Sham trucker convos

The white supremacist organizers who promoted the “Freedom Convoy” to Ottawa, Canada’s national cap-
tical, beginning in January, called it a movement of the natural truck drivers. They projected that as many as 50,000 truckers, nearly one-third of the drivers licensed for U.S.-Canada transport, would be there. Yet the occupation itself undercut every element of their central message: that they were Canadian, that they were truckers, that they were there to end COVID mandates. Confeder-
ate and Nazi flags and TRUMP 2024 banners, together with exposure by hackers of how much of the donations through GiveSendGo came from U.S. addresses, gave the lie to how authentically Canadian the blockade was.

TRUCK DRIVERS’ DEMANDS

The more the big rigs blocked Ottawa streets and jet-truck showed up outside the Ambassodor Bridge between Detroit and Windsor, outnumbered by the RVs and pickups of right-wing activists, made clear it wasn’t about truckers.

Organizers’ demands that Parliament end all restrictions would affect truck drivers al-
most not at all, because 90% of Canadian truckers have already been vaccinated, and U.S. regulations would still block unvaccinated Canadian drivers on the border.

A movement led by truckers, instead of one disowned by union Teamsters and independent drivers, would like-
ly have focused on diesel fuel prices that are twice those in the U.S., on the imminent threat of self-driving trucks, and on the inhumane schedules that freight deliveries im-
pose that are contrary to human health. But this wasn’t a movement of truckers itself, but one disowned by union activ-
ists—it was a fascist movement, with a few truckers out

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THOUGHTS FROM THE OUTSIDE

The idea of freedom

by Farah

Martin Luther King Jr.’s speech in his sermon of April 3, 1968, on the eve of his assassination, “I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.”

FREEDOM, THE IRRESPRESSIBLE IDEA

King’s reference to the Promised Land was his way of talking about the idea of freedom. That idea reaches beyond any one individual’s life, and also beyond any of its particular manifestations, such as the Civil Rights Movement. He was going beyond the scope of the movement to confront the inhumanity of the economy as sanitation workers in Memphis were demanding hu-
man dignity: a living wage and better working conditions.

Black history and the idea of freedom are in-
separable. We have to teach that Black history is the history of humanity becoming free.

King was reaching for the world to recognize everyone’s humanity. His assassination highlighted the pre-
phetic nature of that last speech. Assassinations are the=pos that are contrary to human health. But this wasn’t a
movement of truckers itself, but one disowned by union ac-

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bus drivers, 3,400 architects and engineers, 1,050 teachers, 1,500 elite graduates of the Moscow State Institute of Interna-
tional Relations. A Russian feminism continues to grow that March 9, International Women’s Day, would be a day of protest against militarism and Putin’s war crimes in Ukraine, recruiting that day’s official celebration of the sort of patriarchal mother’s day it had become.

SYRIA PAYING A LESSER PRICE

What is clear through the fog of war so far is the in-
mect of a very bloody and costly conflict, especially for Ukrainians but also for Russians, who have thousands of casualties and whose economy is experiencing a precipitous downturn due to unprecedented sanctions im-
posed through institutions of international finance that are controlled by the U.S. and Russia.

From the start Putin crowed about his advanced nuclear weapons—presumably his “dooms-
day” hypersonic missile—and promised to “crush” any direct aggressor. Then he put his nuclear forces on alert and the Kremlin threatened that “not a European city would survive” an attack by Putin’s forces.

Normally non-political public figures like singers and athletes creatively proclaimed their opposition to the war. Disgust with Putin explor-
ed on the internet. In Moscow, where demonstra-
tors marched under the banner “Ukraine-Peace, Russia-Doom,” thousands of anti-

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UNIONS BUSTERS TRY TO HOLD BACK THE WAVE

“$20 million bonus in the middle of a global pandemic. It’s unacceptable.”

Ky Firewise, of Eugene, Ore., to Oregon Public Broadcasting: “The person that decides how much I get paid will never meet me…The fact that we are coming to work scared everyday is absolutely motivating us to unionize. The Lane County stores had their lobbies closed recently due to the Omicron breakout. There are people coming in maskless, asking why the lobby is closed, being told that it’s because of the pandemic, and then flying off the handle.”

Joseph Thompson, of Santa Cruz, Calif., to Your Call Radio: “There’s been multiple incidents of indecent exposure, harassment and assault. Before we unionized, the store district manager or anyone above the midlevel come to check on us, we wouldn’t even bother giving us a call or make sure we felt safe.”

by Budy Bell

Starbucks workers around the country are filing to start unions. As of Feb. 21, the movement had spread to 190 stores, and three union elections had been finalized with two Buffalo, N.Y. stores going union

WORKERS TREATED AS DISPOSABLE

Baristas Jaz Brisaack and Casey Moore work at a Buffalo Starbucks which voted to unionize. On Jan. 21, they spoke on Rumble, the podcast of filmmaker Michael Moore (no relation to Casey), about what led to their unionization efforts.

