SWP pushes to go over 100% in books, fund ‘Militant’ drive

BY SETH GALINSKY

Less than a week is left in the drive to expand the readership of the Militant and books by Socialist Workers Party leaders and other revolutionaries and raise funds for the SWP. Campaigners are organizing to make or surpass the goals of 1,300 subscriptions and 1,300 books, and to raise $130,000 for the SWP Party-Building Fund.

With no end in sight to the dire impact of rising prices and with a number of strikes continuing against bosses’ assaults on our wages and conditions, more working people are discussing what is the way forward.

The shellacking that Democratic Party candidates received in the 2021 elections reflects the refusal of workers to accept being treated as “deplorables” who can’t be trusted to think for themselves, as well as their rejection of policies like “defund the police,” mandated by the party’s 2021 election defeats.

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

THE MILITANT

INSIDE

Middle East refugees caught up in EU, Belarus, Moscow conflict

PAGE 6

AUSTRALIA $1.50 · CANADA $1.50 · FRANCE 100 EURO · NEW ZEALAND $1.50 · UK £1.00 · U.S. $1.00

Alabama miners fight court injunction by Warrior Met

BY SUSAN LAMONT

ATLANTA — “This is a serious attack on the union,” Bryan Butler, a Unit- ed Mine Workers of America member on strike at Warrior Met Coal in Brookwood, Alabama, told the Militant by phone Nov. 16. He was referring to the restraining order, now extended twice, by Tuscaloosa County Circuit Court Judge James Roberts.

The order, first enacted Oct. 27 at the mine operator’s request, and now extended until Dec. 5, bans union activity of any kind, including picketing, within 300 yards of the mines.

It is an assault on the constitutional rights of free assembly and free speech and on the entire labor movement.

The union had been staffing a dozen picket lines around the clock at the entrance to No. 4 and No. 7 mines, the coal preparation plant, the central shops and on the entire labor movement. The number of flights carrying students returned to classes, bringing to 1.7 million the number studying across the island.

Tens of thousands of elementary school students returned to classes, bringing to 1.7 million the number studying across the island.

The outcome of the vote registered continuing on page 2

US-organized provocation against Cuba ‘fizzles out’

BY SETH GALINSKY

U.S.-government-organized provocations planned in Cuba for Nov. 15 were a failure, as were “sympathy” actions denouncing Cuba’s socialist revolution around the world. Opponents of the revolution had hoped to create incidents on the island that would disrupt the opening of schools and businesses and expanded tourism scheduled that day.

Striking a blow to the U.S. rulers’ plans, Cubans celebrate the tremendous progress the country has made in confronting the COVID-19 pandemic despite Washington’s stepped-up sanctions, which make it difficult to purchase raw materials and even syringes. Tens of thousands of elementary school students returned to classes, bringing to 17 million the number studying across the island. The number of flights carrying students returned to classes, bringing to 1.7 million the number studying across the island.

'EXAMPLE OF CUBA'S SOCIALIST REVOLUTION'

— SWP statement page 2

Kyle Rittenhouse trial in Kenosha poses question of rights workers need

BY NAOMI CRAIGE

KENOSHA, Wis. — The murder trial of Kyle Rittenhouse has drawn renewed attention to events that unfolded here after antifa anarchists, a layer of Black Lives Matter leaders and other rioters. Kyle Jr., a young Black man, was left partially paralyzed after the Aug. 21, 2020, shooting, which sparked protests planned in Cuba for Nov. 15 were a failure, as were “sympathy” actions denouncing Cuba’s socialist revolution around the world. Opponents of the revolution had hoped to create incidents on the island that would disrupt the opening of schools and businesses and expanded tourism scheduled that day.

Striking a blow to the U.S. rulers’ plans, Cubans celebrate the tremendous progress the country has made in confronting the COVID-19 pandemic despite Washington’s stepped-up sanctions, which make it difficult to purchase raw materials and even syringes. Tens of thousands of elementary school students returned to classes, bringing to 1.7 million the number studying across the island.

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The outcome of the vote registered continuing on page 2

Continued on page 2

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US-organized provocation fizzles

Continued from front page ing international tourists were tripled, with vaccinated travelers now admitted without quarantining.

As of Nov. 15, 78% of the population was fully vaccinated and 90% had received at least one shot of the highly ef fective vaccines designed and produced in Cuba. The number of deaths has dropped sharply to three or less per day.

