

STRUGGLE ★ LA LUCHA

for Socialism | por el Socialismo



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Partido de Socialismo Unido

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If the November election is stolen, OCCUPY THE STREETS

► No work ► No school ► No shopping

A Call for People's General Strike

This may be the first time that a U.S. president has said he won't accept the result of the vote, indicating that there will be no peaceful transition. This is not an idle threat. Trump has his own paramilitary police, Homeland Security, the support of the most virulent and reactionary police departments, and a myriad of violent, racist, vigilante-type groups.

At the Sept. 29 debate, after the moderator suggested condemning the Proud Boys, a far-right, violently racist group, Trump declared: "Proud Boys: stand back and stand by," acknowledging he was their leader.

Later in the debate, Trump refused to say he would abide by the results of the election. He declined to tell his supporters to remain calm or avoid violence. "If I see tens of thousands of ballots, I can't go along with that," he said, urging his supporters to go to the polls and "watch very carefully."

What can we do if there is an attempted coup, an outright coup or an effort to sabotage the vote? The people must prepare.

We are the people: Low-wage workers who are at the frontlines, risking our lives, whether we are grocery workers, bus drivers or Amazon warehouse workers; those of us in the streets protesting for Black Lives Matter and community control of police; those of us in the community facing evictions, foreclosures and utility shut-offs; students and youth concerned with catastrophic climate change and unsafe school reopening; health care workers and teachers sacrificing for our patients and students; Black, Brown and Indigenous communities along with seniors disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Our lives are at stake.

We must act to protect people's rights! Every vote counts, and we will not accept a stolen election, no matter what form it takes, whether it's stolen through a Supreme Court decision, the undemocratic Electoral College or violence by the far right forces backing Trump.

If the election is stolen, from Nov. 3, 2020, through Jan. 20, 2021, it will be time for us to be in the streets in such large numbers that the system cannot run. Call in sick! Occupy the streets! March and picket at Federal Buildings, banks and businesses, and other suitable targets in your city, state or county. Organize civil disobedience. Urge your union to prepare for sickouts and strikes.

Here are some important dates to plan around:

Monday, November 2: Support the call for Black Solidarity Day and International Election Observers.

Tuesday, November 3 (Election Day): Physical voting at the polls. Join local groups like People's Committees to Defend Democratic Rights or other local efforts to stop any intimidation by right-wing armed groups. Help escort Black, Brown, Indigenous and LGBTQ2S people and seniors to the polls to guarantee their safety.

Wednesday, November 4: Support the call by the National Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression for a Post-Election Protest for a Peoples Mandate for national day-after demonstrations.

During this period, paper ballots will be counted. At any point the Supreme Court, consisting of just nine judges, may step in as it did in the 2000 election to undemocratically decide the direction of the elections.

December 8 marks the end of the "safe harbor" period for states to determine that election results will not be challenged in Congress. On December 14, Electoral College delegates cast their ballots on a state level. On January 6, 2021, Congress meets to count the Electoral College and declare a winner.

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 (Inauguration Day): Regardless of the outcome, we must continue to press for the demands that people need and want — **Black Lives Matter, stopping police and ICE terror, health care for all, cancel rent and stop evictions and foreclosures, workers' rights and safety on the job, jobs or income for all, no war or sanctions.**

Please sign onto this call and begin to organize in your area: tinyurl.com/yyp3o8qh

Signed:

- Peoples Power Assembly
- Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice
- ICE Out of Baltimore
- Youth Against War & Racism
- Rev. CD Witherspoon
- Peoples Alliance
- Rev. Annie Chambers, Douglas Homes RAB Delegate
- Prisoners Solidarity Committee
- United American Indians of New England
- Mahtowin Munro, United American Indians of New England
- Malaya Movement Baltimore
- Frank Chapman, Executive Director, National Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression
- CODEPINK
- Courtney Jenkins, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Baltimore Chapter
- Delores Lemon-Thomas, Million Worker March
- Clarence Thomas, convenor Million Worker March, former Secretary-Treasurer ILWU Local 10
- Chris Silvera, Secretary-Treasurer Teamsters Local 808
- Reverend David Carl Olson, Lead Minister, First Unitarian Church of Baltimore * ID only
- Baltimore Peace Action
- Dr. Marvin "Doc" Cheatham, Matthew Henson Neighborhood Assoc., former President Baltimore NAACP
- San Diego Leonard Peltier Defense Committee
- Fernando Ramirez, Union Organizer U.E. (United Electrical Workers) LA Tenants Union/Union de Vecinos
- Bob Brown, Pan African Roots
- Anthony Franklin Parker, Wordsmith & Artist, Rise With A Purpose
- Solidarity with Novorossiya and Antifascists in Ukraine
- Rhode Island Peoples Assembly
- Committee Against Police Brutality, San Diego
- Atlanta Peoples Power Assembly
- Bonnie "Raven" Lane, Housing Advocate
- Bill Goodin, co-founder, Black Men Unifying Black Men
- Franca Muller Paz, Baltimore City Council District 12 Candidate
- Assist. Professor Robert Birt, Bowie State University * ID only
- Leslie Salgado, Friends of Latin America
- Struggle ★ La Lucha
- Socialist Unity Party/ Partido de Socialismo Unido
- Bmore 4 Border Justice
- Anakbayan, Washington D.C.
- Berna Ellorin, BAYAN USA
- Pakistan-USA Freedom Forum
- Women In Struggle/ Mujeres En Struggle
- William Camacaro, Alberto Lovera Bolivarian Circle, New York
- ILPS (International League for Peoples Struggle) USA
- Wisconsin Bail Out the People Movement
- Carl Gentile, CPDC

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The Michigan conspiracy isn't a joke

By Stephen Millies

Thirteen fascists were arrested on Oct. 8 for plotting to kidnap and kill Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. There were also plans to assassinate Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam. Both governors are Democrats.

Most of the initial media coverage of those arrested has portrayed them as bumbling losers. That's despite their use of encrypted communications and plans to use an 800,000 volt taser. Poor and working people should consider the Michigan plot as extremely dangerous.

These fascists are precisely the social material that's used by the wealthy and powerful to terrorize people. Seven of them belong to the Wolverine Watchmen, an armed vigilante group.

Michigan's Barry County Sheriff Dar Leaf claimed these fascists were merely planning to make a "felony arrest" of Gov. Whitmer. Leaf appeared with some of them at a Grand Rapids rally protesting the public health measures needed to combat the coronavirus. He knows two of the indicted conspirators, Michael and William Null.

