

CHALLENGE



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Hurricane Matthew in Haiti

A Capitalist Disaster



HAITI, October 8—Hurricane Matthew has struck Haiti with a vengeance this week. The working class of Haiti has been attacked twice by the bosses—once by climate change that brought on the hurricane itself (see box, page 4), and again by the total disregard from local and imperialist bosses for human life. For both the hurricane and the destruction of lives and livelihood, capitalism is guilty as charged.

Over 1,000 are known dead, and more than 500,000 affected by the collapse of tens of thousands poorly built "little box" houses. Crops were totally uprooted and untold thousands of farm animals died in mainly three regions, South, Southeast and Grand'Anse.

With a wholly inadequate infrastructure to begin with, now smashed bridges, washed out roads and mudslides are making recovery of people from rural at-risk areas even more difficult. This disaster is not "natural" as the bosses want us to believe but rather the result of the systematic impoverishment of the working class in Haiti by the racist capitalist system. Why is the working class

always the target?

Working-class families cannot build houses to adequate standards, earning less than \$5 a day minimum wage, with which they must feed, dress, pay school fees for their children, and more. How could they not be vulnerable? In a communist society, everyone will live in a protected place in well-built houses, for the lives of all will matter.

Workers along the coast who could evacuate moved to higher ground; however, they weren't safe from rains, winds and landslides. They didn't have the safety of the concrete houses of the bourgeoisie. The masses were left to the mercy of the storm and were left largely unprotected. They certainly didn't have an efficient disaster preparedness system, such as in the U.S. or Cuba, where there were well-organized responses and few fatalities.

Resurgence of Cholera

To add to the burdens of our class, there has already been a resurgence of cholera. In the last year alone, 26,000 people have become ill. As a re-

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Fighting Alongside the Masses to Fight the Storm

Since the evening of the hurricane, our comrades were out to help people in danger. In one provincial town in the South that was hit hard by Matthew, we kept in phone contact until the networks went down. We warned against going out because of flying debris from roofs. During the night, the brother of a comrade, himself close to the Party, facilitated the evacuation of several disabled people.

During the storm, one of the comrades welcomed several people who had been flooded out into his already crowded house. Then, we organized several young people to help out at a local shelter. After the worst of the storm passed, we helped the family of a comrade to clean his flooded house. And we continued to meet with young people to see what needed to be done for the victims. We discussed the ideas and actions of the local bosses, who seemed incapable of providing leadership in this time of crisis. And we talked about why this storm was so violent and why we, as working people, had not been able to resist the ravages of the storm. Poverty and racism are "natural" under capitalism, and this storm was not a "natural disaster" but rather the capitalist disaster of a system that doesn't deserve to exist.

Early the next day, under violent winds, heavy rains and flooding, we accompanied young people to patrol the area to see who needed help. We responded as best we could to appeals for food and water from both young and old. Another comrade, whose own house had been flooded, took in a dozen peo-

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OUR FIGHT

★ Progressive Labor Party (PLP) fights to destroy capitalism and the dictatorship of the capitalist class. We organize workers, soldiers and youth into a revolutionary movement for communism.

★ the dictatorship of the working class — communism — can provide a lasting solution to the disaster that is today's world for billions of people. This cannot be done through electoral politics, but requires a revolutionary movement and a mass Red Army led by PLP.

★ Worldwide capitalism, in its relentless drive for profit, inevitably leads to war, fascism, poverty, disease, starvation and environmental destruction. The capitalist class, through its state power — governments, armies, police, schools and culture — maintains a dictatorship over the world's workers. The capitalist dictatorship supports, and is supported by, the anti-working-class ideologies of racism, sexism, nationalism, individualism and religion.

★ While the bosses and their mouthpieces claim "communism is dead," capitalism is the real failure for billions worldwide. Capitalism returned to Russia and China because socialism retained many aspects of the profit system, like wages and privileges. Russia and China did not establish communism.

★ Communism means working collectively to build a worker-run society. We will abolish work for wages, money and profits. While capitalism needs unemployment, communism needs everyone to contribute and share in society's benefits and burdens.

★ Communism means abolishing racism and the concept of "race." Capitalism uses racism to super-exploit Black, Latin, Asian and indigenous workers, and to divide the entire working class.

★ Communism means abolishing the special oppression of women — sexism — and divisive gender roles created by the class society.

★ Communism means abolishing nations and nationalism. One international working class, one world, one Party.

★ Communism means that the minds of millions of workers must become free from religion's false promises, unscientific thinking and poisonous ideology. Communism will triumph when the masses of workers can use the science of dialectical materialism to understand, analyze and change the world to meet their needs and aspirations.

★ Communism means the Party leads every aspect of society. For this to work, millions of workers — eventually everyone — must become communist organizers. Join Us!

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WHO WRITES FOR CHALLENGE?

The fact that CHALLENGE/PLP articles are not signed grows from PLP's criticism of the cult of the individual in the former socialist Soviet Union and China. We do not want to encourage the possibility of building up a "following" around any particular individual.

While an article may be written by one person, the final version is based on collective discussion and criticism. Many times this collective discussion even precedes an individual's writing of an article.

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Editorial

War and "Peace":

Colombia's No Deal Blocks U.S. Plans

On October 2, the peace deal between the Colombian government and the fake leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) was narrowly defeated in a public vote, leaving a 50-year conflict in limbo. While the deal may still be revived, the "no" vote—like Britain's Brexit vote in June—exposes the limits of imperialist control by the main wing of the U.S. ruling class, which had pushed for a settlement as a tool to expand its presence in Colombia.

As communists, we know that life under capitalism is anything but peaceful for the international working class (see history of fake left movements in Latin America on page 4). However the deal in Colombia sorts out, it will be no victory for workers. Instead, it will enrich a section of the Colombian ruling class while opening new opportunities for imperialists from the U.S., Europe and Asia.

Local Bosses' Fight Spoils Deal

The peace deal's failure also exposed a split within the Colombian ruling class. On one side is President Juan Manuel Santos, the Nobel Peace Prize winner who represents the "international" wing of the local ruling class. These bosses, mainly in the banking, mining and oil sectors, want to open Colombia to more international trade and investment. According to Stratfor, "If the deal wins approval, Colombia's rural areas will become more accessible...and Bogota will begin considering how it can attract foreign investment to the regions" (8/16).

