

Africa Workers Organizer

No 2 Feb-March 2010

***We do not reconcile with
imperialism!***



Workers and soldiers storm parliament in Kyrgyzstan

Contact details:

International centre: fltinternational@ymail.com

South Africa: workersinternational@gmail.com

Zimbabwe: sociallabour@gmail.com

Website: www.workersinternational.org.za

Postal address: 1st Floor, Community House, 41 Salt River rd, Salt River, Cape Town,
7925, South Africa. ph [27] 822020617, fax [27] 865486048

Editorial

'We dedicate this edition to the memory of the father (Hugo Jose Medrano) and mother (Elba Nidia Videla) of Paula Medrano, who were killed by US imperialism, through the hands of the military dictatorship in Argentina, over 30 years ago. The father's body was recently 'discovered' in a mass grave in a public cemetery in the centre of the capital, Buenos Aires. The US government is funding the team that is tasked with a phased release of the 'discoveries'.

These 'discoveries' expose an alliance of US imperialism, the Church, the political parties in government as well as the groupings of the 'left. The 'left' have hailed as a victory the ruling by the Argentine Supreme court to 'prosecute' the killers while the families of the executed (the 'disappeared') are expected to have one last procession (march) to re-bury the remains of their beloved ones, and to forgive and forget. The killers have been sentenced. Some 30 years after the fact, to 'house arrest' in luxury villas in the countryside while the families of the executed are offered bribes of USD 30 000 to give up the fight against US imperialism.

The Medrano family has not pocketed a cent of the money but has started a fund to support working class struggles against capitalism imperialism. As part of this support, the campaign in defence of the Las Heras oil workers in the south of Argentina, against casualization and to make all workers permanent, was supported. The workers had been brutally assaulted by the state, and some are still under house arrest, awaiting the finalization of court proceedings against them.

This edition is dedicated to the memory of Hugo Luis Medrano and Elba Nidia Videla and the 30 000 executed by US imperialism in Argentina, to the 30 000 killed by US imperialism in South Africa when attempting to crush the working class revolt of 1985-1994. We do not reconcile with imperialism; their hands are dripping with the blood of generations of the working class and poor peasantry, the world over. In particular, this edition is launched in an area where US-UK imperialism is brutalizing the Zimbabwe working class who have been at the forefront in Africa, of challenging their hegemony. The Zanu-PF and MDC are but instruments of US-UK imperialism to control the masses, turning Zimbabwe into a slave camp for the further plunder by them.

We call for workers' and popular tribunals to judge the monopoly capitalists and their agents in the state and their private mercenary groups.

On the death of Eugene Terre'blanche

Within hours of the death of the fascist Eugene Terre'blanche, the SA Communist Party issued a statement expressing their 'regret and shock' and extending their deepest condolences to the Terre'blanche family and friends. Not a word about the workers that Terre'blanche and the AWB killed over the years. The SACP champions the cause of the AWB by calling for 'government to act swiftly against the perpetrators' (the ones who killed Terre'blanche). Yet, the AWB and the 'white' fascists, who have killed thousands of activists over the years, walk free; many act as mercenaries for US imperialism in Iraq as so-called security guards, many others are still working for the state in positions such as the Internal stability unit (Riot Squad). This is the fruit of Joe Slovo's sunset clauses which guaranteed that the apartheid state apparatus would remain intact.

The AWB and other fascists are the reserve forces of JP Morgan Chase and other imperialists that control the wealth of SA. Under threat of revolution, fascism is used by imperialism against the working class- this has been proven over and over again around the world. The remaining 25 000 commercial farms are up to their ears in debt to the banks (read US-UK imperialism, who control all the local banks including the SA Reserve bank). The dop system, the slave wages and conditions, are all part of US-UK imperialism's super-exploitation of the farm worker, which is still perpetuated today and directly administered by 'white' commercial farmers. The institutionalized violence against farm workers is part of the daily extraction of profits by imperialism. JP Morgan Chase and other gangsters control the food supply in the Southern African region and have been starving the working class for many decades. Countless number of the poor have starved to death on their account. On the back of slave farm conditions the JP Morgan Chase gangsters make super profits by charging exorbitantly high food prices. The black liberals of the SACP call for more labour inspectors and a farm workers summit, knowing full well that this will not fundamentally change the situation of the farmworkers. The only way to end violence against farm workers (and farm managers) is to expropriate all the commercial farms, without compensation to the capitalists, and to place them under workers control, something which is not part of the SACP programme as they are too busy reconciling with the hired killers of imperialism. When the next mass revolt occurs, imperialism will use the AWB and other fascists against the working class (already the militarized police force is increasingly being used against strikers and protestors)- such is the real meaning of the speedy condolences dished out by the SACP to Terre'blanche.

We need to follow the example of the mine workers at Aurora, who united across colour lines against the capitalists (whether the bosses were blue, green or whatever colour).

We call on workers and youth to break with the SACP. Forward to working class tribunals to judge the monopoly capitalists and their hired guns. Down with child wage slavery. Down with wage slavery in general. Free those accused of killing Terre'blanche, they are victims of imperialist violence.



This is how the working class responded to the death of fascist Terre'blanche

Open letter to the EEK (Workers revolutionary party- Greece) and the left in Europe on the burning question of Greece (a first statement)

'Spark in Greece, Turkey, fire in Paris, London, the revolution is coming!'

We salute the heroic masses in Greece for once again taking the revolutionary road; the eyes of the world proletariat are on you. The 11th March 2010 was arguably the biggest general strike in Greece in living memory; while the EEK leadership calls it a successful general strike, we see it as a policy of containment by the Greek Communist party and the trade union bureaucracy.

Never before has there been such hatred for the Greek regime, yet the policy of the trade union bureaucracy was merely to pressure the Papandreu government. The Stalinists in South Africa have a long history of diverting and containing the revolutionary action of the masses by calling 1 day stayaways and giving it the name general strike. The deliberate policy is to keep the masses away from the factories and preventing and limiting the movement of factory occupations, in other words, a deliberate policy to prevent workers power developing in the factories and thus placing obstacle in the way of a dual power developing. The few workers who might attempt an occupation of their workplace would easily be targeted by the state and repressed; further, the stayaway in the transport sector in Greece meant that the masses were unable to move and centralize all their forces using all public transport, which could easily have been placed under workers control for the day. From the millions who could have converged in the centre of Athens only 70 000 of the hard core assembled and they, coming from different areas were easy targets for the state apparatus. It was in this context that the anarchist, Lambros Fountas, was brutally murdered by the police on the same day as the general stayaway.

Thus was the policy by the Stalinists and the leadership of the GSEE and ADEDY, who deliberately stood aside from the 2008 uprising and who could no longer stand on the sidelines for fear of being exposed. Now they acted to contain the revolt of the masses. As the EEK and the SWP leaders themselves acknowledge, even the smallest island joined the strike; but the policy of the Stalinists, the Pasok, the union bureaucracy, and sections of the left, isolated the movement. What should have been a movement to overthrow the government of Papandreu, was turned into a pressure tool for the masses to blow off steam and for the state and their fascist gangs to act against the vanguard to attempt to restore capitalist 'stability'.

The EEK programme- for the refounding of the Fourth International, or acting to contain the European socialist revolution?

When, in the EEK platform for the Euro elections in 2009, you call for the 'overthrow of capitalist governments and their states', you contradict yourselves now, by uncritically supporting the attempted strangulation of the revolutionary movement in Greece through the 11 march stayaway, led by the very leaders who strangled the Dec 2008 uprising.

During the 11 March strike, sections of the highly reactionary police joined the demonstrations; imagine what would have happened if the masses had converged in their millions in Athens- a section of the army would definitely have come over to the side of the masses. The prospect of another 'madagascar' in the heart of imperialism was on the cards- the Stalinists and the bureaucracy of the unions saw this and this is why they acted to contain the action of the masses. No, Comrades of the EEK and Workers Solidarity (and of the IST), this was not a 'successful' general strike but one of the biggest betrayals ever in the history of Greece, if not Europe. The imperialists know that a revolutionary overthrow in Greece threatens the existence of capitalism in

Europe. Sixty percent of the masses in Eastern Europe support communism and the spark in Athens will spread throughout Europe, very quickly. The only successful general strike would see the Papandreu regime overthrown, imperialism expropriated when the workers take power. This is the only way to conquer bread, jobs and a better life for all.

The EEK states in your Euro platform that 'The worldwide capitalist crisis and its consequences cannot be faced within the borders of each country separately, with each country's national supplies alone.' You stood with delegates from England, Italy, Belgium, Finland, yet your only actions are to now call workers from Turkey to speak at Greek-Turkish workers' meetings. The point is for what purpose? To unify the working class to once more pressure the Papandreu regime? To get them to go and recite poetry in the cultural centres while the fascist gangs are afoot? Among the Turkish workers and other immigrants are the vanguard of the current strike movement, building their own unions, occupying their workplaces and establishing independent factory committees. This is a leading section of the vanguard that has seen through the bureaucracy of the GSEE and ADEDY and openly classify them as counter-revolutionary. A policy of containing the independent action of the immigrants would smother the core of the vanguard of the current strike movement. The actions of imperialism show that if we allow one immigrant to be dismissed, tomorrow, the rest of the working class will also be attacked. The time to unify our ranks is now.

In the immediate period after 11 March, many workers have continued the strike with occupation of their workplaces; many on the 11th March occupied their workplaces and have continued to do so; the question is how to go forward from here:

Central demands for the moment:

1. Down with the government of Papandreu, agent of the imperialists; extend the factory committees to all workplaces; set up workers' councils in all industrial areas and cities and towns and every working class neighbourhood (uniting immigrant and local workers and rank and file soldiers and poor peasants); all power to the factory committees and workers' councils; for the immediate setting up of armed workers' self-defence militias to defeat the fascists decisively and to defend workers and workers organizations from the fascists and the new Euro police- (we remember Alex Grigoropoulos and Lambros Fountas);
2. down with any cuts in wages or conditions
3. Down with all commercial secrets; open the books of the banks
4. expropriate the banks, without compensation to any capitalists, under workers control!
5. equal pay for equal work across Europe
6. all workers to be made permanent across Europe!
7. sliding scale of hours and pay
8. expropriate all imperialist assets and place them under workers control
9. a call to action of the working class in the semi-colonies and colonies of the imperialists, to act to advance the demand for the expropriation of all imperialist assets under workers' control- the regimes in the semi-colonies and colonies are mere puppets of the imperialists- such action by the masses is the essence of real international solidarity with those brutalized by the imperialists across the world.
10. Defeat the Nato troops in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan!
11. For the reviving of the million workers marches in the USA , uniting immigrants with the rest of the working class!
12. For the immediate extending of the occupations to all workplaces! For the unions to break with the bourgeois government, the IMF and all imperialists. Expel the union bureaucracy from the unions!