This success is possible because working people in Cuba, led by Fidel Castro, overthrew the U.S.-backed dic tatorship of Fulgencio Batista in 1959 and replaced capitalist rule with a work ers and farmers government. The mobil ization of mass organizations, youth and working people to make sure every one in Cuba got the care they needed in the face of the pandemic is one more proof that the socialist revolution re mains very much alive today.

Washington and small groups op posed to the revolution in Cuba had hoped they could organize a repeat of protests that took place in Cuba July 11, when they were able to attract some working people and youth who support the revolution but are frustrated over the challenges they face. But the U.S. rulers underestimated — as they always do — the capacity of Cuban working people and their revolutionary government to stand up to the U.S. pressures.

Days before the so-called Civic March for Change, called by the U.S.-backed group Archipelago, its organiza ers admitted few would show up. Blam ing “repression” in Cuba, they made a shift and called on their supporters to wear white, hang white sheets and bang pots and pans outside their windows, and “boycott” television news. Even longstanding opponents of the revolution — such as the New York Times — admitted that their actions had “fizzled.”

Government officials, including President Miguel Díaz-Canel, have been visiting neighborhoods and towns in Cuba where working people face the greatest difficulties in housing and government services. They have been speaking with working people there and organizing to work together to make progress in confronting the challenges they face.

A group of young people began a two day “Red Bardana Sit-in” Nov. 14-15 at Havana’s Central Park to demonstrate their support for the revolution and as an answer to the U.S.-backed provocations. They camped out in tents and held book discussions, poetry readings and a concert in support of Cuba’s sovereignty that attracted several thousand people.

President Díaz-Canel joined them Nov. 14. “We are seeking to improve our society. We are defending eman tions credits. The ‘Mili tant’ explains that working people’s strength is due to its working people’s strength’

The remarks below by Mary-Al ice Waters, on behalf of the Socialist Workers Party, were made at a Nov. 10 meeting of opponents of the U.S. government embargo of Cuba held at the Cuban Mission to the United Na tions in New York City: Pedro Pedroso, Cuba’s ambassador to the U.N., ad dressed the event, followed by Waters and several other participants.

First of all, I’d like to thank Ambassa dor Pedroso, Ambassador Yuri Gali, and all the compañeros here at the Cu ban Mission to the United Nations.

To thank you for this opportunity to share our determination to stand together in face of this phase of Washington’s continued on page 3

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Supporters of Washington’s efforts to overturn the revolution organized protests in a number of cities around the world. None were very large. In New York City the Cuba Si Co alition brought together 150 opponents of the U.S. embargo Nov. 15, substan tially outnumbering a group of counterrevolutionary groups across from the Cuban U.N. Mission.

The action in solidarity with the Cu ban Revolution included Puerto Rico groups that back independence for the U.S. colony, Dominican organizations, Cuban Americans, Haitian activists and members of other political groups, including the Socialist Workers Party, Party for Socialism and Liberation, Young Communist League, Workers World Party, and Democratic Socialists of America.

Univision, the Spanish-language TV network, sent reporters who interviewed participants from the two competing protests. But their news broadcast reported only on the small counterrevolution ary action, never showing on TV or

Cuban socialist revolution’s example is due to its working people’s strength’

After U.N. summit’s cli mate change alarmism, corpora tions are cashing in on booming trade in carbon emissions credits. The ‘Mili tant’ explains that working class and exploited farmers have stake in, and power to alter, transformation of na ture in interests of humanity.

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To thank you for this opportunity to share our determination to stand together in face of this phase of Washington's more than six-decade-long, unmitting drive to crush Cuba’s socialist revolu tion. The remarks below by Mary-Al ice Waters, on behalf of the Socialist Workers Party, were made at a Nov. 10 meeting of opponents of the U.S. government embargo of Cuba held in the face of Cuba's popular mass refusal to put its sovereign future in the hands of the Yankee imperialists.

Through you, we especially want to thank the Cuban people for their strength. They have once again con fronted unprecedented challenges, with the devastating costs — both human and financial — of the COVID pan demic these last two years, on top of the draconian new economic and financial squeeze applied by the strongest imperi alist power in the world. These measures prolong and intensify Washington’s un

Continued on page 3
SWP pushes to go over top

Continued from front page
Murphy and Gabby Prosser had with Tyler Lewis at his apartment door in Brooklyn Park, just north of Minneaplis, Nov. 13. He is a cleaner for Metro Transit and a member of the Amalgamated Transit Union. Lewis supports strikers at Kellogg’s and other companies who are striking to get rid of wage tiers that have newer hires making less money for the same job compared to workers with more years on the job.