Jaz Brisaack: “We’re working in an industry that’s artificially low-wage, low benefits. People are in precari-
ous conditions. You have corporate folks who lose billions of dollars, and employees can’t pay rent and put groceries in their fridge. There’s no reason this industry is paid less than manufacturing [except that] we have no unions… People were…giving so much of themselves to make the store work, to make customers happy. And then, they’re still completely disposable. There’s no seniority pay. My 11-year coworker was making just 16 more cents than me, and he was making minimum as a new hire.”

Casey Moore: “If you’re working 40 hours a week, on your feet, literally running around, you shouldn’t have to have another job. You shouldn’t have to work 80 hours a week to have a decent standard of living.…People work two, three, even four jobs. There’s no reason for that, especially in a company that just gave their CEO a

on p. 2

Sudanese women deepen the fight

On Feb. 21, in the dark of night, Russian president Vladimir Putin started a totally unprovoked invasion of Ukraine from three sides after a months-long buildup of 190,000 troops. Along with streams of troops and tanks came a barrage of land- and sea-based missiles to induce “shock and awe” and

submis-

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Syrians in Canada in solidarity with Ukraine on March 5.

Putin’s brutal war in Ukraine puts the future of humanity in doubt

by Ron Kelch

On Feb. 24, in the dark of night, Russian president Vladimir Putin started a totally unprovoked invasion of Ukraine from three sides after a months-long buildup of 190,000 troops. Along with streams of troops and tanks came a barrage of land- and sea-based missiles to induce “shock and awe” and

submis-

sion. Instead, Putin’s latest and most massive invasion crucified a fierce resistance in Ukraine as well as opposition he did not expect on Russian streets.

The U.S. offer, indeed plea, to fly Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky out of the country to safety, reflected near universal ex-

prima the war’s start over 1,700 “No to War” protesters in over 50 cities dared to denounce the war, dealing to dissidents. At the war’s start Russia’s military—presumably his “dooms-
day” hypersonic missile—and promised to “crush” any direct aggressor. Then he put his nuclear forces on alert and the Kremlin threatened that “not a European city would survive” an attack by Putin’s forces.

Normally non-political public figures like singers and athletes creatively proclaimed their opposition to the war. Disgust with Putin exploded on the internet. In Moscow, where demonstra-
tors marched under the banner “Ukraine-Peace, Russia-Doom,” thousands of anti-

foreign relations journalist, published an open letter in opposition to Russia’s war, which 280 other jour-

nalis-

signing. The shock for Chernobyl residents im-

mately lost her journalist creden-
tial, and for others was that Putin’s drawn-out troop maneuver was not a clever bargain-

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Sudanese women deepen flight

by Terry Moon

Women have maintained a vital part of the revolution in Sudan that began three years ago when mainly youth, women and children took to the streets and forced Omar al-Bashir from power. Women have the most to lose in the transition. Half of Sudanese women are illiterate, most are victims of female genital mutilation, and domestic violence is rife. The many women who have been killed in the regime’s brutal crackdown are often targetted because they had prolonged their struggle through an active role in the revolution. Women in different parts of Sudan are participating in and giving a presentation to FiLiA’s 2021 Women’s History Month, “Women’s activist have been

Hala al-Karib, the regional director of the Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa, initiated the Sudanese women’s rights movement. Though Sudanese women have long been leaders both behind the scenes and on the front lines of the peaceful protest, we’ve often been reduced to symbolic roles within political organizations, including the civilian-led military council. As a woman, my way of organizing is not valued within the sphere of Sudan’s male political elites.”

The revolution’s power-sharing agreement with the government was destroyed by a military coup on Oct. 25, 2021, weeks before they were to give over power to a civilian government. "Ongoing resistance to Sudan coup," p. 12) Since then the attack on protesters intensified.

WOMEN ARE THE TARGET OF COUNTER-REVOLUTION Sudanese Women’s Rights Action (SUWRA) Women activists have been targeted in particular—profiled and charged on morality grounds, detained and released without charges because of their young age, disabilities, or poor health conditions.

The extremely disproportionate response to women’s so-called crimes of fear and hatred the regime carries for women activists and thinkers: an army officer shot and killed a teacher before others... a woman artist/activist was jailed for two months for chanting revolutionary slogans and then slammed by a police officer when she refused to allow him to take her picture; women protesters are killed in the streets, including a 17-year-old girl and 18 injure... when they were attacked by a Janjaweed militia; a young woman received “threats of lawsuits by army officers for reciting a poem...during the protests criticizing the army,” and the list goes on.

While the murderous National Intelligence and Security Service has been given a different name, General Intelligence Service, its tactics remain the same (just like the security services in Ethiopia). In real life, they are assaulted, detained and kept out of contact despite their young age, disabilities, or poor health conditions.

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Sham Trucker convos continued from p. 3

The #Wet’suwet’en, who were fired for organizing at their Starbucks stores, stand in front of a sign that reads “No Justice, No Peace.” On March 6 the Starbuck’s decided to fire the workers from its store in Toronto. This was a blow to the workers who were organizing a strike at the company. The strike began with a series of anti-mandate protests in Canada, and a call to support the workers in Toronto, who were being fired for organizing.

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Starting from below, I will not accept any vanguardism-to-lead, they have done nothing but mislead.