13. For the calling of a national congress of delegates of workers, poor peasants and soldiers to work out a plan of struggle to achieve the demands (such as a real co-ordinated political general strike)
14. For the immediate calling of a continental congress of delegates from all Europe of workers, poor peasants and soldiers to plan and co-ordinate a continental action, a political general strike. This is an immediate, central task
15. For the formation of a independent revolutionary workers' parties in Greece and across Europe; this is the way towards refounding the Fourth International

Down with the reformist left and fake trotskyists who act across Europe and North America, to strangle the independent revolutionary action of the masses.

To the ranks of the EEK and the rest of the vanguard in Greece, in Europe, we propose the above programme, which we will fight shoulder to shoulder with you to take to the masses. Let us not allow the spark from Athens to be put out once again. The fascist jackboot stands ready across all Europe if we do not act quickly and decisively.

FLTI African Secretariat 19.03.10



Greek and immigrant workers on the march against imperialist attacks



Campaign in defence of revolutionary left and student activists in Zimbabwe

This is an urgent call to all working class and progressive organisations to stand up and be counted, to publicly oppose the latest attacks on the revolutionary left and student activists in Zimbabwe. The leadership of a revolutionary group (Revolutionary Internationalist Group, Ex-ISOZ) in Zimbabwe, that has recently broken from the International Socialist Tendency (IST) and is in process of affiliating to the FLTI (International Leninist Trotskyist Fraction), has been attacked by the Zimbabwean state.

Lovemore Manjonjo was arrested while in possession of the Africa Workers Organiser in February this year, roughed up by the police, then charged with assault of a policeman. Charges later were dropped. Cde Tigwe, another leader of the revolutionary group (ex-ISOZ), was threatened with death and chased with an axe by MDC activists; four youth leaders (Mugwadi, Hoyi, Kutya and Mudzengi) of Zinasu -Zimbabwe National Students Union- were attacked by MDC youth on 6 March this year.

The international significance of the attacks against the Zimbabwean working class

The Zimbabwean working class was among the first in Africa to challenge the imperialist structural adjustment programmes through rolling general strikes in 1997. When the imperialists realised that their local manager, Mugabe, was no longer able to control the masses, they deliberately collapsed the currency and pushed the Zimbabwean masses into starvation; they turned Zimbabwe into a massive slave camp for cheap labour for imperialism in the Southern African region; at the same time imperialism created the MDC to pose as a friend of the masses, building it from within the workers' movement, a popular front with a programme to defend imperialism to the bitter end. The IST sent the ISOZ into the MDC to help chain the masses to the coat-tails of imperialism. A section of ISOZ broke from this process and has turned towards the FLTI. Since the MDC has joined the government in late 2008, the masses have more and more lost faith in it as its pro-imperialist policy is demonstrated in practice. More and more the working class in Zimbabwe is turning to mass struggles. In this context the rise of an independent working class entity poses a threat to imperialism. At the same time, the working class has started to go on the march once again in Greece and other parts of the imperialist centres. These latest uprisings of the world working class comes at the same time that imperialism has accelerated its attacks on the working class: 4 coups have recently occurred in Africa; the coup in Honduras last year by Obama's surrogate army there also signalled an offensive by imperialism; the Obama invasion in Haiti over the bodies of the earthquake victims underlines the barbarism of the current imperialist epoch.

The visit by imperialist puppet, Zuma, to Britain to call for the limited sanctions against Zimbabwe to be lifted, shows that imperialism is preparing for a generalised acceptance worldwide of bourgeois dictatorial regimes; the world trend to greater bonapartism and fascism by imperialism is also demonstrated by imperialist control of Chinese production, over the bodies of the Chinese working class, policed by their lackey the brutal Stalinist Chinese Communist party regime. The ongoing inter-imperialist wars in the DRC and the wars in Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan are all part of this trend. The call by the MDC for UN intervention in Zimbabwe is an admission that the unity regime has lost credibility and is unable to control the masses- the UN, like in the DRC, will oversee the disarming of the masses and the intensifying attacks against the Zimbabwean working class.

In short, imperialism is preparing concentrated attacks on the proletarian vanguard fighters around the globe. This is the real reason why they have waged an international campaign against democratic gains and have expanded the power of their terror apparatus, through secret torture centres, through coups, through greater militarization, through so-called anti-terror legislation, and indeed through greater attacks on the vanguard fighters. Imperialism knows that if they can behead the working class resistance, they stand to defeat any revolutionary uprising against their rule.

Under these conditions of state attacks against the vanguard, much of the left remain silent. The question then arises, who is this left serving? On which side of the barricade, in the fight against imperialism-capitalism, are you? The working class needs to quickly draw the lesson that imperialism also operates through forces, knowingly or unknowingly, who act within the workers movement, to divert and contain the revolutionary action of the masses.

The way forward

In Zimbabwe, and all other places on the globe where the working class is under attack, we need to set up workers self-defence committees. Let us not allow capitalism imperialism to beat down and defeat the current working class resistance. The first step must be for this campaign to be taken to every working class neighbourhood, every factory, farm and mine. As the petroleum workers from **Las Heras** in the South of Argentina say, we have the same programme, the same enemy and it is in such battles that the Fourth International is being rebuilt; the shameful silence of the 'revolutionary socialists' while fighters are harassed and tortured, show that their real role is to impede our struggle; our call must be touch one, touch all! We appreciate also the voices of the Revolutionary Socialist League (**LSR**)- Argentina, the **NOR** (Peru) and an activist in **Romania**, the **workers from the Posada Hospital** in Argentina as well as the entire ranks of the **FLTI**, who have stood up in practice while the world left remain silent. We appreciate the workers **Central Union in Bolivia (COB)** who sent a message of support to our struggle, but we have a question: While clearly the ZANU-PF is condemned, we need to draw the line against the MDC who is part of the regime that attacks workers today; indeed the Popular front that comes from within the workers movement and poses to be with us but in reality acts against us and are the real agents of imperialism, are much more dangerous, as they are the enemy within. We call on you to not only declare yourself on the MDC and Popular fronts, but to take this campaign to the entire base of the COB. As the LSR says: we need to act against the capitalist-imperialist who directly oppresses and exploits us, as the defence of the Zimbabwean activists, oppressed by the same imperialism, is indeed a defence of the entire world proletariat and ourselves.

Defend the revolutionary left in Zimbabwe! Defend the student leaders of ZINASU against the MDC popular front and Zanu-PF! Viva proletarian internationalism!

Political Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Group (IRG) Zimbabwe (Ex-ISOZ) supported by African Secretariat (International Leninist Trotskyist Fraction) Contact: sociallabour@gmail.com ; workersinternational@gmail.com ; fltiinternational@ymail.com 15.03.10

ZVATAKANGA TAONA PAKUBUDA KWEDU MUIINTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST TENDENCY (IST)

-Tinokuchingamidzai mose maComrades emaIST nevashandi vepasi pose.
-Tinonyora kwamuri nekuti tine vimbo muvashandi ueyezve tinoona kuti ibasa redu kukuzivisai zvatakasangana nazvo tiri pasi pehutungamirir weIST nebasa ravo rekudzorera shure hondo yevashandi muAfrica. Tafamba rwendo rwunorwadza runosanganisira kukundikana kakawanda izvo zvatinopomera hutungamiriri hweIST nehurongwa hwavo. Izvi ndizvo zvatakatanga kuona:-

Basa rakaitwa neStalinism muAfrica

Pakupera peSecond World War, Stalinism yakashandiswa kuparadza vashandi vemuEurope. Nyangwe zvawo aitura nezvegutsaruzhinji maLiberation Movements akanga ari mapato eme middle class emuAfrica ayo aiedza kuva maBourgeois vachishandisa vashandi nevekumaruwa. Stalinism yakatengesa hurongwa hwekuti vashandi varonge vega basa ravo.

-Muna 1980 Zimbabwe yakawana rusununguko rwuri pakati nepakati asio nyika dzevapambepfumi dzakaramba dzichitonga kubudikidza nezvimbwasungata zvavo Mugabe neZANU PF. Kuna Callinicos nevamwe vema IST, 1980 inguva yakauya hutongi hweruzhinji izvo zvakaita kuyi IST vige mamiriro akaita zvehupfumi muZimbabwe uye kuti UK neUS ndivo vakanga vari kutonga.

Kudzikira kwePan Africanism nebasa reIST

-Veruzhinji muAfrica vakatambura kwemakore varipasi pehudzvinyiriri hwemauto, uyezve vari pasi pehurongwa hwe Pan Africanism ne Stalinism vasativatanga kuona zvinhu sazvazviri. Vasvetasimba vaona kuti Pan Africanism yakanga yasviba mumaziso evanhu vakatnga kukuridzira mapOpular Fronts anosanganisira MMO yemuZambia neMDC muZimbabwe vachitsingirwa neIST kuti varambe vakaisa vashandfi pasi pehusvetasimba. Izvi ndizvo zvakaita kuti, kubudikidza nezvatakasangana nazvo zvinorwadza tiparadzane neIST, iyo inomirira zvido zvevadzvinyi pasi rose.

Mamiriro akaita zvinhu muZimbabwe

-Tichinyora kudai zvinhu hazvisati zvachinja muZimbabwe kunyangwe zvazvo pavenehurumende yemubatanidzwa. Vanhu vakawanda varikutadzakuona zvinagwa zveMDC zvisinei negutsaruzhinji. Nyaya yebumbiro idzva raratidza kukundikana kweMDC kuita zvido zvevanhu. MDC kubva pakutanga ranga riribato revapfumi raiudzwa zvekuita nenyika dzekunze. MDC yakamisa hurongwa hweshanduko hwevashandi muna 1999 nemuna 2008 asi IST yaingoti iUnioted Front kunyangwe zvazvo yakanga irir Popular Front.

