CARRIZO SPRINGS, TX, JULY 3—“Smash racist deportation, working people have no nation!” This international chant resounded as multiracial and multigenerational contingent of Progressive Labor party (PLP) members marched in firm formation towards a newly opened concentration camp for children, a site only 12 miles away from the Crystal City concentration camp that held Japanese, German, and Italian families during World War II. They joined liberal organizers of the protest, who kicked the protest off in a pacifist fashion: mini banners, carrying gifts of bookmarks and teddy bears, all while urging protesters to decorate a fence a hundred yards from the entrance to this Carrizo Springs child detention facility.

It was clear that there was tension between liberals, identity centered organizations and PLP when sing-along sheets with “This Little Light of Mine” and “De Colores” were passed out. We knew that singing “This Little Light of Mine” was just a means of steering working-class anger into passivity—selling people to hold out for hope that things will change, rather than calling upon them to join in multiracial unity to defeat and destroy capitalism. PL’ers were immediately critical when these pacifist song-sheets were distributed, and when the leadership of the rally moved to sing them someone in the crowd yelled out, “WHY? NO!” As the liberals stumbled to answer, members PL sang “The Internationale,” the communist working-class anthem, while distributing CHALLENGE and communist leaflets. PLP won the crowd over with our anthem, our chants, and our speeches, exposing the politicks of both Republican and Liberal bosses and politicians to use racism to divide the working class and super-exploit migrant workers crossing the border, for their political and financial gain.

We called upon everyone to unite and fight back against capitalist bosses. The capitalist media has been supposedly uncovering the injustices at the US-Mexico border, but the end game is basically to push workers in the U.S. into the dead-end path of voting our way into a better world. But we know better, and in an effort to spread PLPs line around building a united international working class, members took to protest against a new children’s detention center in Carrizo Springs, Texas.

The squallor in these concentration camps is a holdover from the Obama era but the media focus from outlets controlled by main wing finance capital is new, as they seek to build mass movements to attack Trump, the number one threat to their decades-old blood-soaked world empire. There were approximately 100 people in attendance, including PL’ers from New York, Chicago and New Jersey.

Part of communist training

This trip to the detention facility at Carrizo Springs was part of a week-long summer project in Texas (see page 8). We greeted the Toyota Factory workers with communist literature, protested racist deportations again at the border crossing of Laredo and volunteered in migrant

Continued on page 3
The recent G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan, highlighted the increasing political tensions and rivalry between capitalist class. The main wing U.S. finance capitalists were hit by both the domestic U.S. bosses, fronted by President Trump, and by Russian capitalists led by President Vladimir Putin. In response, the big U.S. imperialists are trying to rally what’s left of their alliance in the European ruling class to counter expansionist moves of China and Russia. The volatile dynamic between these U.S. factions is accelerating a worldwide drive toward fascism. The desperate U.S. main wing (the Big Fascists) sees its only alternative to the bosses’ ‘weakening fascism’ and destruction: PLO is building an international communist movement to fight for a revolutionary communist society. It’s our only alternative to the bosses’ ‘weakening fascism.’

**FOR CHALLENGE?**

While an article may be written by one person, it is based on a collective revision and criticism. Many times this collective discussion even precedes an individual’s writing of an article.

**CONTACT US**

Email: desafio.challenge@gmail.com

Mail: Box 808 GPO, Brooklyn, NY 11202

Internet: www.plp.org

Twitter: @PLPchallenge

Facebook: Challenge Desafio

**WHO WRITES FOR CHALLENGE?**

CHALLENGE is for the working class, producing for the working class. The fact that CHALLENGE/PLEF articles are not signed grows from PLP’s criticism of the cult of the individual in the framework of the Russian and Soviet Union and China. We do not want to encourage the possibility of building up any “authorship” around any particular individual.

Our Fight

For those who want to build a revolutionary movement for communism.

**Key Terms**

Main wing finance capitalists are committed to a global land war to keep U.S. dominance over the world’s oil and other resources. This wing built what they call “the liberal world order,” aka the U.S. imperialist empire. ExxonMobil, the Rockefelleres, the Morgan banking families, and the Kochs are their main weapons. By whatever name, the Koch and mercer families are the main wing’s control. This subordinate group are the Little Fascists.

