## Workers and Oppressed Peoples of the World Unite!



Summer/Fall 2023

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**Editorial** 

International

# **World Anti-Imperialist Platform Meets**

By Tyler Lyons, Worker Wire Services

The World Anti-Imperialist Platfor (WAP) was founded in 2022 after Russia launched its military operation against NATO fascism in the Ukraine. The Platform held a meeting in Seoul, South Korea addressing the threat of fascism and imperialism in today's world. The Platform met a week after the 78th anniversary of the WWII Victory over Fascism in Europe. The World Anti-Imperialist Platform program can be found at https:// wap21.org/?p=390.

The Party of Communists USA (PCUSA) sent a delegate, Chris Helali, whose speech called for united action against the US-EU-NATO takeover of Ukraine 2014.

Helali also described the USled separatist movement in Taiwan against China, as well as the US military involvement on the Korean Peninsula. Helali's speech can be found here: https://wap21.org/? p=3973.

The birth of the World Anti-Imperialist Platform is a shining example for a renewed revolutionary, anti-imperialist movement worldwide.



#### Environment

## **Toxic Railroad Disaster**

By Ben Olive, Sustainable Earth Council

Norfolk Southern railroad corporation caused an environmental disaster in East Palestine, Ohio after repeated union warnings about unsafe practices. In early February of this year, Norfolk Southern's unsafe practices caused a train to derail in East Palestine, OH. The derailed train spilled thousands of gallons of deadly chemicals, which were then burned off into a massive black plume. At the was using luled railtime, Norfolk precision-scheduled roading, an often-criticized practice where railroad companies attempt to make deliveries with as little margin for time as is physically possible.

While this helps railroad companies yield profits far exceeding those of the average American business, it comes at the expense of traditional safety measures. According to Cheryl Roffe, an organizer with Earth Before Profits, "railroad workers and unions on the ground have been begging the press to report what has become increasingly obvious to them after the implementation of PSR. Their bosses have employed fewer inspectors per train,



"Their bosses have employed fewer inspectors per train, increased trains to lengths of a mile or more, and even told workers to skip safety inspections altogether so they can run more trains."

increased trains to lengths of a mile or more, and even told workers to skip safety inspections altogether so they can run more trains." The workingclass residents of East Palestine, OH have been left holding the bag so that rail tycoons can take in obscene profits. Norfolk Southern shareholders have bragged in their financial reports that it's less expensive to deal with the cost of derailments in residential areas, rather than following standard

procedures. While corporate interests essentially get away with murder, thousands of dead animals lie in the forest and streams of Ohio, and citizens will have to live their lives surrounded by cancerous toxins.

### Civil Liberties

# Rosenberg Murders Marks 70 Years





**Pablo Picasso** 

70 years since their other barbaric execution, the controversy over the case of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg still

in an FBI witch-hunt that many believe could have ensnared any U.S. leftist (communist or not), the Rosenbergs resisted government and media demands for "full and complete cooperation" in exchange for their lives.

cooperation mandated naming the names of as

alleged popularly dubbed the documents "red spy ring."

goes unresolved. Caught Instead, they refused to compromise integrity. scholars, legal carried improperly by ifications, mishandling of our judicial process, and dubious testimonies "evidence." Many

con- have been able to obtain some files spirators in what was from the FBI and CIA's declassified about Washington, however, refuses to release all the files.

their The continued struggle of peace and Historians, freedom forces to exonerate Ethel and and Julius Rosenberg remains a authors have all claimed glorious chapter in the history of our that the Rosenbergs' struggle for world peace and justice. arrest, indictment, trial, Progressive forces in our country and death sentence were must continue the campaign to out exonerate Julius Ethel and fals- Rosenberg.

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# US Economy: Inflation or Bank Collapse By Dr. Robert Daly,

Valley

Jones-Foster School for Party Education

The ongoing banking crisis Silicon that felled three US banks (SVB), according to a Social and Switzerland's Credit Science Research Network Suisse in thepast 12 days slowed today the rate of increase of the interest rates controlled by the Federal ReserveBoard (hereafter, "the Fed") in its fight against inflation. The Fed raised its kev interest rate only onequarter of 1 percent (0.25%), as if it is testing the waters, before pursuing further rate increases, to see the banking system. For inflation is far from tamed. "The CPI [Consumer Price Index] for services inflation without energy services iumped by 7.3% in February vear-over-year, the worst increase since 1982 and the third month in a row above 7%, according to the CPI data released today [March 14] by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.," reports Wolf Richter. Inflation in services is accelerating, not slowing down.

