

CHALLENGE



THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER OF PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY

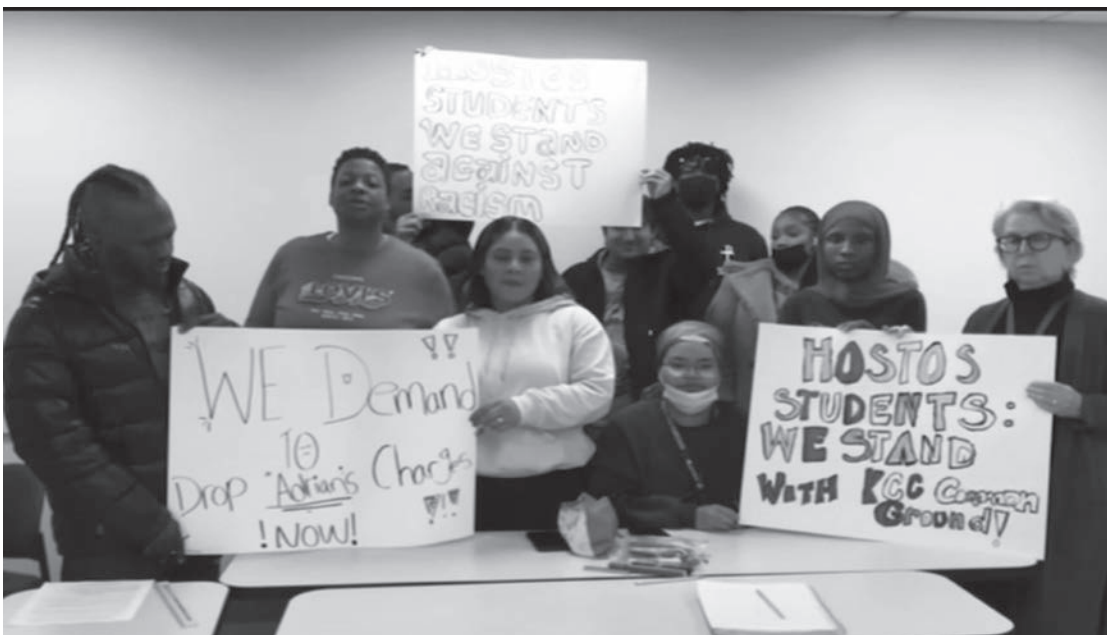
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KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

STUDENTS EXPLODE AGAINST RACIST POLICE TERROR



From Hosto to Kingsborough smash racist terror with multiracial unity

BROOKLYN, NY, November 10—“Racism means?” “WE GOT TO FIGHT BACK!” More than 30 students and staff chanted as they marched through the campus of Kingsborough Community College (KCC). Students and staff are in motion following racist attacks against a student last week, and this fightback is led by multiracial Black, Latin, Asian and white, women and men students. These antiracist fighters bravely marched despite a week of campus and New York Police Department threats of arrest, campus cops assaulting students, daily harassment, and constant surveillance. The cops even locked down our campus the day of the march!

The week before, students made detailed plans to resist this racist police terror, even organizing a “flash protest” in the main administration building one day to practice for the planned rally. They were long gone before campus police arrived! Meanwhile, our YouTube video “KCC Students vs Racism and the Police” spread like wildfire through the campus and beyond. These working class students

are showing their ability to organize. Workers and students like them can and should run the world. That’s communism. That’s the fight of the international revolutionary communist Progressive Labor Party (PLP)!

This ongoing struggle is exposing KCC’s and the wider CUNY (City University of New York) administration as the lapdogs of the liberal Big Fascist wing of the capitalist class (see Glossary, page 6). The struggle is also exposing the bankruptcy of the capitalist class’ identity politics, liberalism, and fake capitalist democracy.

The revolutionary communist Progressive Labor Party’s politics of building militant student leadership and smashing racism with multiracial unity are spreading among the student body. Through this sharpening struggle, we’re winning new comrades to our fight to build a mass, international PLP and smash this racist, sexist and imperialist profit system once and for all with communist revolution!

Racism means? WE GOT TO FIGHT BACK!

On November 3, a racist student in Kingsborough’s cafeteria was having an argument with a multiracial group of students who are part of a large antiracist student club. The racist became confrontational using the n-word, and KCC’s campus cops arrived. Instead of detaining the racist, they tackled a student trying to defuse the situation, put their knees in his back, and detained him in handcuffs. Their chief later lied saying Adrian “shoved an officer.”

Since the antiracist club had just met, over twenty students were still together. They immediately marched on the cops’ “Public Safety” office, where Adrian was held. We chanted and demanded Adrian’s release and the name of the officer who tackled Adrian. In response, the NYPD was called “to calm the situation” — with tactical gear, tasers, guns, and batons! The NYPD arrested Adrian and secretly took him to the 61 police precinct. We followed him there.

We were told Adrian would be released “in 30 minutes” — another lie. Finally, after four hours of detention, Adrian was freed with a bogus charge of “disorderly conduct” and a threat to charge him with weapons possession.

Students dare to struggle and organize!

The next day, the Dean of Student Affairs emailed all students saying “an incident” happened, warned students to “not threaten anyone,” and advised everyone to “move on.” Students, staff and PL’ers met that weekend and used our Party study group to write a collective leaflet explaining the situation. Our demands are: drop the charges; terminate and charge the officers and the racist; and abolish law enforcement from CUNY campuses.

Students and staff began distributing thou-

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JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL FIGHT FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

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Flores Fightback Continues:

Workers protest Klan in blue protected by local elections

LONG BEACH, CA – On Saturday, October 26 under the leadership of the Flores Family, Progressive Labor Party (PLP) members and their base held a well-attended march and rally in Long Beach to protest at the home of District Attorney (DA) George Gascón. He was elected to office in December of 2020. He defeated the previous DA Jackie Lacey who refused to indict over 600 cops who murdered mainly Black and Latin workers in Los Angeles during her eight years in office. Gascón, a former cop, ran on a progressive platform. He assured the workers of Los Angeles County that he would prosecute cops and weed-out the “bad apples.” But just like Lacey before him, Progressive Labor Party (PLP) and our base know that he is another tool of maintaining ruling class control that will never bring justice for workers killed by KKKops.

