

# THE MILITANT

**SPECIAL FEATURE**

**'There Is No Peace!' — SWP  
from 1945 to today's crises**  
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A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. 89/NO. 12 MARCH 31, 2025

## New documents show Hamas, Tehran aimed to destroy Israel

BY NAOMI CRAINE

Documents discovered by the Israel Defense Forces in Gaza that were recently made public confirm that Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, pogrom had the explicit aim of destroying Israel. They record exchanges between Hamas, Hezbollah and the reactionary regime in Tehran about how to do this going back years, underscoring that what is at stake in Israel's war to dismantle Hamas and to eliminate Tehran's ability to acquire nuclear weapons is to prevent another Holocaust.

An analysis of the documents was published March 13 by Uri Rosset, a researcher at Sapir College in Israel, near the Gaza border. "The idea that the very existence of the State of Israel (the Zionist entity) is illegal and immoral has been ingrained in Hamas' worldview since its founding," Rosset wrote, but "the issue of 'the destruction of Israel' remained a vision for the future."

The captured documents show that  
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## Paul Mailhot, SWP candidate for mayor of New York

### 'Fight for workers power key to humanity moving forward'



Militant/Mike Shur

Paul Mailhot, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of New York, campaigns at March 15 union rally against government job cuts. Mailhot is seeking coverage in New York media.

Below is a March 13 letter to the editors of the New York Post by Paul Mailhot, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of New York. Pointing to the paper's March 9 feature interview with Zohran Mamdani, the Democratic Socialists of America candidate for mayor in the upcoming

Democratic Party primary, Mailhot requests the Post run an interview with him to present "an accurate representation of what a socialist candidate for mayor in New York stands for." Mailhot has yet to receive an answer.

To the editors of the New York Post

The New York Post recently ran a feature article based on a sit-down interview with the Democratic Socialists of America candidate for mayor in the upcoming  
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## End Moscow's war! Support the sovereignty of Ukraine!

BY ROY LANDERSEN

Ukrainian working people are determined to keep fighting to defend their country's sovereignty, and have largely stood their ground under assault from Moscow's invading military over the past three years.

The struggle continues as conflicts between ruling classes worldwide for markets, resources, profits and influence are sharpening. The U.S. rulers want to end the destabilizing impact of Moscow's war, the largest military conflict in Europe in decades, in order to better advance their own strategic interests there and globally.

The Donald Trump administration wants to normalize relations with Moscow in an effort to halt the expanding ties between Russian President Vladimir Putin's regime and Beijing, Washington's main rival. Trump also seeks Putin's cooperation in imposing stability for the U.S. rulers' interests in the Middle East.

After consultations with Kyiv led Trump to proposing a 30-day ceasefire, his two-hour March 18 phone call with Putin resulted instead in a much  
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## 1,000 unionists protest proposed gov't 'No strike' law in Quebec



Militant

Some 1,000 unionists rallied in Montreal March 14 to demand Quebec government withdraw proposed anti-labor Bill 89. Law would allow government to force striking workers back to work, impose contracts through binding arbitration, a direct attack on workers' right to strike.

BY JOE YOUNG

MONTREAL — Some 1,000 unionists rallied here March 14 to demand the Quebec government withdraw the proposed anti-labor Bill 89. They rallied near the Plaza Centre-Ville where Quebec Minister of Labour Jean Boulet was scheduled to speak.

The bill would allow the Quebec government to force striking workers back to work and impose contracts on them through binding arbitration, a direct at-

tack on the right to strike.

All the four major union federations — the Quebec Federation of Labour, Confederation of National Trade Unions (CSN), Quebec Labour Congress and the Congress of Democratic Trade Unions — joined the rally, as well as the Inter-professional Health Federation of Quebec, Autonomous Education Federation, Alliance of Professional and Technical Personnel in Health and So-

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## Workers told to tighten their belts in the face of ongoing high prices

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

High prices for food, rent and other necessities continue to hit working people hard, forcing families to cut back spending. One reflection of this is a 4.3% drop over the past year in purchases at convenience stores.

"Americans are stopping for gas, but they aren't grabbing their usual snacks or smokes," complained a March 13

Wall Street Journal article, reporting reduced sales "of Doritos, Twinkies, Heath bars and Newport." Bakery snacks are down by 9% and chocolate candy by 6.2%, and fewer people are picking up a large bag of chips that costs \$7 in many stores.

But the impact of this squeeze goes much wider. Fast-food sales dropped by a double-digit percentage in the fourth quarter of 2024 compared with a year earlier, McDonald's reports. And sales of clothing and other items in department stores have plunged 12% on apparel and 22% on sneakers so far this year.

In another article that day, the *Journal*  
**Continued on page 2**

## Victory! Ban on 'Militant' in Florida prisons is overturned

BY JANET POST

Victory! The *Militant* was informed March 19 that the ban on its issue no. 2 in Florida prisons has been overturned.

"On March 6, 2025, the Literature Review Committee decided to overturn the impoundment of The Militant, Vol. 89, No. 2," Saritza Legault, the prison system's library services administrator, informed *Militant* attorney David Goldstein. "This issue  
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# Workers told to tighten their belts

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*nal* bemoaned the fact that “Consumer angst is striking all income levels.” The *Financial Times* reports “consumer” long-term inflation expectations just hit the highest level in 32 years.

But there’s no such thing as “consumers.” This is one of the generalities bourgeois economists use to try to paper over class-divided reality. It’s the working class that faces mounting difficulties in making ends meet, in sharp contrast to the capitalist ruling families and their upper-middle-class hangers-on, who may well be racked with “angst,” but their concern is in gyrations on the stock market, not what they have to shell out to put a roof over their heads.

The superwealthy splurge on opulent digs costing tens of millions of dollars, while most working-class households spend 30% or more of their income trying to cover rent and utilities.

Look at a few examples of real estate on the market today. For \$59 million you can purchase a 32,000-square-foot home built on a hill the owners had the top chopped off to facilitate construc-

tion in the glitzy Palm Springs area of California. It has seven bedrooms, three pools, an overhead shark tank and a pretty neat view.

Or there’s the *Journal’s* “House of the Week” in Scottsdale, Arizona, for a measly \$19.5 million. It includes a fancy underground basketball court and \$100,000 closet specially designed to display your sneaker collection, along with seven bedrooms and 18 baths.

In the Big Apple, where I live, the Woolworth Mansion is on the market, the largest private residence now on sale in Manhattan, with nine bedrooms and 11 bathrooms, for only \$50 million.

Meanwhile, rising utility rates are putting a hard-hitting squeeze on working people. Con Edison is pushing for an 11.4% increase for electricity and 13.3% for gas in New York City, where more than 1.3 million households are already behind on their energy bills.

“I have done everything I can to manage expenses,” Mary Bove, 68, a retiree who lives with her husband in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, told the *New York Times*. “I keep my thermostat at 63 day, 58 at night. I limit my electric usage,” but bills are still soaring, she said.

## Gov’t figures lie about inflation

The consumer price index rose 2.8% in February over 12 months earlier. But this figure does not include the huge amount of money working people pay in interest, on auto loans, mortgages and credit card debt. This is because the government switched how it calculates price rises in a way that minimizes these figures.

“If we take interest into account,” reports *Barron’s*, “year-over-year inflation spiked to 18% in 2022, rather than the official 9%, and was still 8%

## Massive action in Belgrade topples government



Reuters/Igor Pavicevic

Over 100,000 demonstrators poured into the streets of Belgrade, Serbia’s capital, March 15, capping four months of protests sparked by a train station’s roof collapse in the city of Novi Sad Nov. 1 that killed 15 people. Accusations of widespread government corruption and negligence rapidly evolved into a nationwide movement opposing the rule of President Aleksandar Vucic.

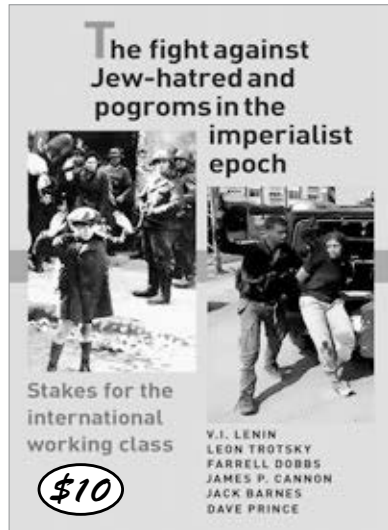
Tens of thousands walked, cycled and drove — including farmers on tractors — from across the country to join the action after the government shut down all public transportation to Belgrade. They arrived to a joyous welcome by city residents who provided outdoor heaters and hot food. Workers swelled the size of the protest, turning it into one of the largest demonstrations in the country. Banner above says “Rotten to the core, get out support.”