“Anything they say goes,” he said of the bosses. “It’s sickening.” Prices are going up so fast that “pay needs to be scaled. The amount we make needs to increase with the cost of living,” Prosser agreed, and showed Lewis the book Teamster Rebellion, one of four volumes by Farrell Dobbs. They describe the forging of the class-struggle leadership in union battles of the 1930s that transformed the Teamsters in the Midwest into a fighting social movement and pointed the road toward workers organizing independently of the bosses’ parties.

Dobbs, a coal-yard worker in his 20s when the Minneapolis strikes began, emerged from the ranks as a leader of the Teamsters and then of the Socialist Workers Party. The transformation of the Teamsters into a fighting union, “shows what is possible for our future,” Prosser said.

He explained that in the course of working-class struggles, “leaders like Malcolm X will come forward.”

Lewis subscribed to the Militant and bought Malcolm X Talks to Young People. In it the revolutionary leader capitalizes the class struggle roots of racism and what can be done to eliminate exploitation and oppression. Lewis also got Malcolm X, Liberate the Road to Workers Power by SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes, and Dobbs’ Teamster Rebellion.

“Michel Prairie and Steve Penner, members of the Communists League in Canada, visited Militant subscriber Cam Hardy, a butcher in Toronto, Nov. 4.

“What I appreciate about the Militant is that it looks to working people as the key force in the fight for social change,” Hardy said. He has already read the four-volume Teamsters series by Dobbs.

This time he purchased Tribunes of the People and the Trade Unions by Dobbs, Barnes, Karl Marx, Leon Trotsky, and V.I. Lenin and two other books by Barnes, The Turn to Industry: Forging a Proletarian Party and Cuba and the Coming American Revolution.

I’m interested in learning more about your strategy that ties together socialist ideas with the experiences and struggles of working people,” he said.

In New York City, Reger Calero and Tamar Rosenberg talked to taxi drivers waiting for fare Nov. 16, and showed them an article in the Militant about the recently concluded hunger strike by yellow cab mediation owners, demanding debt relief. A mediation is the license required to operate a yellow cab in the city.

New York cab drivers

While most drivers lease their cabs, thousands paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to purchase medallions, which were presented as a guaranteed investment, until their price plunged on the market. Drivers found themselves unable to pay off their loans nor resell the medallion for anywhere near what they paid for it.

A driver from Egypt, “agreed with the perspective we put forward of the need for a union of all drivers,” Calero said.

“He told us the cost of leasing a yellow cab is going up as owners put fewer cabs in circulation. He had recently returned from Egypt and lit up when we told him that Socialist Workers Party members had gone to Egypt just after the 2011 uprising there and found much interest in the working-class politics the party presented.” The driver got a subscription to the Militant.

Along with subscribing to the paper and getting books, many workers are contributing $5, $20 or more for the Party-Building Fund when they meet the SWP. Many new readers will want to sit down with party members to continue the discussion on what is needed to build a party that can lead the working class to power and will demand additional donations to fund the party’s work.

Help the international drives go over the top!

To find the branch of the party nearest you see the directory on page 8. You can send a check or money order with your contribution directly to the Socialist Workers Party, 306 W. 27th Street, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Earmark it for the Party-Building Fund.

Pathfinder titles a big hit at Oregon book festival

BY REBECCA WILLIAMSON
PORTLAND, Ore. — Hundreds of people attended the Portland Book Festival here Nov. 13, where publishers and booksellers set up showcases of their featured titles. After almost 25 years that justified government lockdowns, many were eager to get out to a book fair. Pathfinder Press books and the Militant newspaper were a hit with many attendees, who got books on special deals that deal with the most pressing class questions today. Twenty people decided to subscribe to the Militant.

Top sellers were Are They Rich Because They’re Smart? I also talked to Ashley Jemes, who subscribed to the paper and bought The Jewish Question, “I really want to understand this,” Jemes said. “I want to know more about the Marxist interpretation of current events, what’s the perspective, what can I do to reframe what I’ve learned” under capitalism.

“These books are drawing the lessons of the class struggles here and around the world to fight more effectively today,” I told her.

We also knocked on doors in area working-class neighborhoods, selling a couple more Militant subscriptions and one more book, as well as getting a contribution to the SWP Party-Building Fund.

