

The Red Phoenix



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Oakland, California: Protestors demonstrate in the streets for the International Day of Action for Gaza, Oct. 4, 2025. (M.P./The Red Phoenix)

OCT. 7 OPERATION WAS RESOUNDING CRY IN FACE OF ZIONIST TYRANNY THAT BROUGHT PALESTINIAN CAUSE BACK TO GLOBAL CONSCIOUSNESS



Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine | Central Media Dept. | Oct. 7, 2025

"They have come, there is no compromise... Glory to the people of resistance."

On the second anniversary of the October 7 operation, we recall a pivotal moment in the history of a people who knew neither surrender nor submission. On that day, the resistance affirmed that it is the essence and living soul of Palestinian existence. It was a resounding cry in the face of injustice, tyranny, and the brutality of the occupation, and a resounding and bold declaration to the world that the Palestinian people are alive, steadfast in their land and identity, and committed to their right to freedom and dignity.

The October 7 operation marked a strategic turning point that altered the equations of the conflict and placed the Palestinian cause at the center of global consciousness. It demonstrated that free will is capable of shaking arrogant power structures, regardless of their technological superiority. It also exposed the fragility of the Zionist entity in the face of fighters possessing a firm resolve and a belief in the justice of their cause.

The battle transcended its military dimension to confirm that resistance is a constant approach and that peoples who cling to their rights are capable of breaking the boundaries of fear and making history anew.

However, the Zionist response, directly supported by American imperialism and Western lobbies, was not merely a military attack, but a blatant embodiment of organized state terrorism as a colonial tool par excellence. In Gaza, the world witnessed a systematic genocide unseen by humanity for decades, not only in terms of brutality, but also in terms of the colonial mentality that justifies famine as a weapon, the blockade as a tool of collective suffocation, and the destruction of vital infrastructure as part of an organized genocide project. Hospitals, schools, universities, water and electricity sources were not only targeted, but homes were leveled over the heads of their residents, basic necessities of life were lost, and hundreds of thousands were displaced time and again. All of this reveals the true face of the colonial system: a system that views the life of the Palestinian people as a

mere obstacle to domination, a violation of rights, and one hell-bent on annihilating the national will.

The joining of resistance forces in Lebanon, Yemen, Iran, and Iraq to the Gaza support front reflects a shared destiny and deep solidarity, affirming that Palestine is not alone in confronting the occupation. The Lebanese and Yemeni resistance have demonstrated resilience and sustained resistance, and despite the enormous sacrifices, the path of resistance proves to be the path to uniting the Arab peoples, restoring their dignity, and building a free and independent future free from hegemony and surrender.

The unprecedented global movement against the occupation and the international pressure on the US administration and Western leaders have proven that human consciousness has begun to regain its moral compass towards Palestine.

The sight of the Palestinian flag waving across the globe, carried by free people around the world during massive marches and unprecedented historic demonstrations in capitals, squares, and streets, particularly in Western countries, represented a great symbolic and humanitarian achievement that restored respect for a cause the occupation had tried to obliterate for decades. Meanwhile, the Zionist entity has become a pariah, a renegade against international law and the human conscience, besieged by popular anger and growing moral isolation, exposing the fragility of its narrative and the falsity of its claims to democracy and humanity.

We, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, on the second anniversary of this immortal operation, and two years after the Zionist war of extermination against our people in the Gaza Strip, affirm the following:

1. We proudly salute the heroic martyrs of our people, especially the leaders and fighters in Gaza, the West Bank, and across all the battlefields, whose blood mingled to affirm Gaza's steadfastness. We salute our prisoners and wounded, affirming that their sacrifices will remain immortal and a source of pride and inspiration.

2. The October 7 operation marked an important milestone in our people's ongoing

struggle since the occupation of Palestine. It was a natural response to the occupation's ongoing crimes in Gaza, the West Bank, and Jerusalem, and against the siege, settlement, and Judaization. To those who attempt to portray this operation as the beginning of the conflict or the cause of the problem, we remind them that the occupation's crimes have not ceased since the occupation of Palestine until today, while the resistance has always been active, ongoing, and raging in all arenas of struggle, affirming our people's steadfastness and will to confront aggression.

3. In light of the occupation's escalation of its war of extermination, particularly in Gaza City, and the resistance's response to the American proposal, our priorities are to reach an agreement for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire, lift the blockade, allow the entry of aid, and rebuild. These are firm demands that we will address responsibly and flexibly in order to end our people's suffering.

4. The US administration bears responsibility for any attempts by the occupation to thwart the negotiations or continue its war of extermination. This calls for Arab and international pressure and continued global action to prevent any reversal of the agreement at any stage.

5. We reject foreign mandates and affirm that the administration of the Gaza Strip is an internal Palestinian affair. An agreement has been reached, under Egyptian auspices, on a temporary administrative committee of technocrats until a national unity government is formed to assume its responsibilities in the West Bank and Gaza. This requires an urgent national meeting to put the Palestinian house in order, rebuild institutions, and confront the enormous challenges facing the Palestinian cause.

6. We affirm our people's right to legitimate resistance in all its forms, foremost among them armed resistance, and the necessity of escalating resistance in the West Bank to confront annexation plans, settlement and Judaization policies, and the occupation's attempts to resolve the conflict.