Loyalists backing Vucic, including the dreaded paramilitary unit accused of war crimes during the wars in the Balkans in the 1990s, surrounded the presidential palace. Vucic warned the protest could end in bloodshed, saying the only way he would leave office was “if they kill me.” He back-pedaled as the huge rally assembled, claiming he “understood” the protesters’ concerns, and “we will have to change ourselves.”

On March 19 the government of Prime Minister Milos Vucevic resigned.

In power 12 years, Vucic has maintained close ties with the Kremlin, including after Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine. In August he announced earlier discussions about Serbia joining the European Union in 2028 were off the table.

— VIVIAN SAHNER



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# THE MILITANT

## Crisis, gang violence hang heavy on Haitian workers

*Decades of imperialist plunder, today’s unfolding worldwide economic crisis and gang violence has brought misery down on working people in Haiti. Gains won by unions in 2022 have been undercut by layoffs of tens of thousands of textile and garment workers.*



Reuters/Ralph Tedy Erol

Protesters demand a higher minimum wage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Feb. 17, 2022.

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at the end of 2023, when the official rate was 3.3%.”

More and more workers are being forced to put everyday purchases on their credit cards. But the annual interest rate banks charge for unpaid card balances has hit record highs, over 20%, pushing many working people deeper into debt. The vast majority of car purchases are financed with loans, with auto debt now exceeding \$1.6 trillion. And 30-year mortgage rates more than doubled, from 3% in 2021 to 7% today.

Household interest payments — remember, the government doesn’t count these in its consumer price index reports — grew from \$600 billion in the

last quarter of 2020 to over \$1 trillion by the end of 2023.

On top of the ravages of sky-high prices, “it’s getting ‘uncomfortably difficult’ to find a job,” a March 8 Market-Watch article says. While the official unemployment rate in February rose only slightly, to 4.1% from 4% the previous month, the number of workers forced to accept part-time hours increased by over 400,000, to 4.9 million.

And it’s taking unemployed workers longer to find another job. A growing number of workers find themselves jobless for at least 27 weeks, the Bureau of Labor Statistics says. But unemployment insurance runs out at 26 weeks.

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# Support Ukraine sovereignty!

Continued from front page

more limited agreement, to halt long-range missile strikes on energy infrastructure.

But Putin placed a major condition on further talks, demanding “the complete cessation of foreign military aid and sharing intelligence with Kyiv.” This would allow Putin’s expansionist regime to push ahead with its assault on Ukraine.

After a monthlong attack by Russian and North Korean forces on Ukrainian positions and supply lines in the Kursk region of Russia, Ukrainian troops staged a withdrawal to hills near the Ukrainian border.

As elsewhere, on the southeastern front lines Russian forces have suffered heavy losses in order to claim only minor advances, with the Putin regime continuing to sacrifice the lives of Russian workers in uniform.

gets visits from wounded veterans recounting stories from the front lines. “One veteran once said out loud how they ‘captured Mariupol.’ Sounds like a slip up. Weren’t they supposed to have ‘liberated,’” the Ukrainian city, he asked.

Feodor said that to participate in extracurricular activities at the school, students are required to join the Movement of the First, an organization established by the government to build support for the war.

Many of his classmates joke online that the association is like the Pioneer camps established for youth by the police-state regime in the former Soviet Union. But then in school, “they are forced to condemn the types of things they shared on their Telegram” messaging app.



Reuters/Alina Smutko

Damage from March 19 Russian drone strike on civilian targets in Hostomel, near Kyiv, hours after phone call on ceasefire between Presidents Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin.

## EDITORIAL

### Oppose use of witch-hunt law to deport Mahmoud Khalil!

#### Repression of anti-war views

The Kremlin claims a majority of the Russian people support its war, but in fact it relies on severe repression and censorship to try to stifle anti-war sentiment and prevent mass protests. As of Feb. 17, at least 1,185 people face criminal prosecution and lengthy prison terms over their opposition to the war, according to the rights group OVD.info.

During the past year, wives and mothers of mobilized soldiers have demonstrated in Moscow, Yekaterinburg and St. Petersburg, demanding the return of their loved ones from the front. The protests continued in face of cops detaining participants.

A high school student in Russia’s Ural region described the regime’s efforts to build support for the war at his school, in the March 12 DOXA Journal. Feodor, using a false name to avoid persecution, said the school

The move by Washington to deport Mahmoud Khalil is based on witch-hunt laws put on the books to target communists and other opponents of capitalism’s exploitation, oppression and wars. It should be opposed by working people. Khalil, a former student at Columbia University in New York, was arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents March 8 and is being held in a detention facility in Louisiana.

Since Hamas’ Oct. 7, 2023, massacre of Jews in Israel, Khalil has organized actions that call for the destruction of Israel and threaten Jewish students. Workers and our unions have a big stake in fighting Jew-hatred, which the capitalist rulers have used to divide workers and crush workers’ organizations as crises deepen in the imperialist epoch.

At issue here is not Khalil’s pro-Hamas politics — abhorrent to millions — but the U.S. government’s use of the infamous Immigration and Nationality Act, adopted in 1952, to target communists and other opponents of government policies based on their political views. The thought-control statute allows the expulsion of anyone the government claims “would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences” for Washington.

Adopted during the McCarthyite witch hunt, the law was used to deport immigrants on the basis of their membership, past membership or association with the Communist Party or any organization deemed “totalitarian” by the U.S. rulers.

It’s part of the arsenal of witch-hunt statutes the capitalist class can use to

attack working people at home and to advance their predatory military interventions abroad. It goes side by side with the use of the FBI and other political police agencies, as well as the Foreign Agents Registration Act, which criminalizes people whose political views align with governments Washington opposes. Last year leaders of the African People’s Socialist Party were framed up as “foreign agents.”

Two years after it was adopted, the Immigration and Nationality Act was used to try to deport Carl Skoglund, a leader of the Socialist Workers Party. The 1954 deportation order cited the fact Skoglund had been a member of the Communist Party up to 1928. He was won to support Leon Trotsky’s efforts to defend the legacy of V.I. Lenin against a counterrevolution led by Joseph Stalin. Skoglund left the CP to help found the SWP.

Protests against Skoglund’s deportation won his release from the ship he was on in New York harbor, 10 minutes before it was set to sail.

William Worthy, a Black U.S. citizen who traveled to Cuba in 1961, was charged under the act on his return. “No other U.S. citizens have ever been indicted,” the *Militant* reported, “for having returned ‘illegally’ to their native country.” Since then, the Immigration and Nationality Act has been used to delay or deny visas to Cubans invited to speak in the U.S.

As Leon Trotsky explained in 1939, “Under conditions of the bourgeois regime, all suppression of political rights and freedom, no matter whom they are directed against in the beginning, in the end inevitably bear down upon the working class, particularly its most advanced elements. That is a law of history.”

The use of the act against Khalil today sets a dangerous precedent for its use against workers, our unions, political organizations like the SWP and others in the years ahead as the class struggle heats up. It should be condemned by all defenders of constitutional protections, regardless of his Jew-hating views and anti-working-class actions.

### Build solidarity with San Jose transit workers strike

BY BETSEY STONE

SAN JOSE, Calif. — As they enter their second week on strike, over 1,500 bus drivers, light-rail operators, mechanics and office workers here, members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 265, continue to maintain strong picket lines in their fight against the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority.

Instead of meeting the union’s demands, management is vilifying the strikers, painting them as greedy and heartless in inconveniencing over 100,000 people who use public transit in the county.

When Socialist Workers Party mayoral candidate Eric Simpson and campaign supporters joined one of the many picket lines March 17, strikers expressed out-

rage at the slanders against them. “We are the ones who know and watch out for the people who ride on our routes,” driver Marta Sacil told us. “I love my job and I’m missing all those I usually see, like the woman in the wheelchair I pick up all the time.

“In the news all they talk about is that we want a wage increase and given the prices today, we do need one,” Sacil said. “But our fight for the right to bring our grievances to arbitration is the bigger issue. They don’t explain this because they want it to look like all we care about is money.”

Jeff Down, a bus driver for 20 years, told us that up to now whenever a union member came under company attack, or was threatened with firing, the union

voted on whether to pursue the grievance. “Now management wants to decide if the grievance is real or not,” Down said. “It’s the fox asking to be in charge of the henhouse.”

He said he was inspired by the strength and determination of the strikers, most of whom have never been on a picket line before. “There’s a strong bond between us,” said Down.