The opposing wing, led by Alvaro Uribe, the former president linked to paramilitary massacres, represents local landowners who are fighting to hold on to territory seized during the war with FARC. In Colombia today, less than half of one percent of the population controls half the land (Guardian, 10/3). This faction is also fighting to keep money flowing into the paramilitary forces and a militarized Colombian state. With the support of U.S. imperialism, paramilitary death squads have killed thousands of Colombian workers over decades (New York Times, 9/10).

U.S. Bosses' Ulterior Motives

The 21st century has seen the U.S. ruling class lose a lot of ground in Latin America. This was a region where U.S. capitalists once created a new country in 1903 (the part of Colombia that became Panama) to secure a canal for U.S. strategic and economic interests. But more recently, the rise of Chinese and Russian involvement in the region has changed the dynamics.

Since 2000, under the guise of a "war on drugs," the U.S. has given Colombia over \$10 billion. That money bought the most secure U.S. ally in the region, and the U.S. wants to make sure it stays that way. In anticipation of an eventual peace deal, the Barack Obama administration pledged to increase aid next year "from \$300 million to nearly \$500 million, with funds for removing land mines, replacing illegal mines, and other rural development projects" (Washington Post, 9/27), along with a \$390 million aid package for post-conflict recovery. With oil imports from Colombia rising modestly of late, U.S. bosses are eyeing substantial future profits from infrastructure development.

Colombia is a strategic location for the U.S.'s military's South Command. According to the Council on Foreign Relations, "During the FARC detente, the United States can increase offshore interdiction activity without evoking feelings of Reagan-esque Latin American policy," a reference to former U.S. President and death squad funder Ronald Reagan (9/20).

FARC – No Friend of the Working Class

The FARC was created in 1964 as the armed wing of the Colombian Communist Party to fight against inequality, poverty and land consolidation. Its attachment to Marxist politics reflected the influence of the international communist movement as the answer to imperialism and the exploitation of billions of workers around the world. But FARC quickly turned into its opposite because of political weaknesses in the old communist movement. "Revolutionary nationalism," the reactionary idea that elevates one country's "people" over the international working class, led many groups to collaborate with "lesser evil" capitalists. Millions of brave fighters were derailed from a revolutionary path.

FARC was not immune to this decay. Its leaders turned to the drug trade to finance their army. Capitalist media accounts have estimated that FARC was responsible for 90 percent of the cocaine on the world market (Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, November 2014). These are the same drugs that have destabilized working-class communities throughout the world and led to the incarceration of thousands of Black and Latin workers in the United States.

FARC was also responsible for kidnapping minors into their army and other terrorist activities that hurt and killed working people in Colombia. As the state-terrorist Colombian bosses, backed by the U.S., damaged FARC economically and militarily, the group's anti-worker acts only got worse.

The Progressive Labor Party believes in winning workers to fight for an international communist world. We renounce terrorism as the bosses' strategy. Only through the mass violence of a communist revolution can the working class take power. Join us!

China Challenging U.S. Power

Other imperialist powers are also planning for life after the Colombian peace deal. The European Union pledged an aid package of \$638 million USD. Though China has pledged a mere \$8 million, they are now Colombia's second-largest trading partner. Once it is settled, the peace deal will open up more opportunities for the Chinese bosses and sharpen their rivalry with the U.S. China already has strong economic and political ties with Venezuela, Bolivia, Chile and Peru. A stronger relationship with Colombia might give the Chinese rulers access to its ports in the Pacific.

As the fight for Latin America intensifies, the U.S. clearly has the most to lose in Colombia.

Our Struggle Is for Communism

Whether or not the peace deal passes, workers in Colombia will remain mired in inequality, poverty, unemployment and war. Whether the country is nominally ruled by Santos, Uribe or FARC, workers will be under the bosses' thumb. Only a communist revolution can bring power to the working class.

The Progressive Labor Party in Colombia is building a base in the working class as an important part of our international fight for communism. We have young women and men in the factories, neighborhoods, and schools who are fighting each day to reach our goal, a communist world.❶

East Chicago

Fight Racist Housing & Poisoning

EAST CHICAGO, October 1—The blatant environmental racism of capitalism is on full display in the industrial city of East Chicago, home to a majority Black and Latin working class population. As many as 1,100 residents are on the verge of being evicted from their homes in the West Calumet Housing Complex, after the city's racist neglect of a lead and arsenic crisis that spans decades. But the working class of East Chicago and the Progressive Labor Party (PLP) are fighting back. We want decent housing now and a communist world in the future, where the workers run society.

Under Communism Workers Health Comes First

The West Calumet complex was built in 1972 as public housing for low-income Black and Latin families, just north of a lead smelting plant and surrounded by other industrial facilities. As early as 1985, testing by the state's environmental agencies found soil lead levels in some yards almost 70 times above the Environmental Protection Agency's maximum recommended amount! By 1992, the EPA was proposing the complex to be designated as a Superfund, a federal program designed to fund emergency clean-up sites, but it wasn't until 2009 that West Calumet was recognized officially as needing emergency attention (Think Progress, 9/15).

Meanwhile, as the racist city bosses and government agencies tried to hide the problem, the constant exposure to lead poisoned the working families in the area. Children are especially vulnerable to the toxic effects of lead, and serious health problems such as brain damage, seizures, and behavioral disorders are potential consequences. Parents in the area in recent years started observing these and other symptoms for the businesses and politicians. For the bosses, pursuit of profit was more important than their children's lives.

By the end of July, West Calumet residents received letters from the mayor's office telling them that the

area was uninhabitable and that they had 90 days to get out before the city demolished the complex. In the meantime, the residents are still being forced to continue paying their rent, so that they can continue to be poisoned under threat of not receiving public housing benefits. Had the situation not been exposed the bosses would have continued indefinitely profiting from renting a toxic dumpsite to poor workers.

Contrast the destructive consequences of capitalism in places like Flint, Baton Rouge, or East Chicago, to a communist future. Under communism, the health of workers would always be prioritized. Workers would never be allowed to inhabit unsafe housing with known toxins nearby. If any one were to be exposed, they would receive the most comprehensive medical care necessary to get them back to optimal health as soon as possible.

Bosses' Agents Undercut Workers' Fightback

Naturally, workers in the West Calumet Complex area were fired up over the racist health disaster caused by the city bosses. Emergency community meetings were quickly set. A health and outreach committee was established, and tenants and organizers started to discuss the possibility of a rent strike in the complex. Residents, community organizers, and communists from PLP organized through a committee named Calumet Lives Matter.