7. We call for a central, pressing Arab and Islamic stance to consolidate a comprehensive ceasefire in the war of extermination,

capitalizing on all Arab and Islamic strengths, activating the role of the masses and free people, and confronting all forms of normalization with the occupation.

8. We call for continued global action to pressure the occupation and its supporters, hold war criminals accountable internationally, led by Netanyahu, impose deterrent measures to end impunity, and expand the freedom convoys by sea and land to Gaza to break the siege and expose the occupation's crimes.

In conclusion, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, on this immortal anniversary, and in the face of the ongoing Zionist war of extermination, affirms that the steadfastness of our people and the legitimacy of their cause will remain steadfast and firm. The blood of the martyrs and the determination of the heroes are our beacon that illuminates the path towards return and freedom. The voice of our free people will remain louder than all the Zionist killing and criminal machinery. It affirms that Palestine will return to its indigenous inhabitants

sooner or later, from its river to its sea, thanks to the resistance and sacrifices of its sons, and the support, solidarity and unity of the free people of the world.



THEY WILL MAKE A GRAVEYARD OF A NATION AND CALL IT A CASINO



A rendering included in the GREAT Trust proposal via the Washington Post.

R. Nesbitt | Maryland | Sep. 18, 2025

A media report from the Washington Post has revealed the plans of the Trump Administration and the Israeli government for the aftermath of the ethnic cleansing of the Gaza Strip. The leaked 38-page document proposes the so-called GREAT Trust (Gaza Reconstitution, Economic Acceleration and Transformation), a plan to at first pay Palestinians to abandon their homes or to coerce the rest out of Gaza, and subsequently to invest in the Gaza Strip, jointly. A space has been carved out for Trump himself to be converted into the “Great Trump Riviera,” where he plans to build a massive resort on the blood-soaked ruins of the Palestinian people. The release of these documents nearly coincide with plans announced by the Knesset to completely annex the West Bank, nominally under Palestinian control, eroded over these last several decades by IDF incursions and the epidemic of illegal Israeli settlements across the region.

The lauded Israeli claim to the land of Palestine, allegedly promised to them thousands of years ago in the Bible and other holy texts, is apparently for sale and lease. Indeed the Israeli bourgeoisie seem to have found, at long last, some manner of compensation for the hundreds of millions of US dollars that have

fueled their “self-defense” genocide against the colonized people of Palestine.

The working people of the United States have shown in historic protests over the course of these last two years that we would never accept any mercenary compensation, that we do not consent for the empire lording over us to pave the way for the occupation in Palestine. This brazen theft of Gaza and the West Bank will not benefit the American proletarian, living paycheck to paycheck, sinking deeper into debt, poverty, and exhaustion, staring down the maelstrom of fascist erosion of what few democratic rights we have won in hard-fought struggle in this country!

This predatory dismemberment of Palestine will not even benefit the vast laboring masses of Israel itself, not when landlords, corporations of Israeli and international origin (as shown by the investments of global corporations from the US to France to China) will only serve to further the growing pauperization and exploitation of all living under the yoke of private property.

Trump is a president who aided the dismantling of the pathetic ceasefire declared by Biden and Harris as they waved their way out of the White House with blood-soaked hands. Trump is the president who urged Netanyahu to “finish the job” against the Palestinian nation, granting legitimacy to Israel’s occupation by moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem, and like all US presidents since 1947, funneled countless dollars to the Israeli regime to fund their crimes.

Now, Trump is seeking to cash in. In following the money, it is blatantly exposed that this cannibalistic campaign these last 75 years have as their aim the annexation, expropriation, and the plunder of Palestinians and other peoples.

We must not forget Israel’s similarly colonialist designs for southern Lebanon and the Golan Heights of Syria, and their meddling in Yemen — even assassinating the Prime Minister of the Houthis this summer.

The web of imperialism is so transparent, working people in the United States, in Europe, and indeed the whole world, must begin to see the cause of survival and liberation of the Palestinian nation as the opening salvo in the deepening, inevitable crisis of imperialism, a scheme of militarization and plunder that will widen the gap between rich and poor, lay the foundation for more effective repression at home, and set up yet another global economic crisis that working people will suffer for the avarice and greed of the capitalist class. And it is bought with the deaths of tens of thousands, the imposed famine of millions, and now this brazen scheme to turn this horrifying crime scene of what was a civilization into a damnable tourist attraction!

Beyond recognition, the solidarity of the global proletariat must find new resolve and determination, be it in direct aid to Palestinians as is being done with the attempted Freedom Flotillas, in boycotts building toward divestment and sanctions, in strikes such as those of dockworkers throughout Europe, on the streets, and in every campaign by all revolutionary organizations, so that we must outpace the extremity and determination of the most earnest and villainous representatives of the bourgeoisie seen since the 1940s. If we permit, in silence, this nightmare to reach its climax, the working people of the world will never know the end of horror, the ruling class will know we will accept anything, ignore anything, and on that day, we open the door for the “novelty” of this 75-year genocide to be visited on every corner of the world.

DISASTER AVERTED, LIFE-SAVING ASBESTOS BAN UPHELD

John M. | Colorado | Sep. 9, 2025

The Trump administration's recent decision to abandon plans to reconsider the Biden-era ban on chrysotile asbestos, the last form of this deadly mineral still used in the United States, is a rare victory for public health and a lifeline for working-class communities. Initially revealed in court documents in June 2025, the administration's flirtation with delaying or weakening the ban sparked outrage, threatening to revive a known carcinogen linked to over 12,000 deaths annually in the U.S. alone. By backing down, the U.S. has dodged a bullet, averting a catastrophic rollback that would have prioritized corporate greed over human lives. For communities like Libby, Montana, devastated by asbestos' toxic legacy, this decision is a critical step toward ensuring no more workers or families are sacrificed on the altar of profit.