The union is asking for a 6% raise each year of a three-year contract. Workers told us that with rents skyrocketing in San Jose many have moved to cheaper areas and travel longer distances to work. When you add to that the split shifts many work, it’s a long day leaving little time for family.

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority bosses sought an injunction to shut down the strike, a move the court has denied, at least for now. The company also called on Gov. Gavin Newsom to impose a cooling-off period.

Miguel Solano, one of the younger drivers, told Simpson he was proud to be part of the fight. “When you stand up to the company, you’re making history. What you are doing is in the interest of all working people,” Simpson said.

Help is needed for this important fight. Join any of the daily picket lines throughout Santa Clara County. Donations can be made on the ATU Local 265 website.

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# Montreal forum: ‘Workers in US, Canada have same class interests’

BY MICHEL PRAIRIE

MONTREAL — “Workers have the same interests in the U.S., Canada and around the world. We need to stand against Washington and Ottawa’s efforts to use their tariff confrontation to line us up behind them and against each other,” Craig Honts said at a March 8 Militant Labor Forum here. He is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for lieutenant governor of New Jersey.

Honts spoke on a panel with Jean-Baptiste Uguelin, a leader of the effort to unionize an Amazon distribution center in Laval, near Montreal, and Joe Young, a member of the Communist League just back from Edmonton, Alberta, where he joined the actions of 6,000 striking school workers and reported on their strike for the *Militant*. Twenty-two people attended the forum.

The SWP “grew out of working-class opposition to the imperialist slaughter of World War I and in support for the Russian Revolution, which showed that the working class taking power was the road to ending the war,” said Honts. “And it did end it. Workers took power in Russia in 1917 and said, ‘We’re done fighting this war.’”

“The crises of capitalism that drove the convulsions and world wars of the 20th century are very much continuing today,” he said, “seen in the intensifying bare-knuckle competition, the raw imperialist arrogance, the march toward more and more wars.

“This sharpening competition among imperialist powers is reflected in escalating attacks on workers everywhere,” Honts continued. “Tariffs are among the ways the U.S. capitalist class is fighting to further its own interests against its rivals.

“And the attacks on undocumented immigrants are also aimed at promoting their own profit-driven interests. They have no intention of deporting the 11 million-plus undocumented workers in the U.S. today,” he said. “They aim to deport just enough to terrorize the millions without papers into working for even less under worse conditions, increase their exploitation, and divide the working class in the process. It’s why the SWP calls for an amnesty for all undocumented workers in the U.S.”

The SWP campaign, Honts said, explains that working people “need to break from the parties of the capitalist class and take political power into our own hands.”

Uguelin described the brutal working conditions that led 230 workers at Amazon to join the Confederation of Na-

tional Trade Unions (CSN) last year, in the first of the company’s warehouses to unionize in Canada. “We could have up to 20 injuries every two weeks,” he said.

## Fight to build unions today

Many workers there are immigrants who feared joining the effort, he said. Ottawa deports thousands of immigrants every year. Uguelin explained that it took a lot of face-to-face discussions outside the workplace to win a majority for the union. He said he had only come from Haiti two years ago and this was his first job here.

“In the middle of negotiating our first contract, the company announced Jan. 22 it was closing all its seven distribution centers in Quebec,” he said. The CSN estimates that close to 4,000 workers will lose their jobs at Amazon and related companies. Amazon workers in Laval are now fighting for improved compensation when they are laid off.

“Unionizing Amazon will be difficult,” he said. “But it is possible if we work at it. The working class faces many obstacles. We need to make progress toward taking power to end capitalism, the system that is exploiting us.”

## School workers strike in Alberta

Joe Young, a member of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union, described what he and Communist League supporter Ned Dmytryshyn from Vancouver learned from their trip to Alberta.

What began in November as a local strike by school support workers in Fort McMurray in the north of the province has since expanded across Alberta, involving more than 6,000 workers, members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

# Unionists protest proposed ‘No strike’ law in Quebec

Continued from front page

cial Services, Quebec government professional workers, and the Quebec civil service union.

Caroline Senneville, president of the CSN, told City TV, “All the unions in Quebec are represented here. This is a first demonstration, and I can tell you it won’t be the last.”

In an open letter to the provincial government, the nine union organizations point out “if Bill 89 can be said to benefit one group in particular, it’s certainly that of the bosses.” They



Militant/Katy LeRougetel

Philippe Tessier, left, a Teamster rail worker and Communist League candidate for Parliament in Montreal, speaks with Elijah Moulin, one of 600 strikers at Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth Hotel Feb. 15. Militant Labor Forum here discussed workers’ struggles in Canada and U.S.

“These workers, mainly women, do everything but the teaching,” Young said. “They are librarians, janitors, educational assistants, cooks and more. They are grossly underpaid. They haven’t gotten a wage increase in nine years and have had no contract for four years. Workers in rural areas are paid 5 Canadian dollars an hour (\$3.50) less than those in urban centers.”

It’s a hard-fought struggle. “The government offer is well under inflation,” said Young. “The schools are open as the teachers aren’t on strike. Strike-breakers have been hired. The government refuses to negotiate, hoping to starve the strikers out.

“But they are determined, and solidarity is substantial,” he said, urging forum goers to “make the fight known. Ask your union, student or other organizations to send solidarity messages.”

In the lively discussion that followed, one participant asked whether it is really possible to unionize huge outlets like Amazon and Walmart.

Yes, the panelists and several par-

ticipants said. “In the U.S.,” Honts said, “some 400,000 workers went on strike over the last four years. Many won gains in wages and improved working conditions, and, in the case of hotel workers in California, in defending immigrant co-workers.”

“The Amazon workers in Laval,” Steve Penner, a leader of the Communist League, said, “have shown it is possible to overcome the divisions fostered by the rulers and organize the unorganized, an essential task for the labor movement.

“But trade union struggles are not enough. Workers need our own political party, a party of labor based on the unions that could mobilize our strength in a fight for improved working and living conditions, but above all to take political power and reorganize society on the basis of human needs.

“The parties leading this course forward today are the Communist League here and the Socialist Workers Party in the U.S.,” he said. “We ask you to join us in this effort.”

announced they were convening a wider meeting of labor March 31 to discuss what to do next to defeat the government attack.

“This is a frontal attack in response to our mobilization in 2023,” Melanie Robert, president of the Autonomous Education Federation, said. That was the massive mobilization of 600,000 Quebec public workers during their last negotiation with the government. Their fight for better conditions in health care and education for the working class won widespread support.

## More union delegations attend

Some postal workers also joined the protest. The federal government had ordered them back to work last December. In September Ottawa did the same thing to longshore workers on the west coast as well as in Montreal and Quebec City.

“I am here because I want to work to keep the present relationship of forces and all the things we have won in the past,” Richard Martin, president of Local 255 of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers in Vaudreuil, a suburb of Montreal, told the *Militant*.

A contingent of workers locked out by bosses at Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth Hotel, members of the CSN, participated. “They can’t gag us, they can’t

stop us from demonstrating,” Chana Francois explained. “They only think of their pockets.” Locked out for three months, the workers were just hit with an injunction limiting their picketing.

A contingent representing the 2,000 teaching aides on strike against Concordia University also joined in.

“The demonstration was a great opportunity for different union parties to reunite and fight against this atrocious bill the government is putting in place,” Giulio Archambeault, a Canadian National rail worker and member of the Teamsters, said.

Last summer the federal government intervened to end a national rail strike and imposed binding arbitration. “Management uses this to get their way,” Archambeault said. “Arbitrators are usually on management’s side.”

## Socialist Workers Party Campaign Join in building the working-class alternative

### California

Eric Simpson, mayor of Oakland

### Florida

Laura Anderson, mayor of Miami

### Georgia

Susan LaMont, mayor of Atlanta

### Minnesota

Kevin Dwire, mayor of Minneapolis  
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### New Jersey

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### New York

Paul Mailhot, mayor of New York City

### Ohio

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# SWP introduces candidates, ‘Militant,’ books to working people

BY MAGGIE TROWE

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Socialist Workers Party spring campaign to introduce working people to the party’s 2025 candidates, expand the readership of the *Militant*, get out books on revolutionary working-class politics, and raise contributions to the Militant Fighting Fund gets underway March 22.

Eric Simpson, the party’s candidate for mayor of Oakland, joined the picket lines of 1,500 striking members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 265 in San Jose March 16. He’s also spoken at three candidates’ debates and is campaigning in working-class neighborhoods throughout the region.

At a March 15 forum at City Hall sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Simpson explained the SWP is involved in today’s labor and social struggles. The party presents a road forward for workers to take power from the capitalist class and into our own hands, he said, in order to end the capitalists’ drive toward economic and social catastrophe and another world war.