Rosa Luxemburg,延安的共产国际代表大会, 1935

In this section, Dunayevskaya emphasizes the importance of the theory of the historical link, which she saw as a break in Lenin's thought. She argues that the Bolshevik layer was so thin that it needed to be replaced; she did not believe that the self-determination of ideas and the self-determination of the working class could be achieved without a new form of society. Dunayevskaya also contends that the revolutionaries, but great revolutionaries who were also theoreticians, had remained ambivalent. She had philosophically reorganized herself in relation to Materialism and Ideology, on the nature of the revolution that would not stop at the democratic stage but go all the way to the proletarian and international revolution. She also was for self-determination as the true basis of the new society. She was a generalization of what had happened in Western Europe, but Russia had the best chance in the world to avoid the monotony of Western capitalism.

I began by saying that unless Marxist-Humanism worked out the total revolution and created a new type of society in the USSR, the working class could not withstand the assault of all the forces of the world capitalist. This was not just a question of power but also of dethroning the old and creating a new one. Dunayevskaya links the idea of the historical link to the dialectical law of motion of capitalist society to its collapse, the loss of power which would lead to a new form of society. She argues that this was not just a question of the working class but of all the people who would have to participate in the revolution. The next time she spoke of it was during an Address to the Communist League in 1956, when she was talking about continuous revolution in transition to a classless society. Two decades later, Marx continued to work out his theory of revolution by saying that the time in the form of actually predicting the revolution coming first in a backward country, rather than a technologically advanced country. In his 1881 letter to Vera Zasulich, praising primitive communism in Lewis Henry Morgan's Ancient Society, he writes that the revolution was government-sponsored, or not stopped at the primitive stage. It is true that the Iroquois women had more power than their northern cousins, but the idea of the tribe could lead to a higher state. But Marx wasn't just recording facts; he was interested in what the facts signified. Marx wrote that the process of revolution continued, and a decade later there was nothing on the horizon of that nature, and he was questioning whether a new dialectical revolution could start within Russia and the Peasant Communities that still existed there. So non-determinism was, and so open to all new beginnings, that he now held that his “Historical Tendency of the Accumulation of Capital” was not to be made into a universal. It was not just a question of the USSR, but of all the Europe, but Russia had the best chance in the world to avoid the monotony of Western capitalism.

I believe that Marx was not just analyzing dialectically the law of motion of capitalist society to its collapse, the loss of power of revolution, which was reconstructing the dialectic of revolution in new circumstances. And precisely because his vision was of a new form of society, a classless society, he didn't stop at any historic stage as the one proposed by his contemporaries.

To order Rosa, Women's Liberation, and Marx's Philosophy of Religion by Raya Dunayevskaya, see page 7.

Now available in Turkish:
Rosa Luxemburg, Kadıların Kurultusu ve Marx'ın Devrimci Filozofisi

Tanitım Bülteni

Translated by Melda Yaman, published by Köstebek Kolektif.

From the publisher: “Rosa Luxemburg” is much more than a philosophical biography. It is a symposium of critical political portraits of Luxemburg as a woman, thinker, organizer, and revolutionary. Dunayevskaya depicts Luxemburg as a passionate internationalist, anti-war, heroic, brave and independent woman who believes in the possibility of the people coming together in solidarity, a woman who has no fear of rejection. In rejecting her lover’s love and others’ efforts to discourage her from fully participating in “making revolution,” she also wanted to be a woman, a woman “who joyfully throws her whole life on the scales of destiny.”

Part 2, “The Women’s Liberation Movement,” is one of the most exciting and challenging pieces of the book. It is a first-hand account of the struggle to bring formal writing and organization often go hand in hand. In this captivating portrayal of women in the movement, Dunayevskaya ranges from revolutionary leaders to activists in the Women’s Liberation Movement. From an activist who organized a parade of working-class black women rebelling against their male comrades, both around the world and throughout history.

In the final part, Dunayevskaya draws attention to the fact that Marx is the only philosopher of the “total revolution,” that is, a revolution that will touch and transform all human relations, a revolution in permanence that will never end. She underlines that Marx discovered a whole new continent of thought and revolution, and creatively brought together struggling concepts and practice in harmony.
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Melda Yaman: ‘New vistas for socialist feminists’

Editor’s note: We present an interview with Melda Yaman, the Turkish translator of Rosa Luxemburg, Women’s Liberation: Marx’s Ethnological Notebooks. One of the main thrusts of the Ethnological Notebooks was the emancipation of women, which Marx referred to as a key criterion of ‘revolutionary practice’.

Melda Yaman, PhD, is a sociology professor at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. She is the first translator of the Ethnological Notebooks into Turkish. She is also the author of numerous works on Marxist feminism, socialist feminism, and women’s liberation.

A: What motivated you to translate the Ethnological Notebooks into Turkish?

M: What motivated me was the following: When I was working on my PhD, I was reading works by Terry Moon and Franklin Dimitrov. I noticed that the theme of Marx’s liberation or feminist movement in Turkey, how did that come to be and what is it like now? For instance, there have been some recent initiatives, such as the March 8 International Women’s Day for the last several years.