By now, the bosses' agents have jumped in to try to put out the fire. An influential group of politicians, lawyers, and clergy began to commandeer the meetings and set out to block any attempts at meaningful direct action such as a rent strike or an occupation of City Hall and Housing Authority buildings. They engaged in the disgustingly racist and sexist practice of blaming the victim, telling residents that it was their own fault if they continued to be exposed to the lead in the soil or

if they failed to get their blood lead levels tested. When PLP and East Chicago residents tried to organize meetings in spite of the misleaders, we were suddenly not allowed to reserve public spaces to have meetings. The racist thugs of the East Chicago Housing Authority directly intimidated some residents.

The consequences of this unnatural disaster have been devastating to the working class residents, many of whom are Black women with children. Many are scared and uncertain about their family's future, and stressed about having to move suddenly. Those families who would otherwise move to another apartment in the area have been met with death threats towards their children from gangs. Many parents are horrified about how the lead exposure will affect their children now and in the future.

Join the Revolutionary Struggle For Communism

The next step is a march to the Housing & Urban Development Office, the housing bosses' headquarters.

The capitalist bosses' racist profit system leaves us no choice. We must organize our class internationally to destroy capitalism and replace it with a communist society that puts workers' needs and development first at all times. PLP has been present in this fight since the beginning. Connections have been made with some of the mothers, strong bonds forged over the course of the struggle that won't be easily broken. As we consistently raise communist politics and culture, we will bring this struggle to a higher level. It's this day-to-day organizing that will win more and more workers to understand that only a communist world will ensure that no member of the working class is ever poisoned by capitalism again. Join us in this fight against racism and for a communist future!★

Need Justice for Kyam, 'Voting Won't Do It'

BROOKLYN, September 26—The protesters moved out into the middle of the street, stopping traffic on Church Avenue on Sept 21. Kyam Livingston's mother, Anita, echoed many of the speeches made at this demonstration when she said, "We need this struggle to end the killings. Voting won't do it." Members of the Progressive Labor Party (PLP) were at this rally with our newspaper CHALLENGE. We encouraged people to join the lifelong struggle for communism, a society run by the working class that will end racism and sexism once and for all. The demonstrators then released balloons and Kyam's mother said an invocation to her daughter's memory.

This demonstration marked the 38th month after the killing of Kyam Livingston who died under police custody in a Brooklyn holding cell. It was a large demonstration. There are always people standing on the street listening to the speeches and chants, but this time there was a larger than usual crowd on all the street corners. Many of those people crossed the street to stand with us. The crowd gave donations to help continue the struggle and many took our revolutionary, communist newspaper, CHALLENGE. It was the day after the world heard about the racist police murders of two more Black workers—one in Charleston and the other in Tulsa, Oklahoma. People were angry and wanted to listen about fighting back. A PL'er spoke about raising this struggle on our jobs, in our unions and communities, and at our schools. Let's organize to fight back everywhere. We need persistence and consistency in going out with the message that racism kills and we need to fight back with multi-racial unity. Many people had tears in their eyes while they listened

to the story of how Kyam was cruelly mistreated and ignored by her jailers when she became ill and was refused medical attention.

Some members of a local church attended this rally. At that same church, a discussion on Black Lives Matter took place the following Sunday. A number of the attendees were loud in their anger towards the continued racist terror and spoke of their desire to seek solutions. Many people said they would attend the next Justice for Kyam Livingston demonstration.

At this rally, all the speakers talked about the need for multiracial unity to end these racist killings. They said that all people of all backgrounds, should be involved in the struggle against racist violence because it hurts us all. A PLP member said that capitalism breeds racism. Capitalists need a divided working class to keep wages low and their profits high. The capitalists cannot continue their rule if all the workers unite and fight



back. The speaker said that only communism would end this contradiction and called upon people to read and distribute CHALLENGE and become communists. Only this will end racism once and for all.

The demonstrators and supporters were so excited by this rally that they kept talking for another half hour after the demonstration ended. It's clear that people are fired up. It's clear that the struggle will continue. We need justice for all the victims of police murder and we need a communist world for the working class. Join us!★

Hurricane Matthew, A Capitalist Disaster

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sult of Matthew, in one town alone, there have been over a dozen deaths and several dozen people sick. Cholera was imported to Haiti in 2010, 10 months after a devastating earthquake, by UN occupation forces (MINUSTAH) from Nepal, where there was an active cholera epidemic. The UN did nothing to test their soldiers as carriers of the disease, but did let them dump their waste into a river in the Artibonite Valley that Haitian workers use for bathing and drinking water. Over 800,000 were affected and at least 10,000 had died from cholera (*NYT*, 8/18).

A few months ago, the racist UN finally admitted what the working class already knew and scientists confirmed, that they were guilty of bringing cholera to Haiti. So far they haven't come up with a plan to do anything to improve conditions for the future. In fact, almost all of the cholera treatment centers have been closed despite the ongoing epidemic. One year's budget for the UN's occupying army would pay for a modern and adequate sanitation and clean water infrastructure throughout Haiti. We say MINUSTAH out of Haiti now!

No Doctors, No Electricity

One hospital in the South that was visited during this hurricane was a horror; no doctors, water flooding all rooms, patients left alone without electricity, nothing. Instead of protecting the masses, capitalists promote their own wealth: NGOs (mainly charities), traditional leaders and politicians are now fighting among themselves for control of projects and funds in the post-storm period, just as they did after the earthquake. They are preparing to exploit and take advantage of the masses' woes. In a communist society, no one will benefit from the misfortunes of others; workers will build homes, schools, roads, and bridges that serve their needs under all kinds of conditions. When there are no more classes, racial or gender inequality, humanity will be protected.

Workers everywhere, join us. Fake projects and illusions about the leaders in this system will not bring any solutions to the problems of our class. We must unite to build a communist world, under the red flag of the PLP!★

Fighting Alonside the Masses

Continued from page 1

ple who lost their home to flooding. Many others did the same, showing the solidarity of the working class in times of trouble, sharing food or some money. We also participated with a team in removing downed trees from the public square.

We spoke with our friends and neighbors about the bad decisions of the bosses and politicians, who had no "disaster plan" to protect the residents of this town or anywhere else in Haiti.

For now, one comrade is working with some who want to help in projects in the town, for example, in direct action for free drinking water (today you have to buy clean water in Haiti or risk cholera and other diseases).

We are in the process of building a base for PLP in this town, and building the confidence of the masses in us, and our confidence in them. People are seeing more clearly than ever how the system is the cause of this damage. Any help from the government and NGOs will not solve the problem of capitalism. Awareness continues in all our discussions and meetings. And that is part of winning.