After hearing Simpson speak, two workers came by the SWP campaign table and subscribed to the *Militant*.



Eric Simpson, SWP candidate for mayor of Oakland, California, is interviewed by KQED public media reporter Alex Hall at candidates’ panel at the Allen Temple Baptist Church March 8.

A number of union members at the Ghirardelli chocolate factory where Simpson works in San Leandro are following his campaign. El Tímpano, a news website that serves the large East Bay Mexican and Guatemalan commu-

nities, wrote that Simpson campaigns “for amnesty” for undocumented immigrant workers in the U.S. to strengthen the working class.

The SWP and the Communist Leagues in Australia, Canada and

the U.K. are organizing to win 1,300 people to subscribe to the *Militant*, get out the same number of books by SWP leaders and other revolutionaries, and raise \$165,000 for the Militant Fighting Fund. The books recount the history and lessons from decades of working-class struggles that are vital for working people today.

“What is going on in this world?” student Natty Assefa asked Communist League campaigner Jonathan Silberman when Silberman knocked on his door in London March 15. “From what I’ve seen, the problem in the Middle East is that Hamas keeps attacking Jews.”

Silberman showed him *The Fight Against Jew-Hatred and Pogroms in the Imperialist Epoch: Stakes for the International Working Class*. He pointed to a section of the book that describes how the forerunners of Hamas collaborated with the Nazis to try to extend their Holocaust in World War II to the Middle East.

“Everybody needs to know about this,” Assefa said. He got the book and a subscription.

In New Jersey, supporters of Joanne Kuniansky, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor, are signing up 3,200 people to get the SWP candidate on the ballot, well over the requirement.

“The wars unfolding today are heading toward another worldwide imperialist slaughter,” Craig Honts, SWP candidate for lieutenant governor, told a retired nurse when he knocked on her door in East Orange March 16. “Conflicts between rival capitalists are the source of the attacks coming down on workers’ living standards,” he said.

She told Honts she was fortunate to have a pension, but her mother doesn’t and is struggling to get by. She signed to put Kuniansky on the ballot and got a copy of the *Militant*.

To get involved in the SWP campaigns, contact the party branch nearest you on page 6. Contributions to the Militant Fighting Fund can be made online at [www.themilitant.com](http://www.themilitant.com).

## ‘Fight for workers power key to humanity moving forward’

Continued from front page

ists of America candidate for mayor of New York — “Socialist NYC mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani wants to hike corporate taxes to pay for loads of freebies.”

In the interest of your readers, and of an accurate representation of what a socialist candidate for mayor in New York stands for, I would like to request the *Post* do a sit-down interview with me. I am the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of New York.

My party’s history traces to the founding of the communist movement in the United States in 1919, and all of the militant labor battles and civil rights struggles leading to and since that have marked its development. Our continuity is rooted in the ideas and revolutionary activity of Marx and Engels, Lenin and the Russian Revolution, Leon Trotsky and the fight against the Stalinist betrayal of communism, and in defense of Cuba’s socialist revolution led by Fidel Castro.

The Socialist Workers Party has run candidates for mayor each election since 1937, and candidates for president for each election since 1948.

Democrat Mamdani’s platform is a list of promises working people are supposed to take for good coin — if he is elected there will be free transit, free child care, no rent increases, lower prices on the grocery shelves, and so on. A slight increase in corporate taxes will do the trick.

But all of the big political questions today are decided on the basis of which class rules. The burdens on working people are the product of a crisis-ridden, profit-first capitalist system in the epoch of imperialism’s decline. If we don’t start with the world, we’ll never be able to understand why working people face ever lower living standards, job speedup, less safety at work, and why the opening guns of World War III grow louder.

Your readers deserve to know there is a *working-class* alternative in the race for mayor this year. A socialist candidate who stands with fellow workers on union picket lines, joins fights for jobs,

better wages and working conditions. My campaign defends constitutional protections, and backs the struggles of African Americans for equal rights and points to the legacy of the internationalist ideas of Malcolm X in his final year. It fights for women’s emancipation.

I am a socialist candidate from a Roman-Catholic family who condemns the Hamas-organized pogrom against Jews on October 7, 2023, and supports the fight against Jew-hatred and for Israel’s right to exist as a refuge for Jews; and for Ukraine’s sovereignty against Moscow’s invasion while at the same time calling for the withdrawal of US troops and nuclear weapons from Europe. The Socialist Workers Party builds actions to end Washington’s brutal economic war against Cuba’s socialist revolution.

Our party defends all those oppressed

and exploited by capital, including working farmers, and the millions of workers without papers who should be granted amnesty in order to strengthen the unity of the working class.

The key to humanity moving forward is for working people to break from reliance on capitalist parties’ promises, fight for the working class to take political power, and join the worldwide struggle for socialism.

Please consider this request, and give your readers a chance to read what the Socialist Workers Party candidate has to say.

Paul Mailhot  
Socialist Workers Party Candidate  
for Mayor of New York

## Hotel workers locked out in Montreal

BY FRANÇOIS BRADETTE

MONTREAL — Some 600 workers at Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth Hotel, members of the Confederation of National Trade Unions (CSN), have been locked out here since Nov. 20. This is the largest hotel in Quebec, with 950 rooms.

Since the lockout, strikers have picketed in shifts six days a week, Saturday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Strikers told the *Militant* March 6 that bosses locked them out the day after they voted down a proposed contract by 90%. The union and company agreed to a 21% wage increase over four years, but reached an impasse over key issues of the workload for housekeepers and the bosses’ increased use of nonunion agency workers.

The union is demanding the number of rooms to be cleaned each shift be capped at 11, while the bosses want 13 during peak season and 14 the rest of the year. Workers say that since the hotel’s multimillion-dollar renovation in 2017, management has increased the workload, causing fatigue and injuries.

“Since the renovations, shower curtains have been replaced with glass

doors, and marble tables have been added,” Edwin, a housekeeper with 20 years’ seniority, told the *Militant*. “But they want us to clean the same number of rooms per shift.” She said she didn’t want to use her last name for fear of company retaliation.

There is a staff shortage because management doesn’t replace workers who quit. The number of cleaners has fallen from 200 to 120. Striking workers from Hotel Pur in Quebec City made a two-and-a-half-hour trip to join locked-out workers and other supporters Feb. 20, helping swell the number on the picket line into the hundreds.

“If the Queen Elizabeth bosses think they can break the union by dragging out the lockout they are badly mistaken,” Dominique Daigneault, president of the Montreal CSN Central Council, told the pickets. “The only way to end the conflict is to put a contract on the table that improves the wages and working conditions of the workers.”

Join the picket line! Send donations to CSN, 1601 Ave. De Lorimier, Montreal QC, H2K 4M5, earmarked for the strike.

## Ban overturned

Continued from front page

of *The Militant* will be approved to be distributed.”

This successful defense of the constitutional right of workers behind bars to get newspapers they choose and of the *Militant* to reach its subscribers is the fruit of the campaign we waged.

Organizations like the Florida Press Association, which represents all daily newspapers in the state; American Civil Liberties Union of Florida; and Amnesty International USA, as well as unionists and others across the country, joined in urging the prison authorities to reverse the ban.

“The *Militant* has been successful in a large majority of its fights against prison bans, in Florida and elsewhere,” editor John Studer said. “I’d like to extend a thank-you to all those who joined us in this fight.”

Authorities at the Santa Rosa Correctional Institution had impounded the issue, claiming two articles made the issue “inadmissible” — one on the front page, “Israel fights for right to exist as a refuge from Jew-hatred,” and one on page 7, “Jew-hatred, ‘racial purity’ at heart of Hamas program.”

There are over 100 *Militant* subscribers in Florida prisons.



# Hamas aimed to destroy Israel

Continued from front page

in recent years, however, Hamas leaders and their allies came to see their goal “as executable and highly feasible in the near future,” and developed “practical plans and ongoing coordination between the elements of the ‘axis of resistance,’” Rosset said. This strategic shift accelerated after the round of fighting between Hamas and the Israeli government in the spring of 2021, which was provoked by Hamas missile attacks on Israeli civilians.

Hamas’ origins lie in the Egypt-based Muslim Brotherhood and other reactionary forces that allied with Adolf Hitler’s Nazis during World War II. Far from being a national liberation organization, Hamas sacrifices Palestinian lives by using them as human shields in its murderous assaults on Israel and by glorying in their “martyrdom.”