Some of those we met told us they want to stay in touch and help introduce the party to people they know, get Pathfinder Books around, and sign up more readers of the Militant.

Deere, Kellogg’s and others are showing working people are tired of taking it on the chin, and saying “Enough!” I told him. He subscribed to the paper and picked up Are They Rich Because They’re Smart? We also knocked on doors in area working-class neighborhoods, selling a couple more Militant subscriptions and one more book, as well as getting a contribution to the SWP Party-Building Fund.

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Defense rebuked in move to ban courtroom. distanced his client from Gough’s call coming in here,” he told the judge, who the trial by Rev. Al Sharpton and other court Nov. 12 for remarks he made the ability to intervene. each strike and Georgia law limited his given nondiscriminatory reasons for seats the jury, saying the defense had “intentional discrimination,” but this looked Black from getting on the jury. Judge turned to the jury, telling them the defense had a college degree.” In fact defense attorneys used their allotted “strikes” to prevent all but one Black from getting on the jury. Judge Timothy Walmsley noted this looked like “intentional discrimination,” but seated the jury, saying the defense had given nondiscriminatory reasons for each strike and Georgia law limited his ability to intervene.

Kevin Gough, defense attorney for one of the three men, apologized in court for the video he had leaked the day before, protesting the attendance at the trial by Rev. Al Sharpton and other prominent African Americans who were sitting with the Arbery family. “We don’t want any more Black pastors coming in here,” he told the judge, who cut Gough off after he said, “If a bunch of Black cops had come in dressed like Celeb Sanders with white masks sitting in the back, that would be —”.

Defense attorney Jason Seifeld, who is representing Catherine McDade, the woman whoMonday claimed being the client of Gough’s bar to call Black religious figures from the courtroom.

“Theologies to anyone who might’ve been inadvertently offended,” Gough said.

But when the trial resumed Nov. 15, all three defense attorneys asked the judge for a mistrial. Objecting to the presence of Rev. Jesse Jackson, who was sitting with Arbery’s mother, Gough said, “I guess the next question is, ‘Which pastor is next?’” The judge denied the motion to bar Black religious figures. A contingent of Jewish clergy will join clergy from different faiths outside the courthouse Nov. 18 to protest Gough’s remarks.

The defendants pleaded not guilty to charges of malice and felony murder. They also face separate federal hate crime charges. Defense attorneys say their clients believed Arbery had committed burglaries in the neighborhood and acted legally in killing him under the state’s citizen’s arrest law, which was in place at the time. One result of the broad outrage over the killing is that the law was repealed earlier this year.

Trial testimony begins

Matthew Albenze, who lives in the Satilla neighborhood, told the court he saw Arbery enter a construction site on Nov. 2. He called and called a police nonemergency number to report it. Asked by the prosecutor why he called the nonemergency number rather than 911, Albenze said, “I did not see an emergency.” Security cameras on the site showed Arbery stopped there, but didn’t take anything. Larry English, the owner of the home under construction, testified he had shared with cops and neighbors security camera recordings of a Black man and others entering his property. He wanted police to identify those in the video and tell them to stay off the property. Following the shooting English said Arbery had likely stopped at the house for water. On Feb. 11, 2020, Glynis Cooper stopped Robert Rash to show the McMichaels security camera video. Rash sent a text to English suggesting he reach out to Gregory McMichael for help if people continued to enter the property.

Continued from front page

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Kenosha trial poses question of rights workers need

Continued from front page

outrage among working people in the area. Several hundred marched during the pre-

looting and destruction. I met workers there who had marched during the previous days, but left because the “craziness” started. As dusk approached, we saw people gathering in a crowd of several hundred and marched to the site of the shooting. I talked to a Black man who said he was there the night before. In the evening he ran to a business he was asked to help defend. As rioters flooded the area, he wanted to continue the mayhem, somestmembers of the crowd knocked over a fence. Some were attacking businesses and some were burning cars.

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Chicago regional rail workers rally for wage increase

CHICAGO — Some 250 union members who work for Metra and at the regional commuter rail system’s corporate headquarters here Nov. 12 demanding a new contract.

“Our situation is unprecedented, we’ve been three years with no contract. We’ve had no raise since 2018, while we’ve been three years with no contract. The situation is unprecedented. We’ve been three years with no contract.”

The rally was sponsored by the nine unions that represent Metra workers, including SMART TD, a union that represents workers at the Regional Commuter Rail System’s corporate headquarters in Chicago, International Brotherhood of Electric Workers, Service Employees International Union, Teamsters and the Machinists. They have been negotiating for a new contract since Jan. 1, 2019.