Progressive Labor Party is a revolutionary party, not an NGO or a bourgeois political party that shows up in a crisis or wants to take advantage of disasters to be seen and buy votes. Our comrades are integral parts of the working class who try to fight capitalism every day.★

Climate Change, A Product of Capitalism

The devastation and deaths due to Mattheus is also a product of climate change.

MIT professor of atmospheric science Kerry Emanuel says, "We expect to see more high intensity events, Category 4 and 5 events that are around 13% of total hurricanes but do a disproportionate amount of damage."

Penn State professor Michael Mann: "Last year was the warmest our oceans have ever been on record... It's their warmth that provides the energy that intensifies these storms. And it isn't a coincidence that we've seen the strongest hurricane in both hemispheres within the last year."

Who is to blame? The multinational corporate butchers who now rule the earth. Among the ten most profitable are: the Chinese Sinopec Group (\$455 billion in revenue), China National (\$428 b), Saudi Aramco (\$338 b), Royal Dutch Shell (\$273 b), Exxon/Mobil (\$268 b), and Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (\$252 b). Capitalist are weapons of mass destruction! (List of the Largest Companies by Revenue, Wikipedia). The bosses' media and their academics openly admit this.

The Guardian published an opinion piece titled "We Can't Beat Climate Change Under Capitalism" (9/3/15). Both academic specialist Naomi Klein and then-Australian Prime Minister Anthony Abbott agree that "perpetual economic growth" is in contradiction with prioritizing the health of the planet. An "intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report states with 95 percent confidence that humans are the main cause of the current global warming...The IPCC says that humans have most likely caused all of the global warming over the past 60 years" (The Guardian, 9/27/15).

For the health of the working class and our home planet earth, destroy capitalism.★

A Workers' History of Fake Leftists in Latin America

With history as a guide, the current "peace" process between the Colombian government and the FARC will only lead to more misery for the working class. FARC, who had abandoned revolutionary struggle decades ago, will only serve as the new bosses in the capitalist government. We have seen this happen in a number of Latin American countries. Below are just three examples.

Nicaragua's Sandinistas

In 1979, in Nicaragua, the so-called "Marxist" rebel Sandinista army overthrew the U.S.-backed fascist regime of Anastasio Somoza. Somoza's family had long ruled Nicaragua under the command of Citigroup, the U.S. ruling class' most powerful bank. After the Sandinista uprising, the U.S. bosses used the profits of weapons sales to Iran (provoking the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war) to finance an army of death squads in Nicaragua, called the "Contras".

The ensuing civil war was coordinated directly by the CIA. The Contras also began growing cocaine – which first made its way to the streets of Black neighborhoods in the U.S. during this period. Following a brave mass fightback against tens of thousands of deaths, and even more raped and tortured by the Contras, the Sandinistas agreed to a ceasefire deal and "open" elections in 1990. Instead of organizing the masses around fighting for a workers' dictatorship, the Sandinistas agreed to participate in the capitalist dictatorship's "free and fair" elections. They were immediately voted out of power by a coalition of CIA-financed parties.

For the next 16 years, with the Sandinistas as the "official" parliamentary opposition, Nicaragua dropped to becoming the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, after Haiti. Under the presidency of Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega since 2006, half of all children and adolescents live in poverty. There were 240,000 workers between the ages of five and 17 in the early 2000s (The Guardian, 5/19/15).

El Salvador's FMLN

In El Salvador throughout the 1980s, a heroic armed struggle led by the "Marxist" Farabundo Martí Liberation Front (FMLN) fought the fascist U.S.-backed government. CIA and Pentagon-trained death squads slaughtered more than 70,000 workers, and raped, tortured, and mutilated tens of thousands more. The FMLN's armed struggle defended and was supported by the working class. Instead of seizing state power for the working class, they followed the pattern of the Sandinista class traitors, and surrendered, negotiating participation in the capitalist government. After consecutive FMLN Presidents, every one out of three workers lives below the poverty line. Crime and gang activity continue to bring misery to the working class, making it the murder capital of the world.

Guatemala's URNG

In Guatemala, following a 36-year insurgency following the CIA coup in 1954, the "Marxist" Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) led an armed struggle against the fascist U.S.-backed regime for 36 years. In 1987, they entered UN-

sponsored "peace" negotiations. They became a legal political party in 1998. With U.S. president Bill Clinton making a vague reference to the "dark" decades of U.S. atrocities there, the URNG misleaders won the Nobel Peace Prize. Currently, about 60 percent of Guatemalan workers live in poverty. Like El Salvador and Honduras, millions of workers are leaving the country because of the gang wars created by capitalism.

According to Jay Root of the Texas Tribune,

On top of gang violence, there is staggering income inequality, high youth unemployment and low high school graduation rates, particularly in heavily indigenous Guatemala. About 60 percent of the people in Honduras and Guatemala live in poverty (10/10).

According to the same article, "for the first time since records have been kept, more non-Mexicans than Mexicans were apprehended by the U.S. Border Patrol. That will almost certainly happen again in 2016, the latest figures indicate."

Millions of workers bravely fought and died in these movements, believing they would lead to revolution. Participating in capitalist governments has only led to continued and increasing misery for the working class. It did bring power to the workers. PLP fights to organize the veterans of these struggles, and the heirs to their vision of a communist world. Only by building a mass, revolutionary communist party can we defeat the bosses once and for all.★

Colombia: Youth Raise Red Flags High

COLOMBIA—We are a group of young students, unemployed, workers, and soccer players. We are tired of war, bureaucracy, hunger, unemployment, injustice, capitalist laws that serve the few, inequality, the grave economic crisis, and tricks of all kinds played against the working class. We saw the need to organize a work and revolutionary action collective, and through this undertake the political road to building a party. Since we did not have the ideological base and were politically disoriented, one of our first steps was to participate—at the invitation of PLP members—in the May 1st "International Worker's Day" march.

More than 30 of our youth participated; and it was there among the loud chants and slogans that we were introduced to some of the party's ideas. Many of our comrades saw this as the organization and line we needed. So amid the debates and the literature we began to learn, and have since formed a new CHALLENGE readers' group with 12 members.

This summer, we participated in a PLP meeting about working-class internationalism. It was a joy to meet comrades from around the world, and to realize that, like here, comrades are doing serious work and revolutionary struggle to transform society. Thanks to this meeting, we are writing this piece. It is the first time that we have collectively written to the party on our own initiative.