-Tiri kuda kubvuma kuti takanga tatadza kuona apotakati gunganio revashandi rakanga ragadzirwa kubudikidza neMDC. Apo vasvetasimba vaona kuti MDC iri kukundikana pakubvisa ZANU PF vavakutsvaga mamwe mapato angaite basa iri anosanganisira NCA, ZCTU neZINASU. Isu ticharamba tichiramba tichitsigira zvido zveruzhinji uye tichitaridza pachena huori hwevatungamirir vevashandi.

-ISO rinotungamirirwa naGwisai iyo ichiri muIST yavakuzviti DUF iyo iri muhurongwa hwehurumende hwekugadzira bumbiro idzva remutemo. Nyaya yeIST yegutsaruzhinji wrunobva pasi iyo ichitsigira MDC neDUF inoreva kutsigira hutsvetasimba kubva kumusorosoro.

Saka basa redu nderipi

-Kubva pakutanga tinofanira kuparadza pfungwa yekuti Capitalism inotsigira zvevashandi uyezve kuti mapato mazhinji anozviti anoshandira vashandi anopihwa mari nevasvetasimba. Kutu izvi zviitwe tinofanira kuumba bato rinotungamirirwa nevashandi.

-Taona zvatakaona muIST takaita rombo rakanaka rekusangana nebato rine maonero akafanana reedu rekuSouth Africa rinonzi WIWL iro riri muInternational Leninist Trotskyist Fraction (FLTIF). Tsama ino inokuzivisai kuti takamirira kushanda negungano iri rinomirira zvizere zvivo zvevashandi.

EX- ISOZ NCC



The working class and soldiers in Kyrgyzstan storm parliament

I-FLT iyavumelana ngokuncedisa ngotshintsho olululo olubalulekileyo lwamaqabane e-WIVL ngakwinkqubo yehlabathi:

1. Sixhasa isifundo seminyaka yo 1980 kunye nesokoyiswa kwe revolution yaseMzantsi Afrika, ukoyiswa kosingalawulo oluntlu-mbini, ngenkqubo yokukhanywa kwe revolution ngabalandeli bakaStalin behlabathi, eyaphelela 'kuxolelwaniso' lobungxowankulu.
2. Sixhasa uluvo lweWIVL ngakwindima yeWorld Social Forum, iInternational Socialists yaseZimbabwe, ekoyisweni kophakamo lwabantu eZimbabwe ngo 2008 yaye nakwixesha langaphambili ngokuxhasa ukusekwa kweMDC exhaswa ngama impiyali (ipopular front eyakhiwe zimanyano zabasebenzi, iicawa nemibutho yasekuhlaleni);
3. Sixhasa uluvo lweWIVL ngokufezekisa inkqubo yenguqulelo (transitional) eMelika umzekelo umbuzo wezindlu, njengelungu elifunekayo, ngokusekwe phezu kwemizabalazo ebonakalayo eMzantsi Afrika yaye nemfuneko yokudibanisa umzekelo umbuzo wemivuzo kunye nalowo wezindlu, njalo njalo;
4. Sixhasa i-WIVL ngakumbuzo oyingxaki womhlaba eMzantsi Afrika.

5. Siyavumelana ukuba kuyafuneka ukufunda ngokugcweleyo yaye kubhentsiswe indima yokuchasa irevolution eAfrika ngabalandeli bakaCastro kule minyaka ingamashumi amane adlulileyo. Ukuncedisa kwamaqabane e-WIVL malunga nendima yenkolo kaCastro eAfrika yinto ebalulekileyo njengokuba le nto isinika sicacise kude kuye ekupheleni isimo sokuchasana nerevolution ye castroism-stalinism kumgangatho wehlabathi. Ekupheleni kweMfazwe yeSibini yeHlabathi, impembelelo kaStalin isebenzisa ipolisi yayo yokusebenza kunye notshaba lomgangatho yayibamba irevolution eAfrika yaye yathintela amazwe amatsha avelayo ekucombululeni ingxaki yomhlaba kunye nokuzimela kwesizwe, ngalo ndlela, lamazwe matsha abunjwa ngama impiyali aseMelika iwakhokelela kwimfazwe zokubulalana kwabazalanayo yaye inqanda impucuko yawo.

Ngeminyaka yo 1970, impembelelo ka castro yayidlala lendima yokuchasana nerevolution kususela emva kokoyisa irevolution ePortugal ngezikrelemqa zayo ziphelisa amabhunga abaqeshi, abasebenzi kunye nawamajoni ikwazile ukukrwitsha umzabalazo wenkululeko yesizwe yesithanga samaPortuguese esinjengeAngola, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique itshabalalisa ukwenzeka okutsha kwe revolutionary Cuba kwilizwekazi laseAfrika, njalo itshabalalisa irevolution yaseAfrika leyo yayiyinxalenye yomboniso jikelele wokuzakukwenzeka wabasebenzi behlabathi abakwifuthe lerevolution ngexesha lo 1968 -74.

Leyo yaba yindima yabangcatshi baka castro-stalin, abo bangcatshi berevolution yaseAfrika.

Ngokwenkolo kaTrotsky, ezizifundo zizimpawu eziyintloko njengokuba kwakukho isahluko esinye ngaphezulu ekumelwe sibhalwe ngembali yongcatsho-mbuso yinkolo kaStalin kumgangatho wehlabathi. Yaye ngaphandle kwezizifundo akunakwenzeka ukwakhiwa nokumiswa kwenkolo kaTrotsky yaseAfrika, njengokuba umlambo wegazi wahlulahlula inkolo kaTrotsky kwekaStalin nekaCastro yaye lo mlambo kananjalo wacaciswa kwirevolution yaseAfrika.

Esisifundo siyintloko njengokuba ngoku umsebenzi ucacile, intlango yehlabathi yotshintsho olululo yabalandeli bakaTrotsky yabasebenzi baseAfrika izakuba yintlango yelizwekazi laseAfrika okanye ayizukubakho, njengokuba uloyiso lwabasebenzi botshintsho olululo – ukuthi, ukubamba ulawulo ngabasebenzi- kwilizwe ngalinye yaye imida yawo eyamiswa ngama impiyali asiyonto ingenye ngaphandle kwesehlo esisodwa kunye nesihlokozelo esisodwa serevolution yaseAfrika leyo inokukwazi kuphela ukuphumelela ngokuqinisekileyo kumgangatho wehlabathi kunye noloyiso lwerevolution yobusoshali kuMazwe aManyeneyo aseMelika, amazwe ombuso aseEurope naseJapan. Yeyona ndlela kuphela, ngerevolution yobusoshali eAfrika yaye nakumgangatho wehlabathi kunokwenzeka ukupheliswa kokujongana ngobutshaba nokubulalana kwabazalanayo phakathi kwabathu kwilizwekazi, ukujongana ngobutshaba okwakhiwe ngama impiyali yaye kwanyanzelwa ngabalandeli bakaStalin nabakaCastro.

6. Siyakuxhasa ukungena ngaphakathi kweWIVL kulo nyulo ngokotshintsho olululo (revolutionary) yaye siwaxhasa amalungiselelo

kwixesha elilandelayo nakwixesha lobupalamente obungaphezulu yaye sizibophelela ukubhalela kwiphepha-ndaba lobuhlabathi elilandelayo likaWIVL

Imisebenzi edibeneyo elandelayo

- 1) Phakathi kwintsuku ezingamashumi amabini sizibophelela ekukhupheni ingxelo edibeneyo ngoMumia, njengengxenywe yohlaselo lokulwa ngaphakathi eMelika kukhululwe abasebenzi abaNyama- umbindi wabasebenzi baseMelika kunye nabemi bamanye amazwe ehlabathi nawesiLatin- kwifuthe lika castro, lombutho iDemocratic Party nabameli bayo abanjengo Jesse Jackson, obakhokelele ezinyaweni zika Obama, uMandela omtsha waseMelika.
- 2) Phakathi kwintsuku ezingamashumi asithandathu sizibophelela ekuyileni uluvo oludibeneyo lomzabalazo wabasebenzi eAfrika;
- 3) Silungiselele isiseko nobume bentsebenziswano yeKomiti eDibeneyo. Ukumiswa kwalo Komiti iDibeneyo yeNtlangano yabalandeli bakaTrotsky noLenin beHlabathi (njengegama elibambeleyo) –phakathi kweengxaki zoqoqosho lwehlabathi nemizabalazo emikhulu yabasebenzi nabaxhatshazwa abaqalisa ukuziphindezela kuhlasele longxowankulu-, kunenjongo zokuqalisa umzabalazo wezopolitiko, wokufundisana, wenkqubo yokusebenza nowentlangano ngokuchaseneyo nophengululo egameni le Fourth International (ukuqhubeka kophengululo lwesikolo senkohliso yemibutho yobuzwe neyenkolo kaStalin) yaye nentshaba nabangcatshi be revolution kwimpembelelo yonke yabasebenzi nakwimpembelelo ye revolution yehlabathi; ukubeth' ikhwelo lweNkomfa yeHlabathi yabalandeli bakaTrotsky abayiNqobo kunye neentlangano zabasebenzi zerevolution, kukhethwe kokukhlangana kwakhona zonke iintlangano eziphumelela uvavanyo lomzabalazo womgangatho kwihlabathi, yaye kumiswe intlangano eyintloko yehlabathi yenkolo kaTrotsky ingenelele ngokugqibeleleyo kwinguquko enkulu yembali kwixesha elilandelayo lerevolution nelempembelelo echasene nerevolution.

Indlela ezakusebenza ngayo leKomiti iDibeneyo:

- 1.- Zombini i-WIVL ne FLT zizakuba nevoti enye ngamnye kule komiti idibeneyo.
- 2.- U-WIVL uzakuba nepesenti ezingamashumi amahlanu 50% zamaphepha e001 abhale apho zonke imbono zakhe yaye ahlabe amadlala yaye axoxe ngokuphandle uluvo lweFLT. I-FLT izakukwazi ukuhlaba amadlala yaye ngokuphandle ixoxe uluvo lweWIVL.
- 3.- Sizakuba nebuletini yehlabathi emiselwe iingxoxo zangaphakathi ezidibeneyo, ukwenzela amagorha azo zombini intlangano aqinisekise yaye aqinisekisiswe yaye athembise ulawulo lokwenyani lwentando yesininzi lweTrotskyist phakathi kwentlangano zombini.