Asbestos, a naturally occurring fibrous mineral prized for its heat resistance and durability, was once hailed as a "miracle material." It was widely used in construction, insulation, roofing, and automotive parts, embedding itself in homes, schools, and workplaces across America. But by the 1960s, scientific evidence began to expose its dark side: asbestos exposure causes lung cancer, mesothelioma, ovarian cancer, laryngeal cancer, and asbestosis, a chronic disease that leaves the lungs covered in scar tissue. Even minimal exposure, sometimes as little as a single day, can trigger these diseases, which often lie dormant for decades before claiming lives.

Had the Trump administration followed through on its initial plan, led by EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin, to delay the ban for at least 30 months, the consequences would have been dire. Workers in industries like chlorine manufacturing, where chrysotile asbestos remains in use, would have faced prolonged exposure to an "unreasonable risk" of illness, as confirmed by the EPA's own data. Reversing course on this dangerous proposal is a triumph for science and advocacy, sparing countless lives from the slow, painful demise asbestos inflicts.

To understand the human cost of asbestos, look no further than Libby, Montana, a small working-class town that once dominated the global vermiculite market. Vermiculite, a mineral often contaminated with asbestos, was mined in Libby by the Zonolite Company and

later W.R. Grace & Company from the 1920s until 1990. At its peak, the mine produced 80% of the world's vermiculite, used in insulation, gardening, and construction. But the mine's success came at a catastrophic price. W.R. Grace knew about the asbestos contamination as early as the 1960s but failed to warn workers or the community. Miners came home covered in white, asbestos-laden dust, unknowingly spreading it to their families. The mine's tailings were used as fill for driveways, playgrounds, and gardens, blanketing Libby in a toxic haze. Residents breathed it in for decades, unaware of the invisible fibers lodging in their lungs.

The consequences were staggering. In a town of fewer than 3,000 people, over 400 have died from asbestos-related illnesses, with thousands more diagnosed. Diseases like mesothelioma and asbestosis have left survivors struggling to breathe. The latency period of these diseases, often 20 to 50 years, means new cases continue to emerge, even though the mine closed in 1990. In 2009, the EPA declared Libby a Public Health Emergency, launching a massive cleanup effort that has removed over one million cubic yards of contaminated soil. Yet the town's scars remain, both physical and economic, as the once-thriving community grapples with its toxic legacy.

President Donald Trump's support for asbestos is well-documented and deeply troubling. In his 1997 book, *The Art of the Comeback*, he called asbestos "100% safe, once applied" and dismissed its health risks as a "mob-led" conspiracy to profit from removal contracts. This claim, echoed in his 2005 congressional testimony where he credited asbestos with fireproofing capabilities, ignores overwhelming scientific consensus. Trump's stance has even earned him a perverse endorsement from Uralasbest, a Russian asbestos producer that in 2018 stamped his face on its products with the words "Approved by Donald Trump, 45th President of the United States." Russia, a major asbestos supplier to the U.S., stands to gain significantly if the ban is lifted.

During his first term, Trump's EPA, under Scott Pruitt, refused to ban asbestos outright, opting instead for a "Significant New Use Rule" (SNUR) that allowed case-by-case approvals for new applications. This framework, criticized as a loophole for industry, ignored legacy asbestos in homes and schools, where it poses the greatest risk to workers and residents. The current reconsideration, spearheaded by EPA

Deputy Assistant Administrator Lynn Ann Dekleva, a former American Chemistry Council lobbyist, signals a continuation of this pro-industry agenda, prioritizing corporate profits over public health. The potential rollback of the asbestos ban is a stark example of how working class communities withstand the worst of capitalist deregulation. In Libby, miners and their families were expendable to W.R. Grace, whose profits soared while the town choked on dust. Today, workers in industries like chlorine manufacturing, where chrysotile asbestos is still used, face similar risks. The EPA's own data shows that even with current protocols, workers in these plants face an "unreasonable risk" of illness. Yet industry groups like the American Chemistry Council argue that existing workplace protections are sufficient, echoing arguments that overturned the EPA's 1989 ban attempt.

Economic interests often take precedence over worker welfare. Asbestos-related diseases mainly impact miners, construction workers, firefighters, and factory employees exposed on the job. Corporate executives seek deregulation to reduce costs and increase profits, insulated from these dangers. The Trump administration's deregulatory actions, such as weakening PFAS chemical and greenhouse gas rules, reflect a similar focus on economic competitiveness at the expense of worker health.

Public health advocates warn that delaying the asbestos ban will lead to avoidable diseases and deaths. Linda Reinstein, president and co-founder of the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization, states that even minimal exposure can be fatal, as evidenced by Libby's experience. The science confirms there is no safe level of asbestos exposure. However, the Trump administration's reconsideration, influenced by industry pressure and deregulation, risks overlooking this fact.

Libby, Montana, highlights the need for strong protections against hazardous substances. Policies must prioritize health over profit. Communities, workers, and advocates should urge policymakers to uphold the asbestos ban, support organizations raising awareness about its dangers, and promote accountability for industries using harmful materials. By uniting, we can ensure worker safety and public health are prioritized, preventing tragedies like Libby's. United and organized, we can create a system that values lives over corporate interests, so we can all breathe a little easier.