Cops and fascists work hand in hand. On Oct. 15, Newport News, Va., police provided armed members of the ultraright Boogaloo movement with a sound system and chocolate milk.

After a Black father, Jacob Blake, was shot seven times in front of some of his children by Kenosha, Wis., Officer Rusten Sheskey, racist armed vigilantes came to town. They were welcomed by police and the county sheriff to threaten Black Lives Matter demonstrators. Kyle Rittenhouse killed two anti-racists, seriously wounded another and was allowed to escape Kenosha.

Trump helped incite vigilante violence by tweeting "Liberate Michigan!" on April 17, two days after armed right-wingers converged on Michigan's state Capitol in Lansing.

Signers to the call for a general strike

Continued from page 1

Kyle Durkee, Local BLM Salem, OR
 Charlie Cooper, Get Money Out, Inc., Maryland * ID only
 Phil Wilayto, Editor The Virginia Defender
 Amadi Ajamu, NY Amsterdam News
 Will Smyth Jr., Culinary Union Local 226
 Jeanie Dubnau, Riverside Edgcombe Neighborhood
 Roy Fleming, Delaware Activist
 Eugene Weixel, Retired DC 37
 George Gruenthal, Red Star Publishers
 Mike Gimbel, Retired Executive Board member, Local 375
 Nico Robuccio, AFSCME, Local 503
 Keith Brooks, Brooklyn for Peace, UFT, NWU
 Bill Bateman, RI Unemployed Council, RI Rosa Parks Human Rights Committee
 Michigan Emergency Committee Against War and Injustice (MECAWI)
 Karen Taylor, MAD Monday
 Moratorium Now Coalition
 Workers World Party
 San Diego Coalition to free Mumia Abu-Jamal
 Communist Workers League - Bay Area
 List in formation adding names and groups hourly



Fascist vigilantes were welcomed by police and the county sheriff to threaten Black Lives Matter demonstrators.

They wanted the COVID-19 safety shutdown stopped immediately no matter how many Black and Brown people would die in Detroit.

Trump also tweeted "Liberate Virginia!" and "Liberate Wisconsin!" The Wolverine Watchmen planned to take Gov. Whitmer to Wisconsin to be killed.

The Trump supporters were just foot soldiers for the billionaire class who considered the public health measures to be profit-killers. Unlike Black Lives Matter protesters, none of those who were carrying long guns in Lansing were fired upon by the police with rubber bullets or tear gas.

Lifting these restrictions led to a massive increase in COVID-19 infections in the Upper Midwest. In Wisconsin's Menominee County, home to the Menominee Nation, one out of every 22 people has caught the coronavirus, twice the U.S. rate.

Shock troops for the ruling class

To paraphrase the political prisoner Jamil Al-Amin, once known as H. Rap Brown, using thugs to attack a people's movement is as American as apple pie.

Thousands of Black people were murdered by the Ku Klux Klan during the overthrow of Reconstruction state governments in the 1870s.

Hundreds of Black people were murdered by mobs in East St. Lou-

is, Ill., in 1917 and Tulsa, Okla., in 1921. During 1919, white racist mobs in Chicago and other cities were allowed to kill Black people. Police only intervened after Black people fought back.

In 1961, Anniston, Ala., police gave Ku Klux Klan members 15 minutes to try to kill Freedom Riders who were traveling together in defiance of segregation laws. Their Greyhound bus was set on fire.

Klansman Byron De La Beckwith assassinated Mississippi NAACP Field Secretary Medgar Evers in 1963. Beckwith was acquitted after Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett came to court to shake hands with him in front of the all-white jury. It was only in 1994 that Beckwith was convicted on federal charges for killing Medgar Evers.

The labor movement has also been a victim of mob violence.

Industrial Workers of the World organizer Frank Little was lynched by vigilantes in 1917 for leading a strike of copper miners in Butte, Mont. IWW member Wesley Everett was murdered by a mob in Centralia, Wash., in 1919.

The Black Legion, which despite its name was a split-off from the Ku Klux Klan, killed union organizers in Michigan. It's widely thought that Rev. Earl Little, the father of Malcolm X, was murdered by these terrorists.

United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther led a drive against communists in the union and later fought the League Of Revolutionary Black Workers. That didn't prevent him from being nearly killed at his Detroit home in a 1948 assassination attempt. Local police and the FBI didn't want to find who did it.

In 1937, Reuther and other UAW organizers were viciously beaten by Henry Ford's private police outside the Rouge complex in Dearborn, Mich. No one was ever prosecuted for the assaults.

Ford used thousands of his cops to terrorize workers. Only the UAW's victory at Ford in 1941 stopped these goons from attacking employees.

We can't depend on the capitalist government to even count our votes. It's foolish to think the police will protect us from their fascist buddies, like the Wolverine Watchmen.

Greensboro, N.C., police and agents from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms allowed Klansmen and Nazis to murder five anti-racist protesters on Nov. 4, 1979. Four of the martyrs were members of the Communist Workers Party.

In the 1960s, the Deacons for Defense and Justice defended civil rights organizers against Klan violence. Today's people's movement needs to defend itself as well. [u]

100 years after his death, John Reed's example still shines

By Greg Butterfield

One hundred years ago, the communist journalist John Reed died in Moscow. (The date of his death is given variously between Oct. 17 and Oct. 20, 1920; the Russian comrades say Oct. 19, so I'll go with that.) He is one of a handful of U.S. revolutionaries interred in the Kremlin wall.

Amidst the devastation of the Russian Civil War, 1918 to 1920, Reed had contracted typhus on his return trip from the historic Congress of the Peoples of the East in Baku, Azerbaijan, where he gave a roaring speech warning the oppressed peoples of the world not to trust U.S. imperialism's honeyed words about "democ-

ocracy" — a warning that is still 100 percent relevant today.

Reed is best remembered as the author of "Ten Days That Shook the World," his on-the-scene account of the Great October Socialist Revolution, with an approving foreword by Lenin. This is still the best introduction to the events of the socialist revolution of 1917.

But Reed was much more than one book. He was a founder of the U.S. communist movement, coming over from the radical wing of the Socialist Party. He was an outstanding journalist of working-class struggles in the U.S. — see, for example, his account of the 1913 Paterson Silk Strike — and of the struggles of the

oppressed workers of the world, including his book "Insurgent Mexico" about the great Mexican Revolution.