rate stands at only 5%. That's still lower than the hikesbefore (6.4%). To tame inflation, the Fed must raise its rate to above the rate of inflation. The Fed has to raise rates at least another point and a half to have any effect. But the core of US inflation is in services, for we are a services economy, and the rate of inflation in services do if it's going to problem: Rising interest rates reduce the value of U.S. Treasury bonds held by banks, that the banks bought before the rates went up, because those bonds are compared to the recently bonds issued that carry a higher insolvent, as happened to insured by the Federal

research paper.In other words, the very fight inflation makes against some banks insolvent. As "financial Sputnik said, institutions have significant amount of their assets in interest ratesensitive financial instruments like govern-ment and mortgage bonds -backed securities. The if this modest rate increase Federal Reserve's aggressive has a deleterious effect on rate hikes have had a tremendous impact on these instruments by eating away at their value." According to the Social Science Research paper, "Nearly 200 American banksface similar risks to those thatled to the implosion and bankruptcy of Silicon Valley Bank." So, the US economy is now in the crisis predicted by The Worker last September when we wrote: "Watch the Fed raise rates higher and higher as inflation rages... But now the financial system is so interlocked, that if one bank Even with today's hike, the or corporation fails, many Federal Reserve interest more follow. So, the Fed might scaleback its rate it tames overall rate of inflation inflation in order to avoid a financial blowout." Fed cannot fight inflation as hard and fast as it would like. It is no longer talking about "ongoing rate increases." In response to the recent crisis, the Fed has entered a "new regime: tightening monetary policy while providing is 7.3%. The Fed has work to liquidity support for banks," says Richter.The European tame inflation. But there's a Central Bank is following the same policy. Richter compares this "stepping on the brake with one foot and putting an arm around the baby to keep her from hitting the dashboard."As part of its policy, the government is orchestrating a bailout for interest rate: When they try millionaire bank depositors, demands, they lose money small depositors like you depositors.) and the banks could become and me, for our deposits are

Deposit Insurance Corp-oration.) For example, Silicon Valley Bank was a bank for millionaires. Ninety percent of their depositors had over \$250,000 in the bank, which is the limit insured deposits. Senator James Lankford said on the senate floor. "That's not normal!" Now the government is expecting small banks across the country to pay a special fee "to bailout a bank for millionaires in San Francisco," said the Senator. Another problem is that new government policies are protecting big depositors in big banks, but not in small rural banks, so that government policy is en- couraging big depositors in small banks to shift their funds to large banks, the Senator pointed out to a nervous Treasury Secretary Janice Yellen in a hearing March 21. Despite what he said on the Senate floor, Lankford now seems to want a bailout for big depositors in rural banks as

The Worker opposes any bailout for large depositors and the enactment of any bank bailout fees. Dishonest, speculative gains should be wiped out. Most of those who have been calling for interest rate cuts are either speculators, e.g. the disgraced former Lehman Brothers vicepresident Lawrence McDonald, 6 or government officials from the hoopla of banking deregulation (1980 to 1999). These the people who rode expanding balloon of the US money supply 'under the Fed's outrageous "Wealth effect" policy, ' as The Communist 2022 issue explains. Such was SVB, for Fed chair Jerome Powell called that bank "an outlier," that is, they engaged in speculation in volatile assets and other activities that used to be barred by the Glass-Steagall Act which the drive for deregulation repealed in 1999. SVB's depositors benefited from the bank's casino banking. No need to bail them out. Bring back Glass- Steagall! During this crisis, many people are buying gold to protect themselves and their families if there's a crash.

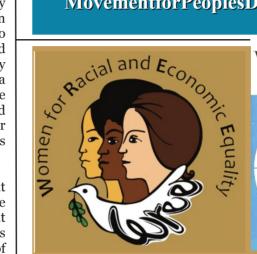
to sell their old bonds to and this we must oppose. (Editorial Note: The Worker meet depositor withdrawal (No bailout is needed for opposes bailouts for rich



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# **Pay Women for Family Caretaking**

#### By Anna Scibek (Women for Racial and Economic Equality)

Imagine a world where parents can drop their children off at a safe, nurturing daycare center on their way to work, knowing that their kids are in good hands. Imagine the peace of mind that comes with knowing that your elderly loved ones are receiving high-quality care at a state-of-the-art nursing home. These are the kinds of services that a worker-controlled state could provide, transforming care-giving from a burden into a source of support and stability for families across the country.