**Main wing finance capitalists**

liberal environmentalism is on the rise. The Sunris e Movement and its Green New Deal, championed by phony leftist Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, was incubated at the Sierra Club (E&E News, 12/3/18), where the agenda is driven by main wing billionaire donors like Michael Bloomberg and finance capi tals like Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (opensecrets.org).

From its start, the environmental movement was designed to force smaller domestic capitalists to fall in line. In 1970, the main wing Ford Foundation began funding the National Environmental Defense Fund, the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and the Southern California Center for Law in the Public Interest. “In the ensuing years, ... advocated … for environmental protection … on virtually every public policy issue at the federal, state, and local level” (Duke Center for Strategic Governance and Public Policy, 2011). These nonprofits fought for a parisan issue because “any attempt to regulate pollution is an attempt … to regulate the economy” (medium.com 1/26/17).

**Finance rulers call for war in Europe**

In the face of expanding influence by Russian and Chinese bosses in Europe, the main wing U.S. capitalists are rallying their allies in Europe’s finance capitals.

The ruling French and German finance bosses used their temuous victory in May’s European Parliament elections to intensify pro-military wing bureaucrats at the head of the European Union.

German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen, an Angela Merkel protégé who backs a strong European military, was appointed president of the executive body. Christine Lagarde, chief of the U.S.-dominated International Monetary Fund, was nominated as the next head of the European Central Bank.

Though splits inside the bosses’ camp are significant, the finance capitalists are consolidating their power and doing their best to bolster their NATO-allies. As the Council on Foreign Relations, U.S. finance capital’s leading think tank, points out, the stakes are high:

The more internally divided Europe is, the more it will find itself at the mercy of … great powers (Russia and China). This is a recipe for a Europe once again ruled by nationalism, an EU that is irrelevant, and a transatlantic alliance in which Europe has little strength and the United States lacks a strong partner. The only prudent way to avoid this nightmare scenario is military unification of Europe to … develop the ability to better defend itself … pursue common European interests … (and) do more to secure neighboring regions (Foreign Affairs, July/August 2019).

**Big Fascists use climate movement to enlist the working class**

In 2017, the isolationist U.S. bosses, who have significant holdings in heavy-polluting domestic fossil fuel companies, pushed Trump to pull out of the Paris climate agreement negotiated by predecessor Barack Obama. A reliable stooge for the main wing, the Trump administration is moving to dissolve its southern Utah chapter for “speaking out against its new war” (The New York Times, 6/28). Trump, who is backed by the isolationist, domestically oriented wing of U.S. capitalists, joined the Russian president in jokes at the U.S. liberal bosses’ expense (Bloomberg, 6/28). Trump also staged a sit-down with Mohamed bin Salman, the ruthless crown prince of Saudi Arabia, despite a United Nations report confirming that bin Salman was responsible for the murder of Washington Post reporter Jamal Khashoggi, a main wing voice at the Washington Post (The Guardian, 6/19).

**Finance rulers call for war in Europe**

In the face of expanding influence by Russian and Chinese bosses in Europe, the main wing U.S. capitalists are rallying their allies in Europe’s finance capitals. The ruling French and German finance bosses used their temuous victory in May’s European Parliament elections to intensify pro-military wing bureaucrats at the head of the European Union.

German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen, an Angela Merkel protégé who backs a strong European military, was appointed president of the executive body. Christine Lagarde, chief of the U.S.-dominated International Monetary Fund, was nominated as the next head of the European Central Bank. Though splits inside the bosses’ camp are significant, the finance capitalists are consolidating their power and doing their best to bolster their NATO-allies. As the Council on Foreign Relations, U.S. finance capital’s leading think tank, points out, the stakes are high:

The more internally divided Europe is, the more it will find itself at the mercy of … great powers (Russia and China). This is a recipe for a Europe once again ruled by nationalism, an EU that is irrelevant, and a transatlantic alliance in which Europe has little strength and the United States lacks a strong partner. The only prudent way to avoid this nightmare scenario is military unification of Europe to … develop the ability to better defend itself … pursue common European interests … (and) do more to secure neighboring regions (Foreign Affairs, July/August 2019).

**Big Fascists use climate movement to enlist the working class**

In 2017, the isolationist U.S. bosses, who have significant holdings in heavy-polluting domestic fossil fuel companies, pushed Trump to pull out of the Paris climate agreement negotiated by predecessor Barack Obama. A reliable stooge for the main wing, the Trump administration is moving to dissolve its southern Utah chapter for “speaking out against its new war” (The New York Times, 6/28).