4.- Ekwamkelekeni kwesisivumelwano zezintlangano zimbini, yonke imbalelwano yangaphakathi yeFLT kamsinyane izakuthunyelwa kumaqabane kaWIVL athabathe inxaxheba yaye axoxe kubomi bonke bangaphakathi beFLT yaye aqinisekise uhlaselo oludibeneyo ngakwi reformists ezihlakaniphileyo yaye “kwimigibe ebulalayo yezopolitiko” kumgangatho wehlabathi. Yonke imbalelwano yangaphakathi kaWIVL izakuthunyelwa kamsinya kwiFLT njengenxalenye yalengkqubo.

5.- Siya kwinqungquthela yokudibana kuJuly sifunde izivumelwano ezintsha ezivela kwelixwebhu, sifune ngokufanayo imilo yobuhlabathi senze uhlaselo ngokudibeneyo yaye sifunde imeko sibhekise phambili ulawulo olusembindini lwazo zombini intlangano zesimo sobuhlabathi.

Ngomzuzwana elixwebhu langoku lisamkeleka ngokugqibeleleyo yiWIVL nayi FLT, leyo Komiti iDibeneyo yeLeninist Trotskyist Fraction yeHlabathi iyakumiswa.

Malunga nokungavani okusaseleyo:

I-WIVL icinga ukuba indlela kuphela ukusombulula ukungavani okusaseleyo, emveni kokuba kufikelelwe kwisivumelwano esiyinqobo kumongo wenkqubo, kungokukwenza amava afanayo, ngokudibana ne FLT yaye kumoya revolutionary internationalism, ukuba ukubhekisa phambili umzabalazo osendaweni zonke weSoshalism embindi wenzame zethu nokuncama.

Siyavumelana ngomongo wenkqubo yeFLT ngakwiPalestina; siyavumelana ukuba urhulumente wakwa sirayeli ngurhulumente olawula ngokobupolisa yaye nokuba umsebenzi oyintloko kukutshatyalaliswa kwalenqaba yama impiyali kuMbindi-Mpuma; siyavumelana noluvo lweFLT ukuba umsebenzi wawo wonke umsebenzi onguMjuda onokuqonda umgangatho kukwahlukana neZionism, ahlukana neHistadrut yaye uzimanye neemanyano zasePalestina kunye nomlo wokutshabalalisa uRhulumente wamaZionist wakwaSirayeli. Zombini intlangano ziyavumelana ekubeni kuyimfuneko ukuseka intlangano enye kuphela yerevolution kulammandla ngokuchaseneyo nezinto ezibizwa “umbutho wabasebenzi bakwa sirayeli” njengokuba ixhaswa ngama stalin ayi CP yakwa sirayeli, okanye njengokuba incedwa yiNPA yaseFrance, i-PO yase Argentina yaye nazizo zonke itrotskyist zenkohliso, ezinemibutho yakwasirayeli/ amaqela. Sicinga ukuba zonke ezipolisi zithetha ukwamkela nokuvuma ipolisi yama impiyali “yorhulumente ababini”.

Ezizivumelwano ziyinqobo zisekelezwe kwizifundo nakwinkqubo yoMzantsi Afrika eyabhalwa nguLeon Trotsky ngo 1935- “Ngakwi thisis yoMzantsi Afrika” leyo amaqabane kaWIVL azi kuphela inguqulelo engeyonyani eyinkohliso ngokwenziwa ngabakreji benkolo kaTrotsky side sidibane- kwizinto u-WIVL neFLT abavumelene ngazo.

Njengoko sikuxelile oku, u-WIVL unika ubungqina bokuba nangona ecinga ukuba lenkqubo yechanekileyo, ucinga ukuba i-FLT inokuqonga okungachanekanga kwe ‘Thisis yoMzantsi Afrika’. U-WIVL uwaqonda amagama aphantsi kwesihloko ‘ngabasebenzi abaqhubele phambili’ *‘Abasebenzi belizwe banabantu bolona didi luphantsi kunye nabantu bodidi abamhlophe abazingcayo abanamalungelo awodwa. Koku kulele obona bunzima bayo yonke le meko.’* Kuthetha ukuthi eyona ngxaki inkulu yeyokuba abasebenzi

bohlukeno. Oku kuthetha ukuthi ingxaki yomsebenzi oyimfuneko wokuba manya idala isithintelo esikhulu. UTrotsky ucacile kwinto yokuba isiseko somanyano singabakho kuphela ngaphandle kokuvuma okunye nakweliphi ilungelo elilodwa labamhlophe okanye ukonakalisa kodwa kwinkxaso yabasebenzi abamnyama nabalimi belizwe abangamahlwempu ngokuchaseneyo nama impiyali aseBrithane nongxowankulu bendawo. Ingongoma yeyokuba lo ngumbuzo emawubuzwe **ngoku** yaye hayi kwixesha elikude. Ukuphumelela kolumanyano lwabasebenzi, ngokwesisiseko, lilitye lembombo lalo naluphina uphakamo lwempumelelo oluchasene norhulumente wakwa sirayeli. EMzantsi Afrika ukuphumelela komanyano lwecandelo elibalulekileyo lwabasebenzi abamhlophe nabasebenzi abamnyama, ingabekwa njengento efunekayo kuphakamo lwempumelelo eMzantsi Afrika. Ukubalelwa kwiqela 'lezihandiba' okwenziwa yiFLT abasebenzi bonke abangamaJuda akuyiqwalaseli ukwahluka phakathi kwabasebenzi (abanye bexhatshazwe ngaphezulu kunabanye) yaye iyenza ibencinane indlela yokuphumelela eyimfuneko ekumele isetyenziswe phambi nangexesha lophakamo. Umzekelo, iiBolsheviks zade zakha iicells ngaphakathi kweyona migangatho enamalungelo awodwa emkhosini, iiJunkers, ngoOctober 1917, zabagcina bexakekile ezintlanganisweni yaye bakwazi ukufumana inani elivisayo leeJunkers lingathabathi nxaxheba ngexesha lezintsuku zokugqibela zinzima ukukhokelelela kuphakamo. Umsebenzi we revolution usafuneka nangaphakathi kubachasi babasebenzi iHistadrut ukutsalela abasebenzi ngaphandle kwayo yaye baxhase umzabalazo ochaseneyo norhulumente kaSirayeli.

Kwelinye icala, umsebenzi werevolution phakathi kwamacandelo ahluphekileyo wabasebenzi abangamaJuda ufanelekile, ethubeni, ubatsalele kwirevolution-umsebenzi onzima, kodwa ofunekayo ngokupheleleyo. Isininzi sabasebenzi bamaJuda sele efuna 'uxolo', ewe olu luluvo labasaba ukulwa (pacifist), kodwa kubonisa ukuba kukho umnqweno wokuphila nabemi basePalestina. Kakade ongxowankulu olulangazelelo 'loxolo' balutolika ngeyabo indlela, egama 'amazwe' amabini ahlukeneyo, kodwa lona kuthi njengee revolutionaries kukuqweba iqhinga elihle sifumane umanyano lwabasebenzi yaye kudumazeke amanye amacandelo angenako ngokwezopolitiko ukutsaleleka ngokwangoku. Ungquzulwano lomgangatho lukhona phakathi kwabasebenzi abangamaJuda nongxowankulu bakwaSirayeli nama impiyali- nokuba emehlweni kubonakala kukho uzinzo. Kumele nangayiphina indlela sikhuthaze abasebenzi abangamaJuda kananjalo bafikelele kwisigqibo sokuba ungquzulwano phakathi kwabo nongxowankulu alunakuxolelaniswa.

KwiHistory of the Russian Revolution kaTrotsky (volume 3- chapter VI the art of insurrection), ucacisa ngokubanzi ukuba umsebenzi wokuqala kulo **'lonke uphakamo kukubeka amajoni ngakwicala lawo.'** Kungenziwa njani oku, ngaphandle kokwenziwa ngomsebenzi wexesha elide yintlangano phakathi kwabasebenzi abangamaJuda baxhase idabi lama Palestina kunye nokubhentsiswa korhulumente kaSirayeli nendima yama impiyali? Abo bangatsalelekanga ngomsebenzi wezopolitiko bayamele bafunde ngomlilo werevolution. I-WIVL icinga i-FLT ngokubalulekileyo ishiya naliphina iqhinga lokutsalela amajoni kwirevolution, ngaphandle kokoyisa kwimfazwe yerevolution. Ukoyiswa komkhosi kaSirayeli kuhlaselo lwawo kwiLebanon ngenye into, kodwa ukoyiswa korhulumente kaSirayeli kanye yenye. Kwakwesisahluko sinye uTrotsky ucacisa ngokubanzi ukuhlaba amadlala

kweMarxism kwiblanquism, ngegama elithi impazamo yayo ebalulekileyo ilele ekungaqondini ukuba ukuthobela imithetho yamaqhinga ophakamo ngako oko ayisosiqinisekiso sempumelelo. Abasebenzi bafuna umbutho olungeleyo, bafuna icebo, bafuna iyelenqe yaye ... **'ii soviets ngokwazo aziwugqibi lombuzo. Zingaziphumeza injongo ezahlukeneyo ngokufunwa yinkqubo nazinkokheli. Ii soviets zifumana inkqubo yazo kwintlangano. Ekubeni iisoviets kwimeko zerevolution- yaye ngaphandle kwerevolution azinakwenzeka- ziquka wonke umgangatho ngaphandle kwabangaqhubelanga phambili, abadangeleyo okanye abatyhafisiweyo, intlangano yerevolution imele ukucinga komgangatho. Ingxaki yokuthath' ulawulo ingasombululwa kuphela ngokudibana okuqinisekileyo kwentlangano neesoviets- okanye neminye imibutho yesininzi esondeleyo kancinci okanye ngaphezulu kwisoviets.'** Njalo, ukungabikho kwentlangano, kwirevolution, ulawulo luzakuwelela ngakwabo bathintela abasebenzi (njengakwimeko yaseMadagascar yakutshanje).

I-WIVL icinga ukuba i-FLT isebenzisa imithetho-siseko yeBlanquism ngokungahlabi madlala okugqithileyo yaye kwangomoya omnye kananjalo iyithathela phantsi ngokubalulekileyo indima yentlangano phambi nangexesha lophakamo;

Ku le nakwi nto yembali yokusekwa korhulumente wakwaSirayeli ingxoxo ezibheke phambili ziyafuneka.