We now participate in sporting and social events, trying to build a base for the Party's ideas. We also take part in different forums and debates around the recent peace process between the government and Colombian revisionism (see page 2). By their actions, these fake leftists support the government, exploiting disarmament to derail working-class struggle and use this class collaboration to maintain the failing system of capitalism. Our position is that as long as there is capitalism, it is inevitable there will be war. It is for

this reason we call on our friends and other militants not to vote at all, but rather to organize for a communist revolution and worker's power.

We want the bosses to be warned. Every day we are more convinced about what we do, and the importance of the class struggle fills us with courage. We know full well the responsibility we have to win more youth to continue holding high the red communist banners, the banners of PLP. Forward, comrades of the world!❶

MEXICO: Sexism Central to State Terror

MEXICO—Sometimes the targets of state terror are outright murdered or disappeared, like in the cases of the Ayotzinapa 43 or Mike Brown of Ferguson. Other times, the targets live to witness the perpetrators get off the hook.

That was the case in 2006 for over 40 women protesters in San Salvador Atenco who had been captured, abused, and tortured by police.

Eleven of those women have now come out to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights about the sexist violence unleashed on them by the government. They were raped, beaten, openly humiliated, and then denied medical care. Not one of the nearly two dozen cops involved have been convicted.

The governor overseeing these atrocities was none other than the current president of Mexico, Enrique Peña Nieto. The New York Times admits it is "unlikely that Mr. Peña Nieto's government will conduct an investigation into whether he knew of or covered up the assaults." The only impact this court ruling will have is a "deep embarrassment for [Nieto]" (9/22). Embarrassment will not stop the daily harassment, exploitation, and terrorization of women workers!

Prosecuting the Victim

"Rather than go after the police who committed the sexual torture, the state initially prosecuted the women. Five were imprisoned for a year or more, on charges like blocking traffic, detentions the commission found arbitrary...Mr. Peña Nieto told a local newspaper at the time that it was a known tactic of radical groups to have women make accusations of sexual violence to discredit the government" (NYT, 9/22)

The capitalist state first terrorizes and then criminalizes the targets of sexism. This double assault on women workers reveals just how central sexism is to maintaining state terror. Terrorizing those who have been super-exploited is one the bosses' ways to ensure women don't fight back and give leadership. This also acts as a setback for the whole working class. Without the leadership of working-class women, the movement against



Protesters defend themselves against police in Atenco 2006.

capitalism is crippled. The bosses understand this.

Women's Place Is to Fight Back

The state's resolve to terrorize women reveals another truth—when women fight back, shoulder to shoulder with working-class men, the bosses shake in fear. The 40 Atenco women were captured at a protest. This fact points to the distinct role working-class women play in the path to liberation from wage slavery.

Women, especially Black and Latin women, often provide some of the most militant leadership when it comes to fighting the bosses and their racist, sexist system, so the bosses need to terrorize women to stop them. In Mexico, women workers are leading the struggle in Oaxaca against the fascist attacks on teachers and students. In Baton Rouge, Black women made up the majority of the fighters against the police. In Brooklyn, Black women are leading the rallies and events against police terror.

No Profit, No Basis for Sexism

President Nieto's attack on women fighters is typical in a system designed to super-exploit and oppress working-class women. Sexism equals billions of extra dollars in profits for the bosses because women are paid lower wages at work and women are responsible for unpaid labor at home in the form of childcare, cooking, and cleaning.

With a communist revolution, the working class army will abolish wages, capitalism, and the bosses' state. There will be no more distinction between unpaid and paid labor, thus eliminating the material basis for sexism. Every member of society will share in the raising of children and other tasks that capitalism teaches us are "women's work." There will be no basis for unequal pay or benefits. All will receive according to their need, organized through a workers' government.

Anything short of communism means women will continue to be exploited, abused, and terrorized. The Progressive Labor Party organizes in 27 countries to smash this sexist system. Join the fight!❶

LETTERS

We encourage all CHALLENGE readers to send in letters and articles about their experiences fighting the bosses worldwide.

Student Distributes Challenge, Fights Cynicism

I just started my first year at an elite college on the west coast. I expected people to be fairly apathetic about racism and sexism. But already I have found so many who are open to hearing about communist politics. Just today, I gave CHALLENGE to two people! Here are a couple anecdotes:

I was watching *Pulp Fiction* with about ten people. One guy really loves Quentin Tarantino movies, like I do, so I struck up a conversation with him. I brought up that some people call Tarantino racist for using the n-word a lot. We talked about how it factors into capitalist culture. I introduced the idea of communism, and how we don't need to reuse such terrible racist and sexist words. We can just get rid of them!

This small exchange sparked a two-hour conversation where we talked about everything from elections to internationalism to human nature. In the middle of our conversation, he stopped to tell me that coming here, he had a lot of ideas about how "white people are." He thanked me for showing him that not all white people are the same, and that if I am antiracist, he knows there are other white people who are, too. After talking for such a long time, I gave him the paper. He said he would read it and tell me what he thought.

Another exchange I had today was at brunch. Someone brought up that they went to Brooklyn Tech high school. I asked if she was involved in the antisexist, antiracist dress-code protests. It turns out, she was and has seen CHALLENGE, and knows a comrade at the school! We talked for an hour and a half about what kind of society we fight for and some of the successes and failures of the Soviet Union. I'm going to give her the paper every issue now.

Coming here, not knowing anyone, I was worried about being so open with my communist politics. I thought people would reject them for various reasons. I feel so energized and excited to help wage the antiracist, antisexist fight out here. May those who read this feel emboldened to bring these ideas and CHALLENGE to their coworkers, classmates, and friends!

★ ★ ★ ★

APHA: Overcoming Racism One Button at a Time

On September 8, the Metropolitan Washington Public Health Association (MWPHA) held its annual conference. This year the focus was on Health Equity and Overcoming Racism. The all-day conference had about 80 students and young professionals who were excited that "Overcoming Racism" was the theme al-

though there had been considerable debate about the theme prior to the conference. Two PLP communists raised issues of police violence, background checks and environmental justice.

During the conference, one PL'er spoke about the fight against racist white supremacy groups in California and mentioned the protest against the KKK in Anaheim, CA in February. She explained that we were collecting \$1 for the No Racism buttons for the Anaheim Legal Defense Fund and said that her son-in-law was beaten by the Anaheim cops. After that, one woman donated \$5 for the button and the Fund.

It is important to show the personal side of the political struggle. It helps folks focus on how capitalism affects individuals and how to help concretely. This is true more than ever; cops are still shooting unarmed Black and Latin men and women without consequences. People get overloaded and overwhelmed by the magnitude of the struggle and need to be able to contribute to building the movement.

