KIPP charter schools: "are founded upon capitalistic and militaristic ideals.... KIPP schools merely preserve the status quo by asking students to overcome overwhelming disparities through hard work and motivation... [B]y subscribing to a dictum of no excuses, KIPP essentially puts the onus on the victims of poverty and institutional racism."

Gates and Broad bemoan US students' low scores on international science and math tests and the relatively small numbers of US engineering graduates. They push technology as a quick fix for long-neglected urban schools. Building new schools, restructuring older ones into "small schools," industry-designed training programs in high schools and community colleges, the barrage of standardized tests, are largely aimed at increasing the technical ability of working-class youth. Technical education is not a bad thing, except that the plan is for these students to be brutally exploited and sent to fight the imperialists' wars.

Even more important is the ideological function of standardized curricula and tests. They push teachers to teach patriotic lies and capitalist mythology, especially to immigrant youth, as part of trying to win the whole society to war. Merit pay is part of making sure that teachers toe the line of capitalist ideology. Standardized tests support the racist "meritocracy" argument: "this is a fair system, if you aren't making it it's your own fault." The TV movie "Homeless to Harvard" (2003) popularized this myth.

AFT leaders are part of the problem. They're helping the rulers carry out the attacks on students and teachers.

Like IAM leaders at Boeing, they reject class struggle in favor of "collaboration." They kiss up to Bill Gates and work with the same mayors and governors who are attacking teachers and students. They even support the use of student test scores in teacher evaluations!

It's Not Just Bill Gates – It's Capitalism!

So should we fight to "save our schools"? Do we dream of returning to the so-called golden age of the Cold War when US bosses were on top and could support public services? Are we to defend a system where teachers get raises for taking irrelevant classes and it takes twenty years to reach the top of the salary scale?

The schools were never "ours." The "golden age" only served the folks with the gold – and it's over. We shouldn't fight to keep things as they are. We shouldn't do the bosses' work for them by "taking ownership" of school reform. Instead, we need to grasp the opportunity to expose this deadly racist system whose only response to crisis is war and fascism.

Most AFT members work in inner-city schools where students are trained to be low-paid workers in war industry and shock troops for WWII. Teachers can best serve working-class young people by organizing with them and their parents in the factories and the military to turn the guns around and fight for communism. Capitalism can't be reformed. Trying to do so only weakens and deludes our class. Our job is to speak the truth—and organize for communist revolution.

Instead of capitalist school reform, we need communist revolutionary education.

See page 4.

Join ICWP

How Public Schools Have Served US Capitalism

Public education serves to increase workers' productive capacity, to divide the working class by creating divisions between manual and mental labor, and to win the working class to capitalist ideas. We can see how the particularities of this have changed throughout U.S. history.

- Between 1795 and the US Civil War, the number of workers grew tremendously, while numbers of independent merchants, farmers and proprietors dropped. Public elementary schools became crucial to capitalists' strategy for preparing and disciplining young workers:

"In Lowell ... the proprietor finds the training of the schools admirably adapted to prepare the children for the labor of the mills. ... When the [laborers] are well-educated...controversies and strikes can never occur, nor can the minds of the

mass be prejudiced by demagogues." —George Boutwell, Secretary, Massachusetts Board of Education, 1859.

- The Progressive Era (about 1890 to 1914) saw the development of the comprehensive high school. The US imperialist class consolidated itself as the "end of the frontier" impelled overseas expansion. Workers resisted, sharpening class struggle in historic confrontations with capital including the Homestead and Pullman strikes and the multi-racial New Orleans General Strike. A new wave of eastern- and southern-European immigrants worked in the steel mills and other industries. Carnegie and Rockefeller money helped build comprehensive public high schools. School boards run by professionals and the social elite instituted tracking. Tracking created a socialized working class, largely black and immigrant, and a managerial sector, largely white Protestant native-born citizens.
- During the Cold War, state and community col-

leges transformed higher education to develop a white-collar proletariat:

"More knowledge has resulted from and led to service (by the university) for government and industry and agriculture...The campus has evolved consistently with society...The university and segments of industry are becoming more and more alike...The two worlds are merging." —Clark Kerr, President of University of California, 1958-1967

The Cold War also required ending legal segregation in an effort to win the loyalty of black workers and "hearts and minds" in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Desegregation created the need for a new filtering system to stratify the population. Community colleges did that job, complementing tracking while providing the technical training necessary for rapidly automating industrial production, especially in the defense industry.

Information from *Schooling In Capitalist America* by Bowles and Gintis

“Our school must not be like the old bourgeois-dominated schools which caused our sons and daughters to degenerate into good-for-nothings unfit for manual labor.” -- Chinese farmworkers, 1968

Communist education isn't a better-funded, more equitable version of capitalist schooling. The purpose of communist education, now and after the working class takes power, is the creation of more and better communists and communist social relations.