Big Fascists use climate movement to enlist the working class

In 2017, the isolationist U.S. bosses, who have significant holdings in heavy-polluting domestic fossil fuel companies, pushed Trump to pull out of the Paris climate agreement negotiated by predecessor Barack Obama. A reliable stooge for the main wing, the Trump administration is moving to dissolve its southern Utah chapter for “speaking out against its new war” (The New York Times, 6/28).
Firsthand report from youth building solidarity

The following letters are from young participants of the Texas Summer Project (see page 1 and 2). More letters next issue.

We went to a church shelter for migrant workers but had to change and change politically with other volunteers and migrant workers. Many migrant workers were single parents with children, mostly from Central America. The church hosts them for the night before they go to the homes of family members or friends, or other places to await their deportation trials.

We set up cots, distributed blankets and clothes, and organized the supply closet. The cot system had people pushed up against each other with little to no personal space. We pointed this out, engaged in a bit of struggle with the church leaders with the help of several other volunteers, and finally convinced them to set a few cots to the side and give a little more room. This was just one example of how we can help a little with people’s immediate situation, and also engage in struggle that can develop over time into a struggle for class-consciousness.

Very few wanted to help migrant workers but did not see themselves as part of one united working class. We all wanted to help the migrant workers, of course, but when you see them as your working class brothers and sisters you fight just that much harder for them to be treated with respect, just as you would want your own family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.

As we showed the migrant workers to the rooms and distributed supplies, we also tried to ask them about the situations in their home countries and relate their struggles to other struggles of the international working class. Many arrived with very few possessions, stories about terrible situations in their home countries, and only a few family members to be treated. The other volunteers appreciated this and we were able to get their contact info.
Letter: Student and teachers fight back to end racist random searches

As a teacher and member of Progressive Labor Party (PLP), this struggle for me started about five years ago when a resolution was put forward in the teachers’ union. This resolution proposed taking a stand against racist police brutality and it passed. As a result, the union’s Racial Justice Committee (RJC) was formed. It was a newly formed committee being a group that simply talked about racism, there was a struggle to take direct action against racist policies in schools, such as the aforementioned random search policy. We joined together with other students and community members and developed a long-term plan that consisted of educating ourselves about these issues by developing student curriculum, organizing forums, passing out flyers, and pushing for the union to fight to end random searches. This committee took direct action in the form of rallies, marches, and packing school board meetings.

There was a lot of resistance from educators worried about “safety” and many also had racist ideas about Black and Latin students. There were also some problems that developed within the union itself. For example, after Trump was elected, there was a serious debate over whether or not the fight against racism is also a fight that benefits white workers.

The ideology of “white privilege” was brought forward to contradict the communist view that the white working class’s interests would be served forward to contradict the communist view that the white working class’s interests would be served forward to contradict the communist view that the white working class’s interests would be served. This need has not arisen because Trump is president or Republicans control the Senate or Cuomo is governor or Bill Thompson is Chair of the CUNY Board. This need is not the answer. We must replace the capitalist system that feeds and is fed by them. And that requires a communist revolution.

The bosses attempted to reform their racist policies by suggesting safe school programs such as comprehensive restorative justice, psychologists, therapists and counselors, and the Safe Passage program. However, through strength and determination, our committee pushed for the LAUSD to end this policy entirely. Although a great victory for our students, it’s important to understand that reforms, no matter how progressive, will never eradicate the racist nature of this system. As long as capitalism remains, the need to fight racism against the working class youth will continue. In fact the bosses always seem to give us an inch to cut off a mile, such that the next step they try to come up with may be more racist and fascist.

The education system itself is set up to teach youth to accept the bosses’ control and face dire consequences if they try to come off it. However, until we take down the capitalist system and replace it with a better system for working people, a communist system that teaches the working class our history and science, and truly educates our youth, so that they can help build a better world for all. The struggle continues.

desafio.challenge@gmail.com
www.plp.org

CUNY struggle builds student worker solidarity

“7K or Strike” was the chant heard outside in the hallway after a group of CUNY (City University of New York) faculty walked out together after a heated union meeting on Thursday night. Numerous militant speakers rose to talk against tui-

The school board of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) just voted to end the racist “random search policy” that has been de-

The bosses attempted to reform their racist policies by suggesting safe school programs such as comprehensive restorative justice, psychologists, therapists and counselors, and the Safe Passage program. However, through strength and determination, our committee pushed for the LAUSD to end this policy entirely. Although a great victory for our students, it’s important to understand that reforms, no matter how progressive, will never eradicate the racist nature of this system. As long as capitalism remains, the need to fight racism against the working class youth will continue. In fact the bosses always seem to give us an inch to cut off a mile, such that the next step they try to come up with may be more racist and fascist.