Gascón has a long history of protecting the police and helping to enforce racist, violent policies and corruption. In fact, he was promoted to command the LAPD training unit in April 2000 in the aftermath of the Rampart Scandal where he was supposed to clean up the department with ethics and civil rights training (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Gascón). The Rampart Scandal involved widespread police corruption in the Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums (CRASH) anti-gang unit of the Los Angeles Police Department's Rampart Division in the late 1990s. More than 70 police officers either assigned to or associated with the Rampart CRASH unit were initially implicated in various forms of misconduct, including unprovoked shootings, unprovoked beatings, planting of false evidence, stealing and dealing narcotics, bank robbery, perjury, and the covering up of evidence of these activities (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rampart_scandal). Just three years later he was sworn in as Assistant Chief of Police under Bill Bratton, a former NYPD police chief who served as the architect of the virulently racist Stop and Frisk Broken Windows Policing campaign in New York City. As DA in San Francisco, after serving as Chief of the San Francisco Police Department, Gascón continued to protect his fellow officers by not bringing charges in any police killings.

This is why we need a communist revolution. Politicians will never make racism illegal. We started the rally at a local park in Long Beach about a mile away from Gascón's residence. The



PLP and Flores family members organizing against KKKops and KKKourts.

multi-racial group of 30 people came together to make signs specifically targeting not only Gascón but the racist system that protects killer KKKops. Young people held signs with slogans such as “No Good Cop in a Racist System” & “Gascón is a Tool of the System! Down with Capitalism.” As the group marched down a busy street with restaurants and bars, workers in cars honked their horns; those sitting outside clapped their hands, held up their fists, and nodded in agreement and 57 workers took CHALLENGE eagerly.

Once we arrived at his residence, someone from the march started chanting “Vote him Out, Vote him Out.” That chant quickly turned into “Kick him Out.” But then, a PLP member got on the mic and made a speech about how voting the DA out will not change anything; we need to organize workers to overthrow capitalism. Voting is a dead-end for the working class, there is NO ONE we can vote in or out. The working class will only free themselves through international revolution.

DA Jackie Lacey, a Black woman, made the same promises as Gascón and the people voted

her out only to end up with another tool of the system, someone who protects the racist LAPD, LA Sheriffs, and all the other killer KKKops in LA County. Gascón as the DA in San Francisco is no different than Gascón as the DA in Los Angeles. On multiple occasions he made promises to families impacted by police violence and in a year and a half has prosecuted exactly zero police. Families close to PLP are recognizing that this DA is going to be no different than the last and no different than the next. The crowd was very accepting of the idea that there is no good DA in a racist system.

Our previous marches to protest at DA Jackie Lacey's home had a bigger turnout. Families were fed up over years of being ignored. Some families are reluctant to protest Gascón because they are afraid of alienating him while they wait on his empty promises of reopening cases. We must continue the struggle to show that Gascón and the legal system will never bring justice to the working class. The only justice will be when the international working class overthrows capitalism with a communist revolution. Then we will have justice for all the workers killed by capitalism!

STUDENTS EXPLODE vs RACIST POLICE TERROR

Continued from page 1

sands of leaflets. “Public Safety” declared all leafletting illegal and began assaulting students, including a member of the student government. Campus police approached students reading leaflets and ripped them up, while following and harassing prominent student organizers. So much for U.S. capitalism's “free speech!”

Scratch liberalism, find fascism

Adrian was tackled by a Black campus police officer, held and charged under the orders of a Black campus police chief. All under the misleadership of Kingsborough's Black woman president, Claudia V. Schrader, and CUNY's Latin chancellor, Felix Matos Rodriguez, in a city ruled by a Democratic city council and a Black Democratic mayor, Eric Adams.

The Big Fascists rely on servants like Schrader, Rodriguez and Adams to give capitalist, racist and sexist oppression an inclusive appearance and mask the role of institutions like universities in supporting and reinforcing capitalist dictatorship. Capitalism depends on the political-economic division of the working class to enable exploitation



and racist super-exploitation for profits. Universities have a dual role: producing workers suited for various types of manual and knowledge labor, while promoting the ideologies of anticommunism, racism, sexism and countless professional schisms.

In recent years, Big Fascists have been pushing the liberal flavors of racism and sexism by promoting identity politics and “white privilege” politics as fake alternatives to the Small Fascist gutter racists and sexists (see Glossary, page 6) like Trump, De-

Santis and company. Scratch beneath the surface however, and they're ALL fascists: smash them all with communist revolution.

The only solution is communist revolution

While PLers continue to struggle over these ideas through Party study groups and there is much political struggle ahead, comrades have confronted these political disagreements head-on. In the meantime, our Party's confidence in these working class students is reflected with growing confidence in our organization. Following our successful march, a group of students took their commitment to smashing racism, sexism and imperialism to the highest level and joined our Party. This struggle and these students show the working class can run the world, and now we welcome their leadership to take us all the way!

The imperialists ruling the U.S., Russia and China are firing what could be the opening shots of World War III, and preparing our working class youth to be missile food. But PLP is growing and developing the next generation of leadership. Our international working class needs to build the Red Army that will destroy this entire capitalist hellscape once and for all! JOIN US!

LA workers organize against capitalist profit system and slumlords

LENNOX, CA, November 13—Working class solidarity and fightback around housing is growing in this area of Los Angeles County. With the U.S. Supreme Court striking down the federal eviction moratorium, and state and local moratoriums already expired, or soon to, millions of workers nationwide are behind on rent or face imminent homelessness. Progressive Labor Party (PLP) members are actively organizing within the local battle for the needs of our class. We are bringing communist ideas to this sharpening class struggle, such as the need for the revolutionary overthrow of capitalist property relations.