Under capitalism, communist education prepares us to struggle for workers' power and the classless society. To win communist power millions of workers must be committed to that goal and armed with an understanding of political economy, dialectical materialist philosophy and more. Our Party educates ourselves through *Red Flag*, study-action groups, and cadre schools. All our work—organizing a demonstration or a picnic, producing literature—trains us to end the distinction between mental and manual labor, to struggle sharply and to work collectively. After we win political power, communist education will vastly extend its reach.

Education is more than schooling. All social institutions—the family, the exercise of power, popular culture, the organization of production—help shape children and youth.

“We would not believe in teaching, training and education if they were confined only to the school and were divorced from the storm of life,” wrote Lenin in 1920.

“[Education] must train [the youth] to be participants in the struggle for emancipation from the exploiters.” A Soviet educator explained in 1925 that “we are trying to combine the knower and the doer in one person; to unite theory with practice. This education is possible only where there are no social classes.”

But China and the Soviet Union never became classless societies. Their communist leaders built “new democracy” and “socialism,” wrongly thinking these were steps toward communism. Still, we have much to learn — positive and negative -- from their best educational experiments.

Soviet Socialism: “A Pedagogy of Struggle”

Key communist leaders insisted from the start that Soviet schools should train pupils for both mental and physical work. They wanted children to be molded into a well-knit collective that would also do political work.

A. S. Makarenko implemented these ideas in 1920, organizing delinquent orphaned youth into the self-sufficient Gorky Colony. He described his sharp struggles — against racism, individualism, and bourgeois theories of education—in *The Road to Life*. One perplexed Soviet bureaucrat remarked, “It’s a pedagogy of struggle.”

In his *Handbook for Parents*, Makarenko chronicled and struggled against the distorted development of children within Soviet family life. This often stemmed from money issues and the capitalist values that Soviet socialism kept along with the wage system.



Lenin and Krupskaya led a fight for “polytechnical” rather than “technical” education. Instead of learning a specific trade, young workers would learn everything about the production process in an industry — including the social relations of production. As socialism consolidated capitalist practices, this line was defeated. Capitalist practices soon came to dominate Soviet education.

China: Cultural Revolution Struggles to Transform Education

The Cultural Revolution struggled — ultimately unsuccessfully — to wrest

power from capitalist-roaders in the Chinese Communist Party. The fight over education was central. “The existing educational system is extending and prolonging the three major differences — between mental and manual labor, between worker and peasant and between town and country,” middle-school students criticized.

Communist teachers and students demanded an end to college entrance exams, which encouraged students to bury themselves in books, ignoring politics and practical work. They criticized the system for stifling initiative, breeding careerism and forcing out “difficult” students. “They were so busy with lessons, memorizing texts and doing homework [that] ... their thinking stagnated and they lost the power of analysis.” Meanwhile, few rural students had access to school.

In sharp contrast, the Tarim Institute of Land Reclamation was organized by teachers and students in 1958. They reclaimed wasteland while living and studying outdoors. They felled trees, made bricks, built the school, and grew their own food.

Capitalist-minded intellectuals demanded that Tarim restore traditional class relations (“workers work, peasants till the land, students study books”).

Revolutionary students and teachers insisted on breaking down these divisions. Classes combined study and production. Book-learning was tested in practice. Students wrote essays based on their work. They became competent technically and capable of organizing work and engaging in ideological struggle.

Workers Lead Education, Fight For Communism

Communist teenagers in China’s Jimo County took the struggle against capitalist education to the farms, the factories, and the barracks. With the soldiers’ backing, the revolutionaries took power locally. Edu-



cation was expanded and transformed. New schools took in vastly more children, hiring middle-school graduates to teach primary students. Teams of workers — some without formal education — helped lead schools. Textbooks were rewritten — sometimes by the students.

Revolutionary schools featured political education. “Chairman Mao’s works, especially his latest series of instructions and those concerning the revolution in education, are the sole teaching material,” according to an admiring account. But in this strength lay a fatal weakness.

The cult of Mao kept Leftists from fighting the Communist Party itself. They fought fiercely against “capitalist roaders” but never saw the capitalist essence of the socialist road. As in the Soviet case, capitalist production relationships defeated their efforts at communist education. Still, they instruct and inspire us.

Communist education will mean different things at different times, based on the particular needs of the international working class. But we do know this: it will place the creation of communist social relations before the acquisition of technical knowledge or intellectual expertise. It must prepare us to fight for and build a classless society, without money or racism or sexism or borders or exploitation. It must combine lifelong work and study, theory and practice. It must merge “mental” and “manual” labor and end the marginalization of children, youth, and the elderly. Join the International Communist Workers’ Party in the fight for communist education and a communist world!

MEXICO INITIATIVE: More evidence of the Capitalist Crisis

MEXICO—Last June 7th the project called “Mexico Initiative” began with the transmission over the national networks of a “pact for national unity” of the most influential media of the country (Televisa and TV Azteca), universities (UNAM and Tec Monterrey), movies, radio and civil associations, generated by the capitalists themselves. (*La Jornada*, June 8).

In Mexico, as in other parts of the world, the bosses have “allied” temporarily and for convenience with only one objective: to control the working class ideologically. They openly declared that they will

continue to compete in the struggle for markets, but that Mexico will unite them.