TRUMP DEPLOYS THE NATIONAL GUARD IN D.C. – WHAT IS HIS AIM?



Students eat their meal as members of the Louisiana National Guard, carrying their sidearms, use an escalator while patrolling in Union Station during the back-to-school season in Washington, D.C., Aug. 25. (REUTERS/Jose Luis Gonzalez)

Sofia D. | Minnesota | Sep. 28, 2025

Aug. 8 – Trump deployed the National Guard, FBI, DEA, and many other federal agencies to patrol the streets and intimidate the people of Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States. Trump is pursuing two main aims: first, he is trying to stoke fear and thus loyalty out of the bourgeoisie and functionaries of the bourgeoisie in government; second, he is preparing the stage for a violent takeover if he cannot secure that loyalty. The direct intimidation of immigrants, national minorities, and “radical leftists,” while perhaps a main psychological motive for Trump, cannot fully explain why the specific billionaires who give him his power have allowed this move.

First, some context: Over the years, there have been a number of instances of direct violence against personnel of the bourgeoisie. The highest-profile were the shooting of former United Health C.E.O. Brian Thompson, and the shooting of two ambassadors to Israel. There have also been a couple of non-political crimes against government officials in Washington. Trump’s orders, officially, come as a “remedy” to the “out-of-control violent crime” in the nation’s capital, supposedly caused by Democratic leaders who have “lost control of public order and safety in the city.”

The actual implementation of the policy, however, has looked mostly like a tactic to intimidate and terrorize immigrants, the homeless, and racial minorities. This is despite the fact that the specific crimes which

this order allegedly responds to are split equally between directly politically motivated terrorism and random street crime, mostly committed by youth dragged into desperate situations by poverty and insufficient social nets. Instead of devoting resources to counter-terrorism or social services, Trump has actively pulled personnel away from both departments to focus on the previously-mentioned terror against workers.

The real reason immigrants and the homeless are targeted is because they are legally, constitutionally, “free game” in Trump’s war to “Make America Great Again.” There are very few limitations or consequences for the administration for attacking these legally marginalized populations, which additionally has the effect of intimidating would-be anti-Trump activists. Attacking these populations efficiently creates an atmosphere of fear, and inspires confidence in the dyed-in-the-wool fascist section of Trump’s base, all while minimizing paperwork.

This atmosphere of fear is advantageous to Trump by strengthening and rallying his base among the petty-bourgeoisie, in whose mind “something needs to be done,” to quote the chief of the DC Police Union Gregory Pemberton. By focusing on immigrants, the homeless, and racial minorities, Trump targets the most visible boogymen of the petty-bourgeoisie, white-supremacists, and low-level government officials. This inspires confidence in these reactionary and chauvinist elements that the city is being “cleaned,”

while the continued presence of security forces creates the impression that “danger is still present.” As in all good cults: the source of panic becomes also the source of relief.

The more narrow-minded Democrats in Washington mainly complain that the move is based on “feelings,” which are not reflected in the “record-low crime statistics,” and that Trump’s actions skirt the bounds of constitutionality. Only the most savvy and self-preserving elements of the liberal-minded bourgeoisie, such as Chris Van Hollen, have pointed out the fact that this constitutional “takeover” of the city is merely a “dress-rehearsal” (CNN) for Trump’s hoped-for full-throated fascist takeover of the federal government at large. “This is not just about self-governance for D.C.” This hostility from Hollen, of course, does not reflect a real, deep-seated defense of the people, but rather a defense of the liberal system of working out disagreements between different corporations. Donald Trump, Peter Thiel, Elon Musk, Timothy Mellon, and their entire crew would rather administer the country directly to their benefit, which motivates their fascistic push.

So why a dress rehearsal, and not the real thing?

As long as Trump is able to gain and keep power constitutionally, he is happy to leave the constitution untouched. But, when the next election comes around (for which several Republican Congresspeople have already floated bills to enable Trump to run a third term), we can expect a more violent attempt to seize power than January 6th. The question is when, not if, he will make a move beyond his relatively “constitutional” gambits for power. When he does, the consequences for his “competitors” may be bloody, and without a strong workers movement and party organization, he will be completely unopposed and able to take out his profit-seeking ire on the working class.



AMERICAN PARTY OF LABOR
ALL POWER TO THE WORKING PEOPLE!

TAKING BACK THE NARRATIVE ON ZOHRAN MAMDANI



Democratic mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani, right, and Attorney General of New York Letitia James walk in the NYC Pride March on June 29, 2025, in New York. (AP Photo/Olga Fedorova)

Jo Mason | Illinois | Aug. 1, 2025

On June 24, 2025, Zohran Mamdani defeated the AIPAC-funded Democratic juggernaut Andrew Cuomo in the primary election for the New York mayoral race, which will be held in November. For many on the left this was seen as a huge win due to Zohran's progressive tendencies and policies, which not only captured the attention of the nation, but got thousands up and knocking on doors, answering calls and building coalitions from the ground up. However, this is only the beginning of a much larger class struggle that Mamdani and his campaign have helped to renew in New Yorkers and in Americans more broadly.