"Ten Days" was the second piece of communist literature I ever read as a teenager, and Reed continues to be an inspiration for me after over 30 years as a revolutionary writer and journalist. Reed rejected the bogus ideology of "impartial journalism" taught by U.S. academics and media, which always winds up as a justification of the capitalist status quo. He knew that honest reporting and analysis goes hand-in-hand with a clear, open and unashamed working-class point of view.

Despite various biographical at-

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Trump pushes voter suppression: how should revolutionaries respond?

By Greg Butterfield

Oct. 13 — As people in Fairfax, Va., waited in line to cast their ballots on the second day of early voting, a squad of Trump supporters descended on the polling station, disrupting the process and intimidating voters and poll workers. In Southern California, the Republican Party placed unofficial dropoff boxes to capture mail-in ballots amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

The New York Police Department, which regularly brutalizes and murders Black and Brown people with impunity, brags how it will guard the polls while mobilizing all cops in the city to repress protests around the election. New York's police "union" has even endorsed Trump.

The governor of Texas restricted mail ballot dropoff to just one location for every county in that huge state. (A federal court later ruled against the measure, but the state immediately appealed. It's unclear how or if it will be rectified in time.) Florida imposed a poll tax to prevent voting by former prisoners. Elsewhere, Republican governors and state legislatures have taken measures to restrict and inhibit voting. As of this writing, some have been overruled by the courts, some have not.

The U.S. Supreme Court on Oct. 5 upheld a South Carolina measure that requires that mail-in ballots include a witness's signature. In 2013, the unelected, appointed-for-life Supreme Court gutted a key provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, opening the door for Southern states to reinstate such Jim Crow-style restrictions.

"The state of Alabama moved almost immediately to implement a voter identification bill that had been held up in the state legislature under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act," the Washington Post noted. "The state then closed more than two dozen driver's license offices, a principal place for obtaining a proper ID. The offices closed were disproportionately in areas with large



Protesters demanding justice for Breonna Taylor faced off with armed fascists at the Kentucky Derby, Sept. 5.

Black populations.

"Before 2006, no state required voters to produce identification. The first was enacted in Indiana and later upheld by the Supreme Court. Today, 36 states have voter ID laws, some more strict than others."

A concerted, well-organized and generously funded campaign is underway throughout the U.S. to suppress and invalidate the votes of the most oppressed members of the working class in the Nov. 3 elections — not only for the presidential contest, but also congressional, state and local races.

There is also the threat of violence by white supremacist movements like the Proud Boys and Oath Keepers. At an earlier time, these forces went under names like the Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch Society.

Danger of fascist violence

Racist voter suppression is a frequent and ever-growing feature of U.S. elections. But the level of coordination in 2020 is unprecedented and comes right from the top.

For months, President Donald Trump has denounced voting by mail and other measures to protect voters amidst the pandemic, going so far as to try to sabotage the ability of the Postal Service to deliver the mail.

Trump has repeatedly refused to say that he will accept the election results if they don't favor him.

During a nationally televised debate, he told the Proud Boys (and by extension all white supremacists) to "stand back and stand by."

Attorney General William Barr joined Trump, authorizing investigations of politically motivated fraud claims.

On Oct. 10, the Los Angeles Times published a report entitled, "What if armed far-right groups go to the polls? Some plan to." It states: "Experts are especially focused on dangers raised by armed right-wing factions and self-styled militias with national networks who may intimidate voters, particularly immigrants and people of color.

"The Oath Keepers claim thousands of members, including some who served in the military and law enforcement. Some have signed up as poll watchers, while others plan to monitor the election armed and 'undercover,' drawing their weapons if needed, said founder Stewart Rhodes, a former Army paratrooper and Yale Law School graduate."

The danger of far-right sabotage and violence targeting people of color is especially high in so-called swing states, where the decisive Electoral College votes are up for grabs between Trump and Democratic challenger Joe Biden: Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Wisconsin.

And there are other states where violent, racist gangs have clashed with Black Lives Matter protesters, and where the elections could be another flashpoint — including Colorado, Kentucky, Missouri, Oregon and Texas, among others.

According to the L.A. Times: "Black Lives Matter protesters in swing states also plan to go to the polls to protect voters from being intimidated by right-wing groups: 'This could be the biggest voter turnout in history, a lot of them people of color,' said KeJuan Goldsmith, 19, a Black activist college student who led a protest against police brutality in Green Bay, Wis., on Saturday. 'If we need to be there for them to be protected, so they can cast their vote without fear, that's what we have to do.'"

Defend democratic rights of the people

How should revolutionaries respond to threats of right-wing violence and state-sponsored intimidation before and on Election Day? We should defend the rights of the oppressed and workers at the polls

wherever and however we can.

Many progressive and even liberal groups have made plans to counteract voter suppression, including court challenges. The Coalition of Labor Union Women and other AFL-CIO affiliates urged union members to sign up

as poll workers. Others are organizing community escorts for voters, as reproductive rights activists have long done to overcome the intimidation tactics of anti-women "right to life" groups. These are all worthy efforts.

But what happens if armed, violent movements like the Oath Keepers and Proud Boys descend on polling stations? The police and other agencies of the capitalist state can't be relied upon to protect oppressed voters and poll workers. On the contrary, cops often treat these fascists as their unofficial deputies and even goad them on to violence.

The Democrats won't call on the masses to fight to defend their rights. That was made crystal clear, yet again, with the Republican rush to confirm Trump nominee Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court before Election Day.

Although it may cost them the White House, Democratic leaders haven't called on the masses to resist the imposition of this far-right ideologue. They are more afraid of the people and the potential for their struggle to outgrow the limits of capitalism than they are of the devastation that four more years of Trump could wreak.

That's why revolutionaries can't stand aside on Election Day. Communists, revolutionary socialists and anti-fascists must be prepared to challenge the right-wing goons and defend the right to vote at polling places where necessary — just as we would protest and defend the community during any fascist manifestation.

Our goal is not to give credibility to Biden or other capitalist politicians who helped pave the way for Trump and the far right. They offer no solutions to the white supremacist danger or the broader crisis of capitalism.

Rather, we must show our class that we will defend their hard-won democratic rights, especially those of the most oppressed, against the class enemies who would terrorize them into submission, while continuing to explain why a mass movement politically independent of the capitalist parties is needed to win real social change.