One of the documents is a June 5, 2021, letter from Hamas leaders Yahya Sinwar, Mohammed Deif and Marwan Issa sent to Esmail Qaani, commander of the Iranian regime’s Quds Force. “We are confident at end of these two years ... we will uproot this distorted entity,” they wrote, referring to Israel as a “cancer.” In order to carry out this perspective, they request \$500 million in additional financing from Tehran.

The same day, the Hamas leaders sent a letter to Iran’s Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei. “This imagined entity [Israel] is weaker than people think,” they said. “With your assistance ... we are capable of uprooting it and removing it, in the near future.”

In June 2022, Sinwar wrote to Ismail Haniyeh, then-head of Hamas’ Political Bureau, outlining various scenarios for launching a war to obliterate the Jews in Israel. Since the 2021 ceasefire in Gaza

“our jihad fighters have been preparing at a maximum speed and without hindrance. They are confident that their level of preparedness for a great strategic battle that will change the face of the region and its rules of engagement is almost complete.”

Sinwar laid out his preferred plan as a “large-scale strategic campaign” of Hamas, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and Tehran-backed militias in Syria, Iraq and Yemen, “aiming to overthrow the occupying state, eliminate it” and “leading to the rise of the great regional Islamic revolution.”

Alternately, Sinwar suggested two other scenarios in which Hamas would “enter this battle with full force,” with more or less involvement from Hezbollah, on Israel’s northern border. This is along the lines of what was actually carried out a little over a year later with Tehran’s full backing.

The Oct. 7, 2023, pogrom was the worst slaughter of Jews since the Holocaust. Hamas death squads killed some 1,200 Jews and other residents of Israel, including whole families and young people at a music festival. They raped dozens and seized some 250 hostages, 59 of whom are still held in Gaza, though less than half are still thought to be alive.

But they came nowhere close to “eliminating” Israel, whose people responded and have dealt serious blows to Hamas, Hezbollah and Tehran.

## Factional divisions in Israel

On March 16, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced his intent to fire Ronen Bar, the head of the domestic spy agency Shin Bet. Political opponents of Netanyahu called for protests, portraying this as a “power grab” and threat to “democracy.” Is-

other council workers.”

The bulk of those crossing the picket line work for temporary agencies, Reid said. “The council has also deployed a huge police operation to force a way for the trucks to pass through the pickets.

“But they’re in a struggle against workers who have been round the block, with years of union membership and strike victories in 2017 and 2018 under our belts.”

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## United flight attendants rally across US for new contract



Militant/Lea Sherman

NEWARK, N.J. — Some 75 United Airlines flight attendants, members of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, and their supporters joined a spirited action at Newark Liberty International Airport here March 19. It was part of nearly 20 actions at airports across the U.S. demanding a new contract with a wage increase and better working conditions.

Chants of “Overworked! Underpaid! Pay us a living wage!” and “Union strong! Union proud! Everybody say it loud!” filled the air. “We are not going to give concessions,” Dante Harris, a union official and longtime flight attendant at United, told the crowd.

A dozen singers with the New York City Gospel Choir joined the rally singing, “We Shall Overcome” and other songs.

— LEA SHERMAN

rael’s capitalist rulers and their parties are sharply divided, for and against the prime minister.

Since Oct. 7, evidence has emerged that top officials of Shin Bet and the Israel Defense Forces, many of whom oppose Netanyahu’s government, treacherously withheld intelligence about Hamas’ preparations for an assault in the months — and even hours — leading up to the pogrom. They feared Netanyahu would order a decisive response that they considered “provocative,” ensuring Israel’s response was delayed with deadly consequences.

Bar had said he planned to resign at some point, without setting a date, but in the meantime announced another “corruption” investigation into some of Netanyahu’s aides.

Meanwhile, Washington launched a round of airstrikes March 15 against the Houthis, the Tehran-backed group that controls northern Yemen and also vows to destroy Israel. President Donald Trump said the bombardment was in response to Houthi threats to resume assaults on U.S. ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Alongside airstrikes targeting Israel, the Houthis say the attacks on ships are aimed at support-

ing Hamas. Trump also issued further threats against Iran, while saying he wants to negotiate with Tehran over its nuclear program.

Unlike the Israeli government, which is fighting for the existence of Israel, the U.S. rulers’ military actions — under Trump and his predecessor, Joseph Biden — are aimed purely at advancing their own imperialist interests. Nothing they do is aimed at advancing the interests of working people — Jews, Palestinians, or anyone else.

Israel’s fight to defeat Hamas remains unresolved, as does its need to prevent the Iranian rulers’ acquisition of nuclear weapons. Consequences of the unraveling ceasefire in Gaza underscore Netanyahu’s determination to accomplish these goals.

Steps by Israel toward those ends would not eliminate Jew-hatred, which is permanent and poisonous in the imperialist epoch. But it would create better conditions for workers and farmers of all nationalities to come together to defend their class interests. Along that road, parties can be built to lead working people to take power into their own hands, opening the door to the battle to end Jew-hatred for all time.

## UK refuse workers strike wins support

BY JONATHAN SILBERMAN

BIRMINGHAM, England — Some 400 refuse workers, members of Unite the Union, are on strike here at three City Council-run depots.

Pickets walk slowly in front of refuse trucks as they leave the depots, slowing down the bosses’ strikebreaking efforts.

The immediate issue in the strike is the bosses’ moves to get rid of a category of refuse loaders who play a safety-critical role. “We were declared ‘key workers’ during the pandemic — now we’re expendable,” pickets told the *Militant*.

“Some have been sent for retraining, but the 17 most affected will lose 8,000 pounds a year [\$10,400]. Others will lose 6,000 pounds,” said union convener Matt Reid. Overall, the strikers’ pay had already fallen due to lower hours and inflation. “What’s at stake is the future of the union.”

The Birmingham City Council declared bankruptcy in 2023. The U.K. government sent in commissioners to oversee all council decisions, who then cut funds for social care, education, libraries and housing. This year the local council tax is being increased by 7.5%.

“We’re getting support from people who bring their own refuse to the depot. Many bring food and donations,” said Danny Taylor, a shop steward at the Lifford Lane depot. They’ve also gotten support from refuse collectors in Coventry. “If we back down they’ll do what they want not just to us but

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# ‘There Is No Peace!’ — 1945 to world crises today: Socialist Workers Party points road forward

## ‘Working class needs to take power into our own hands’

BY STEVE CLARK AND TERRY EVANS

“There Is No Peace!” That was the banner headline on the Aug. 18, 1945, issue of the *Militant*, featuring the Socialist Workers Party National Committee Manifesto we’re reprinting below. Earlier that month, the U.S. capitalist rulers had unleashed history’s first nuclear weapons, annihilating some 200,000 people in the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The subsequent unconditional surrender of Washington’s wartime rival in Tokyo brought to an end imperialism’s second world slaughter in less than a quarter century. During that war, close to 85 million lives were sacrificed on the altar of cutthroat competition and conflict among the wealthiest and mightiest ruling classes, as they fought to redivide the earth.

“Only World Socialism Can Save Mankind From Atomic Destruction In Another Imperialist War!” the headline declared. “Workers Of America! You Must Take Power Into Your Own Hands!”

The headline had been written by *Militant* staff writer Evelyn Reed. Nearly a decade later, Reed took a central part in a seemingly unrelated political debate in the SWP — unrelated at first glance only — contributing an article on, “Marxism and the Woman Question.” It is one of the main articles in the book *Cosmetics, Fashion, and the Exploitation of Women*, an expanded edition of which has recently been published by Pathfinder Press.

The capitalist system, wrote Reed, “degrades and oppresses the great mass of women” by exploiting their discontents and fears in order “to stoke the fires of unlimited sales and profits” by means of advertising-driven marketing of cosmetics and fashion. It’s all part of how the ruling families “prop up and perpetuate this ruthless profit system and its continued victimization of women,” she said.

Far from being an unrelated question, the 1945 SWP manifesto was addressing the inevitable consequences of *the same* “ruthless profit system” and *the same* need for working people to embark on a revolutionary road forward for the toilers, women and all the oppressed and exploited.

### Educate and organize working class

Eighty years after the SWP manifesto first appeared, it provides an essential understanding of the class forces driv-

ing the trade conflicts, social devastation and wars and pogroms shaking the world today. It underlines how the seeds of a third world war were sown by the victors of the second one, as well as the stakes for the working class in preventing another global imperialist slaughter in coming years — this time with multiple nuclear-armed powers across the globe.

All this, the SWP manifesto explains, can only be prevented by building proletarian parties in the U.S. and worldwide, to educate and organize working people along a course of irrevocable class struggle, aimed at advancing the conquest of state power by the working class and its exploited allies. A course to settle on a world scale which class will rule.