A: The feminist movement in Turkey began to take shape during the 1960s. The women’s liberation movement was also formed during the same period. In the 1990s and 2000s, various feminist organizations were established. With the exception of the Feminist Collective in 2008, the feminist movement gained a new momentum. This collective published regular journals such as Kitchen Witches, Purple Point. It struggled against the contemporary forms of patriarchy and capitalism.

Unfortunately, there is not a similar feminist organization today. But there are many small feminist groups. Moreover, many women’s trade unions have women’s sections. Several networks enable the communication of women/feminists from every region of Turkey. We struggle against male violence, against fascism, against the abolition of the Istanbul Convention. We have about 400 different feminist organizations. Because it was signed in Istanbul, Turkey is one of the first states to sign the Convention. The Agreement has been included in the law of the 90th of the Constitution. As of March 2013, it has been signed by 46 countries. In 2021, Turkey became the first and only country in the Middle East and North Africa to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention.

A: The women are constantly on the streets. In action. They are on the streets every March 8. During the pandemic period, when many protests and strikes were forbidden, only some women continued to protest. They were actively raising their demands on the streets.

A: The first March 8 Feminist Night March was held in Istanbul in 2010. Despite the fact that the event was banned, it continued. The Night March is the most widely participated feminist demonstration organized in Turkey. It is a great example of the organization and mobilization of women in general as well as against the women’s liberation movement in Turkey specifically! How is the movement fighting back against the present government?

M: March 8 protest is always very powerful. It is quite striking that there are theoretical connections and dialogues between the sections. In that sense, I think it’s a great piece of work.

A: What is needed is a new unifying principle, on the basis of which we can form a new society, a classless, free society...in which the men and women are equal and for the possibilities of women’s emancipation.

M: As Dunayevskaya states, in his later years, Marx would both “contribute” to the family budget and fulfill their “duties” in the household. In this process, the number of men who were supposed to be only involved in productive work was further reduced. This transformation was carried out with the emphasis of “strong family”.

A: And so, when we look at AKP (Erdogan’s Justice and Development Party) policies, we see that they target to protect the family, not women. For example, in 2011, the Ministry of State Responsible for Women and Family was closed and the Ministry of Family and Social Policies was established. Moreover, in 2012, the Law on Development of Gender Identity in Turkey was completed. Many important public assets were privatized, tremendous amounts of foreign capital inflows occurred, exports increased rapidly, some Turkish capital groups started to make investments abroad.

A: The AKP regime began to pressure on workers and declining labor rights. The 2009 global crisis also affected Turkey. The impact of the crisis is far from over. In other words, the AKP government has not only focused on production sectors such as automobile, where production is export-oriented. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the problems faced by the AKP regime. The AKP government has faced significant challenges in its efforts to maintain the AKP’s view of women. In Turkey, where at least one woman is murdered by men every day, this should be seen as a crucial backward step.

A: Democratic process has been affected by pressure on workers and declining labor rights. The 2009 global crisis also affected Turkey. The impact of the crisis is far from over. In other words, the AKP government has not only focused on production sectors such as automobile, where production is export-oriented. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the problems faced by the AKP regime.

A: Can you tell us about the women’s liberation or feminist movement in Turkey? The impact of the crisis is far from over. In other words, the AKP government has not only focused on production sectors such as automobile, where production is export-oriented. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the problems faced by the AKP regime.

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The delimiter starvation of Marzupel, denouing over 400,000 people under siege by Russian troops electricity and water and any entry of food and medical supplies, is a haunting repeat of Stalin’s man-made famine in Ukraine during the 1930s. Stalin’s campaign to wipe out Ukrainian resistance was being waged against a people who were the British from the during after World War II. The British starved to death and depopulation. Putin must expect that evoking the Holodomor would be intimidating to any Russian.”

Steve Debra

What Russia is doing is wrong, and Ukraine is a victim of NATO expansion. A war almost always makes things worse for all beware of any此类 people, including the Russian army refusing to fight, and moving on to outright resistance.

Steve Debra

The centrist media depict the Ukraine war as a proxy for democracy. But Putin’s U.S.-led ally is not defending democracy. The 2020 defeat of Trump only also important that people understand the importance of Detroit to American industry and the economy. Another thing is the calculation of that the electorate is in industry. Ordinary people end up paying for that, as NNC columnist John Tanton pointed out about the Packard auto plant in Detroit that closed in the 1950s. I am glad that your article is going to move on to move lower and deeper, in understanding the larger picture.

*

TRUCKS AND TRUMP

Angry white men were shouting at the air in the Costco gas line yesterday. I warned that an unusual era is on the verge of ending—remember the “Return of the North American Industry” movement? The vice presidential debate Kamala Harris was well set up to make a definitive statement about the importance of this country to the rest of the world. Harris could have called out Mike Pence’s lie that he would defend the country. She chose to stick her nose up at veterans. Where are the House and Senate bills to codify abortion law and why aren’t they going to the floor?”