Zohran has sparked a sort of pre-revolutionary fervor in Americans who, more and more, are rejecting old-guard, openly-liberal Democrats in favor of candidates described as socialists. In Zohran's case, this is due to his "radical agenda" which aims to make buses fast and free, proposes free childcare for New Yorkers, and raises the minimum wage to \$30 per hour, all to be funded in part by raising taxes on New Yorkers who make over \$1 million per year. Mamdani, however, is not actually a socialist, as his policies merely aim to reform capitalism to "work for the people," rather than to replace it as a mode of production altogether. With that being said, Mamdani provides a desperate push toward social-democratic policy to which elitist Democrats have been largely resistant, but that average Americans crave as proven by consistent polling, recent support for reformist campaigns (hamstrung by the Democratic party), and the growing labor and progressive political movements amidst the rise of reactionary politics and fascism in the United States.

"Revolutionary Social-Democracy has always included the struggle for reforms as part of its activities. But it utilises 'economic' agitation for the purpose of presenting to the government, not only demands for all sorts of measures, but also (and primarily) the demand that it cease to be an autocratic government."

– V. I. Lenin

Mamdani has been very successful in broaching modern media which the functionaries and bureaucrats in the Democratic party resist. His appearances on podcasts, Twitch streams and social media platforms like Instagram and Facebook make him visible to a vast population of Americans whose mainstream media consumption is either little to none or increasingly diverse. While he has appeared on CNN, MSNBC and other bourgeois media outlets, Mamdani does not give up ground in his push for social-democratic policy. The response is less than ideal, with corporate media and the Democratic party alike having a total meltdown upon his sweeping victory, and the tides of misinformation from the openly right-wing news sources joining in to this establishment crash-out.

Media Analysis

The decline into propaganda and misinformation is not a new phenomenon. We can see it everywhere we go, no matter where a person may be on the political spectrum. Revived by the deregulation of standards and sourcing and media conglomeration by the Reagan administration. Post 9/11 America is especially susceptible to this as barriers which were previously left untouched have been completely broken down over years of gathering more power to the executive branch, paired with an inherent need to justify it. This is especially evident in the surge of support for the nationalist MAGA movement since Donald Trump began his infamous campaign for president in 2016. However this fall did not begin with Trump, nor will the climb to a better future end with him.

This "Mirror World," as Naomi Klein calls it in her most recent publication *Doppelganger: A Trip into The Mirror World*, discusses this idea of a loss of an objective reality as a response to poor material conditions which we are all experiencing as a result of capitalism.

Our overflow of negative experiences, like a market crash or grocery prices rising, are not portrayed as a result of capitalism in mainstream media, but a consequence of the policies of individual Presidents and Congresses who are "definitely" and "clearly" of different ideologies and intentions. This plays a massive role in the explanation as to why others opt for an approach of blaming individuals and minorities who are not the perpetrators of this pain, but who are the most vulnerable and are the easiest to exploit not only as a scapegoat, but as a group to persecute. Islamophobic rhetoric against Arab and Muslim people has created the conditions for their persecution, and it isn't by accident.

The manufactured consent for capitalism is not new, but it has mutated. With the rise of social media and peoples' connectivity to one another with just the click of a button, a whole new slew of problems can take root. Islamophobia has been part of this backslide into fascist ideology, with Arab and oppressed nationalities at large being branded as terrorists, especially those who, as Mamdani has done, support Palestinian liberation. The grip which media has on the narrative about Muslims has festered into a complete rampage against Muslim peoples' existence, platfroming voices like Charlie Kirk who spoke at length about Mr. Mamdani, railing that his victory is an "insurgency against the west," and blatantly using mythological "Great Replacement Theory" talking points. While Kirk's ravings are absolutely abhorrent, his bigoted tirade is not solely about the hatred of Muslim people.

The descent into fascism in a new digital age requires the spreading of misinformation and harmful rhetoric around our collective problems to divide the working class. In the most recent 2024 election, a decisive factor in Trump's landslide win was, in part, due to his presence on podcasts and contemporary media which both younger older generations now consume on a more regular basis. It is more accessible, speaks to a broader audience, and is a much more decentralized way to disseminate the news. People now do not just cite a cable news broadcast or an article in a newspaper, but a podcast episode, a YouTube video, or even a TikTok clip. The influx of "slop" posts created by

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Artificial Intelligence, with poor writing and poorer sourcing, has doubly served to agitate and deceive audiences who engage with social media and do not have the same media literacy to identify artificial and inflammatory content.

Resolution

Zohran Mamdani's candidness and charming personality is what the Democratic party has long been in need of to stay relevant. It is part of the same personable gravitas and no-nonsense genuineness that made Bernie Sanders so appealing and distinctive to working people. The rejection of his policies by old-guard Democrats suggests a split in the party between the older and younger generations, who view change in completely different contexts, and this requires a hard

look at class struggle which Democrats have only used as a hollow talking point without integrating into any significant policies. Mamdani's battle with Islamophobia and loyal Democratic voters of students and petty-bourgeois liberals within the party is not going away any time soon, but his embrace of modern media and his fresh new takes on how to bring services to working-class New Yorkers is a complete turnaround from the artificial alternative postured by Democratic platforms of past campaigns.