The expectation that women will take on the role of primary caregivers is not only unfair but also harmful to their well-being and that of their families. When a woman has to quit her job or leave school to take care of a child or elderly family member, she may lose out on opportunities for career advancement and financial stability. During the start of the pandemic, over 2 million women had to leave the workforce due to childcare alone. This can lead to long-term financial struggles,

making it difficult to provide for herself, let alone her family. Caretaking responsibilities are also emotionally and mentally taxing, leading to stress, burnout, and other negative health effects. As a mother and primary caretaker for my grandmother until her death, I have first-hand experience of the economic and emotional toll of having to put my own career and personal goals on hold to take care of my loved ones.

The negative impact of care-taking responsibilities hit close to home for me. I felt trapped, and guilty for feeling trapped. I poured from my glass into others, but who refilled mine? We're long past due to take on this challenge of reorganizing society to alleviate the unequal status of women. What we need is a fundamental transformation of our economic and political system; one that recognizes the value of caregiving and puts human needs at the center of our priorities. As long as women are left with 'no choice' but to subsidize care-taking for the capitalist state, their status will not change. Addressing the crisis of care-giving

with piecemeal reforms is like trying to put out a forest fire with a garden hose. The problem is too big and too systemic to be solved through incremental change.

Are we content to let caregivers struggle in isolation and families fall apart, or do we have a responsibility to build a more just and equitable society for all? A recent news story emerged about a single mother who was arrested for leaving her child unattended while she went to a job interview. It's clear that this mother was faced with an impossible choice: risk her child's safety and well-being in order to attend an interview that could help her provide for her family. This is just one example of the desperation that many women face when it comes to care-giving responsibilities, and it underscores the urgent need for societal and structural changes that will support and uplift caregivers, rather than punishing them for trying to make ends meet.



## Defend the African People's Socialist Party from Gov't Attack

#### Black Liberation Commission, PCUSA

The Black Liberation Commission of the Party of Communists USA condemns the unlawful raids by the FBI on chairman Omali Yeshitala and the African People's Socialist Party.

We stand in full solidarity with them against this unlawful act by a federal agency against a revolutionary organization. This sets a dangerous precedent for anti war activists in the United States who refuse to tow the line of the Bourgeois state.

This is the continuation of the ongoing war waged by the U.S. Government against black people and POC who are vocal in their opposition to U.S. policy, most notably Mumia Abu Jamal and Leonard Peltier who are unjustly imprisoned by the so-called justice system. We believe nobody should be harassed by federal agencies for speaking truth to power, which has haunted federal agencies since the days of COINTELPRO.

Black Liberation Commission, Party of Communists USA

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### Letters to the Editor

# **July 4th - The Meaning for Communists**

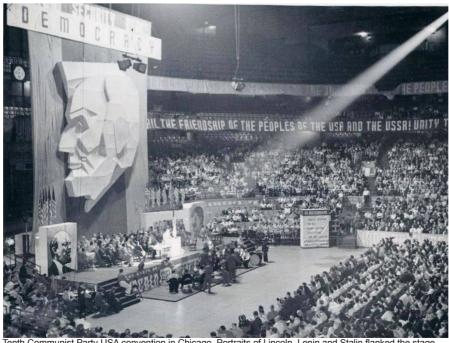
On July 4 we celebrate one of the greatest events of history - the signing of the first great modern charter of democracy, the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Though five more years of war were needed to give King George III and his Tory supporters their final defeat, the democratic American nation had its birth on that day. The Declaration of Independence was based on a solid confidence and faith in the common man, in the ability of people to govern themselves. The final authority rests with the people who are the real rulers. According to the intentions of Jefferson and most of the signers, this principle was to be the basis for the American system of government.

This doctrine most disagreeable to the big American merchants who did a prosperous trade with England, to the aristocratic, the prosperous and the privileged, to the officers, judges, and countless other officials of the British crown and their hangers-on. To these gentry Washington's army and supporters were the "propertyless rabble" whom they hated and feared far more than foreign domination. These are the gentlemen who organized the Tory party, who financed, supported and spied for the English king against their countrymen. But side by side with riches there grew poverty. We have within our borders some of the most beautiful cities in the world, but in those cities there are slums that breed crime and disease. We have factories and plants that can produce food, clothing and modern housing for twice our population, but many of our people are hungry, ill-clad, ill-housed. Our old people approach age with fear and insecurity. What has happened to the America of Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, Tom Paine, the America of Valley Forge and Yorktown? The answer is: the rise of Monopoly Capital. Stated in another way, great banks and corporations, fattening on the labor of workers and farmers and by devouring small enterprises, have gathered into their hands ownership and control of the sources of wealth of our country.