The education system itself is set up to teach youth to accept the bosses’ control and face dire consequences if they try to come off it. However, until we take down the capitalist system and replace it with a better system for working people, a communist system that teaches the working class our history and science, and truly educates our youth, so that they can help build a better world for all. The struggle continues.

desafio.challenge@gmail.com
www.plp.org

Page 4 • CHALLENGE • July 24, 2019

CUNY Board of Trustees: racist goons

For all the hardship experienced by the faculty and staff at CUNY, the group that the racist CUNY Board of Trustees has targeted most viciously is the students. Their so-called “rational” tuition plan has seen tuition increase every semester since 2011. Yet, knowing full-well the statistics cited above about student food insecurity and homelessness, and knowing that most CUNY students have to work every penny, they just voted to raise tuition by $200.

Good capitalists that they are, the CUNY Board also has invented the myth that the tuition increase is “necessary” because of “past labor unrest.” The CUNY annual budget is around $3.5 billion. The notion that the small percentage increase needed for labor contracts must come from student tuition is idiotic. It’s a purely political tactic, precisely designed to weaken student-faculty solidarity. Meanwhile, the silence coming from the PSC is deafening. Fearful that it will jeopardize whatever awful contract is offered by CUNY, they have sold out students in the most brazen way by refusing to condemn the tuition increase. Here also, the $7K or Strike campaign has revealed the collaborationist nature of the PSC leadership.

Beyond selling out the students, the PSC continues its campaign to disarm and disillusion its members. The writing is on the wall: the CUNY Trustees and Albany politicians continue to strangle the CUNY budget, and that’s with the racist $200 tuition increase. Yet the PSC leadership asks its members to continue on the same failing strategies over and over - beg and plead with politicians, travel to Albany, testify at hearings. At multiple union meetings across the university system, activists have impeached the PSC leadership to develop an alternate plan - a strike plan. Yet at tonight’s meeting, even the most mild resolution – to delay any vote on a potential contract until after the summer break, giving the rank-and-file a chance to collectively discuss it – was attacked by the leadership and soundly defeated. They have systematically weakened any kind of union militancy and then have the nerve to declare that the contract timing is “fragile” and that we should not fight back.

The fight for $7K and the fight against tuition increases are critical, but history teaches us an unflinching truth: Reforms made under capitalist rule are fleeting - and replacing a president, a congressional representative, a governor, mayor or union president will never create a world where all workers can live with dignity in their jobs and at home. The U.S. ruling class faces an intractable need to discipline the working class and prepare for greater global conflict.

This need has not arisen because Trump is president or Republicans control the Senate or Cuomo is governor or Bill Thompson is Chair of the CUNY Board. This need is not the answer. We must replace the capitalist system that feeds and is fed by them. And that requires a communist revolution.

For 26 years, working class students of color were pulled out of their homes, as unavoidable parts of a capitalist system that capitalism creates. Basic items would be taken away from them to the culture of criminalization that subjected them to the culture of criminalization.

But workers and students, not just in CUNY but around the world continue to put the fight back on display, illustrating the enormous potential of the working-class. With communist leadership and discipline, we have the ability not just to change capitalism, but to smash it altogether. That is the message that members and friends of PL are bringing to CUNY students and workers.
LEFT FORUM

Build a mass multiracial party for communism

BROOKLYN, JUNE 30 — “What’s your strategy to organize the left in the United States?” asked a young man who was a part of the Yellow Vest movement in Paris as he approached our Progressive Labor Party table this weekend at the Left Forum. (The Left Forum is a NYC-based event that seeks to bring progressive people together to share radical ideas for social change.) Our international strategy is to build base in the working class and focus on organizing a mass party with workers, students, and soldiers. Only a revolutionary communist party of millions can turn the coming imperialist world war into a war for communism, a society totally run by the working class. So organizing a revolution for communism will take tens of millions of workers, students, and soldiers worldwide. And that will take a worldwide party of millions. Not an easy task. “Organizing the left” certainly won’t do it. But it was useful to reach out; you never know when you might meet someone who will join the fight for communism.