The voting rights of Black and Brown people, now under threat, were won in the streets, not the voting booth. What better way for revolutionaries to make their case than to show our willingness to defend the rights of the people? 🗳️



John Reed

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tempts to tame his image for the anti-communist purposes of U.S. intellectuals (such as the film "Reds"), John Reed was a communist revolutionary to the bone — an independent thinker who was not afraid to challenge the class enemy or his own comrades when he believed they were

mistaken, who made mistakes of his own (such as his initial position, shared by many socialists, in support of the Entente in World War I) but corrected them, and who understood the importance of standing on the right side of the class barricades.

One hundred years later, John Reed's revolutionary example still shines. 🗳️

Kumeyaay warriors march to Tecate border crossing on Indigenous Peoples Day

By Zola Fish

On Indigenous Peoples Day, Oct. 12, a hundred warriors mostly from the Kumeyaay Nation marched to the Tecate border crossing in the San Diego–Tijuana metropolitan region. They were led by Bird Singers and carried signs saying “Make America Native Again” and “F*ck Columbus” and chanting “Land back now!”

On the Baja side of the border, there were also another hundred Kumeyaay singing bird songs. We could hear each other, but we could not see each other due to the border entrance structure and the wall. Not very many people in San Diego realize that there are Kumeyaay villages in Baja, Mexico. They have an extremely hard time getting visas and permits to visit their family here in San Diego County. So, very literally, “We didn’t cross the border, the border crossed us.”

Stan Rodriguez, a tribal leader from the Santa Ysabel Kumeyaay, said on Oct. 12, “They’re trying to keep us away from our own family, our own friends. Our own relatives. These walls are put up, but they do not work. It’s a waste of time, waste of money.”

Brooke Baines, an organizer with the group SHIELD and a Manzanita Kumeyaay said, “On Indigenous Peoples Day, it’s important to raise awareness of the people who were here before borders. The Kumeyaay people and the Native people of this land in general, we go unnoticed a lot.” She added, “Especially on the other side of the border, they go unnoticed a lot.”

We then marched to the California Border Patrol station where we were met by armed California Border Patrol/Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents who were in full gear and militarized. We chanted at them for a while. The goal was to let CBP/ICE know that there are Kumeyaay on both sides of the border and once again another perfect example of how CBP/ICE enjoys separating families.

Trump, in his proclamation, called



PHOTOS: NICOLE ANTONACCI

with our culture, including sacred things, but most important, in 1495 he captured 1,500 Arawak men, women and children and sailed back with them in the holds of the ships to be sold as slaves.

The pope, believing he was in charge of the world, “gave”

Spain the Americas. Pope Alexander VI issued a May 4, 1493, papal bull granting official ownership of the New World to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. In his order he wrote;

“We of our own motion, and not at your solicitation, do give, concede, and assign forever to you and your successors, all the islands, and main lands, discovered; and which may hereafter, be discovered, towards the west and south; whether they be situated towards India, or towards any other part whatsoever, and give you absolute power in them.”

The pope’s declaration ultimately had dire consequences for Native inhabitants of the Americas. Beginning in 1514, Spanish conquerors adopted

“the Requirement,” an ultimatum in which the Indigenous peoples were forced to accept “the Church as the Ruler and Superior of the whole world” or face persecution. If Native peoples did not immediately comply, the Requirement warned them:

“We shall take you and your wives and your children, and shall make slaves of them, and as such shall sell and dispose of them as their Highnesses may command; and we shall take away your goods, and shall do all the harm and damage that we can.”

It goes without saying that the Requirement was read to the Indigenous peoples without translation, or in some cases even from ships before crew members had landed to kill Natives and take slaves.

So the struggle continues at the border and to put characters like Columbus and Father Junípero Serra into their proper place in history. They were no heroes! We charge them with genocide!

Zola Fish is a member of the Choctaw Nation.

us radical and extremist because we don’t and won’t celebrate Columbus Day. There is nothing radical or extreme about telling the historical truth about a man who never set foot on U.S. soil and is responsible for genocide and the enslavement of Native Peoples, which includes forced Christianity and rape.

Columbus was a slaver of Natives. He was a founding father of the American slave trade. When Columbus returned home to Spain, not Italy, the king and queen gave Columbus 17 ships to take back to the Americas to fill with “riches.” Columbus’ men went from island to island capturing Natives, stealing gold, silver and turquoise. They filled the 17 ships

Indigenous Peoples Day demonstration at Malcolm X Park in Washington

By Lev Koufax

On Oct. 17, a coalition of Indigenous peoples and their allies held an Indigenous Peoples Day demonstration at Malcolm X Park in Washington, D.C.

The host organizations and activists included Chief Billy Tyac of the Piscataway Indian Nation and Tyac Territory, the American Indian Movement (Mid-Atlantic Region), the American Indian Support Project, the National Council of Arab Americans, the Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Region, the All-African People’s Revolutionary Party and Pan African Roots.

Approximately a hundred people attended the celebration, which included a series of cultural performances and speeches. The program opened with Chief Billy Tyac of the Piscataway Indian Nation. Chief Tyac discussed the fact that all land in the United States and Canada is, in fact, land stolen from Indigenous people. Further, the chief denounced the myth that “Columbus discovered America.” This was a position emphasized throughout the day.

Columbus is often touted as an important and positive figure in American history. One of the core missions of Indigenous Peoples Day is to shed light on the truth about Columbus: he was a violent geno-

cidal colonizer. Multiple speakers discussed the atrocities perpetrated by Columbus and his crew. These speakers called for the end of “Columbus Day” as a holiday and the removal of all statues honoring him.

Another core issue at the celebration was the importance of recognizing the current crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women. A panel of three Native women at the celebration discussed their personal experiences with the epidemic of violence towards Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people.

Toward the end of the program, Peoples Power Assembly activist Andre Powell read a solidarity statement. Powell denounced the

past and present state violence Indigenous peoples have faced in the United States and Canada. In both countries, Indigenous peoples have protested against proposed pipelines that would go through sacred land. In both countries, the government responded with violence and terror.

The message of the day was clear: all working class and oppressed people must stand with the Indigenous struggles across the globe. The Indigenous community will not rest in their struggle to regain their stolen ancestral lands and preserve their way of life. Solidarity with Indigenous peoples! Reparations for Native peoples now! 📌

China commits to international solidarity in vaccines

By Scott Scheffer

On Oct. 9, China announced that it has joined about 160 other countries in a pact to ensure that COVID-19 vaccines and treatments will be distributed equitably around the world. The aim of the agreement is to provide two billion doses of vaccine to vulnerable populations and health care workers, especially in poor countries.