The conference led to over 20 people signing up for our Health Equity Committee and we are making plans to expand our outreach and advocacy around HIV and Hepatitis C. There is also interest in issues of police violence and mass incarceration with a focus on elderly prisoners and returning residents from other countries.

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No Revolution in the BeyHive

Don't judge, but I attended the Beyoncé Formation concert. Bey has been getting credit for being "woke." But, there's no radical politics here—just fake liberation submerged in profit making and cult-making.

In addition to her new album's hits, Bey performed some throwback songs like "Bootylicious." During that song, she lifted her golden shirt to reveal her clothed backside. And the crowd was in an uproar.

This obsession with the buttocks is firmly grounded in scientific racism. At the beginning of the slave trade, "scientists" had used the posterior as one borderline between "savage" African women and "civilized" European women. The most famous example of this was Saartjie Baartman, a khoisan woman stolen from South Africa who was paraded as a freak show exhibition throughout Europe for her body. She would come out of a grass hut and dance and sing for the audience. Many in the audience would grab her behind. For many, Baartman today represents imperialist exploitation and racism. The bosses' media and culture make racism and exploitation normal by sexualizing it—forcing us to internalize these racist and sexist images.

Empowerment for Bey is still about selling capitalism through Black female bodies and sex—that's noth-

ing new. As I witnessed her toned legs in a Victorian leotard, I thought, "Is this supposed to be empowering?"

Communists have a different standard for young beauty and women's leadership. Our role is to speak up against racism and sexism in our schools. We derive confidence from fighting back, and from our contribution to the working class—not from slayin' while dressed in antebellum Southern regalia.

In fact, Bey's true role as a ruling-class instrument is apparent in the song "Formation." She sings, "I'm a Black Bill Gates in the making...always stay gracious, best revenge is your paper." Tools of polite politics and competition to get to the top belong to the bosses.

By using images of Black mothers who lost their children to police terror, of the environmental racism unleashed in the form of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, Bey appropriates working-class culture for her own agenda—churning images of rage into ones of Black capitalist success. (Beyoncé and Jay Z's combined network is \$1 billion (CNN Money, 2/8).

But, Beyoncé, in addition to feeding into an industry that lives off the shaming of women's bodies, profits directly off of sexism. I found out about her new clothing line at the concert. The stated goal of her label Ivy Park with the British company Topshop is, "Celebrate every woman and the body she's in while always striving to be better." Of course that motto didn't include the women in Sri Lanka making 64 cents per hour for a company with a net worth of \$6.7 billion (Huffington Post, 5/26). So much for female empowerment.

But I'm not for female empowerment either. Beyoncé, Nicki Minaj, and I are not in the same class. I'm part of the class that works, and my empowerment is through liberating my class's labour from bondage.

Beyoncé is thriving because she is the best capitalism can offer young women, especially Black, Latin, and South Asian women. At a time of such low class struggle, is Bey the best working-class women can hope for? Not at all! Music is an expression of the human experience. When class struggle rages again, when communists have an international influence over the masses, the rhythm of human experience will be melodious, liberating. Don't believe me? Listen to Nina Simone—the content and form of her music will make you woke. No slayin' required. Hopefully that will inspire us to create music that voices the working-class struggle and fight-back.

So for anyone part of the Beyhive, next time you hear "6 Inch Heels," just remember, "She works for the money." Beyoncé is no sister of mine. And I ain't sorry to admit that.

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Two Faces of Imperialism

Continued from page 8

sponsored militias inciting civil wars in Libya and Syria. Unable to build a pro-U.S. movement they could rely on, the U.S. bosses had Obama and Clinton cynically increase the intensity of the wars by providing arms to all sides. This situation is summed up by the headline "In Syria, militias armed by the Pentagon fight those armed by the CIA" (Chicago Tribune 3/27) and resulting in mass carnage in the area.

It Takes a Pillage: Hillary and Haiti

The Clintons' history advancing U.S. capitalist interests in Haiti dates back to the first months of their marriage, in 1975. The Clintons visited Haiti at the invitation of an executive at Citibank, one of the U.S. ruling class' biggest banks. In 1909, Citibank (then National City Bank of New York) took over the majority stake in Haiti's banking from the French government. In 1915, when German imperialism competed with U.S. interests there, Citibank pressed the U.S. government to invade and brutally occupy Haiti for 19 years.

Citibank, now Citigroup, has continued its exploitation of Haiti's cheap labor pool. Following the 2010 earthquake, Hillary, from her end as Secretary of State, coordinated a \$16 billion "gold

rush" of "aid" contracts with her Clinton Global Initiative (CounterPunch, 4/14). With more than 300,000 workers dead, the Clintons capitalized on disaster with the aim to turn Haiti into Citigroup's low-wage haven based in garments, tourism, and call centers (CounterPunch, 4/11).

In thanks, "Clinton is the top recipient of Citigroup campaign cash in the 2016 election" (International Business Times, 9/27).

Bigger Stakes for Declining U.S. Imperialism

As the Russian bosses now try to take advantage of the U.S.-created bloodbath in the Middle East, Clinton is stepping up as the Bomber-in-Chief announcing expanding Obama's systematic drone strike campaign. Once again, Clinton is demonstrating her willingness to do her part for the U.S. bosses as U.S. rivalry with Russian and Chinese imperialism slides towards world war from Syria to the South China Sea.

Capitalism murders and enslaves workers around the world every day. U.S.-style capitalism especially features mass racist incarceration, mass racist unemployment, slave labor work conditions for millions of immigrant and women workers, denial of healthcare, poisoned drinking water, and racist police terror against Black workers and, increasingly, immigrant and Muslim workers. Un-

employed U.S.-born and immigrant workers often join the military to find work.

When the bosses face economic and political crises like the ones developing now between China, Russia and the U.S., the level of murder rises to new heights. The U.S. bosses are well aware that the fight for top dog status is "resolved" through war. Fully aware that Trump is utterly incapable of uniting the working class behind U.S. imperialism, they want liberal "Stronger Together" Clinton to galvanize the working class.

Don't Vote, Organize!

The bosses wars pit worker versus worker in a death spiral that will only be broken by communist revolution. The working class can end the capitalist wars, but we have to reject their electoral circus and murderous politicians in favor of confidence in the working class. Our class history shows this.

In 1932, when the capitalist class bet on FDR, the U.S. capitalist class was in another crisis—and they faced down an international, communist-led working class that fought like hell. PLP picks up that legacy of the old communist movement! We carry it forward under the banner of smashing capitalism and all borders with millions of workers fighting for communist revolution. It's not about Clinton or Trump—it's about capitalism. Join our movement, and fight back!❶

Attica Lives On

National Prison Strike Enters Month 2

TEXAS, October 9—The national prison strike is heading into its second month, prompting the Department of Injustice to make a show of an investigation in Alabama prisons.