CHALLENGE readers will remember that PLP has been actively involved in the Lennox-Inglewood Tenants' Union (LITU). LITU has spent the last year organizing and responding to tenants who contact the organization. Tenant complaints frequently involve threats of eviction, illegal rent increases, or slumlords who refuse to do even the most basic maintenance on the apartments they rent for exorbitant amounts of money.

As part of LITU's campaign to demand repairs in one apartment complex in Inglewood, we asked local skilled workers to volunteer their time to inspect several of the apartments affected to determine what repairs each needed. It turned out that two workers who have experience doing repairs live in an apartment complex in Lennox, a predominantly immigrant and solidly working-class city right next to Inglewood.

Workers living in the Lennox building have long had problems with their slumlord, Nic Murillo, including illegal rent increases and demands that workers pay for repairs that are the landlord's legal responsibility. With LITU's encouragement and help, one worker experienced in home repairs launched a door to door canvassing of his complex. The purpose of this grassroots effort is to get to know our friend's neighbors, find out more about

the rotten living conditions they are enduring, and see what they want to do about them. These are communist principles in action - workers supporting one another - from each according to commitment and ability to each according to need.

Housing problems can't be solved under capitalism

Given how, under capitalism, property laws put landlord profits first and tenant needs last, the results were not surprising. Workers living in the building had a myriad of problems. One worker that LITU spoke to had just found out that her three-year-old son had lead in his blood. Many workers' apartments had bed bugs and roaches. Some had carpets infested with them and showed us their children's bite marks. Several apartments had pervasive mold. Two tenants had just received court eviction papers even though slumlord Murillo refused rent money for them from a government agency, and even though he had adamantly refused to make any necessary repairs to their apartments.

But LITU members found something else - a burning desire to strike back against these abuses, and an understanding that tenants are only as powerful as the collective working class unity that underlies their actions. Many workers signed a letter to their slumlord demanding a meeting about the lousy conditions. They promised support to the tenant families who face eviction. They came together for several meetings, involving almost half of the tenants in the complex, where grievances were aired and a plan for action made. This action revolved around the building manager's stubborn refusal to give tenants receipts for their monthly rent payments.

After scummy Murillo learned of the tenant meetings, he began slithering around the complex promising some, but not all, needed repairs. But tenants are not fooled! This tactic was exposed at one of the meetings as an attempt by the landlord

to divide and conquer.

Fired up workers confront landlord's agent

On the evening of November 1 about 15 workers organized and gathered beforehand, before making a beeline as a group to the manager's apartment. The manager was presented with a statement to the landlord signed by the tenants demanding that, starting in December, if receipts were not given to all tenants who paid rent, then rent payments would be stopped and held until that policy is changed. The manager at first refused to take the letter, but then gave in to the tenants demand that he do so.

No less than eight tenants spoke up, including several who spoke for the group and made sure the manager understood the anger and determination of this group of organized workers. With support from other tenants, one tenant whose family had no hot water, pinned the manager down and made him promise immediate repairs. The manager kept blathering that he had to do what his boss, Murillo, told him to do. He told the tenants they should be meeting with the landlord directly (of course, the tenants had already demanded such a meeting and been blown off by the scumlord). The next day all of the tenants who paid rent got receipts!

Working class tenants need communist ideas and leadership

Though small, this action demonstrates the potential power of a conscious and united working class. PLP's tasks going forward will be to continue our involvement with these tenants and help sharpen the level of struggle against the slumlord. In this battle, we will show how the capitalist legal and political system protects the owners of private property. Decent housing for the entire working class, and the abolition of evictions and homelessness can and will only be achieved under communism.

Student conference fights Big Fascism on campus

NEW YORK CITY, NY, November 12—Planning for the annual Progressive Labor Party (PLP) College Conference began a couple months ago and we decided that the theme would be "Big Fascism on Campus." We wanted to study and discuss how the Big Fascists, finance and oil bosses represented by liberal Democratic politicians, are using our colleges and universities to advance their agenda: to use liberal ideas like identity politics and "representation" to mask the naked brutality and racism of their system as an attempt to win broad political support for taking on China and/or Russia in World War III. PLP has its eye turned toward looming World War, as we see fascism world-wide rise in response to capitalism in crisis and an undisciplined ruling class.

KCC fightback inspires working class brothers and sisters

The conference was enlivened by an amazing group of students from Kingsborough Community College (KCC) in New York City, who are in the middle of a sharp struggle (see details on Page 1) against the exact kind of racist attack that is, and will always be, a part of capitalism. Racist police terror is part of capitalism and all bosses and politicians, whether they are liberal, conservative, Democrat or Republican, are committed to maintaining it. The Big Fascist playbook, however, is to use identity and representation to soften working-class anger and militancy. In this case, the president of Kingsborough Claudia V. Schrader, a Black woman, met with the students after a Black student was assaulted and detained by KCC cops, while the racist troll that he was trying to move away from the antiracist Common Grounds\ student group was



left untouched. In response to the troll yelling the n-word and not facing any punitive measures, the President told students, "everyone's racist, there's nothing we can do about it, just be a good person..." The Kingsborough administrators offered to meet with the students on committees and have sent out emails to the campus stressing their commitment to "respect" and "understanding."

This strategy might have worked in other situations, but the conference attendees heard firsthand how communist ideas, combined with the amazing bravery and leadership of young Black and Latin students, can transform these struggles. Friends and PLP members were active in the fight from the start, arguing for the need for multiracial unity and warning against the danger of the Big Fascist Kingsborough administration. The students eagerly took on these ideas as their own, facing up to the President, various deans and vice-presidents and public safety, and proving that liberal defenders of racist policing would not sway them.