The U.S. is among the few countries that have rejected taking part. The richest country in the world has snubbed the idea of joining forces with other countries to help stop a deadly virus from ravaging poor populations throughout the world. This right-wing orientation of the Trump administration is a byproduct of the capitalist system itself; essentially anything that weakens other countries helps to make the world more exploitable for profit. It was exposed in March when the Trump administration tried to secure the rights to vaccinations in development in Germany for the use of the U.S. only, forcing the German government to outspend U.S. offers to German companies.

STAT news described this competition in a Sept. 8 article: “The United States has ignited a vaccine nationalism wildfire, which is reaching conflagration status. Wealthy governments have locked down more than 4 billion doses of vaccines so

far, with the United States topping the list with commitments for 800 million initial doses and options on another 1.6 billion doses; new bilateral purchase agreements are announced almost daily.”

China vaccine available in Asia, Africa, Latin America

In total contrast, China’s joining the international agreement is only one part of their commitment to extend solidarity through COVID-19 vaccinations. Speaking to the World Health Assembly in May, President Xi Jinping said that vaccines should be for “global public good.” Since then, Xi and Premier Li Keqiang have pledged repeatedly to make Chinese vaccines available to the Philippines, Cambodia, Burma, Thailand, Vietnam and Laos as well as Latin American and African countries. China is also currently in talks with the World Health Organization (WHO) for vaccines to be approved for emergency use authorizations. Obtaining that approval would cut red tape for member states’ use of the vaccines.

When the early cases of COVID-19 were discovered in Wuhan in late December 2019, China launched a “People’s War” against the virus that was nothing short of astonishing. The Chinese people, the People’s Liberation Army and many thousands of medical workers, scientists and volunteers succeeded in limiting

the number of deaths to less than 5,000 people. At this point, some individual states in the U.S. have surpassed the number of fatalities in all of China — most recently that happened in the state of Michigan as a new surge of the disease spread through the Midwest.

U.S. deaths 40 times that of China

The total number of deaths in the U.S., with 1/25th of the world population, is more than forty times that of China, where 1/5th of humanity lives.

Tens of thousands of people are participating in Phase 3 trials of China’s vaccine candidates outside of China, and through emergency use authorizations in both the United Arab Emirates and in Bahrain, doses of the vaccine have been supplied to various categories of workers who are at high risk because of the nature of their jobs. In China itself, members of the People’s Liberation Army and workers who travel frequently have also been vaccinated. In all cases, those who have been vaccinated are being closely monitored, like the monitoring regimen of the Phase 3 trial itself. So far, there are no major setbacks and no side effects, and in mid-September, Guizhen Wu, an official with China’s Center for Disease Control and Prevention, said that a vaccine could be ready for general distribution in November.

Given China’s astounding success



COVID-19 vaccine developed by China National Pharmaceutical Group.

and given the very advanced state of development and trials of vaccines there, China’s firm commitment to international solidarity in the form of vaccinations is a significant step forward in the global fight against the coronavirus. In recent decades, China’s scientific community has emerged as one of the most developed in the world in many fields, including advanced medicine. Chinese scientists have experience with vaccines from previous viral outbreaks and that has positioned them to be in the forefront of efforts at developing vaccines and treatments. Of the dozen vaccines that are currently in Phase 3 trials, four were developed in China.

But the foundation of China’s leading role in the fight against this pandemic is not just the medical or scientific experience that they have amassed. Socialized planning set the stage for those to occur. The orientation of the Chinese Communist Party toward humanity and solidarity, combined with socialized planning, are the hope of humanity in the fight against COVID-19. [📌](#)

Protests in Indonesia fight to stop further exploitation of workers

By Bayani

In the second week of October, the Indonesian Parliament approved the Job Creation Law. This law amended 79 previous laws and is nominally intended to help President Joko Widodo’s efforts to attract more foreign investment into Indonesia. The law is clearly intended to pave the way for foreign corporations and monopolies to open operations in Indonesia at the cost of the Indonesian workers. It increases limits on overtime, cuts severance pay amounts and removes key worker protections like mandatory paid leave for childbirth.

Led by the Confederation of Indonesian Workers Unions, workers, students and what the bourgeois media are claiming are “conservative Muslims” in the thousands have taken to the streets of not only the capital city Jakarta, but also in over 35 districts and cities total.

ABC News quoted Shobri Lubis, a protest organizer, from a speech he gave to a large crowd: “It’s undeniable that the Job Creation Law is more intended for foreign economic domination in Indonesia and not to side with local workers.” One of the chants at the protest was “We stand with workers!”



Workers in Tangerang, Indonesia.

The International League of People’s Struggle Indonesia released a statement analyzing the situation. In part, it reads: “Taking advantages from the people’s fear to COVID-19, ‘self-isolation’ in homes, hoping that they will not face a significant resistance, President Jokowi discusses the Jobs Creation Law, which explicitly deprives basic economic rights such as wages, elimination of the compensation of employment termination (layoffs), shortening time to obtain permits for imperi-

alists and their accomplice[s] to do business in Indonesia, accelerating land grabbing in the name of infrastructure development and development projects, and facilitating the free acceptance of foreign workers to work in Indonesia.”

Further, ILPS Indonesia released five demands:

- Stop all forms of violence, intimidation, arrest and criminalization of the people. Free all the arrested people unconditionally!

in large plantations of timber, oil palm, rubber, sugar and other export commodities belonging to the imperialists and the big landlords at the national level!

- Implement a genuine land reform and build an independent national industry as an economic solution for the Indonesian people!

Despite the Indonesian government’s pretend concern that the protests will spread COVID-19, the Indonesian police have brutally repressed the protests with tear gas. [📌](#)

- Provide compensation and guarantee the safety of the people due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with free and quality health and education services and access!
- Abolish rural usury! Fix commodity prices and the living necessities of the Indonesian peasants and people!
- Fair profit sharing for tenant farmers and better wages for agricultural workers

Bolivia votes for socialism

Bolivia's Movement Toward Socialism (MAS) victory in the Oct. 18 election overturned a U.S.-backed coup. Eleven months ago, false charges of electoral irregularities and subsequent death threats drove MAS leader and Indigenous Bolivian President Evo Morales into exile. In his place, Jeanine Áñez Chávez unleashed violent repression against the Indigenous people protesting the takeover of their country by the international extractivism imperialists. The Organization of American States — with the U.S. and its junior imperialist partner, Canada — spearheaded the political attack on Bolivia, unleashing right-wing street attacks. A religious fundamentalist Christian, Áñez raised again the historical specter of Spanish conquistadors with a bible in one hand and terror in the other.