The bosses know that the economic crisis, racism, war, unemployment, sexism, and drug traffic provide plenty of reasons for workers to fight against the bosses. They’ve dramatically lost credibility with the working class and they can picture being attacked by a strong organization. That’s why they appear to be united to “rescue a dynamic Mexico and a daring dream.”

The “positive” image of their proposal conceals even more what is really happening in the world. They don’t want us to think about the war for oil in the Middle East and other parts of the world, of the struggles of the comrade workers in every corner of the world, of the contradictions among the imperialists leading to World War III. They say this is to avoid “hopelessness”. Instead, they spread nation-

alist ideology and conceal the rest.

For example, Friday, June 11 was the “most violent day in 6 years” in Mexico. Seventy-seven people died in armed confrontations in the cities surrounding oil deposits in Tamaulipas and in the north of the country (*La Jornada*, June 12). The bosses use this to justify the militarization of the border with the US and throughout the whole country. In exchange, they publicize the biographies of soccer stars and allow the World Cup games to be shown officially in workplaces and schools. The technical director of the Mexican soccer team alone, the promoter of this initiative, makes more than 3 million Euros a year or 45 million pesos. That’s 1350 times what a worker makes.

This topic has been discussed with friends and future

See Mexico Initiative, page 14

SB 1070, DREAM ACT: BOTH DEATH TRAPS FOR WORKERS

IMMIGRANTS AND CITIZENS, SMASH BORDERS WITH COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

The movements for and against Arizona's SB 1070 anti-immigrant law are the result of the in-fighting among the US rulers about how to deal with the challenges to their declining empire. Both are being led by these racist murderers to further their profit system's interests at the expense of the international working class. Both are death traps for the working class.

One movement - supporting this law and stricter laws against undocumented immigrants - is led by the sector of the US ruling class, represented in the Tea Party, that doesn't want any of its profits to pay for US imperialism's escalating wars for oil.

The other - boycotting Arizona, supporting immigrant rights, the DREAM Act and Comprehensive Immigration Reform - is led by the Rockefeller liberal imperialist wing of the US rulers. This movement is to advance these imperialists' war plans to defend their world empire - first in wider oil wars, especially against Iran, but eventually against China and Russia.

Liberal Imperialists Need "National Service" or Military Draft

Although their military machine is bogged down in the Iraq-Afghanistan-Pakistan wars, these bosses are preparing for war against Iran. The excuse is Iran's nuclear program. The reality is Iran's strategic location and vast energy resources.

To expand their military, the Rockefeller gang will eventually institute the draft. In preparation for it, these liberal bosses need to accomplish three things. One was rescind the "don't ask, don't tell" policy of its military. The other two: enact the DREAM Act and Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CIR).

Rescinding "don't ask, don't tell" opens the military service door to millions of gay soldiers, while eliminating the policy as a possible refuge to future draft evaders. The DREAM Act, backed by the Pentagon, hypocritically claims to help some 2 million undocumented youth go to college, like Har-

vard sophomore Eric Balderas. But, most of them won't end up at Harvard. Instead, they'll end up serving two years or more in the military. Likewise, the CIR will condemn 12 million undocumented workers to slave 9-12 years in the bosses' war industries hoping to earn their green card. Military service can speed up the process.

The Rockefeller gang, however, faces a timing problem. They and their leaders of the immigration reform movement have kept secret the question of military service and slaving in war industries. Thus, they need to pass these laws before workers are rudely awakened by the horrors of US imperialism's next killing fields. Once signed up, the government will have all their information, making it difficult, if not impossible, for these workers and youth to melt back into the shadows.

"Boycott Arizona" Movement's Aim: Speed Up Passage of Bosses' Immigration Laws

"SB 1070 is an abomination...But a Justice Department lawsuit would be a horrendous mistake - one that could end all hope of passing CIR as long as Barack Obama is president," says Op-Ed article "An immigration standoff." (*LA Times*, 6/21/10)

The US bosses behind SB 1070 have placed a major roadblock to the Rockefeller gang's plans of enacting their immigration laws. Therefore, this gang is orchestrating the nationwide anti-Arizona campaign to pressure Obama and Congress to deal with immigration reform this year. They are also using these racist movements to pass fascist laws, like a proposed biometric national ID card. They are consolidating fascism to brutally squash any workers' rebellions, but also to force these opposing bosses to toe



the line.

Workers have no dog in this fight. The racists supporting SB 1070 are cutting their own throats. Their rabid racism and fervent patriotism are being exploited to further the interests of both sets of bosses.

The anti-racist forces, however, no matter how well-intentioned, must realize that they are being used by the liberal US bosses to institute fascism at home and wage wars abroad. These bosses - and their politicians like Obama, religious leaders like Cardinal Mahony and revisionists (false communists) - are more dangerous than the open racists and fascists. They pretend to be our friends but are the enemy from within.

The ICWP participates in these movements to expose the bosses and their agents. We aim to win the anti-racist people in them to the need to destroy this racist murderous profit system with a communist revolution. We are building a mass party which fights for communism - a society without money, wage slavery, borders, nations, racism or imperialist wars. Join us!