The concentration of wealth into the hands of the few has naturally meant that enormous political power

has also been concentrated into these same hands. Exactly what Thomas Jefferson feared and sought to prevent had come to pass. The history of America since Jefferson has been largely the struggle of the American people against the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the few. Even at the very birth of the Republic, the representatives of the entrenched wealth of the day, of whom Alexander Hamilton was the outstanding spokesman, sought to secure economic and political power for the large propertied interests. To this end they bitterly opposed a democratic constitution. It was only after a long popular struggle Jefferson won the inclusion of the Bill of Rights in to the Constitution as the first ten Amendments. Today the nation is again faced with a decisive struggle between the forces of democracy and progress and the forces reaction.

Alex Dillard Sunnyvale, California



Tenth Communist Party USA convention in Chicago. Portraits of Lincoln, Lenin and Stalin flanked the stage while the Party's leader spoke, May 1938

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Stop Fascism in the Ukraine!

¡Trabajadores y Pueblos Oprimidos del Mundo se Unen!





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# Se reúne la Plataforma Antiimperialista Mundial

#### Por Tyler Lyons Servicios de Noticias del Trabajadores

Mundial se fundó en 2022 después movimiento de que Rusia lanzara su Operación liderado por EE. UU. en Militar Especial para combatir el régimen nazi respaldado por la Organización del Tratado del Atlántico Norte (OTAN) en Kiev. La península de Corea. El reunión, que tuvo lugar una semana discurso de Helali se puede después del 78 aniversario de la encontrar aquí: Victoria sobre el Fascismo en Europa, abordó la amenaza del fascismo y el imperialismo en el mundo actual. Se puede acceder al programa de la Plataforma Mundial Antiimperialista en https:// wap21.org/?p=390.

El Partido de los Comunistas de EE. movimiento revolucionario UU. (PCUSA) envió a un delegado, antiimperialista en todo el Chris Helali, cuyo discurso pidió una mundo. acción unida contra la toma de poder de Ucrania por parte de EE. UU., la UE y la OTAN en 2014.

Plataforma Antiimperialista Helali también describió el separatista Taiwán contra China como la intervención estadounidense https:// wap21.org/?p=3973.

> nacimiento de Plataforma Mundial Antiimperialista representación de PCUSA en la plataforma es un faro brillante para el renovado



#### Cartas al Editor

# 4 De Julio - El Significado Para Los Comunistas

El 4 de julio celebramos uno de los mayores bellas del mundo, pero en esas ciudades hay Jefferson, Samuel Adams, Tom Paine, la América de Valley acontecimientos de la historia: la firma de la barrios marginales que engendran el crimen y la Forge Y Yorktown? primera gran carta moderna de la democracia, la enfermedad. Tenemos fábricas y plantas que La respuesta es: el surgimiento del capital monopolista. Dicho Declaración de Independencia en 1776. Aunque pueden producir alimentos, ropa y viviendas de otro modo, los grandes bancos y corporaciones, engordando se necesitaron cinco años más de guerra para modernas para el doble de nuestra población, con el trabajo de los trabajadores y campesinos y devorando a que el rey Jorge III y sus seguidores pero mucha de nuestra gente está hambrienta, las pequeñas empresas, han acaparado en sus manos la conservadores tuvieran su último derrota, la mal vestida, mal alojada. Nuestros viejos se propiedad y el control de las fuentes de riqueza de nuestro país. nación democrática americana tuvo su acercan a la edad con miedo e inseguridad. nacimiento en ese día.

¿Qué ha pasado con la América de Thomas Sunnyvale, California

Alex Dillard

La Declaración de Independencia se basó en una sólida confianza y fe en el hombre común, en la capacidad de las personas para gobernarse a sí mismas. La autoridad final descansa en las personas que son los verdaderos gobernantes. De acuerdo con las intenciones de Jefferson y la mayoría de los firmantes, principio sería la base del sistema de estadounidense.Esta gobierno doctrina era sumamente desagradable para los grandes comerciantes estadounidenses que comerciaban prósperamente con Inglaterra, para los aristócratas, los prósperos y los privilegiados, para los oficiales, jueces y otros incontables funcionarios de la corona británica y sus secuaces. Para estos nobles, el ejército y los partidarios de Washington eran la "chusma sin propiedad" a la que odiaban y temían mucho más que a la dominación extranjera. Estos son los señores que organizaron el partido tory, que financiaron, apoyaron y espiaron para el rey inglés contra sus compatriotas.

Pero al lado de la riqueza creció la fronteras algunas de las ciudades más 1938



pobreza. Tenemos dentro de nuestras Décima convención del Partido Comunista de EE.UU. en Chicago. Retratos de Lincoln, Lenin y Stalin flanqueaban el escenario, mientras el líder del Partido hablaba, mayo de ©The Worker 2023