Black workers’ leadership key to communist revolution

PLP participated in this three-day conference, attending various panels as well as organizing our own, Black Workers Key to Communist Revolution. Young Black and South Asian comrades led the panel. They explained how fighting anti-Black racism and building the entire working class, by Black workers was key to organizing a communist revolution for working class power. Black and white workers, men and women, PLP and others, everyone participated.

Black workers have an especially urgent case to revolt and smash the bosses’ state. Throughout U.S. history, from the time they were kidnapped from Africa as a pool of no-wage labor, they have served at the forefront of every working-class movement, the war against slavery, the struggle for civil rights, the mass strikes against the industrial bosses, the fights for jobs and housing and decent schools. Wherever workers have confronted the profit system and its parasites, Black workers have stood at the front lines. Wherever Black workers gave leadership, our entire class stood to benefit and gain class-consciousness as a result. Anti-Black racism is deeply rooted. It is the very foundation of the U.S. Empire. More than 500 years after Europe’s colonial powers first invaded the Americas, racism exists for one reason: the division and oppression generates billions upon billions in profit for the capitalists. If our class is to seize and hold state power throughout the world, Black workers and their leadership are fundamental to destroy racism.

No matter where you are in the world, fighting anti-Black racism and recruiting the most oppressed part of the working class to the highest level of leadership must be part and parcel so our fight against capitalism. 

Rainbow fascism

Contrast communist Black leadership with the bosses’ call for liberal leadership. Many agreed that the liberal bosses were the main danger. One young Black worker did not like our criticism of the Democratic Socialists, particularly Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (AOC). This was a discussion about AOC tweeting: “(2) his is what solidarity looks like — a reminder that everyday people have real power, as long as we’re brave enough to use it.” Through this struggle, many Wayfair workers have begun seeing through the so-called apolitical nature of big business. Some of them said, “If this is how the free market works, I don’t like it.” They also saw how workers make the system run: if we withhold our labor, the fascist machine can’t function. These insights are powerful when taken to their final conclusion: workers can run society in our interests without the need of the bosses’ capitalist system! Then and only then will there be no borders and no children dying in concentration camps.

Liberal bosses the main danger

Instead, the Democratic Socialists and the big liberal fascists they have tied their movement to offer misleadership. They mainly criticize Trump’s overt and gutter style of fascism. They don’t point out that Barack Obama, the deputy in chief, built these concentration camps and imprisoned entire families including women and children. The liberal fascists built these cages! And, they just voted to fund even more camps and more cages. More children will die. The liberal fascists don’t push Trump’s border wall. They push an even more dangerous option: biometric screenings, drone surveillance, and better technology at the border. This means more death as desperate immigrant workers will take riskier routes through deserts to avoid these traps. 

These big liberal fascists push the ideas of reforming capitalism. They try to convince workers that this despicable and inhumane system can be made to function for us. That as U.S. imperialism ravages the world with bombs, hunger and chaos, it can be taught to respect human rights! That we can have “just” borders.

This is why the Progressive Labor Party warns the working class: the big Liberal Fascist wing of the ruling class and the parties they control are our biggest threat. They will try and mobilize us to support them. They will try to mobilize our young people in their multi-cultural, multi- gendered Armed Forces for the upcoming wars that the imperialist world war capitalism can have “just” borders.

SPREADS and other literature.

At the next Left Forum, PLP will again raise the red flag of communist revolution!
Zina Portnova, teenage communist hero

Capitalist history textbooks rarely tell us real working-class history. They especially don’t teach us about the countless working-class heroes. One such hero is Zinaida Portnova, or “Zina” for short, a Soviet teenager, Soviet partisan, and hero of the Soviet Union under leader Joseph Stalin.

She was known for killing over 100 Nazis by poison. She is said to have shot the Nazi detective who captured her. Zina was born on February 20, 1926 in the city of Leningrad in a working-class Belarusian family. Her father Martyn worked at the huge Kirov factory. She graduated from seventh grade in 1941, then left for her grandmother’s home in the countryside.