Violence in El Salvador

DESTROY CAPITALISM, WHICH MURDERED 16 MORE WORKERS

EL SALVADOR —Last June 20th, sixteen people were burned alive inside a bus. Those who tried to escape the hellish fire were riddled with bullets. This attack wasn't caused by a missile in Afghanistan or in Ciudad Juarez in Mexico, but here in the Salvadoran capital. Those responsible for this atrocity were young gang members, but the real executioners are the capitalist system and its thirst for profits.

The fight over control of drugs and extortion has made El Salvador one of the most violent countries in the hemisphere. It's no accident that in this period of "peace," desperate poverty, high unemployment, and crimes of every type would go together. Due to this incident, President Mauricio Funes said, "The violence must be fought with repression." President Funes has received the support of all the different parties in the Legislative Assembly, including the FMLN, in his proposal to criminalize the gangs. "The judicial and police system is contaminated by organized crime," the liberal revisionists

of the FMLN exclaimed, as though they just figured it out. These bourgeois politicians don't mention in the most minimal way the roots of this problem, the capitalist system, and the need to destroy it.

Worldwide the bosses and their system kill thousands of workers everyday, through the oil wars in the Middle East, through more than 2.5 billion workers (43% of the world population) who suffer hunger and poverty, and through the multimillion dollar drug trade. These murders are added to the massacres at El Mozote in 1981, where the government's army killed more than 800 people, including women and children. And the thousands of immigrant workers who die crossing the borders in search of bread for their families and many more. ENOUGH! We have to destroy this capitalist monster as soon as possible with a communist revolution.

This is a structural problem, which means that these things happen for economic, social, and political reasons pushed by this vicious capitalist system. Every

day it builds conditions of more inequality, taking away the most elemental necessities of the working class. The violence is a pandemic used as a commodity, bought and sold in the market, and spread by the bosses' media.

The International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) is organizing workers internationally to fight for communism so that youth, children, men and women workers, the elderly, farm workers and students can be part of a new system that doesn't permit these massacres for control of the market in drugs, weapons, oil and profits in general.

A correct response is the organized struggle. We discuss with our fellow workers in the factories, the fields, the army, and together we see what is under the surface and we'll eradicate the source of this evil.

We are organizing the ICWP, building groups to read communist literature including our newspaper *Red Flag*. Join the fight for communism!

Questions for Study-Action Readers' Groups

1. The article on McChrystal's firing (p. 1) argues that Iran will soon become a battlefield and that world war is approaching sooner rather than later. What's the evidence? Are you convinced? How does this affect our political work?
2. The article on immigration (above) says that the Arizona debate reflects infighting among the US rulers about how to deal with the challenges to their declining empire." It criticizes the "Stop SB 1070" movement for playing into the rulers' fascist hands. Do you agree? Why or why not?

Please write letters to *Red Flag* with your comments and questions!

How Capitalist Rulers Use Racism

In early June, Michael Kundu of the Marysville (Washington) School Board sent out emails claiming that science has proven that native, latino and black students are genetically doomed to do poorly in school. Of course there is no such science. Kundu was referring to the writings of J. Philippe Rushton, a racist hack on the faculty of the University of Western Ontario.

Poor Kundu was born 100 years too late. Back in 1910, everything he said and much more was supported by almost the whole academic establishment. Leading academics including Sir Francis Galton, Francis Walker and William Ripley of MIT, and Madison Grant, warned of an impending catastrophe they called “race suicide.” They promoted and popularized a “eugenics” movement to prevent the supposedly inferior “darker races” from outnumbering white Anglo-Saxon Protestants such as themselves.

Big-time capitalists (Theodore Roosevelt, Carnegie, Harriman, Rockefeller) funded this movement. According to eugenics, they were truly fine fellows, genetically superior to the workers who produced their wealth. Even better (for them) was the idea that the millions of people impoverished by monopoly capital were themselves responsible for their miserable condition. The problem was with their genes, not with capitalism.

After World War I, in a period of sharp anti-immigrant attacks partly responding to the Russian Revolution, eugenics and IQ testing provided a pseudo-scientific rationale for tracking in the schools and for racist immigration laws. Again, Carnegie and Rockefeller funding was key.

“Eugenic” laws – including marriage restrictions and forced sterilization – were enacted in dozens of US states. These became the model for the German Nazis’ “racial purity” laws which quickly developed into genocide. The Rockefeller Foundation continued to support Nazified academic institutions right up to the outbreak of World War II despite

growing disgust at the Nazis’ racism.

By 1945 the Nazis were destroyed and old-style eugenics was almost completely discredited. But eugenics simply washed up, changed its name, put on a new set of clothes and re-entered polite society as the “population control” movement. We’ll write more about this in a future article.

Red Flag comments:

Kundu was indeed born in a different era. Within a week, the Marysville School Board responded to demands of Tulalip tribal leaders and the NAACP and called for Kundu’s resignation. The local press depicted Rushton as a sexually perverted fraud. Kundu recanted his claim that science proved his racist point.