The atrocities perpetrated by the U.S. rulers in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were part and parcel of their course throughout World War II. For the first time in modern warfare, Washington, and its ally in London, carried out the systematic slaughter of civilian populations through the firebombing of Hamburg in 1943, Dresden in 1945 and Tokyo and other Japanese cities in 1945.

### Driven to revolutionary action

“Hatred of imperialist war, and fear of what the future holds, is driving the workers to revolutionary political conclusions,” the 1945 SWP statement said.

Such revolutionary action had already begun. In Europe, prerevolutionary struggles erupted in Greece, in France and in Italy. In each case, working people were blocked from conquering power by the treachery of Stalinist leaderships of Communist Parties that looked to Moscow and acted on Stalin’s orders not to disrupt the postwar carve-up of Europe into “spheres of influence” by London, Moscow and Washington. These parties also stood behind their own imperialist rulers in seeking to block independence for colonies in Vietnam, Korea, Africa and elsewhere.\*

At war’s end, there were huge demonstrations of GIs at U.S. bases in the Pacific and elsewhere demanding they be brought home *now*. The U.S. rulers were put on notice that workers and farmers in uniform wouldn’t fight and die in Washington’s attempts to contain revolutions against colonial domination, including in China. Their actions forced the U.S. government to demobilize the troops.

“Only the working class,” the SWP said in 1945, “can deal a death-blow to this foul system. The workers can rally the broadest masses to their liberating banner and can change the world.”

\* To distinguish the Socialist Workers Party from Stalinist parties, the manifesto explains the SWP is “Trotskyist.” That is, it supports the fight led by Bolshevik leader Leon Trotsky to defend V.I. Lenin’s revolutionary Marxist course.



That same revolutionary working-class course is being presented by Socialist Workers Party candidates running for office in 2025.

### New, more dangerous wars today

In the wake of Moscow’s bloody invasion of Ukraine — the biggest land war

in Europe since World War II — and Hamas’ Oct. 7, 2023, massacre of Jews in Israel — the biggest pogrom since the Holocaust — the rivalries built into the imperialist epoch for more than a century and a quarter are again heating up. Ruling classes worldwide are rearming

Continued on page 9

## 1945 SWP National Committee statement Workers and farmers of America!

THE SECOND IMPERIALIST WORLD WAR HAS ENDED. Six years of wholesale slaughter and devastation have been brought to an awful climax with the discovery of the atomic bomb and its use, with frightful effect, against the people of Japan.

The din of battle has ceased. Mankind now must contemplate the destruction and the ruin, the pain and the heartbreak, which the war has caused. People in every land are celebrating the end of the carnage, not so much with joy as with a sense of relief that it has come to an end. They do not and cannot feel secure. Over their celebrations, like a lowering cloud, hangs a grim foreboding of things yet to come. Here in America, where the civilian population has been spared the monstrous agony endured for long, unbroken years by the peoples of Europe and Asia, joy that the war has ended is also tinged with dread for the future.

### Revulsion and Anxiety

The atomic bombing of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, with a combined population of 600,000 men, women, and children, has sent a wave of revulsion and anxiety throughout the world, especially among the toiling populations who are the principal victims of war. It is universally realized that mankind has been saved from total an-

nihilation in World War II only because the atomic bomb was invented so late. There is also the conviction, amounting to certainty, that another world war will mean the doom of the human race.

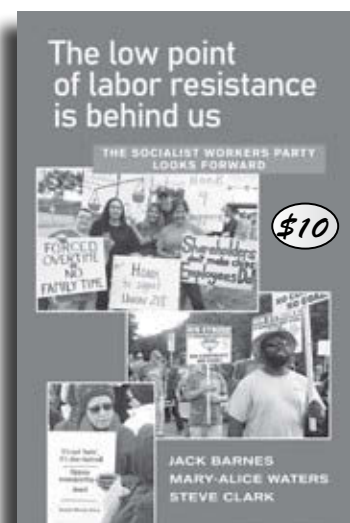
Hatred of imperialist war, and fear of what the future holds, is driving the workers to revolutionary political conclusions. The imperialist rulers, who alone have profited from the war, seek to prevent this at all costs. They want to sidetrack the workers from the struggle to end the capitalist system and establish socialism, which is the only sure guarantee that another war will be impossible.

All the organs of ruling class propaganda are mobilized to deceive the masses into thinking that the end of the war means the dawn of true and lasting peace and that peace can be preserved without revolutionary social change. As a second line of deception, they are trying to persuade the masses that even if another war should come, the American people need not fear annihilation because means will be found to “control” the use of the atomic bomb and insure that it will not be used against this country.

### Illusions Being Spread

Among the illusions now being sown is the idea that the unlocked secret of

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# 'There Is No Peace!'

Continued from page 7

atomic energy possesses such ghastly destructive power that the capitalist rulers will refrain from using it in future wars. But the entire history of imperialist warfare refutes this contention. Between two world wars the most frightful instruments of death were invented and perfected. ALL HAVE BEEN USED! During World War II other death-dealing weapons were invented and perfected. ALL HAVE BEEN USED! Demolition bombs of enormous weight were dropped on helpless civilian populations. Incendiary fire-bombs were used to wipe out whole cities and burn their inhabitants to death. The unspeakable flame-thrower was employed by all the belligerents to burn masses of men to a crisp. The only reason poison gas was not used was its unreliability as a weapon, the danger that it might destroy its users.

To annihilate their opponents, the imperialist criminals will employ every deadly weapon in their arsenals. Let no one deceive himself that the atomic bomb will not be used!

Another illusion being sedulously fostered is that the atomic bomb is "our secret," that it will be kept "our secret" under tight government control and monopoly, and that therefore America will be safe. But the fact is that it is NOT EVEN NOW an exclusively American secret. It is known to the British imperialists, who collaborated in the scientific work from the very beginning up to the time of discovery. It is known also to the capitalist ruling class of Canada, which likewise took part in the project.

Truman declared that Britain and the United States "do not intend to reveal the secret until means have been found to control the bomb so as to protect ourselves and the rest of the world from the danger of total destruction. . . . We must constitute ourselves trustees of this new force — to prevent its misuse, and to turn it into channels of service to mankind."

But with the defeat of German and Japanese imperialism, the rivalry between British and American imperialism becomes one of the greatest potential sources of another world war. The interests of these two powers meet and clash in every corner of the globe. Unless the whole world system of capitalism and imperialism is destroyed, war between them is more than probable.

Can anyone in his sane senses doubt that in the event of such a war the antagonists will use the atomic bomb in the effort to destroy each other?

## Cold-Blooded Extermination

And what does Truman mean by "misuse" of the atomic bomb? Was the deliberate and cold-blooded extermination of 600,000 Japanese a high act of humanitarianism? In the shyler language of the imperialist criminals, a weapon is "misused" only when it is employed by their opponents. The Nazis "misused" the weapon of aerial bombardment when they blasted Warsaw, Rotterdam, and Coventry. The Japanese imperialists "misused" it when they blasted Canton, Hankow, and Chungking. Then the Anglo-American imperialists improved on the performance of their rivals and wiped out dozens of German and Japanese cities and hundreds of thousands of civilian inhabitants. They just "forgot," and hoped their own peoples would forget, their previous pretended indignation.

The atomic bomb, no matter what may be decided in Washington and London, will not remain even an Anglo-American-Canadian secret. Sir James Chadwick, chief British scientist in the atomic bomb project, stated in Washington on August 12 that this deadly weapon was "not a strictly British-American secret" and that "any nation could learn the secret in about five years of experimentation, assuming it had access to the necessary raw materials."

Consider, too, the ominous import of the following extract from a Washington dispatch to the *New York Sun* on August 8: "Twenty-four hours ago, members of Congress were earnestly debating among themselves whether or not the new discovery should be given to the United Nations Security Council and to other Allied governments. Today their thinking is growing up, and they are beginning to comprehend the fact that even if the blueprints and formulae for this new invention were to be destroyed, the scientists of other nations would discover the secret anew in their laboratories."

The dispatch then continues: "More awesome still is the realization that the political development of the world has not kept pace with its scientific knowledge — THAT WE KNOW OF NO WAY TO PREVENT THE MISUSE



Above, child amid wreckage after firebombing of Hamburg, Germany, during World War II. Up to 40,000 people were killed in bombing by London and Washington. Right, collage of articles and cartoons from 1945 *Daily Worker*, newspaper of Stalinist Communist Party in the U.S., welcome Washington's atomic devastation of Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

OF THIS NEW DISCOVERY. The thought of negotiating an international series of treaties renouncing the use of atomic explosives in war inspires no confidence in any one."