Nazis invade USSR, Zina becomes a red

At the beginning of June 1941, she arrived for school holidays in the village of Ziui, near the Obol station of the Shumilino district of the Vitebsk region. When the Nazis invaded the USSR on June 22, 1941, Zina found herself in Nazi-occupied territory. She was forced to watch as soldiers beat her grandmother for their cattle.

In 1942, she became a member of the local underground resistance “Young Avengers” headed by Yefrosinya Zenkova (who was a leader of the Komosol, the youth division of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union). Zina committed herself to communism.

She began by distributing Soviet propaganda leaflets in German-occupied Belorussia, collecting and hiding weapons for Soviet soldiers, and reporting on German troop movements. After learning how to use weapons and explosives, Portnova participated in sabotage actions at a pump, local power lines, and brick factories.

Zina poisons a 100 Nazis

She got herself a job working in the kitchens of a nearby Nazi garrison. On the instructions of the underground she poisoned the soup, which resulted in the deaths of many high-ranking officials. Soviet sources say more than 100 Nazi scum died.

The Nazis began a search for intruders. Zina claimed that she was innocent and ate some of the food in front of the Nazis to prove it was not poisoned. When she did not fall ill immediately, they released her. She managed to survive this beating by being treated with grass broth antidote at her grandmother’s house. However, after this it was too dangerous for her to remain in the village, and

Zina was later transferred to the fighting partisan detachment. From August 1943, she was a member of the Kliment Voroshilov scout partisan detachment. In December 1943, returning from an assignment to discover the reasons for the failure of the Young Avengers organization, she was captured in the village of Mostysche.

Reports of her escape vary. One version is that, during Gestapo interrogation in the village of Goryany, she took the investigator’s pistol off the table, then shot and killed him. When two Nazi soldiers attempted to shoot a guard blocking her access to the street, she was captured. After that the Nazis tortured her for more than a month, trying to get information about the partisans. On the morning of January 10, 1944, she was shot, either in the prison of the city of Polotsk or in the village of Goryany.

Remember Zina

Today there are two monuments standing for her, a bust in Minusk near where she was born and an obelisk in Obol where she was killed.

Zina’s story is one of working-class bravery. Trained by communists, she clearly had a deep hatred for the Nazis and a deeper love for the working class. Her story shows that young people can be thinkers and fighters for a better world.

PLP fights for communism at the Marxist Literary Group conference

Against a backdrop of capitalist crisis with rising racism and fascism and risk of world war, Progressive Labor Party (PLP) members joined more than 100 scholars at the 2019 conference of the 50-year-old Marxist Literary Group (MLG). As communists, we were there to face these challenges together with our fellow-workers, also encouraging them to join us in the long-term revolutionary struggle to fight for an egalitarian communist world.

During the six-day conference, we heard 70 papers, presented the Party views, and took part in six reading groups. We signed up seven friends to work through our unions on solidarity with migrating workers, gave more than a dozen copies of CHALLENGE to friends, and formed new friendships.

PLP professors and graduate students have worked at the MLG for more than two decades, earned people’s respect, and learned that many Marxist thinkers believe that communism is a good idea. The need to join a revolutionary party to fight for communism, however, has been a further reach for many. Still, in recent years, the intensifying capitalist crisis, including within the university, has made the discussion of organization and the need for a party a topic of more serious discussion. Many graduate students attending MLG know that as new PhDs they will compete for scarce full-time tenure-track college jobs and may well face a lifetime of adjuncting or leaving the profession, their dreams of producing new knowledge shattered. CHALLENGE has had many articles on this university crisis, highlighting the struggles of both students fighting racism, debt, and rising tuition, as well as those of low-paid adjunct lecturers. These adjuncts do the bulk of university teaching, earning around $20,000 per year for a full course load, often with no benefits.

For intellectuals the future lies only in a revolutionary alliance with the working class. We must learn from the power of the insurgent global working class as we point the way to a communist future. A million workers and students protesting in Khartoum, two million in Hong Kong, the biggest general strike in history in India, a new revolutionary party in South Africa based on the largest union on the continent, 80 million refugees worldwide fighting like hell just to stay alive. Let’s build toward a communist world in which workers will learn to become intellectuals and intellectuals will learn to become workers, until no such division of labor remains to hold back our common creativity. Join PLP and make this long march out of racism, fascism, and war, to abolish capitalism.
Beat back the white supremacists

In *Bring the War Home*, Kathleen Belew expos-
ted the broad, coordinated nature of the U.S. gutter racism and fascist “white power” movement and its responsibility for black killed by “home- wolves.” The white supremacist movement itself is a loose collection of many racist, nationalist and anti-communist groups from the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) to neo-Nazis to militias and is a part of how U.S. capitalism maintains control over the working class through racism.