“We worked right through the pandemic. The company’s slogan is My Metra; Tillman said. “Where’s the contract termination, more than 1% of the workers belonged to a union.”

Kaiser hospital workers unions reach tentative agreement

LOS ANGELES — Two days before Dec. 3, Kaiser Permanente hospital workers at 350 facilities in California, Oregon, and Washington were set to go on strike, a tentative agreement was reached between the Alliance of Health Care Unions and hospital bosses 13. The AHCU is a coalition of several different unions representing nurses, cleaning staff, pharmacy workers and others.

A key issue was the bosses’ demands for a divisive two-tier wage setup where new workers hired after Jan. 1, 2023, would receive 26% to 39% less than current workers. Under the pressure of the strike deadline, management dropped the demand.

The agreement includes the same annual wage increases for all union members, regardless of region or date of hire.

“My Metra for the employees?”

Mark Kutah, a locomotive mechanic with 30 years seniority, said, “Our unions are sticking together, we need unity.” Alfonso Arina, a member of IBEW Local 134, said, “Metra calls us ‘essential workers,’ but they sure don’t treat us that way.”

— Dan Fein

Bakery Workers union members on strike at Rich’s Jon Donaire Desserts plant in Santa Fe Springs, California, rally Nov. 15 demanding pay raise, end to forced overtime and for respect.

“Rally brings solidarity to striking bakery workers in LA County

SANTA FE SPRINGS, Calif. — “A raise, a pension, and respect?” chanted some 175 striking workers and their supporters at a Nov. 15 rally in front of the Rich’s Jon Donaire bakery here. The company makes ice cream cakes that are sold by Baskan Robbins, Cold Stone Creamery and other companies.

The 175 workers, members of Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers Local 37, went out on strike Nov. 3 and have been fighting 24/7 since.

“The production has expanded, for the same money we’re producing more, we feel it,” Maria Palomo, who has worked at the plant since 2011, told the Militant. “The speed of the line is faster, but they don’t give us any more than the minimal salary we make.” Workers get in the range of $16 to $17 an hour. Most of the workers are women.

“The cost of living has gone up but they only offered us a 50 cents raise,” she added. “There’s a lot of overtime, and they can’t pay us — it’s obvious if and you don’t do it you get points. We want more days off. We’re working hard and we need to rest.”

“A raise is the main thing we want,” said Jessica Cerda, who has worked at the plant since March. She agreed that forced overtime was a problem, especially for people who have to take care of their kids. Workers don’t know what time they will get off, or if they’ll have to work overtime. “They’re supposed to tell us every day, but they don’t. That’s why we should just expect it.”

Eighteen-year-old Eric Ochoa said, “Sometimes they put you somewhere and they forget about you. You don’t get your break; you’re supposed to have if you’re working 12 hours. Or you have to work too long without a lunch break and they make you sign a paper saying it was your fault, and give you a point, so they don’t get into trouble. But you can’t leave, because if no one is there the cakes would fall to the ground.

“There’s too much overtime. When I started some lines were doing 6,000 cakes, now they’re doing 13,000. People are doing 12 hours work in eight, and the supervisors get mad at new people when they can’t keep pace,” he said. Many new people quickly get a few weeks and the company is short-handed.

Strikers were joined by supporters from the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, United Steelworkers and the AFL-CIO.

One day longer, one day stronger, we’ll be out here with you in this fight,” Xochitl Cobarrubias, representative of USW Local 675 and of the Labor Cen- tral for Latin American Advancement, told strikers at the rally. People have brought food to the strikers, who have a box for donations in their picket tent across the street from the Jon Donaire plant at 12805 Busch Place here.

— Laura Gartz

Yearly raises effective on Oct. 1 each year are 3% in 2021, 2% in 2022, and 2% plus a bonus in 2023, and 2% plus a 2% bonus in 2024.

“We did unimaginable things, put ourselves in harm’s way, worked long hours, took things home to our fami- lies. It was very insulting after a pan- demic,” registered nurse Kimberly Mullten told the New York Times. “We were feeling — I don’t know any other word — backstabbed.”

The union is still fighting for in- creased staffing levels.

The agreement now goes to the union memberships for a vote.