To celebrate the 45th anniversary of the biggest prison rebellion in U.S. history at Attica, New York, thousands of worker-prisoners in 40 jailhouses covering 24 states went on a labor strike this past September 9. Outside groups helped prepare for this strike for months. The tremendous ability of workers to organize actions, even separated in different prisons, was deliberately blacked out by the major capitalist media.

A spokesperson for the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee, explained:

Overseers watch over our every move, and if we do not perform our appointed tasks to their liking, we are punished. They may have replaced the whip with pepper spray, but many of the other torments remain: isolation, restraint positions, stripping off our clothes and investigating our bodies as though we are animals.

Federal prisoners make 12 to 40 cents an hour, while many state prisoners are paid nothing. If

anything has changed in the last 45 years, the exploitation and treatment of prisoners is now worse. There's an increase of overcrowding and convictions for the victimless crime of drug possessions, for which no other imperialist country imprisons its population.

In preparation for this nationwide strike, there have been many smaller local strikes over the last few months in prisons throughout the U.S. Prisoners realize that without their labor—cooking, cleaning, and maintenance—prisons come to a halt. Private manufacturing and commercial corporations also exploit their labor, in conditions approximating outright slavery.

Prison Labor is Slavery

In Douglas Blackmon's 2008 book *Slavery By Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II*, he described this altered but continued form of slavery. But it didn't end with World War II, as it continues in force today with the highest prison population in the world, both absolutely and proportionately. U.S. prisons house 2.2 million men and women, with Black and Latin workers disproportionately represented, due to the racist injustice system,

but with roughly comparable total numbers of white workers. But today unity across racial lines led by Black prisoners stands out just as it did in the 1971 Attica rebellion.

Mass imprisonment was revived with the "War on Crime" begun during the Johnson administration in the 1960s and continued with Bill Clinton's tremendous acceleration of incarceration and enlargement of city police forces around the country—both liberal Democrat presidents. Both liberals and conservatives push for racist increases in prison populations, whether through "law and order" campaigns, "war on drugs," or other forms of mass incarceration. We have only ourselves, the working class, to rely on.

Exploitation and extreme oppression of workers, both inside and outside of prisons, will only end when millions of workers everywhere join and help to build the PLP to lead a global revolution to rid the world of capitalism. In its place, we must organize a worldwide communist system run by workers, for the benefit of humanity as a whole (minus the former bosses and their supporters). Communism will be based on our vital needs, with no possibility of profitmaking.♦



RED EYE ON THE NEWS . . .

Below are excerpts from mainstream newspapers that may be of use for our readers. Abbreviations: NYT=New York Times, GW=Guardian Weekly, LAT=Los Angeles Times

H.S. students unite against racism

NYT, 10/4 — Aurora, Colo. — Vicqari Horton dropped a knee to the grass. The varsity choir piped out "The Star Spangled Banner...."

...Three-quarters of the 44 Aurora...football players knelt during "The Star Spangled Banner....A thousand miles away, students at...High Schools in Wisconsin dropped to their knees, too.

So have players...in Seattle; in Oakland, Calif....in Camden N.J.; and...in San Francisco. At Omaha [Nebraska], cheerleaders and band members have joined the protest. And in Beaumont, Texas, so have 11-and 12-year-olds from a youth team called the Beaumont Bulls....

Here in Aurora...a group of young people [who]....entered kindergarten about the time Facebook was born, were around the same age as Tamir Rice or Michael Brown....

A 13-year-old..., Damian Chavez, called the decision to kneel a "sign of respect for every black person in the country."

Gandhi guilty of blatant racism

GW, 9/30 — Academics in Ghana are calling for a statue of Mahatma Gandhi to be removed from their campus because...he was a racist and considered Indians to be "infinitely superior" to black Africans....

...More than 1,000 people have since signed a petition calling for it to be torn down, saying that not only was Gandhi racist towards black South Africans when he lived there from 1893 to 1914, but that he campaigned for the maintenance of the caste system in his own country....

The petition cited several of Gandhi's writings in which he referred to black South Africans as "kaffirs" (a highly offensive racist slur) and complained that the South African government wanted to "drag down" Indians to the level of "half-heathen natives."

Gandhi's grandson....said "Gandhi must be forgiven these prejudices....

However, the leaders of the Ghana petition.... pointed out that the memorial to Gandhi was the only statue to a historic personality on the campus. The failure to honor African heroes and heroines was "a slap in the face that undermines our struggles for...recognition and respect...."

U.S. promotes Saudi slaughter in Yemen

GW, 8/26 — Saudi Arabia resumed its appalling war in Yemen....and...destroyed a school full of children and leveled a hospital full of sick and injured people. The campaign of indiscriminate killing — ...a war crime — has now been going on for a year and a half. And the United States bears a large part of the responsibility.

The U.S.-backed war is not just a case of the Obama administration sitting idly by...the destructive spree of historic proportions. The government is actively selling the Saudis billions of dollars of weaponry. It's re-supplying planes engaged in the bombing runs and providing "intelligence" for the targets that Saudi Arabia is hitting.

Put simply, the U.S. is quite literally funding a humanitarian catastrophe that, by some measures, is larger than the crisis in Syria. "Experts say the coalition would be grounded if Washington withheld its support...."

...Both the Clinton and Trump presidential campaigns have been totally silent on this issue despite their constant arguing over who would be better at "stopping terrorism...."

"...inside Yemen this is not perceived to be a Saudi bombing campaign, this is a U.S. bombing campaign...."

'Democratic' Canada mimics U.S. in jailing immigrant children

GW, 9/30 — Canada regularly detains hundreds of children who have run foul of the country's immigration laws, including some held in correctional facilities and even solitary confinement....

[A] University of Toronto...report...sheds light on the detentions, which range from days to months....

The Toronto report focuses on children — ranging from newborns to teenagers — ensnared in the system. Some are Canadian citizens forced to choose between separating from parents who have been detained or living in detention with their parents as de facto detainees.

U.S. drones continue murdering civilians

NYT, 9/30 — ...An American airstrike...killed at least 15 civilians in eastern Afghanistan....[that] had gathered in a village to celebrate the return of a tribal elder from the hajj pilgrimage to Mecca and were...sleeping in a guesthouse of the elder.... "Victims included students and a teacher as well as members of families considered to be pro-government."