Below are excerpts from the capitalist press that may be of use for our readers.

**History of white supremacists**

While gutter racist mass movements have been nurtured by the U.S. ruling class since the 1860s U.S. Civil War, the latest surge in racist activism began after the 1960s Vietnam War. Some veterans resentful racial integration in the army and bought the U.S. government lies about fighting communism. The post-Vietnam racism built paramilitary camps in nine states and launched many attacks, while suffering few arrests or convictions. In 1979, they killed five leftist anti-KKK demonstrators in Greensboro, North Carolina, while the cops did little. One racist was convicted later for beating up a Ku Klux Klanner, in Alabama, killing 168 people. Belew fails to consider that extreme racism has a value in this nation birthed in slavery and still home to massive racial discrimination.

The U.S. depends on racism to keep workers divided and save trillions on lower wages and social services. The racist capitalist media regularly portrays Muslim workers as terrorists. Trump has resuscitated grievances and stirring white hate. The U.S. government’s Homeland Security has disbanded its activist group on domestic terrorism. Now that the U.S. is closer to fascism, the President can openly embrace racist thugs. Even if liberal Democrats win the presidency in 2020, the history of all politicians, even Black ones, should not give us hope that violent racists will be made to account. Only by building multiracial relationships and struggles ourselves and vigorously opposing the ideas of the white supremacy, and nationalism can we defeat racist divisions and violence. Only by making a communist revolution can we guarantee that racism will be eliminated once and for all.

**The racial epidemic of 2020**

Below are excerpts from the capitalist press that may be of use for our readers.

**Chemical pollution: another racist killer for 50 years**

NYT, 6/30 — St. John the Baptist is a rectangle across the road and a large facto-
ry on the other. For years, the people living there… suffered a disproportionate share of health prob-
lems, including asthma disorders, respiratory distress, headaches, heart troubles and cancers…

**Protest Obama- Trump migrant concentration camps**

NYT, 6/23 — Fort Sill, Okla. — For Satuki Ina… born in a Japanese-American internment camp during World War II… that the United States must uncertain undocumented migrant children at this Army base… felt like a walloper from the…

**Racist mistreatment of Black patients pervades U.S. history**

NYT, 6/30 — [Black people] have suffered from health care discrimination throughout the whole history of the [U.S.], usually in the form of lack of access or undertreatment. A 2017 study found that in New York City, African-Americans were significantly underrepresented in the best hospitals, even after controlling for insurance coverage.

Racist mistreatment of Black patients pervades U.S. history.

**...The facilities…are operating well past their capacities…**

**...The Trump appointee who now oversees the EPA’s IRIS division… used to represent formaldehyde manufacturers on a panel of the American Chemistry Council, as the director of policy and regulatory affairs for Koch Industries… just another example of a government working to profit this industry. But for St. John, the failure to act is a matter of life and death…

**Protest Obama- Trump migrant concentration camps**

NYT, 6/23 — Fort Sill, Okla. — For Satuki Ina… born in a Japanese-American internment camp during World War II… that the United States must uncertain undocumented migrant children at this Army base… felt like a walloper from the…

**The United States has a history of institutional racism, are only the tip of the iceberg.**

American-Indians, including children, are more often undertreated for pain compared with their white counterparts. The mistreatment of white patients with bone fractures in an Atlanta emergency room received pain medications, 57 percent of African-American patients and 51 percent of white patients with appendicitis were one-fifth as likely to receive opioid medications for pain, a commentary of care, as white children. Such inequities, the manifestations of implicit bias and institutional racism, are only the tip of the iceberg.
TEXAS PROJECT FIGHTS BORDERS, BUILDS COMMUNISTS

TEXAS, JULY 7 —The Progressive Labor Party organized 50 workers and youth against capitalist borders during a summer project here. The focus of our fight was a call to unite against racist borders and anti-immigrant racism. We strengthened our commitment to multiracial unity of the working class and the struggle for communist revolution to destroy capitalism.