Imibuzo elandelayo esafuna ukuxoxwa njengenxalenye yendlela eya kumanyano:

Ingqungquthela yesizwe

Ukuqonda iTheses kaLenin yiWIVL kumbuzo wengqungquthela nakowamazwe aphantsi kocinezelo kukuba kwakumazwe asesemva, apho abasebenzi bebancinane, umsebenzi wethu, ekubeni sixhasa impembelelo yerevolution yesizwe ngokuchaseneyo nama impiyali, isekukuphakamisa ukwakhiwa kweNtlangano yamaKomanisi yenene, yaye abasebenzi kusafuneka bakhokele umzabalazo wamabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi obungxowankulu yaye kufuneka baqokelelwe kwimbumba bazimele kongxowankulu nakwabakumgangatho ophakathi. Siphakamisa elinqaku ngenxa yoluvo lweFLT lweNgqungquthela yeSizwe kumbuzo wePalestina- akucacanga ukuba ngobani abazakuba yinxalenye yalengqungquthela nokuba izakuba yintoni indima yabasebenzi ngaphakathi kwayo. Ukuba umbono ngowokubeth'ikhwelo lesoviets zasePalestina, ke kutheni kungabeth' ikhwelo phandle leSeviets zasePalestina ngokuthe ngqo. Ukuba i-FLT icinga ukuba iNtlanganiso Enamagunya Okuwisa Imithetho yoMbuso kungafuneka ibizwe ibhentsise ukungabinamandla kwayo emehlweni abantu nokuzuza inkxaso yeSoviets zasePalestina poqo, ngoko kufuneka sithi ngqo kwingcaciso yethu yayo. Nokuba leliphu sicinga ukuba eligama iNgqungquthela yeSizwe kufuneka lenziwe licace.

Umsebenzi ofihlakeleyo nowasekuhleni

Ekubeni siwuqonda umbuzo omkhulu 'wabadukayo' simele ukudibanisa umsebenzi wasekuhleni nowasemfihlakalweni. Xa iimeko zisivumela, kufuneka

silwele indawo enkulu sisebenzele ekuhleni, njengokuba oku kwenza ubelula umsebenzi wezopolitiko phakathi kwabantu. Siyazi lo mbuzo awunakuthathwa lula yaye siqwenela sixoxe ngakumbi ngoku xa sidibana. Lonke iphulo lama impiyali-ongxowankulu lokuphumeza imithetho 'yobunqolobi' kukuthintela iirevolutionaries ekusasazeni imbono ngokukhululekileyo.

Kwilungelo lokuzimela kweentlanga

Ukuqonda kweWIVL kwelungelo lokuzimela kweentlanga kukuba lisingisele kumanyano lwabasebenzi behlabathi nokuba emva koOkthobha ka 1917 umanyano lwezizwe lwaphumelelwa ngamazwe ohlukeneyo ayesakucinezelwa abanamalungelo okwahlukana. Zange anyanzeliswe ukwahlukana kodwa ayenelungelo lokwenza njalo. Ngale ndlela izithintelo zobuzwe zophulwa. Sikuqonda ngokufanayo oku? UTrotsky, kwiTheses yoMzantsi Afrika ebengathethi ukuba kwakukho izizwe ezibini ezahlukeneyo eMzantsi Afrika kodwa ukuthi abasebenzi bohluwahlulwa. Ngalo ndlela zange kubekho nawuphina umbuzo wokuqhabalaka eMzantsi Afrika. Ukuba, kuManyano lweSoviet zeAfrika eSemazantsi abasebenzi eZimbabwe, umzekelo bafuna ukuqhabalaka, kufanele babenelungelo lokwenza njalo.

Iireformists nabalwa nerevolution

I-WIVL icinga ukuba ingxelo yeFLT iqulathe into enkulu kakhulu kwinkcazoyayo yezinye iintlangano ngaphandle kwabo njengezilwa nerevolution; sicinga kufuneka ingcaciso ethe ngqo yokucaciswa kwentlangano eziyintloko njengokuba oku kuzakuba nonxulumano nokuba ngubani ozakuba yinxalenye yomanyano lwabasebenzi abangaphambili,

Qaphela: Esi sisiqendu sesibini nesokugqibela kwisivumelwano phakathi kweWIVL ne FLT.



Workers and soldiers take over Kyrgyzstan

Forward to a real general strike against the Eskom increases and high prices (food, transport, housing, etc)

Down with the betrayal by the Cosatu and SACP leaders

The Cosatu and SACP leaders have *already* betrayed the fight against high electricity increase and against high food, transport, housing and other prices. On the 1st April and soon thereafter electricity goes up, petrol goes up and transport and food prices will soon follow- the food gangsters like Pick 'n Pay, Shoprite, Spar, Woolworths have never been slow to increase prices at the drop of a hat. Cosatu leaders only vaguely talk about a general strike during or after the world cup. In other words they will allow the current increases to hit the working class, without any serious challenge. The SACP leaders have not called for a strike but for discussions with the government. The Cosatu and SACP leaders know that the opposition by the working class and the lower middle class to the electricity increases is at an unprecedented high. Even a section of the local capitalist class is opposed to the increases. If a general strike is called today it will be the biggest in the history of the country. Even the army will come out in support of such a general strike. So why are the Cosatu leaders delaying with the date? The Cosatu and SACP leaders are protecting monopoly capital from the anger of the masses.

The Cosatu and SACP leaders are championing the bailout of imperialism

Both Cosatu and SACP leaders are saying that the electricity increases are necessary but that the state should carry the cost. The ANC is already saying they will take out loans from the World Bank for any shortfall. This will be a double attack on the working class- first, workers will still have to pay for the building of coal and nuclear power stations that are not needed, second, the World Bank loans come with conditions for reducing public expenditure such as education and health and for wholesale privatization. The World Bank also charges huge interest rates that will further enslave the working class for generations. Thus Cosatu and SACP leaders are justifying the attack by imperialism on the masses. For a minimal expense, a small part of the 200 000MW capacity of hydropower from the DRC could be used, even solar power could be used in the north cape desert that will reduce the price of electricity to almost nothing.

To add insult to injury, big business like Anglo American pay between 12 –17 cents per unit while the rest of us pay over 50 cents; thus the working class have long been subsidizing big capital and will continue to do so. Anglo American and other monopolies have 30 year agreements with Eskom and will still be paying the cheapest rate for electricity in the world. Big business uses most of the electricity and residential use is only a fraction of the total. The government has no plan for housing for all, let alone electricity for all.

The ANC, through Eskom, is insisting that the expense be paid off within 3 years, why? Normally, even in capitalist terms the expense repayment is spread over 20-30 years. So why the indecent haste? In reality, the huge increase in electricity is a massive bailout for the imperialist banks such as JP Morgan Chase and Citibank and reduces workers wages across the board as well as creating a permanent new means for exploiting the working class (Electricity will be sold for profit of the giant banks).

When the US and European governments printed money to bail out their banks, this bailout had to be backed with real labour from the working class, otherwise the paper money would be meaningless. The electricity increases are directly part of this bailout. The coal and uranium used in the power stations are provided by Anglo American (whose main shareholder is JP Morgan Chase). The power stations are being built by US and French capital (Group 5, Murray and Roberts, WHBO are all controlled by imperialist banks). The so-called independent power producers are controlled mainly by the US banks. In all, right down the line, banks like JP Morgan Chase, Citibank and other imperialist banks are the only ones who will benefit from this electricity scam. JP Morgan Chase even controls the SA Reserve bank. The ANC directly benefits from its investment arm, Chancellor house, who will receive R2 billion for their part in handing over the working class and lower middle class for rape by imperialism. Chancellor House has shares in Hitachi Africa which has been awarded contracts for generators for at least 2 power stations.

General strike or general stayaway?

During the 1980's when there was a pre-revolutionary situation in the country, the SACP and Cosatu leaders helped to contain the struggles of the masses by calling **stayaways** instead of real **general strikes**; then they called these stayaways 'general strikes'. They were really protecting big capital from general occupation by workers of their workplaces. This occupation of the workplaces immediately poses the question of workers taking power. This was never on the agenda of the SACP or Cosatu leaders. Their main aim was to use workers to pressure the previous regime to get the ANC into government- but still on a capitalist basis. Now that the ANC is in government, the SACP and Cosatu leaders are prepared to stand against workers interests- objectively the real role of the SACP and Cosatu leaders are to protect monopoly capitalist interests as long as they and their buddies are given a share in being the new bossboys for imperialism.

JP Morgan Chase and Citibank have reduced Greece to a virtual pauper through high interest rates on loans. While the working class in Greece are in revolt, the Communist Party in Greece, supported by the 'left' have contained and betrayed the mass anger by turning a general strike on the 11th March into a general stayaway; workers were told to stay at home instead of occupying the workplaces, there was no transport to take workers to the middle of Athens and thus one of the biggest ever strikes in Greek history was betrayed. Thousands of workers are still occupying their workplaces and the strike wave is set to intensify. In SA the history of workers occupying their workplaces **in isolation from a general strike**, has been disastrous- workers have been dismissed en masse at Mercedes Benz in 1990 and at VW in 2000. In both these cases the union leaders sided with the bosses against the workers. Workers are still waiting in Uitenhage for Vavi to come and explain why he did not turn up on the 3rd February 2000 as he promised then. SACP leaders are BMW ministers while Cosatu leaders stay in Sandton side by side with the capitalists (the Cosatu leaders' bond payments alone are 10 times more than the monthly wage of the average worker). Cosatu leaders promote the world cup while the people of Mafafeni had their schools demolished (still not rebuilt) to make way for stadiums; millions are without homes while JP Morgan Chase and others make a killing by profiteering from the multi-billion Rand stadiums and capitalist infrastructure for the world cup. Workers need to draw the lessons from all these struggles.