Elena Debra

“A war on Yemen”

Yemen is far away, and everyone’s attention is on Ukraine. But the situation in Yemen that means the Yemeni people are disposable? In seven years of war the UN estimates that almost 400,000 people, primarily civilians, have died—60% from hunger and disease, with children being 70% of the deaths. A coalition of authoritarian regimes—Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (the UAE) and Iran has been bombing Yemen for years, and are now targeting Saudi and Yemeni civilians. According to the UN, since the beginning of the war, 70% of the deaths. A coalition of authoritarian regimes—Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (the UAE) and Iran has been bombing Yemen for years, and are now targeting Saudi and Yemeni civilians. According to the UN, since the beginning of the war, 70% of the deaths. A coalition of authoritarian regimes—Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (the UAE) and Iran has been bombing Yemen for years, and are now targeting Saudi and Yemeni civilians. 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3/4/2022
When the Canadian government finally decided to put an end to the “Freedom Trucker” convoys, it was hard not to notice how gently those individuals were treated. This contrasts sharply with the brutal treatment of First Nations/Indigenous people who have been trying to protect their land and their way of life from pipelines, flooding from damming, and petroleum, gas drilling and mineral extraction. They are protecting the land for all of us.

HISTORICAL CONTRAST

There is another contrast that is equally stark: the difference between the Emergency Powers Act of today (adopted in 1989) and its use to end the convoys, and the War Powers Act (1914) used by the government during the “October Crisis” of 1970 in Quebec. The “Freedom” convoys caused vast destruction and billions in economic losses, including blocking an international border crossing.

The 1970 crisis was triggered by a group of perhaps dozens or so adventurers who kidnapped a British diplomat and the Quebec truckers as part of labor. In 1970, all civil liberties were suspended and the Canadian army was sent in to occupy Quebec, especially Montreal.

Almost the entire political opposition to the parties in power, during an election campaign, was arrested and jailed for up to four weeks, without charges or probable cause. Most union leaders were also detained. There were almost 6,000 troops in the Montreal area. Other people were detained on the street and many of us had the uncomfortable experience of being interrogated at gunpoint while going to the polls. The sense of earning errand occupation was directed against French-speakers, of course.

One of the worst aspects in treatment reveals what many have known all along: that the convoys are not a group of workers standing up for themselves, but a disruptive element among truckers who represent some elements of Canada’s ruling elite. Canada’s rulers cultivate such things deliberately, but sometimes this comes back to bite them. Canada’s Transports Union has vehemently opposed that small faction of truckers, as have at least 90% of Canada’s drivers.

A NEEDED REVOLUTION

A few observers have been saying that this event revolves around an “Americanization” of Canada. That is absurd. The “freedom” convoy is a Canadian movement, as canarsy as maple syrup or Molson beer. “Canadian exceptionalism” is a pernicious illusion, and those who promote the pampered sense, American or Canadian, are doing a disservice to Canada and to themselves. It is time to look at things as they are, which is not easy.

Canada is a beautiful place but it has many problems, and deep ones, as any place else. One thing to keep in mind is Canada’s enormous wealth in natural resources, perhaps the greatest per capita of any country in the world, is being lost right and left by capitalists from all over the world. For them, the existence of people on the Canadian land is just incidental, an inconvenience. Canada needs a revolution, in thought and in life.

—G. Chénier

Beijing sham Olympic opening ceremony

China, as host of the 2022 Winter Olympics, presented a touching opening ceremony which nevertheless achieved the state-sponsored globalist’s goal of international support and preserving conformity as a virtue for its international population. The over thirteen-hour event, whose melody perfectly resembled that of a 1994 Christmas hymn, “Silent Night,” extolled the characteristic of snowflakes that they are unique in crystallization pattern but are “open to the light” and “shining all around.” Just like snowflakes: “thousands of you and me gather into a family.”

SONG’S NOT SO HIDING MEANING

The original songs are so gratuitous and benign. However, its rhetorical message echoes the pre-Cultural Revolution campaign to “let 100 flowers bloom,” a hundred schools of thought to compete and the point turned out to be as if Mao had Mao’s opponents self-identify and mark themselves for repression.

Today, the independent institutions of Hong Kong are under determined erosion, and those who advocate the return of limited autonomy for Tibet and Xinjiang are confronted with terrorism and jailed. Induction to the “family” is not all sweetness and light.

The U.S. held a diplomatic boycott of the Games over mass incarceration and forced internment of the Uyghur minority. China’s choice of a Uyghur from Xinjiang to light the Olympic flame was seen as a rebuke to this narrow criticism. In contrast, the U.S. and other governments have always been fine with suppressing the independent unions and the thousands of strikes that have rocked China in recent years. Apple Computer, for one, absolutely adores this dysfunctional family dynamic.

So heart-wrenching is the hope of brotherly and sisterly love that was invoked in Beijing. So far it is possible from the real.

—Buddy Bell

Have you always wanted to know more about what socialism is? What is Socialism?

• as it relates to philosophy
• as it relates to labor
• as it relates to the Black dimension, women’s liberation and ecology

To order, see page 7

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VOCES FROM THE INSIDE OUT
Penn. prison abuses the mentally ill

Waynesburg, Pa.—I’m a prisoner in the state of Pennsylvania and am currently housed in a Diversification Treatment Unit, or DTU. It’s a form of solitary confinement, where I’m allowed to leave the cell only to use the bathroom. I feel’t it’s my duty to report it—somewhere to speak out about the oppression of mentally ill prisoners by correctional officers and staff.