The Iranian news agency Fars asked Cheryl LaBash, a writer for Struggle-La Lucha, for her reaction to the MAS victory. Below are her brief answers to their questions.

Fars: People could choose a U.S.-backed ruler in the recent election. Critics argue that with U.S. support, they could expect more prosperity. What made Bolivians elect socialists back to power?

Cheryl LaBash: Capitalism cannot deliver prosperity to the majority of the people of Bolivia, only for a few working to enrich global corporate and financial interests, particularly mineral extraction. The Bolivian people rejected the U.S.-backed coup in the streets under heavy repression and now once again at the ballot box.

Indigenous leader Evo Morales led a fundamental transformation in the lives of poor workers and subsistence farmers. Not insignificantly, UNESCO declared Bolivia free of illiteracy in 2008, including in the many Indigenous languages, using the Yo Sí Puedo [Yes I Can] method

developed by Cuba.

Bolivia joined Cuba, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Ecuador and others in the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America—Peoples Trade Treaty. This formation, known as ALBA-TCP, and PetroCaribe demonstrated that cooperative, respectful and fair international trade could uplift the social, political and economic lives of the people who suffered from imperialist neoliberal schemes forced on them. The racist anti-Indigenous coup leader Áñez is an echo of the right-wing movement in the U.S. that uses religion, racism and xenophobia to insure that the imperialists prosper at the expense of the masses of people.

Fars: What do we learn about the conflicting interests of the U.S. and people in the Latin American countries from the recent election?

CL: Like the oil-rich countries of West Asia, the people of Latin America and the Caribbean have suffered greatly from the impact of imperialism, headed by the U.S., coveting the natural resources that can be transformed into wealth for a few. It has meant coups, military dictatorships, repression and poverty when imperialism succeeded, and economic warfare and sanctions for countries that insist on independence and sovereignty. It is the U.S. rulers that declared in the Monroe Doctrine of 1823 that Latin America was its “backyard.” Bolivia once again joins Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua in this vote for independence and sovereignty. Working people of the United States do not benefit from U.S. military and economic world domination but are also exploited and repressed.

Fars: The Organization of American States was the only entity which declared election fraud against Morales last year. How do you see the hand of the U.S. behind the international organizations (like OAS) to interfere in the domestic affairs of Latin America?

CL: In 1890, the first International Conference of American States concluded in Washington, D.C. The OAS headquarters is still in Washington, D.C., just blocks from the



White House, and receives most of its funding from the U.S. After Cuba gained its sovereignty in the 1959 Revolution, the U.S. pushed the OAS to exclude Cuba in 1962 and then required member states to break relations. Only Mexico resisted this isolation order. The OAS is a regional tool to impose U.S. foreign policy expressed in the Monroe Doctrine.

In the Bolivian election in 2019, the OAS issued statements and reports questioning the election, legitimizing the right-wing campaign against then-President Evo Morales. In 2010, 33 countries, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), formed an intergovernmental region bloc independent of the U.S. and Canada, which are not included. In Bolivia and Venezuela, the OAS continues to promote the U.S. agenda to overthrow progressive, people-oriented governments.

With the U.S. election less than a week away and with much effort at voter suppression evident and the possibility of a stolen election like the one in 2000, there are no OAS election observers in the U.S. The U.S. is a member state. Why is the OAS not questioning this presidential election? 📧

Workers' Party of Korea celebrates 75 years of struggle

By Greg Butterfield

People in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea celebrated the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea on Oct. 10, 1945. The WPK is the communist party that leads the building of socialism in the northern part of Korea.

Parades, dances, rallies and art shows were held in cities and towns throughout the north, as well as in factories, on collective farms, in hospitals and schools, and among soldiers of the Korean People's Army.

There were also fireworks displays, banquets, presentations of flowers at monuments to past WPK leaders and a torchlight parade of socialist youth.

In Pyongyang, the capital city, a mighty military parade was held to show the Trumps of the world that the DPRK is always prepared to defend its people and their socialist system from the aggression of capitalist powers.

Kim Jong Un, chairperson of the Workers' Party, expressed his gratitude to the people for their perseverance. “The secret of how our Party, which has followed the revolutionary road, most arduous and beset with trials, has adorned this bloody road with victory and glory is that our people have sincerely trusted and supported it and defended its cause.”

After the anniversary celebration, rallies continued around the country to begin organizing for the up-

coming Eighth Congress of the WPK, planned for January 2021.

The celebrations are especially significant because the DPRK has successfully kept the COVID-19 pandemic at bay through quick preventive action and the strength of its socialist health care system.

And in August, monsoons driven by climate change caused terrible flooding that killed more than 20 people, destroyed 16,680 homes and 630 public buildings.

In his anniversary speech, Kim Jong Un explained, “On this planet at present, our country is faced with huge challenges and difficulties, like dealing with the anti-epidemic emergency and recovering from the catastrophic natural disasters, when everything is in short supply owing to the harsh and prolonged sanctions.”

The Korean People's Army has played an especially important role in supporting urgent health measures and rebuilding from the flood damage, all while continuing to protect the country's sovereignty and independence from U.S. imperialism.

“At this very moment, many of our service personnel are courageously striving on the anti-epidemic front and at the rehabilitation project sites far away from this glorious Kim Il Sung Square, in defense of the security of the state and safety of the people,” Kim Jong Un said. “I feel pain in my heart as they are not all here at this glorious night with us.”

U.S. war and sanctions

The U.S. military continues to occupy South Korea, as it has done since 1945, and its “pivot to Asia” threatens the DPRK as well as China. Washington has imposed deadly sanctions in retaliation for the DPRK's determined self-defense. The U.S. dominates South Korea's capitalist economy and repressive political system, and uses the south as a base for all kinds of subversion.

In fact, Washington's failed, bloody war to destroy Korean socialism, from 1950 to 1953 — known as the Korean War here, or the Fatherland Liberation War in the DPRK — never really ended. Every U.S. president from Democrat Harry Truman, who launched the war, to Republican Donald Trump has refused to sign a peace treaty with the north.

In the aftermath of the U.S. bombing, not a single building over one story was left standing in the north. Thousands of civilians were massacred by the U.S. and its allies in both the north and south in unspeakable war crimes. But motivated by the desire for independence and to build a socialist world, the people of north Korea together with volunteers from China were able to beat back the U.S. military behemoth to the 38th parallel.



PHOTO: URIMINZOKKIRI

Workers rally to mark the 75th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea in the city of Nampo, DPRK.