We call for the formation of a workers' tendency

We call for the formation of a workers' tendency of activists in Cosatu and also in other unions on the following basis:

1. **Mobilising for a general strike** (not a stayaway) against the Eskom and other increases (food, transport, housing, education, health, etc) (see Cosatu 2006 resolution for at least 2 day general strikes);
2. calling for the **removal of the Cosatu leaders** and anti-worker union bureaucracies across all unions
3. calling for a **workers summit** of delegates from all workplaces, with delegates from the unemployed as well as the soldiers, to concretize a real programme of struggle against imperialism-capitalism;
4. calling for the **breaking of the alliance with the ANC and SACP**
5. **down with multi-year agreements**- wages should rise when prices rise
6. **share all the work among all who can work(whether immigrant or local)**- this demand should also be taken across Africa
7. **equal pay for equal work**- immediate ending of casual labour and all labour broking
8. **down with business secrets**- let Eskom, Anglo American, JP Morgan Chase open their books
9. For a general strike to occupy all workplaces, place all public transport under workers control for the days of the strike to transport all protestors. **Expropriate all imperialist assets under workers control.** This is the way to really implement nationalisation (not as the ANC who uses rhetoric of nationalisation to advance bigger shares for the amabhulu omnyama, or as the SACP, who wants no nationalisation because big baas, the imperialists, will be upset)
10. Forward to the formation of a **revolutionary working class party as part of a revolutionary International**

Let us learn from the fire in Greece and the workers, soldiers and poor peasant committees in Madagascar! 27.03.10

Issued by **Workers International Vanguard League**, section of the International Leninist Trotskyist Fraction, 1st floor Community House, 41 Salt River rd, Salt River, 7925, ph 0822020617, fax 0865486048 email workersinternational@gmail.com website www.workersinternational.org.za



Sharpsville burning once again

Lack of ‘service delivery’ – the result of imperialist capitalist domination and control, or simply due to ‘corruption’?

More and more poor communities around South Africa are rising in protest against poor or non service delivery, trying to take the ANC at their word over their promises made during the April 22 /2009 elections. The ANC and SACP (and the bourgeois media) are redirecting the grassroots struggles of the masses against individual councillors, claiming that it is simply a matter of confronting those who are stealing from the poor and blaming them for the government’s failure to live up to their election promises and relieve the working class and fellow poor of their plight. Attention is deliberately diverted from the real causes of the continued exploitation and suffering of the masses, namely the domination of the world by the giant monopolies and banks (imperialism).

The current policy of imperialism

While the hundreds of thousands of Haitians were dying and trapped under the ruins of an earthquake in January this year, the US imperialists, led by Obama, invaded the country and were prospecting for oil and gas while they should have been searching for survivors. The destruction of the forests of Haiti by imperialist monopolies chasing a quick profit was what turned the country into a dustbowl- all the profits from the forests were repatriated to the US monopolies, while from the scraps, the masses had to build their houses. The imperialist knew that Haiti is an area which is prone to earthquakes, yet they did not care. In the imperialist centres like Japan they take precautions against earthquakes and are able to build structures that are earthquake-resistant. The masses in the colonies and semi-colonies are dumped in flimsy structures while most profits are shipped off-shore. The huge death toll in Haiti was not due to a ‘failed state’ or corruption in the ‘service delivery’ but due to the enslavement of most of the population by imperialism and their brutal exploitation by these capitalist monopolies that need modern ‘slave labour’ in the imperialist centres. The rapid military invasion by US imperialism maintains this slave camp for their exclusive use in the region without sharing the spoils among rival imperialists like the French, German and Japanese. In June last year the Obama regime made a coup against the government of Honduras; a few days ago the people of Yemen were bombed by Obama’s troops; last year over 50 million workers were retrenched. US imperialism spends 1 trillion (1000 billion USD) on the ongoing war in Pakistan, Iraq and Afghanistan. They bomb the infrastructure and then award themselves the contracts to rebuild the region. Housing prices have increased by 400% over the past few years as a means for the major banks to rescue their falling profits. It is in their interest to maintain a mass, permanent desperation over housing to create an artificial mechanism to keep housing prices high. It follows that the housing and ‘service delivery’ departments of the various capitalist governments are there to **NOT** deliver on housing and service delivery- they are there to maintain the scarcity of housing and services by building as little as they can get away with, all to boost the super-profits that are part of the world capitalist system. This is the biggest ‘corruption’ that the bourgeois media and the ANC, SACP, Zanu-PF, MDC and others, keep silent on.

What is the bone of contention in these ‘service delivery’ protests?

Lack of housing, sanitation, water, jobs, schools and roads; these are basic needs that seems to be not important to the government of today to deliver to the people since 1994; this article will attempt to analyse this poor service delivery and try to expose this government and its pro capitalist tendencies that seeks not only to impoverish the working class but also to exploit them on behalf of big capital.

Entrepreneurs or agents of imperialism.

In 1996 the government accelerated the class project of 1994 (the sellout agreement by the ANC-SACP to keep capitalist relations in place) through which they pursued the idea of creating a black middle class thus introduced BEE (Black Economic Empowerment) which somehow is responsible for containing and curbing the cauldron of these protests. BEE exposed the ANC as the real capitalist party it really is, because every member wanted to be in a position of power and the aspiring bourgeoisie began to introduce funding and lobbying for party congresses from branches to national level; then once in power, they begin to scramble for government tenders, for the crumbs from the imperialist table, deliberately enforcing the agenda of lack of housing and services while big capital's profits are placed as a priority above all other interests. Plato once said "the guardians of society should not be allowed to acquire property or gold, if they are permitted to acquire property or gold, they become housekeepers and businessmen and guardian of society". What Plato really meant was that those in public office should know their place and not acquire too many crumbs, if they do, then they may become a threat (competition) with the real rulers of a society divided on class lines. When the bourgeois media cry 'corruption' they want to limit the local competition against the ruling gangsters and thugs, the imperialists. When you zoom in on the political and socio economic dynamics of south African society, it is easy to realise that our communist friends (SACP) are as fond of private property as much as our capitalists are, our 'socialists' are as opposed to radical change as our conservatives happen to be, so in reality all our leaders seem to be the same, hence communities are demonstrating their anger and frustration and increasingly struggles for 'delivery' are turning into revolts against the entire capitalist system itself. This is why the bourgeoisie and their media are so concerned at the wave of protests that are growing across the country.

Reasons for protest

Since 2005 (or even before), municipal service delivery protest has become common place in South Africa and they became more intense in 2009. In Khutsong, for example, the protest started as a protest about water and electricity but the SACP managed to derail the people struggle into a demarcation protest. What should have been a struggle for housing and water and electricity for all became a localised struggle to move from one province to the next. Currently the protests have erupted all over the country, more so in Mpumalanga and like an inferno fuelled by tempest is now burning into adjacent provinces like Gauteng and Limpopo. The Sunday independent characterised the uprising in Free State in reference specifically to protest in Phomolong as having caused by "volatile Molotov cocktail of genuine grievance and a runaway rumour of halfbaked allegation of corruption." Even the bourgeois analysts have to admit that it is not really 'corruption', but lack of delivery to the masses that underpins the protest. Doreen Atkinson also observed and wrote "for a Rip van Winkel who had fallen asleep in 1988 and awoken in 2005, it might appear as if the 'rolling mass action of the end of apartheid period had simply continued into the dawn of democratic government in South Africa. at the heart of these protest some politicians simply dismiss reasons of this protest by saying 'it is a direct influence of politician who positioning themselves for 2011 local election' but this is an excuse not to adequately address the genuine service delivery deficiency syndrome affecting the poor working class." These are all signs that the revolts are against the system, with growing similarities to the 1988 generalised uprising of the masses against the slave capitalist regime.

Botes et al's research showed that an element common to all the protest was that residents could not get their problems addressed effectively. The arrogance of councillors and officials, although existing, was not the main factor in the protests but rather sharpened the hatred of the masses for the system. The structural inability of the

system to meet the demands of the masses was the root cause of the protests and the increasing brutality of the state against protestors reflects this. On the other hand, the masses are increasingly realising that their demands will not be met by marches but through militant mass action.

The masses are increasingly seeing through all the bureaucratic measures of the state to dissipate and defuse mass anger: the toll free numbers, the so-called progressive administrative justice legislation, as well as the lack of accessibility, no mechanisms for capturing complaints and lack of procedures for providing feedback to complaints, etc, all of which delay and frustrate the democratic aspirations of the masses (while the imperialists face no such obstacles).

Public participation means nothing to common since the opinion of the working class and fellow poor does not matter as long as the nec,pec,bec of the ANC and SACP has taken a decision, the working class are not included in the day to day issues of the municipalities. Responsiveness to residents queries and problems are not entertained. All are designed to fast track the interests of big capital, for a few pennies to the ANC-SACP elite, while the interests of the working class are trampled on.

The appetite for private property and self enrichment at the expense of the working class, is so great among the ANC-SACP middle class, bourgeois and aspirant bourgeois, that they break even their own rules of appointment, appointing their own cronies rather than have an open selection from available candidates. These are often triggers of mass protest, such as in Mpumalanga, as little or no consideration is given to suitability for the function but to secure somebody's power. Even the little service delivery that may occur is severely restricted by the appetite of the ANC-SACP petty bourgeois. In other municipalities like Bushbuckridge which is largely rural and had no water meters and no billing system but residents of Shatale, Colleeview and Thulamahashe, are billed every month and are expected to pay. The capitalist divide between town and rural is being entrenched by the ANC-SACP elite.

The strengthening of pro capitalist tendencies in running the government according to the Freedom Charter has implemented the imperialist agenda of privatizing government services into the hands of big capital while the petty bourgeois picks up the crumbs from the master's table in the form of becoming consultants and charging government a lot of money for their services.

Aloof councillors would, during the run-up to elections, go back to "their people" only when their power base becomes shaky. For the moment the masses tolerate the ANC-SACP leaders as they see no other mass alternative; the working class are not prepared to support such openly imperialist parties such as the DA. The SACP and Cosatu leaders promote the myth of a left shift at Polokwane to gain more time for the regime to control the masses on behalf of imperialism. The spurt of protests after the April 2009 election shows that the masses' patience with the ANC is running thin.

Housing

In 1990 there was a backlog of at least 3 million housing units; today there are still over 3 million housing units backlog which shows that housing 'delivery' has barely kept pace with population growth over the past 20 years. This does not even take into account that the government has worsened the trend of the apartheid rulers of building poor quality matchbox houses. This growing permanent homelessness has been central clashes with the working class against the capitalists state as is the case in Nelson Mandela bay, Diepsloot, Alexandra, Balfour and Thabanchewu. In Alexandra the masses boycotted the national election, crying 'one house, one vote'. This was a limited slogan in that it implies that the few who did receive houses, should vote. A better slogan would have been adequate houses for all- something that capitalism today cannot give. This government indeed does not care for the poor. In other informal settlements like in Kennedy road in Kwazulunatal the provincial government tried to evict the residents without providing them with proper shelter thus forcing social movement ABAHLALI BA SE MJONDOLO taking the government to court; and

the court ruled in favour of the people, this was a temporary victory for the working class; within weeks the ANC sent their thugs into the area and by force drove out the Abahlali leaders, killing some of the residents and forcibly evicting many of the residents, thus still achieving the agenda of the state; residents of Brits in the northwest province were evicted by the provincial government without any alternative provided to them. The lesson drawn from the international struggles of the working class is that at the current balance of class forces, the capitalists are trampling on bourgeois democratic gains of the working class and increasingly using fascist methods of extracting surplus value (profits) from the working class.