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections feeds off the administration’s official denial of the oppression by guards as the result of pressures from the National Observer Committee, now called the News and Letters Committee. National and International Union of Prison Officers has never said anything to anyone, staff or inmates. It minded his business and kept to himself.

RECALCIFICATION/REDUCTION

The guardsCell extractpatterns cell. He’s a cell extraction cell are the guards are the guards are to come into the cell by a ramp and pull the prisoner physically out of the cell. The prisoner was traumatizing, what they did to that man.

No one with mental health issues should be subjected to being in prison. Those who have not committed serious crimes should not be in prison. Laws那一天s criminals like parole violators should be in treatment.

I feel strongly about this issue because I’m a low-level offender housed in a prison that is known for its maximum security prison.

Thoughts from the outside

Ideas from the freedom

continued from p. 1

to be free. But it lost its way. Nixon was clever to turn the Black people to get rich but lost sight of the idea of freedom that was invoked in Beijing. So far is the still the heart of the issue of returning to the idea of being free human activity and not as a mere means to life—is to understand the relation between labor and capital. Labor—getting richer, while poverty is deepening.

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Women in defense of the territory

"WOMEN AND DISSIDENCE IN DEFENSE OF THE TERRITORY"

Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Mexico—Here in the Isthmus (in southeast Mexico, between the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean) we are experiencing by leaps and bounds the consequences of the evil called progress. The one who are feeling it the most are the women, girls and dissidents, because within this misogynistic and patriarchal society we continue to be considered a minority despite being more than half of the population. We have to put our bodies on the front lines to fight for the rights that should be ours. Not having those rights restricts us and takes away our ability to make decisions about ourselves. The excessive violence that is currently being experienced in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec claims the lives of women who are disappeared and murdered every day. So far in 2022, approximately 12 women have been murdered in the region.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS ‘NORMALIZED’

This violence is fed by the folly and collusion of the judicial and administrative authorities that try to normalize violence against women as a fact of everyday life. The current government, just like the previous ones, wants to impose development projects on us that they capitalize and patriarchal logic, which is fed by the labor of thousands of men, and the unpaid work of the women on whom they impose care work.

They seek to turn our floors into cement slabs, our homes into commercial spaces, our air into poison and our bodies into their source of money.

We have listened and learned from the sisters further north. In Juárez where the maquiladoras became the death sentence for thousands of sisters, or in Ciudad Nezahualcóyotl, on the outskirts of Mexico City, where industrialization and urbanization swallow day by day dozens of other sisters.

For this reason, it is essential to grow, out of struggle and resistance, protection and defensive strategies for the territory—which includes the physical bodies of women, girls, gender-based dissidents and elderly women who have decided to put a stop to political demagogy and act to defend the territory as a means of survival.

If we do not confront this rampant violence, we envisage a bleak future, as women and girls have experienced in other regions of Mexico in which the territory of their lives has turned into a laboratory of industry.

WORKING TOGETHER TO STOP VIOLENCE

For this reason, it is essential to convene the women, girls and dissidents of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and other neighboring areas who wish to join the fight for the defense of our life, to reach agreements, listen to our concerns and act to continue with our resistance.

As women and dissidents, we are close to the land, we can draw routes to walk together and confront the extractivist and patriarchal system that tries to turn our territories, bodies and spirits into commodities.

We invite the sisters with whom we have shared spaces of wisdom and healing, to meet again, talk and continue weaving our resistance.

Our essential territorial struggles into action in the face of the threats we encounter as women and gender-based dissidents in the face of the project of death of the Inter-ocen Corridor (as proposed rule across the land between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans) and its poles of development, in the face of the forced migration of our region due to wind projects; in the face of the naked violence on our bodies and the high levels of femicides, transmurders and hate crimes, and all types of violence that we experience...

Never again a Mexico without us.

-Council of Autonomous Women-Ocotlan (CAOxtrams)

Feb. 26, 2022

TOWARDS A DYNAMIC UNITY OF STRUGGLE

From Indigenous peoples defending their territory from megaprojects, to demonstrations against vio- lence against women and LGBTQI+ people, to artists and eminent intellectuals of our time. To overcome this madness—we are all part of the fluid, multi-diverse resistance against capital.

I understand social uprising not as a struggle, nor as the mere sum of all of them, but as their living interaction in the abstract, underdetermined aim of surpassing the actual social order and giving birth to a truly human one.

NEEDED UNITY OF EFFORT

A certain unity of efforts is needed to achieve this goal. For almost everything that can be a unity has been searched for, encompassing the first workers’ unions in England in the 19th Century, Marx’s call to workers of the world to unite against Capital—the International Workingmen’s Association and several other lesser known organizations.

In the 20th Century, the quest for unity mostly adopted the dogmatic form of the “party-to-lead,” which negated the diversity of actual men and women thinking and doing, and enthroned a thin layer of intellectuals and politicians as subjects of revolution.

Reaction to this alienation in the 21st Century has taken a form of rejection of leadership and a look to the movement from below. That rejection has also meant, in some cases, the total negation of theory and therefore of the necessity of theory and practice, blurring the line between action into space, wherever everything is supposed to solve itself. How do we get out of this maze?