While we should not view Mamdani as a perfect candidate, nor should we be inclined to create a cult of personality around him, we should prop up his policies as real tangible alternatives and ideas to working-class people, while still remaining within a capitalist framework. His staunch rejection

of traditional fundraising and earnest meetings with New Yorkers of all stripes on what he can do for them is one part of an antidote to the anti-worker propaganda which is, evidently, rotting from the inside. Conversely, Mamdani is symptomatic of the new consciousness budding within the working class, struggling to survive and yearning for liberation. The American Party of Labor does not believe that survival, liberation and prosperity will be found within the capitalist system which has built-in mechanisms to preserve the reign of the owning class. However, we will not, as some in the American left do, attack the rising tide of political activity of America's proletariat, but instead add all our momentum so that the tide washes away the ruin and rot of capitalist society.

THE FRONT RANGE RAIL: BATTLING CORPORATE INTERESTS FOR FT. COLLINS WORKERS –



A BNSF train on the Swinomish Reservation in Anacortes, Washington in March 2023. (David Ryder/Bloomberg)

John M. | Colorado | Aug. 1, 2025

Fort Collins workers are tired of being stuck in traffic, spending hard-earned wages on gas and car repairs just to get to work. The Front Range Passenger Rail, a proposed 173-mile line from Fort Collins to Pueblo, could change that. On May 14, 2025, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Front Range Passenger Rail District opened a virtual open house, running through June 15, to hear from the public. For those of us scraping by with meager wages in Northern Colorado, this rail could mean easier commutes and more money in our pockets. But with costs ballooning to \$8 billion and service years away, the project smells like a corporate giveaway, designed to benefit big businesses over everyday people. Fort Collins' working class is speaking up, demanding a rail that puts their needs first.

Getting to work in Fort Collins is a daily grind. Most people drive alone, clogging I-25 and burning through cash for fuel and maintenance. For workers earning around \$16

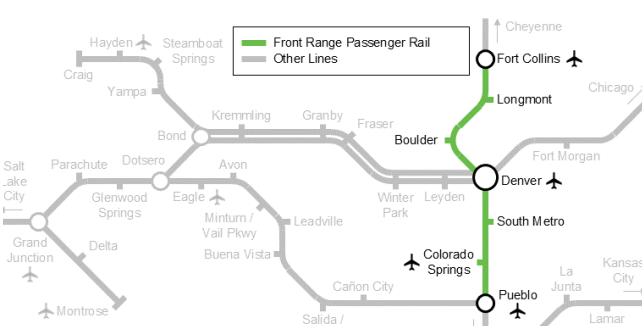
an hour that's a huge chunk of their paycheck. Public transit options such as buses are often slow and limited, resulting in many individuals being compelled to rely on cars that may be financially burdensome. This setup is not just inconvenient; it is a system that keeps workers struggling, funneling their wages to oil companies and car manufacturers while public transit gets shortchanged.

The Front Range Passenger Rail aims to connect Fort Collins to Pueblo, with stops in Loveland, Longmont, Boulder, Denver, Colorado Springs, and smaller towns. A \$66 million federal grant in October 2024 will upgrade freight tracks between Denver and Longmont, targeting 2.2–3 million riders a year by 2030. The rail could cut down on traffic and pollution, making it easier for workers to reach jobs across the Front Range. But the project's price tag, estimated at \$3.2 to \$8 billion, and its slow timeline—Fort Collins service won't start until 2030 at the earliest—raise concerns. CDOT plans to fund it partly through a sales tax vote in 2026, which hits workers harder than the wealthy. For those who need help now, waiting years for a train feels like a slap in the face, especially when big corporations seem to be in charge.

The rail project's problems come down to corporate control. The owner, BNSF Railway, charges exorbitant fees for tickets. But instead of lowering ticket costs for workers, the \$66 million federal grant, praised by Gov. Polis, mainly bails out BNSF for the cost of

upkeep for its freight business. CDOT's reliance on sales tax puts the burden on workers, while big rail firms and contractors pocket the profits. Recent federal reviews of transit funding could potentially impede progress further, resulting in workers facing extended waits while businesses benefit financially.

Fort Collins workers need a rail that's affordable and practical. Fares should be low, stations should be near where workers live and work, and service should run early and late for shift workers. Instead of taxing workers with sales taxes, the state should make big corporations like BNSF foot the bill—their \$6 billion in 2024 profits could cover plenty. These changes won't happen without pressure from workers themselves. Join the virtual open house at CODOT.gov to share your demands for low fares and worker-friendly service. Connect with transit advocacy groups like the Colorado Rail Passenger Association to push for change. Support local efforts to build a stronger voice for economic fairness. Fort Collins workers can shape the rail into a tool for their benefit, but it will take collective action to make it happen.



GOODBYE, ASSATA



Assata Shakur in Cuba in 1998. (SHOBHA/Contrasto/Redux)

Maurice B. | New York | Oct. 4, 2025

“My life wasn’t beautiful and creative before I became politically active. My life was totally changed when I began to struggle.”

On Thursday, September 25, 2025, at the age of 78, Assata Shakur, born as JoAnne Deborah Byron, died in Havana, Cuba. Shakur’s life was synonymous with struggle against oppression; she dedicated her time, her words, and her energy to building toward socialist revolution and the defeat of US imperialism.

In the 1960s and 1970s, Assata Shakur was a member of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army, finding herself at the very forefront of the American class struggle, often culminating in openly violent confrontations with the police and other forces of capitalist state repression. For the Black and African-descendant working-class people in the United States, Shakur stands tall amongst figures like Harriet Tubman and fellow Panthers like Angela Davis as exemplary revolutionary women in the Black

Radical Tradition. Shakur carried forward the struggle for those of us fighting today for a more just society, and we owe her a great deal for the successes that we’ve experienced in our lifetimes as well as for the practical lessons she provided us alongside her BPP and BLA comrades with their work for the working class.