The presence of these brave students energized the conference immensely and helped us to see clearly the dynamics of Big Fascism on our various campuses.

The power of class struggle, communist ideas and our potential to grow and to lead the working class is clear from one important example: one student, who admitted to previously being distrustful of white people, took part in the multiracial fightback on campus, then sat in an integrated conference for 4 hours and joined the Party (along with others) at the conclusion! The revolution and the creation of a communist society is that much closer!

THE RED WRECKING BALL, COMMUNISTS VS CAPITALIST HOUSING PART 3:

“REDS VS. EVICTION”

The following is part three of a seven-part series reprinted and lightly edited from the communist newspaper *Daily Worker* in September-October, 1932, written by famous communist Mike Gold.

Workers here are referred to as Black instead of the original “Negro” to reflect our antiracist principles as well as the linguistic shifts that occurred over decades of antiracist class struggle.

Communists have a long history of fighting against racist attacks on our class. One such fight was against landlords and evictions. In the early 1930s, amid Jim Crow segregation, a Great Depression with record unemployment levels that sank the working class—particularly Black workers living in the urban industrial core—into deeper poverty and despair, the Communist Party in the U.S. (CPUSA) was fighting for revolution inside U.S. borders. This period was a golden age of class-conscious fight-back when communist ideas were popular and gripped the imaginations of the working class. Under the leadership of the CPUSA, workers organized militant housing councils, tenant unions that led bold actions that weakened the power of profit glut-tous landlords.

Today our class is in a different period marked by increasing volatility. We are choked by record-high inflation, rent hikes, food price gouging compounded by stagnant wages, high unemployment, and an eviction crisis worsened by a still-raging global pandemic. Though the CPUSA is a shell of its former self, decaying into a toothless, reformist party, their history is just as valuable as they were in 1932. This series highlights this antiracist revolutionary fightback and contains kernels of working-class wisdom.

In this article, the popularity of communist ideas and struggles among Black workers is described by Gold, emphasizing an important aspect of our line that Black workers play a key role in organizing for communist revolution. Another important political aspect highlighted by Gold’s piece is the role of churches in misleading Black workers, winning them away from communist ideas. During this time, Black workers were won over to the idea that they had much more in common with fellow workers than with the bosses and their corrupt misleaders. A generation of Black workers gave militant leadership to the movement.

There was the funeral of an old Black woman. She had died of hunger; the doctor’s certificate called it “malnutrition.” The councils arranged a mass funeral; they rented a large lot for such services. The great procession marched through the streets, carrying hundreds of banners and slogans telling the story. Ah, from all the sidewalks and tenement windows, what groans, wails, sobs, what shrieks of pity and anger! This mourning was real; these workers knew what the funeral said: they knew they might be next to die of – “Malnutrition.”

All the revolutionary slogans that well-fed liberals sneer at as clichés, the South Side takes to its heart. They are life. “Fight Against Hunger” is a literal command; it has helped to many victories.

On the south side, the old slavish spirituals are being rewritten. The deep yearning that once turned to a mythical heaven for freedom, now fights for a real and wonderful future on this earth.

“That New Communist Spirit”

“Gimme That Old Time Religion, it’s good enough for me,” they used to sing at their prayer meetings. Now I heard them sing it fervently:

Gimme that new Communist spirit

Gimme that new Communist spirit

Gimme that new Communist spirit

That’s good enough for me.

“It was good for Comrade Lenin,

And it’s good enough for me.

“It’s against the labor fakers.

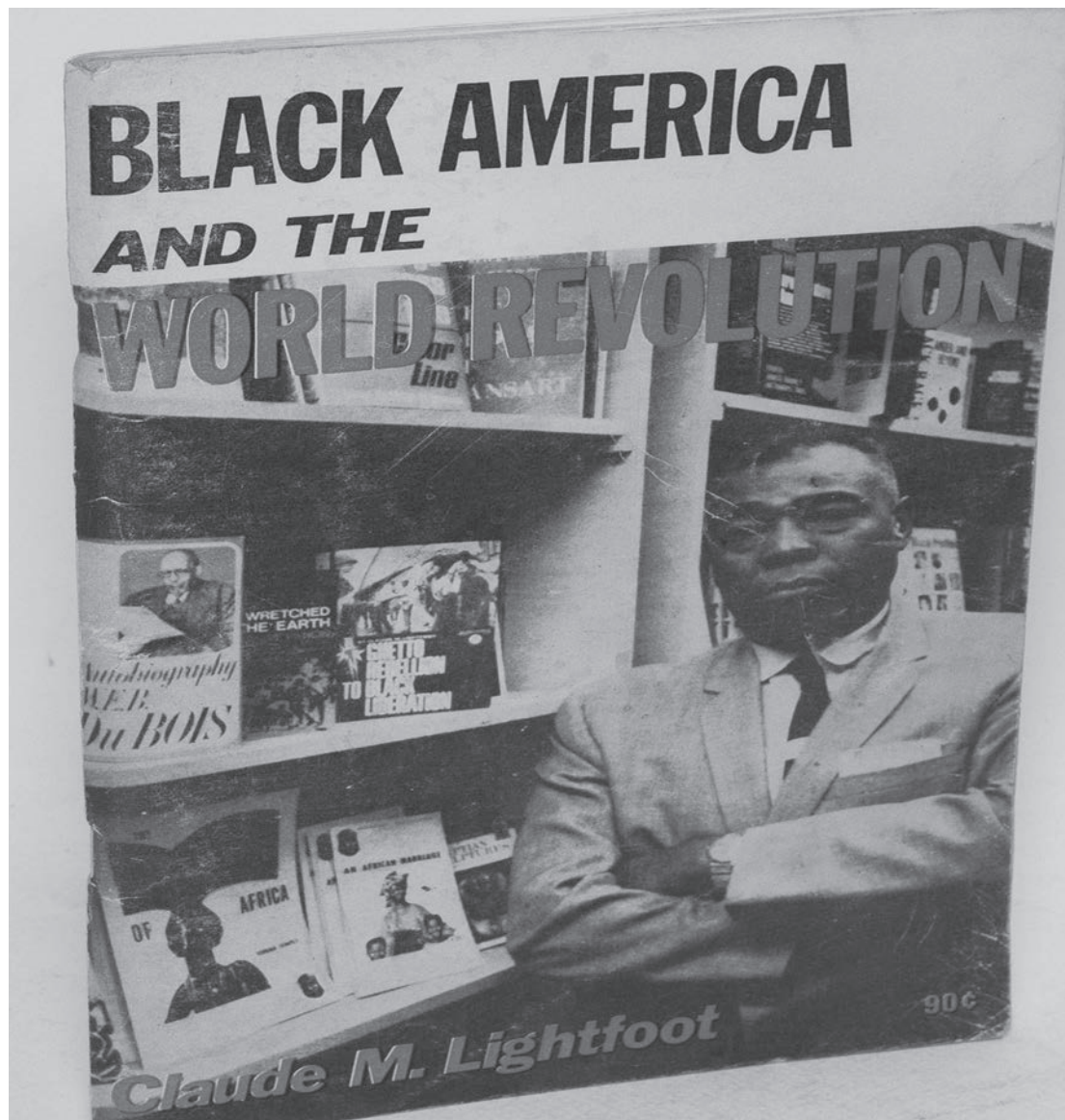
And it’s good enough for me.