— Deborah Liotos

Militant/November 29, 2021

Myanmar garment workers strike against pay, benefit cuts

Some 350 workers at the Gigan Apparel factory in Yangon went on strike Oct. 14 demanding that pay cuts and other reductions in their benefits be re- versed. The Militant first heard about the strike from Khant Zarn Aung, president of the Industrial Workers Federation of Myanmar, who is currently in Germany.

The Militant told the workers they only offered us a 50 cents raise, “The government is threatening retaliation, told the Militant from Yangon. Nov. 13 that bosses at the factory cut the daily pay “from 5,100 kyat [$2.87] to 4,800” and also took away other allowances such as food and transportation.

In an attempt to intimidate the workers, “police and soldiers arrived and took pictures of their identification cards,” the worker said. “But as of now no workers have been arrested.”

“We are striking inside the factory,” the worker added, despite the bosses’ attempts to restart production using temporary workers. “If the company restores the wage cuts the strike will end.” Workers first joined the union four years ago.

The strike is taking place despite on- going repression by the military junta, which seized power Feb. 1. Military forces have killed more than 1,200 people, carried out bloody assaults against anti-coup protests and impris- oned over 7,200 since then.

Several union leaders have been jailed, including Thwin Aung, chair of the union at Gagan, who was arrested in September and sentenced to three years in prison a few weeks ago.

Before the coup and the COVID-19 pandemic there were some 600,000 gar- ment workers in Myanmar. Less than 1% of the workers were unionized. Bosses have deepened their attacks on workers’ wages and working conditions.

— Seth Galinsky and James Khyne

The Militant November 29, 2021

Our stand: We’ve been involved for the first time in the international women’s movement.

December 2, 1996

Days after his reelection, William Clinton began preparations to cut Medicare and Social Security under the banner of balancing the federal budget. In doing so, the Democratic president was most important for shaping an agreement with the leaders of the Repub- lican majority in Congress.

“My plan would cut payments to providers and make some other changes,” Clinton said on the ABC news program “This Week.”

Medicare, which covers health care for the elderly and disabled, was first heard about the day after his election. It was act- ed in 1965 along with Medicaid, for the elderly and disabled, was en- act in 1935. The Robinson Act of 1935.

What was most feared, federal retire- ment benefits may take a little more time, preparations to cut Medicare are on the front burner.

25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO

December 3, 1971

Now that the Nov. 13 demonstrations for repeal of anti-abortion laws are over, it is important to evaluate the many marches in San Francis- co and Washington.

The most important accomplish- ment was that for the first time the abortion movement was able to reach large numbers of people with the clear message that the women’s movement wants abortion to be a woman’s right to choose and that women want repeal, not just reform, of anti-abortion laws.

The partial victory of Nov. 20 was its international character. Ac- tions in Paris, Canada, New Zealand, and England, as well as here, served to inspire consciousness around the world. Through building the demonstrations, many new women- en were involved for the first time in the movement.

And 6,000 women in this country, joined by thousands elsewhere, is a force to be reckoned with.

The Militant November 29, 2021

The Militant November 29, 2021
Middle East refugees caught up in EU, Belarus, Moscow conflict

BY ROY LANDERSEN

Thousands of asylum-seekers are trekking between the borders of Syria, Iraq, and Iran to enter the European Union. They are using several routes to escape the impact of war, governance, and exiling opponents and enforcing authoritarian regimes of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

Belarusian police then bused them to the borders of Poland, Lithuania, and Latvia. After a couple of days later, Moscow and Warsaw then joined huge protests and strikes demanding the turbulent regime of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

The Polish, Lithuanian, and Latvian governments have rescued off their borders. Some 15,000 Polish police officers faced when they re-entered the Baltic States as a result. On Nov. 10 they sent heavy bombardments, excorted by Belarusian fighter jets. In freezing conditions, Fleeing Middle East refugees caught up with Poland, the Polish government has rescued them. The Polish, Lithuanian, and Latvian governments have rescued them from within Iraq. This is on top of the number of refugees, workers, and displaced people in the Middle East region. The Polish, Lithuanian, and Latvian governments have rescued them from within Iraq.

In the middle of their fight.

The Socialist Workers Party knows that the EU is now the symbol of the fight there.

There are about 4,000 U.S. troops in Belarus, some of whom say they want to leave as soon as possible. This is a threat to the borders of Poland, Lithuania, and Latvia.

There are about 200,000 refugees in Belarus, some of whom are trying to escape the impact of war, governance, and exiling opponents and enforcing authoritarian regimes of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

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In the middle of their fight.