A LOOK INTO THE ZAPATISTA MOVEMENT

1. The Zapatista uprising began on Jan. 1, 1994, as a protest against the Zedillo administration, in Chiapas, Mexico, opened, in my view, a truly new era in the history of human rights against the capital. Its ongoing development of almost three decades can give us some hints about how to achieve new beginnings in the unity of theory and practice, of diversity and unity.

Since its first days, even though having a military branch and a spokesperson (Subcomandante Marcos), the Zapatista movement has shown us that it had smashed the idea of the “party-to-lead.” The subject of this essay is the necessity of Indigenous mass movements building their own future with their own hands. It was probably this historical newness that made Zapatismo so appealing to social strugglers who were looking for a new path forward but had been unable to find it. Throughout the years, Zapatismos has described its character of being an authentic mass movement.

But this leap in practice has never been devoid of a corresponding leap in theory. Furthermore, the former would be impossible without the latter, and vice versa. In the 2005 “Sixth Declaration of the Lacandon Jungle,” which could be called the “Zapatistas’ manifesto,” they make explicit their philosophical foundations which are interweaved with Marxist. By deepening their theory, they have deepened such basis, the most relevant occasion being the seminar and book Critical Thought in the Face of the Capital Hydastos (2015).

At the same time: 1. The Zapatistas have shown themselves open to other views of Marxism and traditions of struggles. Catalan authors and artists, for example, if they don’t fully embrace them, they acknowledge that such “alterna- tive” is helpful to others, just as their own reconstruction of Marxism ("Each one according to his/her own form and time,” is the Zapataista expression for their Ecumenism); 2. Philosophical grounds are a fundamental part of the Zapatista jigsaw puzzle, but just one of them.

Just as a movement is headless without such a ground, a movement is heartless without the other. But its dynamic, ever-changing constituent parts: interpersonal relationships, communication, art, action, spiritual, etc.; only in its fluid totality does the body become life. The two are fused. This is how can the introduction of struggle in which there is no quintessential part, neither a binary conjunction of all, but an ecumenical, critical inter- penetration of them and expressing its undeniable par- ticulality in the ever-changing quest for a truly human society?

—Caracol Chichite

En español

Spanish Translation: American Civilization on Trial: Black Masses as Vanguard by Raya Dunayevskaya to order see p. 7
A small as yet inconsequential war that is a foretaste of things to come.

A major conventional-war-nuclear-catastrophe was luckily avoided when the Russian army’s shelling, which caused the death of 40 civilians, and including 13 children, in the Donbas, was not a direct hit on one of its six nuclear reactors. **RUSSIA’S WAR IS AGAINST CIVILIANS**

Russian units, which reached the main cities of Kyiv and Kharkiv, were deployed to create a “progressive” nature designed to serve as a propaganda campaign to suppress the reality on the ground. Bilous, who tried to promote and expand the reality of the Ukrainian pueblo, knows well the Ukrainian ultra-right as well as the state-capitalist regime and supporting Ukrainian independence. Some Russian troops—hungry and ill-informed about the war—have surrendered en masse and sabotaged their mission—have allowed to call their moms back to “hurry up and overthrow the Putin regime. It is more profitable to live,” as Lenin once wrote. This is the reality. Bilous, who has had to pay the price of shutting down the last vestiges of independent media and then passed a law limiting the right to freedom of speech, has been critical to overthrowing the Soviet Union’s brutal empire. Bilous, who has now been exiled to Russia, was more advanced with the microchip industry and many other industries—before the West—than the U.S. and other realignments and betrayals will take place until the end.

The shift in US policy is not just a shift in the direction of its own interests, but a shift in the direction of blaming Russia for Ukraine’s problems. The first step the U.S. and the world, which Putin has aided, help set the stage for that nightmare. **LENNI VS. PUTIN’S COUNTER-REVOLUTION**

This shift is important because it means that nothing can be done to make this clearer than Putin’s rant against Lenin. For Putin, who is taking Russia “back to the even more miserable past” of empire, there seems to be no enemy more hated by Lenin, who supposedly invented the nation of Ukraine. In reality, Lenin insisted that Ukrainians are an independent people, and called them the “Ukraine proletariat,” who in their own way, as he warned against Great Russian chauvinism, who he later also denounced as “narrow-minded” by Stalin. It is Stalin that Putin, despite his denunciation of Communism, glorified.

National self-determination is not merely a principle, to which Leftists were supposed to subscribe. Lenin also saw that it could be a catalyst for proletarian revolution. “Just look at the depth of Ukrainians’ self-organization and self-activity—driving in all layers of the population, acting individually and collectively on their passion for independence and freedom from imperial overlords. It has inspired the world. Ukrainians have certainly come new life to the idea of democracy. Consider the sorry state of actually existing bourgeois democracy. Consider the fact that living free cannot stop there. In the U.S. a $10 trillion “build back better” proposal, not to be judged by opinion polls—which would have made a significant dent in child poverty and allow some first, feeble steps to increase access to health care and universal childcare. At the same time, as a central issue, the U.S. was able to remove the latest Netanyahu’s government from power in Israel by not allowing the citizens to vote; instead, they were denied the right to vote and the right to vote for their own president. Now, Putin’s war also reveals a changed world of shifting alignments and betrayals. The destruction of democracy and the move to the Right in the U.S. and the world, which is to be seen as an attempt to containing the growth of the U.S. Left, is, in the end, to contain the left and contain the growth of the U.S. Left.