A victory for anti-racism? Not so fast!

Marysville is home to many Boeing and Microsoft workers. The predominantly native and poorer students at Tulalip Elementary School do far worse on standardized tests than the mainly white and better-off students at Allen Creek and Kellogg Marsh elementary schools. Fewer than a third of the students at the almost all-native Heritage High School graduate, compared with three-quarters of those at the mainly-white Marysville-Pilchuck campus. We’re no fans of these tests or the “education” they claim to measure, but this is clear evidence of institutional racism.

In the present period, open eugenics-style racist ideology no longer meets the needs of the capitalist rulers. They desperately need to recruit young workers into a multi-racial army as they prepare for World War III. Open racism is now directed mainly against Arab, Muslim and south Asian workers, while patriotism is pushed in “multi-cultural” form.

We invite readers to write more about liberal racism, how it divides the working class, and how we fight it with communist ideas in the lead.

By the way, Maryville’s 2003 teachers’ strike was the largest education strike in state history.

MEXICO INITIATIVE, from page 4

members of ICWP. A friend commented, upset, “How is it possible that the bosses accept that they are in competition and fight with each other, and then they make an alliance? They want us to act with values and hope that we think that it’s a question of changing our attitude, that we are in this situation because it’s our fault.” She also talked with her brother and he told her indignantly, “The right advances more each time. What should the left do, where is it? We have to do something.” The friend has said that change must come from below (referring to the working class.) We say that it must be through a communist party that really responds to the needs of the workers.

We should hurry to expose this system to our class brothers and sisters. The working class will install the dictatorship of the proletariat. We’ll work and fight for that. This is a positive, dynamic and daring thought for the interests of our class. Only communism can meet the needs of all workers.



Working People Have No Nation

KYRGYSTAN MASSACRE, from page 16

survivals of national oppression in order that friendship may be knit between the peoples and internationalism firmly established.”

This was an incorrect approach to fighting racism and building international working-class unity. It’s the same line pushed by many liberals today of building separate organizations for “people of color” and their “white allies.”

Stalin and Lenin argued correctly that “the dying away of national differences and the merging of nations” cannot happen globally while imperialism rules any part of the world. They wrongly concluded that nations should continue to exist within the Soviet zone. This was the logic of socialism.

So the anti-communists are not entirely wrong to say that the Soviet nation-states in Central Asia contributed to nationalist violence there today. Soviet socialism was a contradiction between communist ideas (internationalism, the end of exploitation) and capitalist practices (nations, wages). It was the capitalist aspect that dominated and continues to create racist and nationalist violence – a fact that *The Economist* will never admit.

Communists must fight hard against all forms of racism and nationalism. As Marx said, working people have no nation – and we never will. Our slogan, as long as capitalism exists, will always be: Workers of the World, Unite! Smash all borders! Fight for communism!

Boeing Worker Welcomes “Revolutionary Way of Thinking”

Q: Have you experienced any racism and/or sexism at Boeing?

A: I’ve worked for Boeing since the early 80s. Racism and sexism in the plant was more open then. Now Boeing Human Relations, General Managers, many managers, EEOC, Ethics [Department] all work together to put a better face on it. They’re more dishonest and petty now. They all work together to do hourly employees wrong. It’s really divide and conquer.

Q: We were forced to watch a 75 minute video on company ethics this last month. You dealt with the company ethics department. Care to comment?

A: The ethics video was the biggest joke yet. We were forced to watch over an hour of Boeing bs all because some CEOs got caught with their hands in the cookie jar. It had nothing to do with us. We’d get fired for taking a yogurt from the cafeteria, not a slap on the wrist like these guys while keeping their multi-million dollar pensions.

As soon as we got out of the Block House [where the video was shown] managers went right back to harassing minorities and females. I tried taking it to ethics only to get it shoved back in my face.

I tell you about Boeing Ethics. The Company hired a worker I knew who had a physical disability. He did his job and then some. Then after 20 years, management changed his job, knowing he couldn’t

do this different type of work. Then they medically terminated him.

Q: Has the union helped?

A: They, like the EEOC and Ethics, have been trained to say: “The Company has the right to...” I came to work at Boeing in my early 30s. Now I’m over 55. I know the company has the right [in this system] to what the hell it wants. The question is what we, the workers, are going to do!

I see the union doing nothing but siding with the racism and sexism created by Boeing. In fact, the big union reps sing the “Company has the right to...” song the loudest.

Q: Do you think this system is working? What about communism?

A: After more than 20 years, I feel we are going backward. I have been through more racism and sexist attacks than in all the 90s. This system is failing. Capitalist greed will not work. I’m more sure now than ever we need a revolutionary way of thinking.

Q: What do you think about Red Flag?

A: I’ve always read *Red Flag*. I’ve always passed it on. What I know after 20 plus years at Boeing is that the bosses’ system failed me every time I tried to rely on it. At this point, I learned that none of these—Human Resources, Generals, managers, Ethics, EEOC—have worked for me as a minority worker. So I say: welcome to a revolutionary way of thinking!