Under the leadership of the Workers' Party, including DPRK founder Kim Il Sung and his successor Kim Jong Il, the north was able to rebuild and become a strong socialist country. Korean people in the north openly advocate and organize for the peaceful, independent reunification of the country. In the capitalist south, many do the same, but at great danger because of repressive anti-communist laws.

The DPRK was able to withstand the counterrevolutionary setbacks to socialism in the USSR and Eastern Europe in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Like revolutionary Cuba, socialist Korea has survived by mobilizing the masses and ensuring their involvement in every step of the process of socialist construction.

“All of these hardships are undoubtedly a heavy burden and pain for

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Trump admits extrajudicial killing on U.S. soil — and the silence is deafening

By John Parker

It's a slope that increases without notice. Former President George W. Bush started a secret assassination by drone program, run by the CIA. These were overseas, extrajudicial murders of people of color who were never put on trial, who were in targeted countries, including the poorest countries in Africa. The program was majorly expanded by former President Barack Obama, turning the CIA into a semi-military unit of killers, furthering international terror.

The Obama administration also used drones to kill U.S. citizens abroad without trial, while also grabbing militants off of the streets of foreign cities and imprisoning them indefinitely. These are all practices that Obama passed on to his successor.

The expansion of killing by drone is the legacy of the two previous presidents, but it has grown greater under the Donald Trump administration.

In the first two years of the Obama administration there were 186 drone strikes in Yemen, Somalia and Pakistan.

In the first two years of Trump there were 238 drone strikes in Yemen, Somalia and Pakistan.

The corporate media long ago stopped reporting on the deadly drone terror. So when an extrajudicial killing occurs in their front yard, there's been hardly a word about it, especially as it was against an activist in the movement against racist police murders, not even when the extrajudicial killing is openly admitted to by President Trump.

"We sent in the U.S. Marshals," Trump said on Oct. 15 about the paramilitary unit that assassinated anti-racist activist Michael Reinoehl in the Portland, Ore., area. "Took 15 minutes, it was over," he added. "We got him."

Extrajudicial killings are illegal by international law, but their occurrence is frequent by the U.S. "special forces" assassination squads, killer drones and, in this instance, secret paramilitary units that appear to be run out of the White House. It makes Martin Luther King's eye-opening

statement about the U.S. being the greatest purveyor of violence abroad even more relevant today regarding domestic targets of its own residents.

As an attempt to refresh our collective knowledge and indignation about these killings, here's an excerpt from the Columbia Human Rights Law Review titled "When Death Becomes Murder: A Primer on Extrajudicial Killing":

"International law prohibits the arbitrary deprivation of life, which includes extrajudicial killing. This norm is codified in every major human rights treaty and has attained jus cogens status as a non-derogable norm in international law. In the United States ... the definition of extrajudicial killing is based on international law ... these deaths are not lawful. They are inhumane, unnecessary, and illegitimate. They fail to comply with the most basic principles of humanity and offer no due process to victims — no opportunity to defend themselves through the rule of law. Because of this, extrajudicial killings represent an arbitrary deprivation of life. ... Few norms have generated greater consensus."

On Sept. 3, a secret U.S. Marshals unit in unmarked SUV's approached Michael Reinoehl while he was in his car. They got out of their SUVs and began shooting and killed him — no trial, no jury. The assassins claimed self-defense, but that was refuted by over two dozen witnesses and now made even more unbelievable by an admittance of Trump that they were told to kill him in cold blood.

What was Reinoehl's crime? He defended people of color whose lives were in immediate danger from a white supremacist Trump supporter at a protest for Black lives. On Aug. 29, a march against police murder in the city of Portland, Ore., was terrorized by hundreds of white supremacists, who undoubtedly felt justified in their actions by Trump's encouragement of violent racists. The shooting in Wisconsin of three protesters by a white supremacist caught on tape collaborating with local police had just occurred and so,



Michael Reinoehl at a protest in Portland, Ore., August 28, 2020.

some anti-racist protesters began carrying legally registered weapons to defend themselves and other protesters. The white supremacists in Oregon were armed with knives and guns, and one felt bold enough to threaten the life of a person of color, but didn't get the chance to finish — because Reinoehl shot and killed Aaron Danielson, a member of a far-right group called the Patriot Prayer, according to CNN, before he could.

After this, Reinoehl consulted lawyers and was preparing to clear himself legally, claiming self-defense. In fact, on the day of his fatal shooting, Vice News showed an interview he'd just given where he stated: "You know, lots of lawyers suggest that I shouldn't even be saying anything, but I feel it's important that the world at least gets a little bit of what's really going on," Reinoehl said. "I had no choice. I mean, I had a choice. I could have sat there and watched them kill a friend of mine of color. But I wasn't going to do that."

After the murder of Reinoehl, Attorney General William Barr triumphantly announced on Sept. 4: "Agitator removed." President Trump now boasts about the killing in interviews on Fox News and during a recent campaign speech in North Carolina, where he stated: "We sent in the U.S. Marshals. It took 15 minutes [and] it was over. They knew who he was. They didn't want to arrest him, and in 15 minutes that ended."

In Trump's interview with Fox, he stated: "This guy was a violent

criminal, and the U.S. Marshals killed him. And I'll tell you something: That's the way it has to be. There has to be retribution."

Local law enforcement involved in the incident in Portland had been deputized as U.S. Marshals and made part of a task force with other federal agents by the U.S. government under an administration that has called for more state violence against protesters defending Black lives.

No such task force had been organized to find those armed white supremacists who terrorize and kill people protesting against racist police killings.

You may be asking, where is the outrage from those politicians and corporate media who tell us every day that this country is the freest in the world, the greatest democracy? Where are the calls for impeachment, the legal proceedings, the arrests for an official extrajudicial killing boasted about on U.S. soil? Clearly this is great ammunition for Biden and his supporters — why wouldn't they use it to expose the danger of a president who promotes greater state repression and the ideas of racism and fascism?

Yet, the silence of the Democratic Party, even those on Biden's campaign trail — including Kamala Harris, Barack Obama, Bernie Sanders and, of course, candidate Biden himself — is deafening.

This is the silence of the agents of a ruling class that has no objection to Trump's increase in state terror and increased repression even if the ruling class is wary of Trump's unstable response to the unstable economy. That is why the political careers of the politicians in the Democratic and Republican parties have one essential task: make the shocking, the unacceptable, more palatable no matter how evil.