The deliberate scarcity of housing, accelerated by the ANC-SACP, has as one of the consequences, the desperate competition among the masses, over housing lists and for a chance to get adequate housing- these waiting lists are to delay the anger of the masses and to keep the masses waiting forever. The real aim of the housing department is being not a housing department but a non-housing department (now called human settlement), is starting to dawn on the masses, hence the increasing number of protests over the lists and the right to housing. The desperation is also exploited by big capital and their lackeys in government to fuel attacks by fascist gangs against our black brothers and sisters from the rest of Africa.

The ties of the ANC-SACP to big capital means that even the limited ward committees reflect the interests of big capital and thus are run by hand-picked yesmen and are only held on rare occasions. How is it possible for the interests of the working class to be reflected in such structures?

2010 Fifa world cup

The capitalist within the ANC-SACP do not care what kind of quality houses their friends build for the poor working class, most of which crack within the first year of being built and have remained incomplete; the contractors have been paid in full- this is tantamount to stealing from the poor. In addition to this, many contractors left without paying the very workers who built these houses.

The Fifa 2010 world cup which is awaited by billions of people all over the world, is set to take place in South Africa but with it comes the dominance of big capital against the interest of the working class; this is demonstrated by example specifically of the community of Mafafeni near Nelspruit in Mpumalanga. Firstly the community's land was expropriated for the building of the 2010 soccer stadium (Mbombela) without properly consulting the community; then the children lost their 2 schools in order to give way for the building of the stadium; however till today the replacement schools have not yet been built and the provincial government has no clear intention or a known date when this school is going to be built. It is this incident that sparked the protest of the youth and working class parents of Mafafeni protested. The masses were laid siege to by the state, several youth and parents were arrested. Today the people of Mafafeni township still live in fear and under a virtual state of emergency. On the other hand Group 5, WHBO, Murray & Roberts and other construction monopolies, made billions of Rands in profits from the all the 2010 stadia. The main beneficiaries of the 2010 is finance capital, such as JP Morgan Chase, other Wall street gangsters and some European banking capital. In essence the 2010 soccer world cup represents the accelerated attack on millions of the working class in the region, trampling on the few democratic rights won by the masses, launched directly by the ANC-SACP. Within a short space of 3 years, tens of billions of Rands were found for stadiums but the millions shivering in the shacks for decades leaves the ANC-SACP cold.

We are bombarded by bourgeois politicians who tell us that the deficient service delivery is brought about by corruption and corrupt officials, but the case of Mafafeni and of all the stadia show that such corruption had no role to play. The capitalist system is inherently and viciously corrupt. The interest of big capital like the JP Morgan Chase and the Bank of New York is served by the building of the stadiums- the majority of the masses do not benefit anything. We all know that capital is in a crisis of profits so

this venture will boost their takings. The ANC-SACP has betrayed the trust of the people to give priority to the interest of the capitalists before the needs of the masses. They destroyed 2 schools to build the stadium- now the working class school children face unbearable conditions in dark containers- hot in summer and chilly in winter. A part of the massive profits leaving our shores are used by imperialism to buy off the labour aristocracy in the imperialist centres; and now as they cut back even on the crumbs they give to the labour aristocracy, they fund fascist groups such as the ones who attacked our brothers and sisters in the South of Italy. Tomorrow these same fascists will have their boots over the workers of the imperialist centres themselves. This is the corruption that the bourgeoisie keep silent about.

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE BUT A SCARCITY FOR THE WORKING CLASS

In 2009 the high court of south Gauteng ruled in favour of the people of Soweto against the City of Johannesburg on the matter that relates to pre paid water meters, the 'learned' judge ruled that water is a natural resource and should be shared equally by all citizens of this country, therefore the judges ruled that Johannesburg metro infringed the right of residents of Soweto by making them pay for water before they use it and enforcing limitations of how much water they can use. On the 8th October the Constitutional Court overturned this and ruled in favour of the capitalists, hiding their complicity by saying they cannot determine how much water to allocate to each person. The Constitutional Court showed in this way that it is the final defender of the interest of big capital as the way is now open for big capital to commodify water, profiteer from it, and trample on the very democratic rights won through struggles of the masses. The real meaning of the Freedom Charter shines through in the case of water, namely that among the 'people' the real rulers, the ones who really govern, are the imperialists, the big capitalists – it is their interests that are carried on high- the price of such treachery by the SACP are only a few pieces of silver and a couple of golden handshakes for the black elite.

South Africa is water scarce and it is claimed can only afford to supply only a part of the population with water; that is why it supposedly imports water from Lesotho. In the case of Mpumalanga, northern Kzn, Limpopo, north west and some parts of the eastern cape, communities have challenged mining and monoculture industrial plantation which pose ecological and environmental challenges; thus ecological and water resource are being eroded. Anglo-American plc is embarking new operations of mining of platinum in Limpopo and north west, but the consequence of this is that environmental, economic and the daily lives of the rural poor are adversely impacted and are deliberately ignored. Anglo American, with the help of local chiefs and some section 21 companies established in order to exploit poor working class, have forcefully removed people from their homes to give way for mining operations; in addition to that, people's ancestral graves have been dug up without consultation with the communities. Local people are promised jobs but most of them work for temporary recruitment agencies which does not pay them a living wage and imposes slave conditions of work. Local people's houses have cracked due to blasting taking place next to them; therefore leaving their houses uninhabitable- a serious risk of falling on to them. In response to people opposing this atrocities, Anglo-American has imported mercenaries from DRC who beat and shoot down the communities. Some local police seems to be on the payroll of the mines since every time members of the communities are being arrested in protest against the mines, the same policemen would be involved in the arrest.

The areas of Rustenburg, Mokopane, Klerkdorp, Bugersfort, Randfontein are overwhelmed with mining toxic waste like uranium and other radio active waste that are known to cause sickness and cancers and causes mental retardation in children. The University of North West and other research entities had undertaken some research and found that in Kagiso, for example, mining toxic waste had contaminated the drinking water and this has affected even grazing land for livestock and

subsistence and small commercial farming. Local municipalities have built RDP houses in areas only 500 metres away from mining dumps, which are not even secured nor having signage to make people aware of the dangers involved, and children usually swim in this dump; some had drowned as a result and no one is prepared to take responsibility. In Limpopo, the pro-capitalist Human rights commission published a report in which it concluded that Anglo American infringed on local peoples rights by digging up their graves and apartheid style forceful removal of this people from their ancestral land. Attempts had been made over the years by Khulumani support group to have companies like Anglo- American and other multi national capitalist to pay reparation to people whose lives have been lost or damaged by apartheid government with the help of these imperialist companies, but the south African government opposed this litigation several times. That the government now verbally supports the right of Khulumani to claim for the people does not detract from the role of the ANC , the Human Rights Commission and of khulumani to use the courts rather than the revolutionary action of the masses to achieve the demands of the masses- on the contrary, these groups are united by the use of the courts as a means to divert the masses from their own strength and role. The use of the courts here keep the masses passive and disarms them from their only weapon- the united revolutionary mass action of the working class in the semi-colonies with that of our allies in the imperialist centres. The courts will drag out the process to defuse and diffuse the struggle of the masses. In Mpumalanga's lowveld area where there is high percentage of rainfall and the best soil for agricultural activities, people have been forcefully removed from their ancestral land, first to give way for mining, in the Pilgrims rest area and then again for monoculture industrial plantations. These plantations are regulated by FSC (FOREST STEWARD COUNCIL) as supposedly responsibly managed forests whereas these are not forests but industrial plantations. According to the FSC, 80% of the plantations are 'responsibly' managed. On average ,there are 6 million of hectares of 'unmanaged' areas in which trees have spread in steep, very difficult to harvest places. So taking consideration only of the 'managed' plantations, estimated at 40%, over 3 million hectares of land in SA are riddled with monoculture plantation , these are the most high rainfall places, most bio diversified and with the best soil there is. These monoculture trees are known to consume large quantity of water ,one tree consumes a minimum of 25 litres water per day , which is equivalent to the basic free allocation for each person per day. One hectare plantation has a minimum of about 1thousand trees ,so 1,5 million hectares has got 1,5 billion trees which are drawing an amount of 37,5 billion litres per day , if this is compared to a population of 50 million people using 25 litres of water allocation per day, this amount to 1,25 billion litres per day. These timber plantations are using 30 times more water per day than the population's daily allocation.

These plantations comprise alien invasive trees species and therefore should not qualify FSC certification under present regulations. The trees used in plantations in SA are category 2 alien invaders in terms of the new national legislation. Fsc also allows invasive alien weed species to spread from their plantation because the monopolies who control these plantations disregard the even their own bourgeois law. Their reaction to the crisis has been minimal ,but why government does not hold this multi national bourgeoisie like sappi, mondi etc accountable for their role in impacting on the water supply to the communities living in areas affected by this plantations? Some of the leaders of the Anc play a direct or indirect role in passive political action or reaction to this crisis because the treasurer general of the ANC Mr Matthew Phosa has some BEE acquired shares through his company Vuka holdings in one of the companies involved in timber plantations(HMM), therefore there the lack of political will to address this matter is not unexpected. The biodiversity of soil and its quality is being eroded; the masses are without water while the imperialist bourgeoisie are raking in super profits and the government is doing nothing about this. The Cosatu and SACP leaders are quiet too as they are alliance with these very same capitalists they are

supposed to be fighting; their investment arms maximise profit while the masses are without water; the CEO's of the BBBEE companies are millionaires, the trade union leaders pay themselves 100% wage increases while 1 million workers are dismissed.

Cosatu workers: break with the capitalist ANC and SACP!

We call for an urgent workers summit uniting workers, unemployed and soldiers, to prepare a programme of action to resist the capitalist onslaught and to fight for our demands!