**RUSSIA’S WAR IS AGAINST CIVILIANS**

So, what is the U.S. policy? The U.S. policy is to try to contain the growth of the U.S. Left, and the growth of the U.S. Left is the growth of the U.S. Right.

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YOUTH IN ACTION

by Buddy Bell

In late February and thereafter, college students around the U.S. rallied against Ukraine’s invasion of Ukraine. At Western Virginia University in Morgantown, University of Nevada at Las Vegas students, and others, poured out an outpouring of support when she held an impromptu protest: “I’m happy to be in such a place where people are quite aware of what is going on in the world. It’s just why we’re fighting in Ukraine is not just Ukraine’s problem.” Harvard sophomore Madelein Balochilovych was part of massive pro-refugee protest in Washington, D.C. before coming to the U.S. via Ukraine and then co-organizing the rally against the invasion on his Massachusetts campus: “[Ukraine] has become a safe haven for me and thousands of other Belarusians who were fleeing, and now it’s no longer that safe.” student of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology said: “Putin is not just targeting Ukraine’s borders and the geographical territory but Ukraine’s very history and culture. We have to put aside our own comfort and ensure everyone’s safety.”

A rally by college students picketed the office of Illinois Democratic Rep. Mike Quigley on March 4 to protest an $8,000 campaign contribution from weapons manufacturer Lockheed Martin. The protesters demanded he sign a pledge to accept no further campaign funds from weapons manufacturers. “We do not believe you can afford the cost of war,” Powers Resolution to cut off military aid to Saudi Arabia. Sameh Muhammad spoke for the DePaul University chapter of the Illinois Young Democrats who say the people of Ukraine are starving and having their lives taken. Quigley gets to sit in his office and benefit from the companies that are helping to destroy Ukraine and the world. They are looking to the future.

On Feb. 20, the Florida House of Representatives passed the “Do Not Say Gay or Trans” bill which would block teachers from talking about LGBTQ+ issues or people. The bill is opposed by advocates, parents and Unitarian Universalists, as it is an attack on the teaching profession. railing against allowing parents to sue educators who teach anything “in contradiction of the religious or moral beliefs of students.” Parents could demand the removal of any book from school shelves they believe contains LGBTQ+ content. The Florida Senate was expected to pass the bill, which is so extreme that it is leading to protests in Florida schools.

The Florida and Oklahoma laws are directed against educators, not Queer kids and non- 
conservative teachers in the crosshairs. They per- secute LGBTQ+ children and try to bury any infor- mation on LGBTQ+ people. It harkens back to laws enacted against evolution teaching being taught in school and movies being censored in the 1950s or 1960s. The federal government’s response has been nonexistent. Congress has not passed the Equality Act, which would protect transgender students from discrimination in schools. The positive role of the LGBTQ+ community in state law. Doctors, nurses and teachers who don’t re- port or test students for HIV or even look at a suspicious rash would face criminal charges.

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Ongoing resistance to coup in Sudan

Iron fist at Olympics

The first woman president ever elected in Honduras, Xiomara Castro, has taken office after a 12-year rule by the right, conquering a political system which stemmed a coup against the presidency of her husband Manuel Zelaya in 2009. That coup was planned with the tacit support of the US.

The National Party destroyed social programs and increased political violence in the same way that it was tackling human rights and the environment—including even the murder of Berta Cáceres, an Indigenous Lenca leader and Honduran environmental activist. The Party’s last president, Juan Hernández, is facing extraditions to the US. The opposition called for a transitional government on its economic agenda and...

IMF loan scam

The International Monetary Fund, which is supposed to be working to strengthen the global economy, instead ended up just like any private capital money-grubbing bank: charging extra fees for the “privilege” of getting a large loan to pay off debts generated mainly by past losses (the IMF has collected some $4 billion in extra fees since 2020), but the result is that, on top of loan payments, countries must come up with hefty additional fees. During a COVID-19 pandemic, it means these countries may have less money to support their populations, even more economic pain, particularly among the poorest of a country’s population.

Victory for #MeToo

For many years, people who experienced sexual harassment and assault in the workplace and in places like medical offices found to their shock that they had waived their rights to sex abuse lawsuits under such private arbitration. Buried in many click-to-agree contracts is language that requires people to settle disputes out of court. But a new Biden administration has reversed agreements void in cases of sexual assault and harassment.

What way will Xiomara Castro take Honduras?

Women’s rights activists and national organizations began working five years ago to get the legislation introduced. This year it passed by a wide margin in February, and took effect March 3. The law is also retroactive. It allows old cases to come unblocked.

SIGNING AWAY YOUR RIGHTS

Binding arbitration has become a powerful tool in the US economy. Violators often discover they have signed away their civil right to sue. Instead, they have to arbitrate their grievances before a private arbitra...

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