LETTERS

LETTERS *****

CRITICISM AND SUGGESTIONS

“Well, I’ll tell you about a scenario that made me feel awful and I will never forget.”

“Man, all people now in Iraq are only thinking about their family back home, if their family is fine, if their husband or wife is okay, is their son or daughter fine. They are not thinking about the big picture,” said a young Marine.

He was responding to my explanation of the US capitalists’ failed strategy to control Middle East oil. First they invaded Afghanistan, then Iraq, and now they’re trying to pacify Afghanistan (making a deal with the Taliban) so as to finally lay the ground work for invading Iran.

“I don’t want him to get deep into it. I don’t want him to get in trouble”, his wife added.

“Do you worry about his safety, his livelihood?” I asked.

“Yes, of course!”

“Well,” I said, “that’s one of the things that I worry the most about. You see, that’s what these capitalist bosses do through the generals, admirals, captains and other superiors. They place Marines and other soldiers in harm’s way just to protect their oil profits. I don’t think that any working-class Marine or soldier should die for oil.”

As I was finishing, the Marine’s eyes lit up and he said, “Well, I’ll tell you about a scenario that made me feel awful and I will never forget.” Both his wife and I waited anxiously.

“Well, the Afghans that work with us in the base were lined up to eat and I lined up behind them. An Afghan worker insisted that I move to the front of the line. ‘No, I’m cool,’ I said. He grabbed my arm and tried to move me to the front. I loosened my arm and said ‘No, I’m ok.’ This made it clear to me that, they train Afghans that we ‘Americans’ always come first. I was disgusted by this racist experience. There are many incidents that I can mention not only about the lack of respect of civilians but also low level Marines, by superiors.”

“Well,” I responded, “as preparations escalate for wider war, Marines and other soldiers are going to be asking questions and begin looking at the bigger picture much more critically and we have to be there to help them make sense of all that is happening.” “Yeah, I agree,” he said. The conversation continued for a bit longer, we parted and said we will be in contact.

A comrade

Red Flag Comments

We have to take advantage of every opportunity that presents itself to us. “Incidents” that occur can be used to build solidarity with other Marines, military personnel, and workers in other countries and bring forth the need to question the capitalist bosses’ war for profit and domination. We must also put forward the need for a different world in which the world’s workers unite and reorganize society to meet human needs and not the particular need of a particular section of bosses whether U.S., Chinese, Iranian, etc.

Dear Red Flag

Recently a group of school workers and Boeing workers had a study group where we discussed the future of education. We asked the question “What and how would we teach youth under communism?” The discussion was good because we talked about what skills and values we wanted children to learn. The bosses’ system teaches individualism, elitism, patriotism. We agreed that we would want to teach collectivity, and equality and working class unity. Our goals will be to make a better world for the international working class. The capitalists want to dominate the world, and war and fascism is how they plan to do this. They want to use our children to be their soldiers and low-paid laborers.

Just before school closed for the summer, there was a campaign to vote “no confidence” in the superintendent, Maria Goodloe-Johnson. She was hired to close schools, get rid of teachers, and carry out other reforms of Obama-Duncan. Her qualifications include being on the board of the Eli Broad Foundation, one of the privately run organizations taking over the failing public school system in the US. She directly represents the capitalist plan for education during this period of war and fascism. If we kicked her out, if we won a great contract, or got tons of money to improve the present system, capitalist education will never be good. Because it serves the bosses’ needs, not ours. We have to smash their education system. And that’s gonna take a revolution. This is what we will talk about in our study group this summer. We are really looking forward to including the volunteers who will be coming to our summer project in July.

We would love to see more letters and articles from readers regarding education in *Red Flag*.

Seattle Comrade

“To maintain unity is important, but to maintain the political line is primary.”

To understand processes according to the political science of dialectics is a task of the revolutionary struggle. Some time ago in a meeting where it was decided to choose one political line, I heard the commentary: “This rupture will separate families and friends.” I mention this because some days ago we talked among friends about unity and how to define what political line would be chosen after the process that we lived in the PLP.

I talked about an article in *Red Flag* that said, “To maintain unity is important, but to maintain the political line is primary.” We discussed how to stay united “because we’re friends,” without the political line affecting our relations. However, I told them that *Red Flag* mentioned that “the Party is strengthened by cleansing itself” which doesn’t mean that we’re bad members, but if our actions in a communist party allow liberalism to the point of cynicism, without criticism or self criticism, without revolutionary work, and much passivity in the members, then politically we exhibit weaknesses that would lead us to reformist and revisionist attitudes.

In this process, many of these actions were clarified, and with them those who practiced them. The discussion allowed them to agree to continue meeting to discuss points like these. I gave them *Red Flag* to analyze and comment on the articles. Unity, if it’s with capitalist ideas, can’t build a solid base for the struggle for communist revolution.

There will be a constant ideological struggle with my friends to help them to decide which political line to choose. The primary thing for our relationship will be the communist political line and the unity that is important will have an end point that objectively will be either rupture or unity. The affection will continue because they are people with good feelings, but to build the revolution we need to be more objective. Putting the political line primary will favor discussions, criticisms, self criticisms, and -- why not? -- win them to the struggle within the ranks of ICWP.