Racism 'even at crosswalks'

NYT, 9/11 — ...The evidence is overwhelming that racial discrimination remains [pervasive]...in America.

Take something as simple as crossing the street. In one study...three black men and three white men played pedestrians trying to cross a street at a crosswalk. On average, a black pedestrian was passed by twice as many vehicles before a driver yielded....

A Stanford study found that teachers reviewing discipline reports were more likely to favor harsh punishment for a student named "Deshawn" or "Darnell" than one named "Greg...." And black children with appendicitis are less than half as likely to get strong pain medication at an emergency room as white children with appendicitis....

...A study in New York City in 2004...[sent] young black and white men to apply for jobs at 170 businesses, bearing...carefully matched résumés....White applicants were more than twice as likely to get a call back; indeed, a white applicant purportedly just released from prison did no worse than a black applicant with a clean record....

...America's education system is structured so that white suburban children often get an excellent public education, while inner-city black kids disproportionately get a third-rate education.

MORE ITEMS AVAILABLE AT WWW.PLPORG

U.S. Elections

SERVANTS OF IMPERIALISM

"The oppressed are allowed once every few years to decide which particular representatives of the oppressing class shall represent and repress them."

— Karl Marx

The U.S. capitalist class' media mouthpieces and think tanks have been on overdrive with the narrative that this is not a "normal" election year (New York Times, 9/24/16) or even that "this is the most important election since 1932" (Brookings, 12/18/15). This election finds the U.S. ruling class in volatile condition, with their imperialist power declining relative to growing Russian and Chinese imperialism. For the international working class, however, this election is important for another reason: the U.S. bosses are betting on Hillary Clinton's "pragmatism" (NYT) to unite the U.S. working class behind the embattled flag of U.S. imperialism.

A lopsided majority of the boss-owned media supports Clinton, and openly labels Trump a racist. The U.S. bosses are well aware that bigger imperialist wars are looming. They cannot afford rebellions like Ferguson, Baltimore, Baton Rouge, and Charlotte. Meanwhile, Clinton, a "progressive," campaigns on a slogan for U.S. working-class and ruling-class unity: "Stronger Together."

There is nothing progressive about Hillary Clinton's long service to U.S. imperialism's racist, sexist, and genocidal reign of international terror. Progressive workers should join the international revolutionary communist Progressive Labor Party, and smash the imperialist system Clinton and Trump serve!

Trump Talks, Clinton Kills

The bosses contrast Clinton with the media frenzy over Trump's more open racism, sexism, and his cartoonish behavior every time he's near a microphone. Millions of workers rightfully shudder at Trump's loyal core of fascist KKK and neo-Nazi supporters. His vague, Nazi-style policies include expanding racist "stop and frisk" policing nationwide, along with carpet bombing [ISIS] into oblivion" (Chicago Tribune, 12/16/15).

Clinton's credentials as an imperialist murderer go far beyond idiot Trump's. Her apprenticeship as a mass murderer began in her White House days in the 1990s at the side of her mentor, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Albright orchestrated the starvation of 500,000 Iraqi children and famously said their deaths were "worth it." Albright was carrying out the orders of Bill Clinton, who, "On October 31, 1998... signed the Iraq Liberation Act that made it official US policy to support 'regime change' in Iraq" (Huffington Post 2/5).

Between sanctions, air strikes and "no-fly zones," the Clintons continued the destruction of the first Iraq war through the 1990s while turning their attention to the Balkans and the

1999 Kosovo War, in which Bill Clinton called in NATO to bomb Belgrade, in the heart of Europe, and unleashing a decade of misery in the Balkans. Hillary, traveling in Africa, called Bill: "I urged him to bomb," she told reporter Lucinda Frank (Huffington Post 2/5).

The Kosovo war was preceded by a propaganda campaign of disinformation to the international working class, declaring the need for a "humanitarian bombing" campaign for the Serbians.



Again Albright is quoted as saying, "They [the Serbs] need bombing, and that's what they're going to get" (CounterPunch, 5/3/16). This disinformation campaign was useful practice for the U.S. bosses for their 2003 invasion of Iraq under George W. Bush.

Elected a Senator representing New York in 2002, Clinton's most famous act was to vote for the Bush administration to invade Iraq. Ironically, in trying to defend her support for the war as it clearly became a disaster, and place blame on Bush, Clinton revealed that she actually never believed that there were any weapons of mass destruction there.

"The consensus [on weapons of mass destruction] was the same, from the Clinton administration to the Bush administration," she said. "It was the same intelligence belief that our allies and friends around the world shared. But I think that in the case of the [Bush] administration, they really believed it" (CNN, 4/21/2004).

Wrong. Members of the second Bush administration didn't "really believe it," as was shown by the brazen lies told by then-Secretary of State Colin Powell in the build up to the war. (Huffington Post 4/7/2013) The U.S. rulers were looking for any excuse to invade to secure U.S. control of oil profits. And Clinton was more than willing to do her part.

Clinton Steps Up Service to U.S. Imperialism

After eight years of championing U.S. imperialism in the Senate (and doing little else), Clinton

lost her presidential bid to fellow Senator Barack Obama in 2008. Obama chose Clinton to join his administration as Secretary of State from 2009 to 2013. Clinton upped her game to serve U.S. imperialism by publicly befriending arch-imperialist war criminal Henry Kissinger. As Secretary of State under Nixon, he is the architect of the following invasions, bombings, and genocides: Vietnam (1970), Cambodia and Laos (1970), Bangladesh (1971), Chile (1973), and Indonesia/ East Timor (1975).

Kissinger is directly responsible for the deaths of millions of workers, and the torture and maiming of millions more. Yet, Clinton sought and "relied on [Kissinger's] counsel" (CounterPunch, 5/3).

In 2011, Clinton led the effort to engulf North Africa and the Middle East in mass destruction for oil by inciting and backing not one, but two civil wars, in Libya and Syria. It was during this period that the U.S. bosses were suffering from their failing imperialist wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and fueling hatred of U.S. imperialism throughout the Middle East. In a desperate attempt to create a pro-U.S. movement there, the U.S. ruling class helped initiate the so-called "Arab Spring." The recent leaks of Clinton's personal emails include aide Huma Abedin. The following from Situation Report No. 1 09/14/I, "I'm giving you [Clinton] credit for inspiring the 'peaceful' protests," with regard to the massive demonstrations in Egypt, with quotation marks around the word "peaceful" (Wikileaks Clinton Email Archive).

The civil war in Egypt was followed up by U.S.

Continued on page 6

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