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Che joined fighters in Bolivia to advance the socialist revolution

Pombo: A Man of Che’s guerrilla
With Che Guevara in Bolivia 1966-68

Harry Villegas

In his 1966 “Message to the Tricontinental,” Che made a thorough and deep-going criticism of this policy of imperialist domination. At the same time he expounded, in all their strategic and contingent dimensions, his anti-imperialist ideas and course of action that by then were already being put into practice through his own personal example. In that message, Che proclaimed: “Our every action is a battle cry against imperialism and a call for the unity of the peoples against the great enemy of the human race: the United States of North America.”

This deep conviction of the Heroic Guerrilla concerning the role played by the United States was rooted in the innumerable acts of imperial aggression that make up the history of contempo-

rary colonialism and neocolonialism in this hemisphere. To mention only a few examples of bloody interventions in our century, there are the cases of Mexico, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Haiti, and Cuba.

The continent as a whole has experienced the varied forms through which this imperialist policy has been systematically implemented. Neocolonialism has left its imprint of economic and po-

ditical domination and deep social crisis, with its resulting hunger, poverty, un-

employment, marginalization, and dev-

astation. And the colonial domination has been enga-

ged by foreign control over its natural resources and products, the exploitation of its workers, and the sharp impoverish-

ment of its economies. Tribute is exacted in ways that violate the sovereignty of the nations of Latin America, pillage their material and spiritual patrimony, deepen their dependence and subjugation to imperialism, and close off pos-

sibilities of development and progress.

Together with a handful of heroic Bo-

vian fighters, a veteran of the Cuban campaign who accompanied him to Bolivia, Che fought to change this reality of the 1960s — a reality whose cruel mechanisms of plunder have since been deepened.

Che’s dream was the dream of [José] Marti and [Simón] Bolívar. In elabo-

rating his strategy, given the struggles already under way in different coun-

dries of the continent, Che envisioned the possibility of forming a guerrilla nucleus, a mother column that would pass through the necessary and diffi-

cult stage of survival and development. Later on it would give birth to new guerrilla columns extending outward toward the Southern Cone of Latin America, giving continuity to a battle that would become continent-wide in scope. He took into account the expe-
ience of the mother column in Cuba’s Sierra Maestra mountains, which gave rise to new guerrilla columns and fronts, culminating in the defeat of the Batista dictatorship and the victory of the Cuban revolution.

Totally convinced that the political conditions were ripe and that this perspective was realizable, Com-

mander Che Guevara carried out his plans and initiated actions to open a path toward victory. In his view, vic-

tory was certain to the degree that the struggle extended as far as possible throughout Latin America and the world. Never has such a small group of in-

dividuals undertaken an enterprise of such gigantic proportions. That small detachment of heroic combatants was Che’s “sling of David.” As our com-

mander in chief [Fidel Castro] pointed out, Che did not outline his ideas, he en-

riched them with his blood…

By Harry Villegas

The Militant   November 29, 2021

Che’s dream was the dream of José Marti and Simón Bolívar. In elaborating his strategy, given the struggles already under way in different countries of the continent, Che envisioned the possibility of forming a guerrilla nucleus, a mother column that would pass through the necessary and difficult stage of survival and development. Later on it would give birth to new guerrilla columns extending outward toward the Southern Cone of Latin America, giving continuity to a battle that would become continent-wide in scope. He took into account the experience of the mother column in Cuba’s Sierra Maestra mountains, which gave rise to new guerrilla columns and fronts, culminating in the defeat of the Batista dictatorship and the victory of the Cuban revolution.

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Continued from page 2

relieting attempt to literally choke off all sources of revenue, all access to capitalism’s international banking system, all exports. They prolong and intensify U.S. capital’s de-
termination to impose sanctions against any country or institution, anywhere in the world, that violates the terms dictated by Washington.

In the face of all that and more, what the people of Cuba have accomplished in combating the pandemic stands as a mighty example of the strengths of Cuba’s socialist revolution. Cuba has been the only country to send significant medical assistance to others around the world. The rapid development and production of three highly effective vaccines (with two more in development) are due in no small measure to belittle as “homogrow” — has now made possible the vaccination of the entire population, including children as young as 2 years old, something no other country has even begun. And now students are returning to schools. Workers are returning to factories and offices. Cuba’s borders are reopening.