Two terrible world wars have proven — and the foregoing quotation underlines the fact — that capitalism is incapable of utilizing the great advances in science and technique for the enrichment of human life. In "peace," capitalism condemns the masses to poverty and insecurity amidst potential plenty. In war, it conscripts industry and science for the mutual destruction of the peoples.

## Admission of Bankruptcy

THEY KNOW OF NO WAY! This admission of bankruptcy and helplessness comes from the most powerful ruling class on earth. Out of their own mouths they are condemned as the murderers of the human race. With an insane calmness they tell the people to await their doom.

Let no man deceive himself with the thought that because Germany and Japan have been defeated, a new war, at least during the lifetime of this generation, is unlikely. Capitalist appetites and imperialist rivalries remain. Only the focus of the antagonisms has shifted. War is the end result of the ceaseless capitalist hunt for profits, markets, colonies, spheres of influence. It is a lie that war can be prevented by treaties and agreements among the imperialist bandits. The League of Nations could not prevent war. It was dead and buried before World War II broke out. The United Nations organization will not be able to prevent a third world war. Its very formula of "peace by force" implies war and not peace. In unguarded moments the imperialists admit that they know of no way to prevent war. The admission is implicit in the maintenance of gigantic armaments. First Washington dispatches on the atomic bomb quoted official quarters as saying this new weapon would "revolutionize all future warfare." Could anything be plainer?

Washington's account on Iraq

## America Will Not Escape

Nor should any man deceive himself that America will escape the annihilating blasts of the atomic bomb in a future war. Air power and sea power will afford no sure protection. Scientists already tell us that an air force will not be necessary to carry this new missile on its deadly mission. It will be fired immense distances in the form of a jet-propelled rocket that will speed to its

target at a lightning rate and with unerring accuracy. New York or Detroit or Los Angeles will be as vulnerable as Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

It is at this point that the liberal apologists and defenders of the bloody capitalist system come forward to explain that the new weapon makes future wars "unthinkable," because its extensive use would mean the utter annihilation of the human race. Thus another dangerous illusion is sown.

After World War I these same liberals declared that another war was "unthinkable." Now that mankind has suffered another terrible blood-bath, do they seek to inquire why the "unthinkable" came to pass? They do not. For honest inquiry leads straight to the conclusion that under capitalism wars are inevitable and inescapable, and that once war begins all the diabolical instruments of killing and destruction are brought into play. The liberal fakery employed, and generously paid, to cover up for capitalism, to mislead the masses by sowing illusions, and thus divert them from the struggle for socialism which alone can end the horrors of war for all time. That is why, while quaking in their shoes at the realization of what the atomic bomb means, they can only mutter the senseless incantation that a new war is "unthinkable."

THEY know no way!  
But there IS a way — THE WAY OF THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION!

## No Time to Lose!

Capitalism in its death agony, writing in the toils of mortal crisis, has perfected an instrument of all-embracing annihilation. This deadly



Alyson Kennedy, SWP candidate for mayor of Fort Worth, campaigns against Putin regime's war at Feb. 23 rally in defense of Ukraine's sovereignty.



destructive force, held in the grip of the criminal capitalist rulers, will be used to decimate mankind unless it is snatched in time from their murderous grasp. The workers must awake, and awake quickly, to the realization that war with all its horrors is the product of the capitalist system.

To conceal the true source of war, capitalist propagandists divide the nations into "aggressors" and "peace-lovers." This is a lie. The people of every nation hate war, for they are its victims. They are plunged into war by the capitalist rulers, who alone profit from it. It contributes exactly nothing to an understanding of the profound social causes of war to say that Germany or Japan started it. Germany and Japan have been defeated. Yet the germs of war are STILL lodged in the heart of capitalist society. No trust whatsoever can be placed in the "peace-loving" declarations of the statesmen of capitalism in this or any other country. Only the utter wiping out of capitalist rule throughout the world can insure that atomic explosives will never again be used for mass murder.

## We Always Told the Truth

Toilers of America! Years before the war and right up to the moment of its outbreak, the Socialist Workers Party, the Trotskyists, warned that war was inevitable if capitalism was allowed to live. We told the workers the truth!

When war began, we exposed the lie that it was a war for "democracy." We laid bare the truth that it was an imperialist war. We have never ceased to proclaim this truth. We proclaimed it alone against all the liars and deceivers of the people!

This truth was proclaimed by our comrades in other lands, in Europe and in Asia. Under the proud and stainless banner of the Fourth International, the Trotskyists everywhere fought against the imperialist war and for the socialist future of the working class!

Today, at this great turning point in history, we bring our message of hope to toiling humanity. We point out the road of salvation!

Let the cataclysmic



Militant photos, left, Joseph Hansen Left, Farrell Dobbs, SWP 1960 presidential candidate, center, on trip to learn and report on Cuba's socialist revolution. He returned to campaign in defense of what Cuban toilers were accomplishing. Above, Fred Halstead, SWP candidate for president in 1968, traveled to Saigon to talk with GIs about opposition to Washington's war against Vietnam liberation fight.

horror of Hiroshima and Nagasaki serve as a clarion call to the working class! The workers must wrench the power from the hands of the blood-drenched capitalist criminals and take their destiny in their own hands. The fight for socialism is now more than a fight to end poverty and inequality, to abolish the exploitation of man by man. Today the fight for socialism is a fight to prevent the annihilation of the human race. Mankind must now exterminate the capitalist system — or be exterminated!

## Plunging Toward the Abyss

Time is of the essence. At an ever faster pace capitalism is rushing mankind toward the last abyss of destruction. The end of the second world war does not mean peace, but only an interval between wars, marked by smaller conflicts. This interval will be shorter — much shorter — than the last, because the contradictions of decayed capitalism grow ever more acute and capitalism can survive only by means of war. This breathing-space must be utilized by the progressive forces of society, the working class and its allies, to smash the capitalist system and usher in a socialist society.

Socialism — or perish! These are the alternatives. There is none other. Only the working class, which suffers the cruelties of capitalism in peace and war, can deal the death-blow to this foul system. The workers can rally the broadest masses to their liberating banner and can change the world. Having abolished capitalism, they can harness the productive forces and the wondrous discoveries of science to the service of human needs.

The release of atomic energy opens up grandiose vistas for the development of human society. It holds the promise of eliminating all poverty and raising the living standards of all peoples to undreamed-of heights. Hazardous and unhealthy occupations can become things of the past. The drudgery and servitude of ugly and unnecessary toil can be ended. There can be leisure and comfort and cultural advancement for every man, woman and child on earth.

All on one condition — that capitalism, the strangler of human progress, is destroyed!

Toilers of America! Working men and working women in the factories and on the farms! The Trotskyists summon you to the struggle for the socialist revolution! Enlist with us in the great battle for a new world in which permanent peace and well-being will be assured for all!

# SWP points way forward today

Continued from page 7

and seeking new alliances, all the better to try to redivide and plunder the world for their own benefit. Growing numbers of workers are watching these big shifts — and talking among themselves, their families and with co-workers about the fact that new and more dangerous wars are inevitable.

After Washington's victory in World War II, the imperialist rulers shoved aside their allies and foes alike and put together a new world order under their own domination. It was a world order that has been marked ever since by further brutal slaughters — in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and other countries where oppressed peoples have fought for national rights and against superexploitation. The U.S. rulers have waged a 65-year-long political, economic and financial war against Cuba's socialist revolution led by Fidel Castro.

More than once, Washington has threatened to unleash nuclear weapons to advance U.S. capital's class interests.

Today no new power is emerging capable of replacing the Washington-dominated world

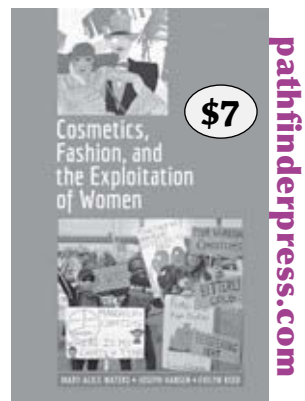
order. Instead, each of the world's rival capitalist ruling classes are chained together in a common decline, as they vie for markets, natural resources, low-wage labor and military sway. The U.S. rulers have been weakened, but they remain on top of the heap.

Reading the SWP manifesto, "There Is No Peace!" provides workers today with an honest appraisal of what the propertied ruling families of the world's final empire have done before to maintain their wealth and domination — and what they are prepared to do again.

In August 1945, the Socialist Workers Party called on workers to "enlist with us in the great battle for a new world." Join with the SWP candidates and their supporters today as they campaign around the country.



Evelyn Reed, an author of *Cosmetics, Fashion, and the Exploitation of Women*, wrote 1945 *Militant* headline, 'There Is No Peace!'