“It has built the Soviet Union,

And it’s good enough for me,

“It’ll free the world of sorrow,

And it’s good enough for me ...”



Claude Lightfoot: from Black nationalist to Black communist

(and so on, dozens of verses)

Many such new songs and singers. At mass meetings, their religious past becomes transmuted into a Communist present. They follow every word of the speaker with real emotion; they encourage him, as at a prayer meeting with cries, “Yes, yes, comrade” and often there is an involuntary and heartfelt “Amen!”

The Chicago politicians are alarmed by this local revolution. Pork-jowled pimps and bootleggers sometimes come to the forums and begin their harangues with the salutation, “Comrades!” The workers laugh at them. They hooted and laughed down Big Bill Thompson, ex-gangster mayor of Chicago when he came to Washington Park and pulled this new “Comrade” gag.

It’s hard to fool them any more. They read, study, think. They have built up the best unemployment movement in America, a model to the white comrades, in the seat of their own minds and bodies. They have developed their own leaders.

Claude Lightfoot

Of the hundreds of leaders let me give one typical biography:

Claude Lightfoot, a brilliant youth of 21 developed as a speaker at a Washington Park forum. He was a Garveyite, an American patriot, and won a large following among the young Black workers.

Democratic and Republican politicians came to him and offered him hundred dollar a week jobs to campaign for them. But he was honest, the questions fired at him by Communist hecklers made him think.

The work of the unemployment councils interested him. The fact that white workers fought and shed their blood in defense of Black workers, gave Lightfoot a new vision of the race question.

He Is Arrested

He read, studied, argued, he wrestled with his own mind. During this transition period, he happened, by accident, to be arrested in one of the

eviction fights.

He was beaten, stripped, thrown into a dark unheated small stone cell on bread and water.

He personally knew the capitalist politicians who were prosecuting him. In the very prison, they came to him, and offered him his release and a good job if he would surrender his new ideas. He told them to go to hell. He was given the maximum sentence in the Bridewell, that ancient hell of stone and hate.

When he came out he joined the Communist Party. He has been an active force ever since. Read the next issue for an episode out of his new life of struggle!



LETTERS

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



Profit system treats children as dispensable

Several Progressive Labor Party (PLP) comrades joined a coalition of housing groups on November 3 to protest child homelessness in NYC. More than 104,000 public school children in NYC are homeless, 55,000 of whom are without shelter.

As we gathered in a primary schoolyard we saw a teacher explaining to her students why we were there. Young people led the rally and one speaker reported that while she's not homeless herself she was protesting in solidarity with her peers who are homeless. Black, Latin, Asian and white united as we marched in the community chanting, "Tenants united will never be defeated," "Tax the rich, house the poor," and "What do we want? Housing! If we don't get it, shut it down!"

PL'ers connected with old and new friends distributing 18 CHALLENGEs as we emphasized the militant housing fight back in Chicago on the front page. A comrade sent a comment to the members of the housing group she's in saying the march was good, but we need to put antiracism up front. The majority of homeless children and adults in NYC are Black and Latin. She received two thumbs up responses.

PL'ers have been involved in a community organization for many years. We raise PLP's ideas, have recruited new members and organized an ongoing study group. Recently comrades have been distributing fight homelessness leaflets and CHALLENGE in the streets of our community of concentration.

As we stand up and fight back inside the community organization we want to continue the Party's presence in the street. Let's seize the opportunities to lead class struggle and boldly win the working class to revolutionary communist ideas!

★★★★★

Inspired by struggle against identity politics

Though retired for a few years now, recently I've been helping to organize for Progressive Labor Party on college campuses. So I've attended the yearly college conference for the last several years. They were all very positive, but this year's conference was amazing. I was not just encouraged; I was inspired. And it was the new, young leaders that were so very impressive. By young I mean some that were in the Party for a year or two, while others were on the verge of joining.

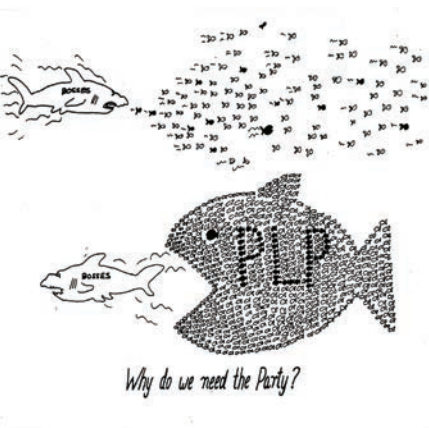
During the opening session a comrade raised the issue of identity politics. A veteran comrade made the case against identity poli-

tics, but the issue was really left sort of hanging in the air. But not for long. It came up in several workshops with some new members being supportive of identity politics. And these were fighters who believed in multiracial unity and had been in struggles against racism from their college campus to Haiti. These were young working class fighters and organizers trying to learn and be stronger antiracists and communists.