It’s a great time to make new friends and win them to communist ideas, develop capabilities so that we can overcome the limitations of revolutionary work as happened with a friend, who always drove when we went on visits to take the paper to people. Now I have to learn to drive to take *Red Flag* to old and new friends. Because of that, the development of capabilities and the application of dialectical materialism will help us in the struggle for communist revolution in the ranks of ICWP and the distribution of *Red Flag*. Join us to fight for communist revolution.

Youth from Mexico

“The Arizona law is a rotten apple that tastes terrible. Obama’s Comprehensive Immigration Reform is a rotten apple with sugar coating.”

We often hear that undocumented immigrants don’t pay taxes. They cost US citizens money. They cause hospital closings and overcrowded classrooms. They take American jobs. *These are racist lies*. Who creates, benefits, and perpetuates racist lies? The capitalist ruling class.

In truth, ALL workers pay sales taxes regardless of citizenship. Most undocumented workers use social security numbers, contributing about \$8.5 billion annually to Social Security and Medicare that will never benefit them. Undocumented adults are 3% of the US population, yet use only 1.5% of medical costs. The numbers of undocumented immigrants are not related to unemployment rates.

The problem is that workers’ taxes fund imperialist wars and other ruling class priorities (like prisons), not workers’ needs. The Iraq and Afghanistan wars have already cost over \$900 billion AND thousands of lives.

Why doesn’t the top 1% of the US population (those making over \$1 million annually, who hold more wealth than the bottom 90% combined) pay for hospitals and schools?

It’s capitalism worldwide that forces desperate immigrants to choose between starvation and separation from their families in search of jobs. The Capitalist system cannot provide for the basic needs of millions. Capitalism constructs walls and borders between workers to divide us and make us less able to fight back and destroy this racist system.

The US bosses make huge profits from paying immigrants (documented and undocumented) barely enough to survive. In addition to the profits made from this racist super-exploitation, the bosses also reap huge profits by using these low wages to drive down the wages of all.

The bosses get away with this because workers are divided and afraid, and because the bosses have state power to make exploitation legal. A sense of fear is also instilled in workers by laws like the ones in Arizona that allow the open harassment of immigrants and their families. This is like what occurred to Jews in Nazi Germany, but many are not making this connection.

The Arizona law is a rotten apple that tastes terrible. Obama’s Comprehensive Immigration Reform is a rotten apple with sugar coating. It systematically forces immigrants to be super-exploited as indentured servants for many years and pushes undocumented youth into the military.

Bottom line is –workers’ problems come from capitalism, not from immigrants. As working class brothers and sisters, we must unite across ALL borders to fight for a communist system for our children and grandchildren!

Red Mom

Read, Write, Distribute Red Flag

We Plan to Build Our Red Army

First Step: Building a Base with Soldiers for Revolution

In our company, it was Master Sergeant Pete who was the lifer hated by every lower enlisted soldier. When he would order a private to paint over a spot in the shop, Sgt. Pete would return and tell the soldier that a terrible job was done. He would order the soldier to repaint the spot.

When there was a minor infraction, Sgt. Pete would support his NCO's cruel and embarrassing punishment techniques, like having four soldiers create a square with their bodies on the floor in order for the soldiers to do push-ups at the same time. Soldiers would say that if we ever go to war with this guy, he would be "shot by one of us."

The above story sounds like something out of Richard Boyle's *Flower of the Dragon: The Breakdown of the U.S. Army in Vietnam*. But it isn't from Boyle's book. This is what soldiers were going through in their unit just a few years ago, when the US bosses were getting ready for the current war to defend Exxon's oil profits. But Sgt. Pete can be compared to "Top," who Boyle describes as a higher ranking NCO who disrespected and mistreated soldiers.

Top was shot by Doc Hampton, a black soldier, who shortly after barricaded himself against the Military Police. Scores of soldiers, both black and white, on hearing this grabbed their weapons and rushed to his defense. Unfortunately, before they could get there, Doc committed suicide, not realizing how inspirational his fragging of Top had been.

As comparable as both stories can be, there is one drastic difference that sets the two beyond comparison. Sgt. Pete's soldiers were actively discussing communist politics, so the hatred for Pete was linked to the hatred for the capitalist system that creates fascists like Pete and Top. The bosses de-

pend on these types of sergeants. When soldiers are ordered into war, they don't realize that they are killing for oil profits and not for the interest of soldiers or workers anywhere.

In both stories we witness a ray of hope which should inspire our revolutionary movement in the International Communist Workers' Party to take organizing in the military more seriously. For our Party, it should be an integral part of our base building, as it was for previous revolutionary movements. This includes getting to know other soldiers, making friends, and discussing the political situation with them.