## Socialist Workers Party: 'Only workers power can disarm US imperialist rulers'

From the December 2022 SWP convention resolution, "The Low Point of Labor Resistance Is Behind Us."

No nonproliferation zones, arms limitation treaties, or diplomatic pacts between imperialist powers and other nuclear-armed regimes can or will advance the fight to stop the global spread and eventual use of such weapons. Nor will the call for unilateral nuclear disarmament of Washington and other governments. No propertied ruling class is going to disarm and risk its own wealth and power, while its competitors and enemies remain nuclear-armed to the teeth.

"Disarmament" asks our 1938 founding resolution, the Transitional Program, drafted by Leon Trotsky. "But the entire question revolves around who will disarm whom. The only disarmament which can avert or end war is the disarmament of the bourgeoisie by the workers." That became more true, not less, with the advent of nuclear weapons.

As communists and other class-conscious workers organize to advance a revolutionary struggle for workers power in the United States, our guide on these political and programmatic questions, as with many others, is the Transitional Program, including its section, "The struggle against imperialism and war:"

"Not one man and not one penny" for the imperialist government, its budget, and its war machine, states our program, summing up one central aspect of our proletarian continuity from the Bolsheviks under Lenin to this day. As Lenin wrote in the article "The 'Disarmament' Slogan" in 1916: "Only after the proletariat has disarmed the bourgeoisie will it be able, without betraying its world-historic mission, to consign all armaments to the scrap-heap." All, for us, includes conventional and nuclear weapons.

## Further reading on world disorder



Books on expanding wars, crises of capitalism and working-class road forward at [pathfinderpress.com](http://pathfinderpress.com)



# NY US-Cuba conference says, 'End Washington's embargo!'

BY RÓGER CALERO AND SANDRA LATHAM

NEW YORK — More than 100 people from the U.S. and Canada participated in a two-day conference here March 15-16 to discuss what faces the Cuban people today and plan activities to press Washington to end its more than 65-year economic, political and financial war against the Cuban Revolution. Dozens more joined via video.

The conference was organized by the International US-Cuba Normalization Conference Coalition and the Cuba Sí New York/New Jersey Coalition, and endorsed by a number of other organizations and individuals.

"The economic war against Cuba takes a high toll, costing Cuba some \$5 billion in trade and resources just over the past year," Cuba's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, Yuri Gala López, told the Saturday evening rally. "The U.S. does a lot of damage, but it will never achieve its main objective of bringing Cuba to its knees."

The U.S. government has announced new visa restrictions on Cubans and their relatives travelling to the U.S. if they have any links with the country's historic program to provide medical aid around the world. Washington has made these programs a special target as part of its attempt to slander Cuba's internationalist record and deprive it of much-needed hard currency.

Thousands of Cuban health care workers have gone on medical missions abroad, often working in the most remote rural areas or worst-off working-class neighborhoods. Washington smears these volunteers as being "slaves" and accuses Cuba of "human trafficking."

"Anyone who has ever been treated by a Cuban doctor in another country as part of these programs knows this is not true," said Leima Martínez Freire, of the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP). She urged participants to spread the truth about the contributions Cuban medical workers have made since the early years of

the 1959 Cuban Revolution.

The conference coincided with the annual meetings of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. A delegation from Cuba was in New York to participate and several members spoke at the conference.

The sessions on March 15 — a morning plenary, four workshops and an evening rally — were held at the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center. Malcolm X often spoke here and it is where he was assassinated 60 years ago. Several at the conference spoke to the historic meeting between Cuban revolutionary leader Fidel Castro and Malcolm X in 1960, when Castro came to address the United Nations for the first time.

Under pressure from the U.S. government, the Cuban delegation was insulted and turned away from hotels downtown, so Malcolm X arranged for Castro and the delegation to stay at the Hotel Theresa in Harlem.

"We cannot fail to remember the two giants whose struggles and legacies guide us — Fidel and Malcolm," Noemi Rabaza, ICAP's vice president, said at the opening plenary. "From different trenches but with the same purpose they dedicated their lives to the struggle for social justice, equality and human dignity."

"Fidel had unwavering confidence in the power of the people. He taught us that no challenge is too great when fighting for a just ideal. And Malcolm X reminded us that the struggle for human rights knows no borders," she said.

## Conference workshops

There were four afternoon workshops March 15, including "Cuba and Climate Change," "Labor Unions Standing with Cuba" and "Travel and Material Aid to Cuba." At the fourth workshop, on "Cuba and Reproductive Justice," Osmayda Hernández, director of international



Militant/Tamar Rosenfeld

"The U.S. does a lot of damage, but it will never achieve its main objective of bringing Cuba to its knees," Cuban diplomat Yuri Gala López told New York conference March 15.

relations for the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC), noted that in Cuba public health, including reproductive and sexual health for both men and women, is a right. Zonya Rivero López, the FMC's national second secretary, also took part in the conference sessions.

In response to a question on child care, Yamila González Ferrer, vice president of the National Union of Cuban Jurists, explained that the number of working-age adults leaving the island due to the difficult conditions resulting from the U.S. economic war poses new challenges for both child care and elder care. "Children are left in the care of grandparents, friends and neighbors. The immigrant adults send money back, but the emotional connections and support are missing," she said.

Cuba faces big shortages of medicines and medical equipment due to Washington's embargo. Helping ease this crisis was a central focus of the workshop on material aid. Bob Schwartz, from Global Health Partners, reported that at the height of the COVID pandemic, supporters of the Cuban Revolution from North America were able to send 6 million syringes to Cuba, making it possible for Cuba to use its own vaccines to immunize

the entire country. He and others urged participants to join in current efforts to send pacemakers to Cuba.

A highlight of the conference was a reportback from several youth delegates who had attended the International Conference for the Decade of People of African Descent, held in Cuba last December.

"I understand now why the U.S. government hates Cuba so much," Shaquille Williams said. "Elders are incorporated into the life of the nation. The right to a home is protected by the constitution. Even with the tremendous shortages, they have programs to build new houses. I didn't see any homeless people. But here in the richest and most powerful country in the world, they can't do that."

"Cuba's internationalism is a threat to imperialism. They set a great example," he said. "What they did is what we need to do."

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## 25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO

### THE MILITANT

March 27, 2000

At the Barakova Mine in Ukraine, 81 miners were killed March 11 in one of the republic's deadliest mining disasters. In addition to those killed, four escaped and several more were injured. Some 200 others escaped other parts of the mine. Methane gas is believed to be the cause of the explosion.

The Ukrainian coal industry is the most dangerous in the world. Sixty-three miners died in an explosion in the nearby Donetsk region two years ago. There are some 400,000 coal miners in Ukraine. The number of miners killed on the job in 1998 was 360 and in 1999 it was 274.

Dmytro Kalitventsev, head of the Independent Miners Union local there, blamed mine officials for turning a blind eye to safety violations to increase production. Actual output at the mine exceeded capacity, according to Kalitventsev. "These extra tons are paid for with the miners' lives."

### THE MILITANT

March 28, 1975

WASHINGTON — At a news conference here Political Rights Defense Fund National Secretary Syd Stapleton, pointing to the two-foot-high stack of documents, told reporters, "Here we have in J. Edgar Hoover's own words the proof of a sweeping illegal campaign to destroy two legal organizations and to disrupt the civil rights, antiwar, and student movements."

The FBI was ordered by a federal judge to release the documents as part of pretrial discovery in a suit filed by the SWP and YSA in 1973. The Cointelpro files offer the most detailed picture to date of the FBI "disruption" program, which was also aimed at the Black Panthers, "New Left," Communist party, and others. The FBI claims this program was ended in 1971.

The documents received are so heavily censored that in some cases several entire pages of the reports have been blotted out.

### THE MILITANT

March 27, 1950

The unemployed have every reason to expect the backing of the powerful organized labor movement. But instead of getting an effective program and a fighting leadership, the unemployed find themselves thrown completely on their own pitiful resources. The responsibility must be placed on the shoulders of the top official union leaders. They have failed even to fight for the demand for a 30-hour week with no reduction in take-home pay.

With unemployment already beyond the six-million mark, the need is urgent for the adoption of a social program. Coupled with the demand for the 30-hour week, an indicated part of such a program is the launching of large-scale public works and housing projects under the control of workers' committees and with the payment of full union wage scales.

Such a program can be carried out only by mass action.

## Cuba and the Coming American Revolution

by Jack Barnes

Cuba and the  
COMING AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION



This is a book about the example set by the people of Cuba that revolution is not only necessary — it can be made.

It's about the class struggle in the U.S., where the

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