This is why we must continue to mobilize in defense of our lives, no matter who gets in office. [L]

Continued from page 6

every family and every citizen in our country," said Kim Jong Un. "However, our people are grateful patriots who place national affairs before their family ones, share every difficulty experienced by the state with it, and firmly support their country with their sincere sweat and efforts.

"That is why our Party braves all sorts of national hardships by believing in and relying on the people, who always turn out as one if it unburdens the difficulties of the country.

"Our people have always been grateful to our Party, but it is none other than the people themselves who surely deserve a bow of gratitude."

The Socialist Unity Party and Struggle-La Lucha newspaper join with workers and oppressed peoples around the world in expressing our congratulations to the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people on this historic occasion. Korea is one! [L]



Maher al-Akhras
New York protest at Israeli Mission on Oct. 23.

SLL photo: Stephen Millies



Free Maher al-Akhras!

By Stephen Millies

Oct. 23 — Close to a hundred people protested outside the apartheid Israeli Mission to the United Nations this afternoon demanding freedom for Palestinian hunger striker Maher al-Akhras. The father of six children may soon die from organ failure.

For 90 days, al-Akhras has refused to eat to protest his incarceration under the Zionist state's administrative detention laws. These laws, inherited from British colo-

nialism, can keep people in jail for years without coming to trial.

Demonstrators appealed to people on Manhattan's Second Avenue. Some drivers honked their horns in support. Across the street were a handful of fascists waving Trump flags who were protected by police.

Maher al-Akhras is one of thousands of Palestinian freedom fighters who the Zionist authorities have jailed. They could not do so without the \$4 billion "Israel" gets every year from the U.S. treasury.

Palestine will be free! [L]

El Consejo de la Ciudad de Oakland-California aprueba Resolución sobre la Colaboración Médica entre Cuba y los Estados Unidos

Por Bill Hackwell

21 de Octubre, 2020

Este 20 de octubre, se aprobó por unanimidad una Resolución que apoya la colaboración médica y científica entre la ciudad de Oakland-California y Cuba, para enfrentar la crisis de salud ocasionada por la COVID-19.

La Resolución insta al Congreso de los EE.UU. a eliminar las restricciones para hacer posible la colaboración médica, mediante la suspensión de las sanciones económicas y los viajes a Cuba.

El miembro del consejo municipal Dan Kalb del Distrito 1, quien presentó la Resolución, reconoció durante la reunión del consejo que la ciudad enfrenta cuestiones urgentes e importantes en las cuales enfocarse como la falta de viviendas, pero que la Resolución presentada abre la posibilidad de una colaboración mutuamente beneficiosa e importante con Cuba, teniendo en cuenta la labor que la nación insular ha estado realizando en pro de la salud mundial.

Alicia Jrapko, residente de Oakland, copresidenta de la Red Nacional de Solidaridad con Cuba y actualmente forma parte de la Campaña "Salvar Vidas", dijo: "Podríamos aprender mucho de los logros de Cuba sobre la Covid-19 tanto en ese país como en el mundo. Cuba tiene la tasa de infección más baja que la mayoría de los países del hemisferio norte y los cubanos son 42 veces menos propensos a contraer el virus que la gente de los EE.UU. Al colaborar con Cuba mostraremos a la gente de este país el enfoque humanístico que tiene Cuba para luchar contra la pandemia".



FOTO: ARIEL CECILIO LEMUS

Helene Maxwell, otra residente de Oakland comentó a favor de la Resolución, se refirió a la importancia de la misma, "Especialmente en esta época de la pandemia de Covid-19, es desmesurado que debido al bloqueo de los Estados Unidos a Cuba, a los pacientes en los Estados Unidos se les niegue el acceso a las medicinas que están disponibles en todos los demás países. La aprobación de esta Resolución por parte de Oakland para la colaboración médica y científica entre la ciudad de Oakland

y Cuba es un primer paso para poner fin a esta locura"

Oakland se une ahora a un creciente número de ciudades y organizaciones de todo el país, incluyendo el área de la bahía de San Francisco, donde las ciudades de Richmond, Berkeley, San Francisco y el Consejo Central Laboral de Sacramento AFL-CIO, abogan por la amistad y solidaridad con la isla. Ciudades en las que se han aprobado Resoluciones similares.

Más de 2 millones de habitantes

de estas ciudades se verían beneficiados con la colaboración médica y científica con Cuba. (*)

La posibilidad de mejorar la salud de los estadounidenses y salvar vidas, en medio de la pandemia del SARS-CoV-2 no puede ser bloqueada.

Nota: () Habitantes de las ciudades mencionadas de acuerdo al censo del 2018: Oakland 429.082, Richmond 227.032, Berkeley 121.643, San Francisco 883.305, Sacramento 508.529, las que suman 2.169.581 habitantes.*

Fuente: Resumen

Oakland, Calif., City Council passes resolution regarding Cuba and the U.S.

By Bill Hackwell

October 21, 2020

Yesterday a resolution supporting medical and scientific collaboration between the City of Oakland Calif., and the Country of Cuba to address the COVID-19 health crisis was passed unanimously. The resolution also urged the U.S. Congress to remove restrictions on collaboration by suspending economic and travel sanctions against Cuba.

City council member Dan Kalb from District 1, who introduced the

resolution, acknowledged during the council meeting that the city had pressing and important issues like homelessness to be focusing on, but that the resolution opening up the possibility of mutually beneficial collaboration with Cuba was important considering the work that the island nation has been doing towards world health.

Oakland resident Alicia Jrapko, who is a co-chair of the National Network on Cuba and currently part of the Saving Lives Campaign, said, "We could learn a lot from the ac-

complishments of Cuba's approach to the COVID-19 virus both in their country and around the world. Cuba has a lower infection rate than most countries in the northern hemisphere and Cubans are 42 times less likely to contract the virus than people in the U.S. In collaborating with Cuba we will show people in this country the humanistic approach Cuba has to fight the pandemic."

Helene Maxwell, another Oakland resident who commented in favor of the resolution, referred to the importance of the resolution: "Especially in this time of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is unconscionable, that because of the U.S. blockade of Cuba,

patients in the U.S. are denied access to medicines that are available in every other country. Oakland's approval of this resolution for medical and scientific collaboration between the City of Oakland and Cuba is a first step in ending this madness."

Oakland now joins a growing number of cities and organizations around the country, including in the San Francisco Bay Area, where the cities of Richmond, Berkeley, San Francisco, and the Sacramento Central Labor Council AFL-CIO, who advocate for the concept of friendship and solidarity with the island, have passed similar resolutions.

Source: Resumen

JOIN US! SUPPORT US!

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