More specifically, the Bolsheviks in Russia, from 1903 on, committed much time and effort to building a mass movement in the Czar's army. In *The Bolsheviks Come to Power*, Alexander Rabinowitch makes it clear that through "neighborhood party committees...the trade union movement, factory-shop committees...the Bolsheviks concentrated on increasing their influence among military personnel and factory workers." This kind of organizing made it possible for the Russian workers and soldiers to take state power in 1917.

The US military systematically oppresses soldiers to make soldiers believe that the brass can simply give orders and orders should simply be followed. But soldiers should rebel against these orders that only perpetuate this rotten capitalist system. We should fight for the needs of the entire working class by joining ICWP, which seeks to better the life of workers around the world with communism.

As stated in Boyle's book, nobody seemed to care about the horrific stories Boyle would present to the politicians in the effort to end the war. Boyle's book says that peace and love is the solution. But the poli-

ticians, rich bosses, and capitalism do not care about peace and love. Sgt. Pete didn't care a damn about his soldiers, just as Top didn't care a damn about soldiers like Doc Hampton.

To love, and to have aspirations for peace, is to love the international working class by getting rid of this capitalist system through a revolution. Undoubtedly, there is much anger among soldiers in the military. This anger should be channeled toward the fight for communism. Only then will we reach our full capability to truly love the working class and establish true peace.

Just as the Bolsheviks used their communist newspaper to influence soldiers, we should strive to use **Red Flag** to reach many soldiers. Building a base with soldiers for revolution in and out of the military is a first step. This process should also prepare us for what is to come. Power to the working class will not be handed down peacefully by the rulers, and we should be realistic about the sacrifices that the working class will make in order to achieve its main goal.

We plan to build a Red Army, an army with the most advanced communist practice and theory, an integral part of our Party that will fight for, consolidate and guarantee the communist dictatorship of the working class as long as needed.

Next article: How will the Red Army that we need to fight for communism differ from the bosses' army?

Join the Red Army

Inter-Imperialist Rivalry Behind Kyrgyzstan Massacre

Workers Must Defeat Racism, Nationalism

The recent massacre of Uzbeks in Kyrgyzstan shows how deadly racism and nationalism are for the working class.

Behind the bloody scene is inter-imperialist rivalry. Kyrgyzstan is a battleground between US and Russian imperialists because of its strategic location in energy-rich Central Asia. (See **Red Flag**, Vol. 1 #6 for details)

US rulers attack radical Islam to win US workers to support their energy wars. However, they also hope to use Islamic fundamentalism against their Russian and Chinese competitors. That's why Uzbeki refugees – numbering in the hundred-thousands -- get sympathetic US coverage. It's why Russian bosses refused to intervene against the anti-Uzbek riots.

Some Uzbeks threatened to blow up an oil depot if they didn't get protection. That's exactly what the US bosses want in this region, a major source of oil for China.

So why does *The Economist* (mouthpiece of British capitalism) blame the 20th century communist leader Josef Stalin for these massacres?

It notes (6/17/10) that until the Soviet Union established socialist republics in Central Asia in 1924, "the region never had precise borders. ... The nomadic Kyrgyz and Kazakhs largely ignored the concepts of states and boundaries anyway."

The opportunist bosses are so eager to attack Stalin that they make two contradictory arguments. First, they blame Stalin for creating autonomous nations. Then they blame him for suppressing nationalism and national cultures. The capitalists can't decide whether Stalin was too nationalist or not nationalist enough!

Socialism and Nationalism = Capitalism and Racism

"The chief struggle in Kirghizia," a communist official told Anna Louise Strong in 1929, "is against the old tribal organization, and their chieftains, the manaps. Our first step... is to divide our village soviets on geographical rather than tribal lines.... The manaps have always exploited the poorer Kirghiz." Private property in land wasn't abolished there until 1927, and the struggle continued for years in the valleys as communists established collective farms in the hands of the formerly poor Kirghiz people. (Strong, *The Road to the Grey Pamir*, 1931)

But the Soviet Communist Party fought for socialism, not communism. Central Asian nomads lived (poorly) on the fruits of their own labor, but communists introduced "trade goods," encouraging nomads to engage in wage labor to buy them. The collective farms ran on socialist principles, including wage labor – and nationalism.

Stalin and Lenin warned of the danger that capitalism could be restored in the Soviet Union on the basis of persisting small capitalist enterprises (especially in the countryside). They did not see the far greater danger in large-scale socialist enterprise, which proved to be the basis of Soviet capitalism.

We need to learn from this monumental and tragic error that our fight must be for communism, not socialism. It's not enough to control markets and

abolish private property. We must abolish the market economy (commodity production), wage labor, and money itself. And we must abolish nations and nationalism, even though differences in language, cuisine, and such will persist.

Working People Have No Nation

Stalin argued ("The National Question and Leninism," 1929) that socialist revolution destroyed "bourgeois nations," where capitalists were "the chief leading force" and promoted "class peace within the nation" in the interest of territorial expansion and a united front with imperialism. He said this meant the suppression of national minorities (which we would today call racism).

But Stalin wanted "new, Soviet nations" led by the working class, in alliance with "the working peasantry." He said these were needed to abolish "the



See Kyrgyzstan Massacre, page 14