But what really impressed and inspired me was the response of two young Black women leaders. In one workshop they patiently tore apart identity politics. They explained how it was a recent, higher education invention and how it divided the working class. How there was no such thing as white privilege; it was racism. How these divisive ideas originated and are being promoted on college campuses and did not have that great an influence in working class communities. I was so impressed with the quiet confidence, knowledge and sharpness of these young Black women leaders.

I briefly spoke to one of these women after the workshops and congratulated her on her leadership role. She mumbled a thank you and then added, but I think I spoke too much. That immediate self-criticism impressed me even more. The future of our Party is in good hands.

★★★★★



Who should dictate: capitalists or workers?

At a Senior Center discussion group about abortion, I said communists were the first society that legalized abortion. A woman replied, "But communism is a dictatorship", so I asked the following.

Who dictates...

If women get life saving or needed abortions?

If women and children suffer poverty, homelessness, poor health and starvation?

If women suffer sexism, especially cultural oppression that promotes inequality?

If women are forced to support and die in endless profit wars?

I replied that today it's the worldwide capitalist class dictatorship's greed for profits and privileges that determines and promotes sexist, divisive inequality and oppression within the working class.

Women in Iran and worldwide don't need to just cut their hair; they need to cut their connections to their capitalist dictatorships and create their own communist society that can dictate their right to equality, abortions, education, housing, jobs and an end to sexism, racism, profits, classes, nationalism, endless capitalist wars and religious persecution.

I've had these discussions before with the workers thinking about it and the discussions will continue.

★★★★★



APITALISM IS THE VIRUS. COMMUNISM IS THE CURE.

@plpchallenge | plp.org

Workers still fighting covid and capitalism

Capitalists have weaponized this disease against workers, using it to cull the less "productive" workers—the elderly and the ill, especially Black communities in the U.S. and Black and Brown countries worldwide. This is genocide and marks the growing tide of fascism. In the wake of the 1918 Influenza pandemic, Nazis rose to power in part by targeting the disabled and ill.

Meanwhile, capitalists continue to reap obscene profits off the pandemic, creating a global wave of inflation that has wreaked havoc on low income workers. The Big Fascists like Joe Biden and Goldman Sachs parrot concern while overseeing draconian economic measures to create mass unemployment and poverty worldwide in the name of fighting inflation. The imperialist U.S. and Russian bosses have started a war that threatens our entire planet with nuclear apocalypse when all workers want is peace to be able to recover from the pandemic.

When will we learn that capitalism can NEVER solve our problems? It only brings workers misery and death. Communism is the only practical solution at this point in human history. Let's never forget the genocide that these filthy capitalists have waged against the working class as we rise up and put the bosses in their graves!

★★★★★



GLOSSARY

COMMUNIST TERMS

Fascism

Capitalism's response to a crisis of their system, when the bosses can no longer sustain the charade of liberal democracy and resort to more direct control and state terror instead. Fascism is marked by the ruling capitalists disciplining their own ranks to serve the urgent needs of the capitalist state and weather the crisis. To defend their system from internal and external threats, they use all the means available in their state apparatus, including violence. To build unity within their class and loyalty from workers, they rely on nationalist politics and calls for sacrifice. Their strategy is to mislead the working class to kill our working class sisters and brothers in the next

inter-imperialist war.

Big Fascists

The Big Fascists are the dominant finance capitalist faction of the U.S. ruling class. They represent the wealthiest and most powerful bosses in the U.S., including multinational banks like Chase and Citibank, multinational oil companies like ExxonMobil, the big automakers, Boeing, Amazon, and the major media companies. As the dominant grouping since World War II, the Big Fascists were the architects of the liberal world order with the U.S. bosses on top. Their dominance rests on U.S. financial and military power and its strategic control of the Middle East and the flow of oil to Europe, Asia, and Africa. To sustain this dominance, they need to rebuild a huge, multiracial military for inter-imperialist war,

most likely with China.

Small Fascists

The Small Fascists are a group of domestically oriented U.S. capitalists who are challenging the Big Fascists over the direction of U.S. imperialism. Since their interests are less tied to controlling the flow of oil, they are against heavy taxation to keep troops in the Middle East and in general oppose costly military bases and invasions. They're willing to rely on a smaller, whiter army, backed by nuclear weapons and the Air Force. They use open racism to build a political following.

Anti-semitism toxic for multiracial fightback

Anti-Jewish racism and attacks are on the rise across the U.S. Most recently Ye (formerly Kanye West) and Kyrie Irving threw fuel on the fire by launching anti-Jewish racist attacks on Twitter. Both Ye and Irving are spewing a particular toxic ideology of the Black Hebrew Israelites that reflects a reactionary, nationalist, and anti-class outlook. The Black Hebrew Israelites are a group of sects that espouse that Black people are the original Hebrews and were supplanted by modern day Jewish people. Many, if not all, of the groups push anti-Jewish racism in a twist on the replacement theory of the Trump racists by claiming they have been replaced from their rightful place by modern Jewish people.

The Black Israelites continue a long history of the bosses' anti-Jewish racism being used to divide the working class. From Hitler to now, anti-Jewish racism has particularly been used to divert the working class's anger away from the bosses and point it towards an imaginary Jewish cabal that is blamed for everything. The anti-Jewish racism of Ye and Irving gains a toe hold because of the righteous anger that Black workers share under capitalism. But with celebrities and anti-intellectual media moguls leading the charge, it leads to the pacification of Black workers who are diverted away from the true enemy that is capitalism and plays into the bosses' hands by dividing and disarming the working class.