Assata Shakur spent the last 41 years of her life in political asylum, and the last 12 of those years as the first woman to be added to the FBI’s Most Wanted List. Like so many of her Panther comrades and other fellow revolutionaries, Shakur was targeted for her political organizing and for the living example she provided to the Black youth and working class in America as a militant communist. For the fear of a “Black Messiah,” Shakur was threatened with life imprisonment, torture, and death. For the fear of a revolutionary and militant working class with hundreds of thousands of Assata Shakurs and Angela Davis and Kathleen Cleavers and Akua Njeris, Shakur’s extradition became a ceaseless demand of the capitalists and imperialists. In their tireless and ultimately fruitless efforts to “make an example” of Assata Shakur, they have only multiplied her adoration among the working class and raised the class consciousness of her Black brothers and sisters to see their true enemy: capitalist imperialism.

Assata Shakur has died, but her legacy only grows and will continue to do so in the eyes of the international working class and of African-descendant peoples in all nations. Wherever

people are struggling against capitalism, racism, chauvinism, neocolonialism, and imperialism, Assata Shakur will be in their hearts and in their minds. Shakur showed us all what is asked of a revolutionary and what sacrifices we must be prepared to make to emancipate ourselves from the yoke of fascism, imperialist war, and reaction. Assata Shakur, through 78 years of life, through a life of loss, of struggle, and of revolution, showed the world the value of the revolutionary struggle and that true immortality belongs to those who give their flesh and bone to the people. “Glory goes to the ones not asking for it.”

Camilo Lazo | National Chair of the American Party of Labor

It was a chilly evening, as nights in Cuba tend to be. You came, quite unannounced, to the Albergue Jose-Antonia Mella, to speak with members of that year’s Venceremos Brigade. There was no fanfare, no grand entrance, no banners waving or chants blaring out. Just a seasoned, experienced comrade coming to share thoughts and experiences, and offer advice and support, to young revolutionaries.

And so, we met. You were gracious and kind. I’ll admit that I was ‘star-struck.’ I hope I didn’t show it, though I probably did.

Goodbye, Assata. You were a legend and an inspiration to millions. I’m sure many are saying that now. But I wanted to say it myself. Just once. From me to you.

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The APL is hosting an ongoing fundraiser for Palestine.

100% of proceeds from our “Free Palestine” designs are being donated to emergency relief efforts in Gaza.

We have various other collections including original Pride designs, tributes to socialist leaders and theoreticians, and *Red Phoenix* merchandise and subscriptions.

In addition, we have original printed publications including our theoretical journal, *Marxist-Leninist Currents*; the annual journal of the ICMLPO, *Unity & Struggle*; and a limited selection of other books and journals.

All sales and donations go directly to our work. None of our members are paid from party funds. *No profits, ever!*

★ As a member organization of the ICMLPO, we send our party members to conferences, workshops, educational, and work programs abroad.

★ We run Service to the People Programs where we provide necessary supplies to working-class families free of charge.

★ We self-publish our newspaper, theoretical journal, and tabling materials, and we voluntarily perform all of the labor required to do so.

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CRISIS IN THE BOURGEOIS LEGAL SYSTEM

Misha G. | New Jersey | July 25, 2025

As the Trump administration tightens its grip on state power and continues to purge dissent, it has escalated a pattern that even liberal defenders of bourgeois legality find shocking. His regime demands total obedience from the judicial system, sidelining procedural norms which serve to legitimize it and attacking anyone within the system who resists.

Lenin defined the state as “an organ of class rule, an organ of the bourgeoisie for the suppression of the proletariat.” The state often presents itself as a neutral actor, standing disinterested above society. To maintain this illusion, the ruling class often permits a facade of impartiality in public institutions. History and everyday reality, however, teach us that this is an illusion, and the working class in the United States instinctively knows this.

Trump, the figurehead of the most rapacious, reactionary wing of the ruling class, is obliterating even the thin veil of neutrality maintained by the so-called moderate section of the ruling class as he changes guard from the old “moderately” genocidal Biden regime to his openly fascist one. Liberals wring their hands and file lawsuits, but their protests only slightly slow the march toward a fascist consolidation they helped enable.

The administration’s open war on the judiciary reached a new level last week when federal prosecutors charged two sitting judges—Hannah Dugan of Wisconsin and Jose Cano of New Mexico—with obstructing immigration enforcement. Trump officials skipped past the pretense of impartial trials and went straight to a media spectacle. FBI Director Kash Patel publicly celebrated the arrest in clear violation of DOJ media protocols, and DHS official Tricia McLaughlin ranted on Fox News about purging “activist judges.” Attorney General Pam Bondi went on a similar deranged rampage on Fox News, screaming: “We will find you!” Trump said the quiet part out loud: “We have hundreds of thousands of people that we want to get out of the country, and the courts are holding us back.”

This isn’t just about two judges—it’s a message to the entire judiciary: comply or be targeted. While the United States makes no such legal designation, these are political prisoners.