We want to say to you that it is the strength of the Cuban revolution — and above all Cuban workers and farmers who are the heart and soul of the socialist revolution, who give strength to revolutionary work-
ing people in the U.S., as well. Who helped us see the way to a socialist future?

For all that we thank you.

Moderna fights US gov’t over patent and profits

BY BRION WILLIAMS

Profit-driven bosses at Moderna haveiced out the main patent for its COVID-19 vaccine the scientists and researchers at the federal government’s National Institutes of Health, which helped pay for and de-
velop it. The fudge over this patent exposes the dog-

tail-gad morality of capitalism, where all so-called health care is a business organized primarily to

maximize profits, not save lives.

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scientists from the federal government’s National

Institutions of Health, which helped pay for and de-
velop it. The fudge over this patent exposes the dog-

tail-gad morality of capitalism, where all so-called health care is a business organized primarily to

maximize profits, not save lives.

Moderna filed for the patent in July, claiming the company invented the mRNA technology used in its vaccine. It entirely excluded the scientists from the federal agency’s Vaccine Research Center who helped
develop the genetic sequence that prompts the vaccine to produce an immune response to the virus. Moderna and its researchers patented on mRNA vac-
cine development for four years.

Moderna, which prior to its COVID-19 vaccine had never brought any product to market, received nearly $1.4 billion from the U.S. government to develop and test the vaccine and $8.1 billion to produce half a bil-

lion doses. Moderna is on track this year to bring in up to $18 billion in revenue, with deals worth up to another $20 billion set for 2022.

Ownership of the patent guarantees a monopoly on production and superprofits. It enables Moderna, like its chief competitor Pfizer and other pharmaceutical

monopolies, to block the manufacture and distribution of these vaccines worldwide.

Moderna is not interested in ramping up production to meet the overwhelming demand.

But we in the United States must never forget that our responsibilities are right here. It is we above all who must educate and organize against the policies of the U.S. government — the brutal representative policies of the U.S. ruling families carried out by Democratic and Republic-

an administrations alike. It is our responsibil-

ity to denounce and expose the new, escalating level of aggression being organized by the liberal Demo-
cratic administration in office today. To condemn the

provision that is planned for Nov. 15 as an excuse to further tighten the chokehold on the Cuban people. We will know the monopoly of Wash-

ington’s policies over 60 years and counting. It is fear of Cuban working people, fear of their socialist revo-

lution, and, above all, fear of the example they set for working people around the world.

That is why we too will be in the streets together with others on Nov. 15 making our voices heard.

We all look forward to the day — and hope it comes sooner rather than later — when all Cubans across the island as they pour into the streets in their organized and disciplined masses, as they do every year on May Day, to proclaim to the world that this is their revolution, not with all its unfinished tasks as well as all its glories.

They will show the world that they are the vast ma-

jority of Cubans, and that those in Cuba who are insti-
gating the present social and economic crisis, whether they set for-

ding to complete vaccination of the entire eligible

population by the end of the year.

Salk’s: ‘Could you patent the sun?’

A starkly different approach was taken nearly 70 years ago when Jonas Salk developed a vaccine for polio, which saved millions of lives. Instead of seeking a

patent, Salk made this scientific advance available to all humanity.

When he was asked who owned the polio vaccine patent, Salk replied, “Well, the people, I would say. There is no patent. Could you patent the sun?”

In 1952 there were 58,000 children in the U.S. paralyzed by polio, and hundreds of thousands more worldwide. Salk’s vaccine was given voluntarily through the schools with parents’ consent, starting in 1955. By 1962 the eradication reduced polio virus in-
fec tions by about 95%.

Revolutionary Cuba is advancing steadily in its vac-
cine program. Over 90% of the population has had at least one shot — of one of three vaccines that random-

eous researchers have developed. We are near, and over 90% are fully vaccinated, well ahead of the overwhelming majority of countries. And this is despite the U.S. eco-
nomic embargo, which makes it hard to import neces-
sary raw materials.

This is being done not through vaccine mandates but by convincing people of the need to get the shots, which are free for everyone. The government is orga-
nizing to complete vaccination of the entire eligible
population by the end of the year.

This is possible because working people in Cuba trust the government and see it as their own, a result of the evolution that overthrew the Stalinist dictatorship in 1959 and brought the working class to power. And the Cuban government is making its vac-
cines available to other countries, including Nikara-
gua, Iran, Venezuela and Vietnam.

Cuba’s success shows what is possible when work-

ing people make a socialist revolution and take health care out of the hands of profit-hungry capitalists.