Attack racism from all sides

We must take on racism in all its forms. This particular attack by Ye and Irving, which was then amplified by Dave Chapelle on NBC's Saturday Night Live, is particularly dangerous because it is being used to divert the anger of Black workers away from capitalism and the ruling class, but back toward a general Jewish body. Meanwhile, many Jewish workers have an antiracist history and do not benefit from the racism inflicted by ruling class bosses.

While the Black Israelites pose as a group that is against the system, the racism they espouse is repackaged from the bosses' ideologies. Henry Ford and Hitler are prominent in their sources.

Many are fooled by this anti-Jewish racism posing as being for Black workers. A big reason for the acceptance of anti-Jewish racism from Black superstars is the racist history of Israel. The U.S. and Israeli ruling classes have defended Israeli racist apartheid and attacks on workers in Palestine by calling anyone who opposes the Israeli bosses anti-Jewish.

Workers unite in anti-racist rebellion

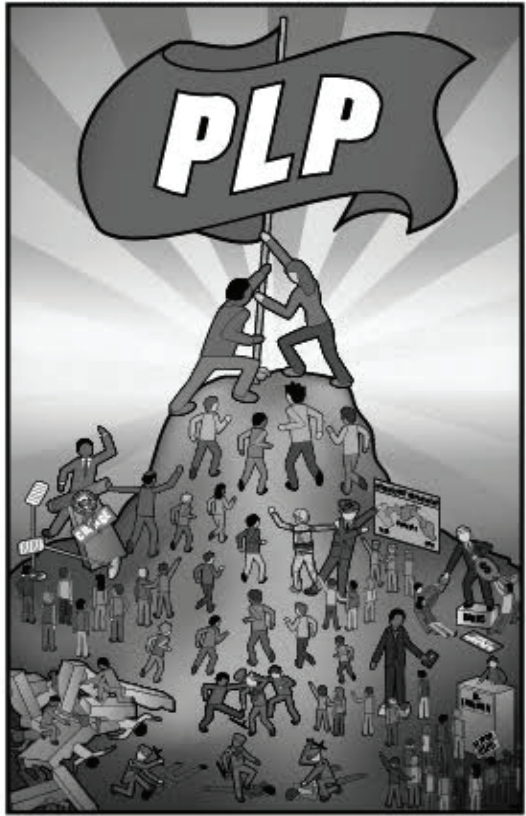
The bosses have encouraged the spread of Black nationalist anti-Jewish racism. Young Black workers have rebelled in recent years in Ferguson, Baltimore and across the country after the murder of George Floyd. These antiracist rebellions inspired millions of people in multi-racial fight back to take to the streets. This mass action against the bosses' cops terrified the ruling class. No wonder the bosses encourage the spread of anti-Jewish racism.

Many people are also taken in by seeing corporations and media who do nothing in the face of massive racist attacks on Black workers come out and attack Ye and Irving. But that doesn't excuse or justify anti-Jewish attacks. Also, make no mistake: Ye and Irving don't share the same class politics that Black workers, or any worker, do.

Any potential win that Ye or Irving could receive from Adidas or the NBA would never extend to our class. But this public debacle does intensify racist divisions among workers. As communist leaders, it is our role to use these moments as an opportunity to call out to smash these divisions and build working-class unity.

One thing the U.S., Israel and Black Israelites have in common is a fear of the powerful history of Black and Jewish workers joining together to fight racism. From the movement to free the Scottsboro Boys to the sit-ins across the south and the fight to integrate, Black and Jewish workers have marched together, fought together and been beaten together in the fight against racism. The bosses can try to bury the true antiracist history of the working class but they will never stop us.

**CAPITALISM
BREEDS SEXISM
RACISM
& IMPERIALISM!**



**FIGHT FOR A COMMUNIST
WORLD
BUILD THE INTERNATIONAL
PLP!
PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY**



RED EYE ON THE NEWS...

Turkey demands Sweden and Finland sell out Kurds as price for joining NATO

France24, 11/4—Turkey will not formally approve Finland and Sweden's membership of NATO until the two countries take the necessary "steps" Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told alliance chief Jens Stoltenberg Friday. Ankara has accused the two Nordic nations of providing a safe haven for outlawed Kurdish militants it deems "terrorists" and held back on ratifying their NATO membership despite an agreement in June.

Finland and Sweden dropped decades of military non-alignment and scrambled to become NATO members in May, after Russia invaded Ukraine. But Erdogan threatened to block their bids and sought concessions, leading to a deal in June between Turkey, Finland and Sweden that included provisions on extraditions and sharing information. All 30 NATO member states except Turkey and Hungary have ratified the accession of Sweden and Finland. New members to the alliance require unanimous approval.

European capitalists have no choice but to turn to Gulf states for survival

Der Spiegel, 11/11—Three-and-a-half trillion dollars, an unfathomable sum, are set to flow into the coffers of the six Gulf states in the next five years should the prices for oil and gas remain as high as they are today – a gift from Vladimir Putin. Because

Europe is no longer interested in importing energy from Russia, oil from Saudi Arabia and natural gas from Qatar have become the focus, no matter how high the price.

At a time when the West is suffering and China is showing economic vulnerability, the economies on the Gulf see nothing but a bright future and their optimism is boundless.

Qatar and Iran are sitting on the largest natural gas repositories on the planet, while Saudi Arabia is home to the second-largest oil reserves. And it doesn't end with oil and gas. The energy source of the future is hydrogen, produced with solar and wind. The deserts of the Arabian Peninsula offer perfect conditions for such renewable energy sources. Ultimately, more hydrogen may be exported from the Emirates and Saudi Arabia in the future than oil is today. Germany promises to be a primary destination.