Expropriate all the banks without compensation to the capitalists- centralise all the banks into one bank under workers' control!

Expropriate all the large construction companies, without compensation and place them under workers control!

Nationalise all the land under workers control, without compensation to any capitalist!

Divide all the work among all those who can work, without loss of pay!

Increase wages when prices increase- no to multi-year agreements!

Equal pay for equal work across the southern African region!

Take the example of workers' peasants and soldiers unity against imperialism in Madagascar to the whole of Southern Africa!

Expropriate all imperialist assets without compensation and place them under workers control!

Adequate Houses and services for all is only possible if the workers take power against the imperialists and their puppets in Africa and in the imperialist centres!

References

South African human rights(mining-related observation and recommendation: Anglo platinum, communities and stake holders, in and around ppl mine, limpop)

Geosphere (pulping the future),www.geosphere.co.za,www.globalforestcoalition.org

Sfgate.com,uranium.com,pubmedcentral.nsh.gov

Botes et al the cauldron of local protest : reasons ,impacts and lessons

learned(university of free state , centre for developmental support)

Schmit M : unrest only way to get the anc's attention.(Sunday independent 20

February 2005

Atkinson d : taking to the street :has developmental local government failed in south Africa,(hrsc press cape town 2007)



The masses defeat the police in the streets of Kyrgyzstan

Update on the Zimbabwean Textile workers struggle

At Whitehead textiles the union leaders have sold out our struggle; not only does the union use the same lawyer as the company, but they have settled on only paying each retrenched worker only USD 300. Many of us, including our worker leaders were not paid; the bosses also said that some staff who had accommodation provided by the company, must first leave before they are paid out. This amount does not even cover what the company owes us, let alone the retrenchment pay of 3 months. The ZCTU is now taking the matter before the courts.

Editorial comment

Firstly, the unity government is clearly on the side of the bosses, otherwise they would have intervened to prevent the retrenchment or even at a minimum to force the company to pay out all what is owed to the workers.

Secondly, our advice from the January edition is still valid, namely that you should join with workers still employed, in the textile and other sectors to call a national congress to kick out the reactionary, pro-boss leadership and launch an emergency workers plan, to expropriate the bosses, and take over the companies and place them under workers control. All the parliamentary parties have shown that they cannot even meet the most basic democratic demands, only workers, by taking their fate into their own hands, can do so. In the light of increased state attacks on activists, we call for a workers tendency, based on the above, in essence, breaking from the capitalists and their 'unity' government, to spearhead the above programme. Let us call workers delegates from Madagascar, SA and the entire sub-region to our national congress to co-ordinate the fight against our common imperialist enemy.

Forward to the Soviet socialist states of Southern Africa. Forward to the spirit of the working class of Kyrgyzstan!

Letter to the editor:

We read the article on the textile workers in Zimbabwe with interest. The bosses are the same here. We need your help concerning the 100 workers that were retrenched, most of them have worked there for five years on [continuous] short term contracts, like 6 months to 12 months. Early this year they had to sign an extension of their contracts to expire at the end of May. Unfortunately they terminated the contracts in February 2010. Now they are refusing to give a letter of retrenchment. Most of the workers have loans, others have accounts at clothing and furniture shops. Without this letter these loans won't be cancelled. We wanted to write a letter to the company to demand the letter of retrenchment, one month's notice pay plus compensation as they were retrenched. We think they must be exposed internationally as most of their product are uniforms for SAPS (police), SANDF (army) and government of South Africa. The company is called Wynns manufacturing. Fax [27] 31 7361069. Our union Sactwu has not done anything and we think they are close to the bosses.

Editor's comment:

Firstly, on a technical level, you could look to apply measures that have been won in years of struggle: You could lodge a complaint with the department of labour over unpaid notice pay as well as unpaid amount of the remainder of the contracts. You need to be vigilant as often the department of labour officials are corrupt and side with the bosses. Thus only give them copies of contracts and pay slips and keep the originals safe. On the UIF note that the company gives you it should indicate that workers were retrenched, thus a copy of this could be used with the shops where workers have debts or accounts. Some companies either scrap the debt on proof of retrenchment or give workers more time, eg 6 months before their next payment is due.

Secondly you could lodge a case with the CCMA for unfair retrenchment (it should go to the Labour court but a first notice can be served at the CCMA), or in your case with the regional clothing bargaining council. Note that 99% of the commissioners are pro-boss, so do not put your hopes of this. The bosses were still supposed to consult with you over workplace firing of workers.

Thirdly, it is important that workers maintain links with workers who are still employed at the company and at other workplaces which are in the union. Workers should elect their committee and have regular general meetings to guide the campaign. The demand for reinstatement and for compensation should be taken up by the workers still inside the workplace. Workers should send delegates to union meetings to demand that the workers at Wynns be reinstated and that the union take up the demand for the company to be expropriated and placed under workers control, especially as it owes its existence to supply uniforms for the public sector. At the same time, you cannot expect union officials and many of the shopstewards to champion your cause as quite often they are in the pocket of the bosses. For example, Sactwu has shares in Seardel, the main boss in the clothing sector. Yet the union has no control over who gets hired and fired. In other words the bosses use workers money to get rich and still attack the workers. Thus a central call to workers in Sactwu must be to break any links with the bosses. At the same time a call must be made for workers to replace the pro-boss union leaders with class conscious independent fighters. Sactwu is in Cosatu, which is in alliance with the ANC and SACP. The SACP leaders are ministers in government, driving the latest BMW's- they cannot be depended upon to advance workers interests. The ANC is the champion of awarding tenders to themselves and their cronies, becoming billionaires, while the masses are starving. The Cosatu leaders sit on their hands while last year over 1 million workers were dismissed. What is necessary to is fight for a new leadership in Cosatu (kicking out those who are pro-boss) and replacing them with independent working class fighters, but fundamentally we need to fight for a Cosatu that is independent of the capitalists; this means we have to fight for breaking the alliance with the ANC and SACP. We need to fight for an emergency workers plan, for a workers summit of delegates from employed, unemployed and from the soldiers to prepare the way for a general strike against the onslaught of the monopoly capitalists, the imperialists. To fight for this programme we propose that workers form a tendency in Cosatu to take this struggle to its conclusion. We have nothing to lose but our chains. In this fight we will give you and other workers our unconditional support.



The masses in Kyrgyzstan plan their next move

The Principles of Communism (part 1)

What is Communism?

Communism is the doctrine of the conditions of the liberation of the proletariat.

What is the proletariat?

The proletariat is that class in society which lives entirely from the sale of its labor and does not draw profit from any kind of capital; whose weal and woe, whose life and death, whose sole existence depends on the demand for labor – hence, on the changing state of business, on the vagaries of unbridled competition. The proletariat, or the class of proletarians, is, in a word, the working class of the 19th century.^[1]

Proletarians, then, have not always existed?

No. There have always been poor and working classes; and the working class have mostly been poor. But there have not always been workers and poor people living under conditions as they are today; in other words, there have not always been proletarians, any more than there has always been free unbridled competitions.

How did the proletariat originate?

The Proletariat originated in the industrial revolution, which took place in England in the last half of the last (18th) century, and which has since then been repeated in all the civilized countries of the world.

This industrial revolution was precipitated by the discovery of the steam engine, various spinning machines, the mechanical loom, and a whole series of other mechanical devices. These machines, which were very expensive and hence could be bought only by big capitalists, altered the whole mode of production and displaced the former workers, because the machines turned out cheaper and better commodities than the workers could produce with their inefficient spinning wheels and handlooms. The machines delivered industry wholly into the hands of the big capitalists and rendered entirely worthless the meagre

property of the workers (tools, looms, etc.). The result was that the capitalists soon had everything in their hands and nothing remained to the workers. This marked the introduction of the factory system into the textile industry.

Once the impulse to the introduction of machinery and the factory system had been given, this system spread quickly to all other branches of industry, especially cloth- and book-printing, pottery, and the metal industries.

Labor was more and more divided among the individual workers so that the worker who previously had done a complete piece of work now did only a part of that piece. This division of labor made it possible to produce things faster and cheaper. It reduced the activity of the individual worker to simple, endlessly repeated mechanical motions which could be performed not only as well but much better by a machine. In this way, all these industries fell, one after another, under the dominance of steam, machinery, and the factory system, just as spinning and weaving had already done.

But at the same time, they also fell into the hands of big capitalists, and their workers were deprived of whatever independence remained to them. Gradually, not only genuine manufacture but also handicrafts came within the province of the factory system as big capitalists increasingly displaced the small master craftsmen by setting up huge workshops, which saved many expenses and permitted an elaborate division of labor.

This is how it has come about that in civilized countries at the present time nearly all kinds of labor are performed in factories – and, in nearly all branches of work, handicrafts and manufacture have been superseded. This process has, to an ever greater degree, ruined the old middle class, especially the small handicraftsmen; it has entirely transformed the condition of the workers; and two new classes have been created which are gradually swallowing up all the others. These are:

- (i) The class of big capitalists, who, in all civilized countries, are already in almost exclusive possession of all the means of subsistence and of the instruments (machines, factories) and materials necessary for the production of the means of subsistence. This is the bourgeois class, or the bourgeoisie.

(ii) The class of the wholly propertyless, who are obliged to sell their labor to the bourgeoisie in order to get, in exchange, the means of subsistence for their support. This is called the class of proletarians, or the proletariat.

Will it be possible for this revolution to take place in one country alone?

No. By creating the world market, big industry has already brought all the peoples of the Earth, and especially the civilized peoples, into such close relation with one another that none is independent of what happens to the others.

Further, it has co-ordinated the social development of the civilized countries to such an extent that, in all of them, bourgeoisie and proletariat have become the decisive classes, and the struggle between them the great struggle of the day. It follows that the communist revolution will not merely be a national phenomenon but must take place simultaneously in all civilized countries – that is to say, at least in England, America, France, and Germany.

It will develop in each of the these countries more or less rapidly, according as one country or the other has a more developed industry, greater wealth, a more significant mass of productive forces. Hence, it will go slowest and will meet most obstacles in Germany, most rapidly and with the fewest difficulties in England. It will have a powerful impact on the other countries of the world, and will radically alter the course of development which they have followed up to now, while greatly stepping up its pace.

It is a universal revolution and will, accordingly, have a universal range.