Every year, PLP and friends join to fight collectively in an area of focus—to connect struggles, grow our organization, and develop young leaders. Throughout the week, we demonstrated, volunteered, distributed CHALLENGE and leaflets, engaged in workshops and discussions and strengthened our relationships with each other.

Internationalism on July 4

After the protest against the new concentration camp in Carrizo Springs (see front page), we took the fightback to the Texas-Mexico border. July fourth in the United States is a day of hyper nationalism and morbid hypocrisy. PLP comrades countered the bosses fake holiday by staging a militant anti-July fourth demonstration, and distributed communist literature to workers and shop owners around the international pedestrian bridge.

Many stopped to read CHALLENGE right then and there. Several joined in on our march through the streets and at the corners where we stopped to chant and hear speeches prepared by our comrades, grew our organization, and developed young leaders. Throughout the week, we engaged in discussions and workshops and strengthened our relationships with each other.

Solidarity with migrant families at the shelter

Throughout the week, PLP volunteers at a local shelter that housed migrant families who made the hellish journey from Mexico, Central America, the Congo, and Haiti. As many as 300 arrived every night. We served meals, played with children, and listened to many migrants share their experiences (see letters, page 3). We helped some make travel arrangements, for their journeys are far from over. Many are going to meet family already here—some are going to cities and states they never heard of.

Still, many are going to cities where they will face more racism, poverty, and exploitation. We ached for them, as they come to the U.S. with immense hope in having a chance at a new life. Ultimately, we learned from our fellow brothers and sisters, as their very presence once again shows the power workers hold in demonstrating their ability to defend themselves even in the harshest of conditions.

A week of learning

PLP also took to the streets in Texas, distributing CHALLENGE and leaflets to Toyota factory workers, passersby, shoppers, and shelter volunteers. We focused on spreading our sphere of influence and developing young leaders. Throughout the week, we engaged in discussions and workshops to increase and strengthen our understanding of intensifying inter-imperialist rivalry, its dependence on racism and nationalism to divide the working class and borders, and to prove further, the heightening danger of fascist liberalism.

We fortified our understanding with direct experience to take back to our schools, our jobs and our communities. We ended the week with a real Texas barbecue celebration, sharing our impressions and lessons learned from the week.

Rising fascism and liberals are main danger to workers

While liberal politicians may cry “keep families together” to appear concerned with the humanity of migrant workers and families seeking refuge, merely keeping families together in a detention center is a violation of the suffering of the migrant workers for their own cynical purposes. Just like president Donald Trump and his conservative cronies, U.S. liberal bosses have high stakes in exploiting the working class—they just use smoke and mirrors to do so. They want workers to forget that it was Barack Obama who deported more migrants than any other president. Obama authorized the construction of detention camps for children at the border. Obama created DACA to target Latin youth for military recruitment.

Thus, we cannot ignore that it is Obama’s racist legacy that Trump’s anti-immigrant administration is built upon. While Trump’s administration uses open racism to mobilize its political base and fuel anti-immigrant sentiment, we must acknowledge that intensifying racism, nationalism, and use of “law and order” to terrorize workers are strategies employed by a number of Democratic presidents—Obama, Clinton, Carter—and are a hallmark of rising fascism.

Worldwide, bosses are sliding towards wider racism and the various national bosses are moving towards more fascism amid growing volatility. But, liberal fascists continue to insidiously mislead workers into believing they have our best interests at heart when they are agents of a violent system. They seek not to alleviate the exploitation of the working class, but to subdue workers with meaningless reforms. They seek not to unite workers in multiracial unity, but instead keep workers divided through identity politics. Time and time again, liberals screw workers over for power, profit and control. The working class shouldn’t be fooled!

Communism means no racist borders

Our work in Texas this week reflected what communism means—workers’ power, no racist borders, and no workers forced from their homes and families to find work. Our work this week reflected our dedication to building and strengthening PLP—and our fight to smash capitalism for good. We must unite and fight the increasing mass arrests of undocumented workers, ICE police raids on homes, jobs, military bases, bus stations and highways, mass detentions and deportations.

Same enemy, same fight, workers of the world unite! ¡El mismo enemigo, la misma lucha, los trabajadores del mundo se unen!®

SUBSCRIBE or RENEW!

All the communist politics, news, and struggle from around the world!
One-year subscription: $20 individual $45 for institution

Name
Address
City State Zip

Make check or money order to: Challenge Periodicals, PO Box 808, Brooklyn, NY 11202