Israel moves closer to becoming an officially fascist state

New York Times, 11/13—The Jewish settlement in the city of Hebron, in the occupied West Bank, where a few hundred Orthodox Jews live amid some 200,000 Palestinians, has long been seen as a bastion of the far-right settler movement — on the fringes of Israeli society. But after the Israeli election this month, an alliance of far-right parties, led by the Religious Zionism party reflecting the views of radical settlers, became the third-largest political force in Israel. The alliance, which also included

the ultranationalist Jewish Power party, garnered more than 88 percent of the votes from the settlers in Hebron. The alliance is now poised to become a key pillar of the coalition being put together by the right-wing prime minister-designate, Benjamin Netanyahu... Religious Zionism's supporters hope the alliance will use its leverage to [apply]...Jewish sovereignty in parts of the West Bank, a territory the Palestinians claim for a future state and that Religious Zionism considers to be part of Greater Israel and refers to by the biblical names of Judea and Samaria.

Religious Zionists have reached the top ranks of the security establishment and the police have made up a disproportionate number of the graduates of the military's officers' school...and have developed an increasingly influential voice in the Israeli news media and culture.

U.S. deploying B-52s to encircle China

Reuters, 10/31—The United States is planning to deploy up to six nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to an air base in northern Australia, a source familiar with the matter said on Monday, amid heightened tensions with China. Dedicated facilities for the bombers will be set up at the Royal Australian Air Force's remote Tindal base...Last year, the United States, Britain and Australia created a security deal that will provide Australia with the technology to deploy nuclear-powered submarines, riling China...This year, the U.S. deployed four B-52s to its Andersen Air Force base in Guam, a U.S. island territory in the Western Pacific.

Why Capitalists love to hate Stalin



On the anniversary month of the Bolshevik Revolution, and it's time to debunk some anti-communist myths, again. The U.S. ruling class reviles Joseph Stalin, one of the first communist leaders of the Soviet Union (USSR), and so they lie about him. But they lie about so many things, why would they tell the truth about Stalin. Yet the capitalist slander campaign against Stalin led many authors, university researchers and even ordinary people to dislike Stalin. Why so much capitalist hatred against Joseph Stalin?

First, some facts. After the Russian Revolution, 12 European countries (including the U. S. and Japan) invaded the Soviet Union to kill this new socialist society in its cradle. They were defeated. Instead Stalin led the socialist Soviet Union from being "the poor man of Europe" to a world power that challenged the worldwide empire of the capitalist United States.

Under Stalin's leadership, the Soviet Union became powerful enough to defeat Hitler's Nazis in World War II. Of the 250 Nazi divisions that fought in World War II, 200 of them fought to conquer the Soviet Union...and were defeated. Eighty five percent of German casualties were at the hands of the USSR. It was only after the Soviets began pushing the Nazis back, that the Allies invaded Normandy. The Soviet people and their Red Army suffered huge casualties (20 million dead) and destruction, but it was they that defeated the Nazis.

The Soviet leaders educated all citizens, including college and trade schools. They provided universal health care and employment. Workers had four weeks of paid vacation and received a pension at age 60, women at age 55. They had paid maternity leave and free childcare and they eliminated the centuries-old famines that had racked the Ukraine.

Some charge that Stalin was a dictator, yet he struggled mightily for a new constitution with secret elections so that the entrenched bureaucracy would be challenged. Local Party Secretaries defeated him in this effort.

It is helpful to see the sources of the criticisms of Stalin. The sources of the forced starvation stories in the Ukraine are anti-communist, pro-Nazi sympathizers who left the Ukraine and headed to the Western countries.

In 1956 Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev denounced Stalin and his achievements in a secret speech. Khrushchev wanted to take the USSR in a more capitalist direction. Professor Grover Furr documents that of the 61 charges Khrushchev levels against Stalin, 60 can be proven to be false. Needless to say that speech is the source of many of the attacks on Stalin.

Another source of attacks was the writing and organizing of Leon Trotsky. He was a charismatic individual with the emphasis on individual. Trotsky belonged to a different party than Stalin and Lenin.



He joined the Bolsheviks when the Russian Revolution was imminent. When Lenin died, Trotsky thought that he should be the next leader. He organized for his ideas. They were publicized widely in the Party, but when it came to a vote, his position lost 724,000 to 4,000. The Bolsheviks and Lenin chose Stalin.

However, he continued to organize against Stalin and the Bolshevik leadership and was finally kicked out of the Party. He secretly continued his anti-Stalin organizing and propaganda. He appealed, not to the workers, but to the capitalists all over the world for support. Capitalists loved his stories because it gave them more ammunition against Stalin. But Furr speaks and reads Russian and English and has had access to Trotsky's archives as well as the archives of the former Soviet Union. He has written and self-published several books on

the period. For those who want to learn what really took place under Stalin's leadership, please go to his website: <https://msuweb.montclair.edu/~furr/>

The fact is that college professors who try to write a balanced or a favorable view of Stalin are ostracized by the system. They can't get published. Those that promote anti-Stalinism get published, paid and praised.

The reason the capitalists hate Stalin is because he helped lead a revolution that threw them out of power. The capitalists who exploit workers, who bring death and destruction, who promote racism and sexism, hate Stalin. They benefit from our ignorance that it is possible to have a system where the capitalists do not exist. But a better world is possible. It's communism where the workers of the world rule and the capitalists are in the trash heap of history.

NEXT DEADLINE

CHALLENGE strives to be the communist paper for and by the international working class. We call on all readers, supporters, and comrades to submit class struggle articles, analytical pieces, original photos and graphics, letters, and political cartoons.

The next deadline is the **Friday night of November 25**. Send to desafio.challenge@gmail.com. For some guidance and house style rules, please go to www.bit.ly/338ZJow

All submissions are open to collective discussion, struggle, and change. See sidebar on page 2 about fighting for collectivity and against a cult of the individual.

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