On Apr. 18, 2025, Judge Hannah Dugan

of Milwaukee County, WI, was set to hold a hearing for Eduardo Flores-Ruiz, an undocumented immigrant from Mexico. On the day of his hearing, six plain clothes federal officers from ICE, CBP, FBI, and the DEA were at the courthouse waiting to arrest him after seeing his name on the court docket. When they arrived, they identified themselves to the shift sergeant and discussed their plans to kidnap Flores-Ruiz. They were told that they had to wait until after his hearing, so they assembled in the hallway outside of Judge Dugan’s courtroom. One of the local public defenders recognized the officers and informed Judge Dugan that “ICE is here.”

Dugan, along with one other judge, confronted the officers and asked if they had a judicial warrant. When they responded that they only have an administrative warrant, which is not obtained through the legal system and does not require probable cause, and only gives the right to arrest but not to search or seize, thus allowing arrests only in public spaces, the Judge responded that they needed a judicial warrant. After speaking with the chief judge, it was determined that ICE enforcement actions could not take place in courtrooms or other private locations within the building, but they could take place in hallways. While the officers were speaking with the chief judge in his office, Judge Dugan expedited the proceedings and instructed Flores-Ruiz and his attorney to go through the back Jury door instead of the door that led to the main hallway where ICE officers had been waiting.

Still, this back hallway led to a public hallway where two officers were still waiting. One of the officers recognized him, followed him into the elevator, and alerted his fellow officers, who proceeded to catch up with him in front of the courthouse and arrest him.

Judge Dugan actually had quite a good reason, even within the bourgeois legal framework, for being angry with ICE’s presence. By arresting “illegal” immigrants who are complying with lawful orders to appear in court, they are disincentivizing people, including not just immigrant defendants but also immigrant witnesses, from appearing in court. Thus, conducting regular sting operations in courts makes judges’ jobs much more difficult.

ICE had already kidnapped two other immigrants in the past month at this courthouse. ICE does similar things when

immigrants show up to immigration check-in appointments. Recently, two mothers and their young children, including one diagnosed with cancer, were kidnapped at their regular immigration check-ins and quickly deported to Honduras. Thus, according to bourgeois legal standards, Judge Dugan was well within her right by protecting the integrity of her courtroom.

Dugan now faces two federal charges: obstruction of a federal proceeding (18 U.S.C. § 1505) and concealing a person to prevent arrest (18 U.S.C. § 1071), the latter carrying a possible five-year sentence and a \$250,000 fine. Yet under U.S. law, these charges are weak. Judges have broad discretion to manage their courtrooms, and under *Printz v. United States* (1997), the federal government cannot compel state officials to enforce federal laws. Legal experts widely believe a conviction would be hard to secure—unless, of course, the courts are bent into compliance, which would not be surprising since that is the whole point of the case to begin with.

Either way, this is meant to tell courts around the country that if the already incredibly vague law, which has been exploited for the interests of the ruling class for all of history, is not interpreted in the most fascistic way, the administration will come after the courts.

Dimitrov defined fascism as the open, terroristic dictatorship of the most reactionary, chauvinistic, and imperialist sections of the bourgeoisie. It drops the mask of democracy, something the liberal wing of the ruling class still clings to, nervously following behind the fascist bloc.

Liberal pundits now pine for a “return to normal,” but for the masses, “normal” was already a slow, brutal grind of capitalist violence. That status quo laid the groundwork for fascism. They understand that “democracy for an insignificant minority, democracy for the rich—that is the democracy of capitalist society.” The solution is not capitalist reformism.

As Fred Hampton once said:

“We’re not gonna fight fire with fire, we’re gonna fight fire with water. We’re not gonna fight racism with racism, we’re gonna fight racism with solidarity. We’re not gonna fight capitalism with black capitalism... we’re gonna fight capitalism with socialism.”

RIPPLE EFFECTS OF UNCHECKED POWER FROM GAZA TO BOULDER



Law enforcement officials investigate after an attack on the Pearl Street Mall on June 1, in Boulder, Colorado. (David Zalubowski/AP)

John M. | Colorado | Aug. 1, 2025

On June 1, 2025, a violent attack disrupted a peaceful gathering in Boulder, Colorado, organized by Run for Their Lives, a group raising awareness for Israeli hostages held in Gaza. The assailant, identified as 45-year-old Mohamed Sabry Soliman, allegedly shouted “Free Palestine” while deploying a makeshift flamethrower and Molotov cocktails, injuring 12 people, including a Holocaust survivor. The FBI is investigating the incident as a targeted act of terrorism, and Soliman faces federal hate crime charges alongside 16 counts of attempted murder, potentially carrying a cumulative sentence of over 600 years. This horrific act of violence, condemned widely across political and community lines, cannot be understood in isolation. Incidents like these are embedded in broader systemic tensions, including the Israel-Palestine conflict, which fuels global outrage and local acts of desperation. While the Boulder attack is indefensible, it emerges from a context where imperialist policies, particularly Israel’s actions in Gaza, exacerbate inequalities and inflame grievances that ripple across borders.

The Boulder incident targeted a group advocating for the release of Israeli hostages, a cause rooted in the aftermath of the Oct. 7, 2023 attack on Israel, which killed around 1200 people and claimed over 240 hostages. Run for Their Lives, a volunteer-led initiative, frames its weekly walks as apolitical, focusing on humanitarian concern for captives. However, the attacker’s reported cries of “Free Palestine” and “End Zionists” suggest a motivation tied to the broader Israel-Palestine conflict, specifically opposition to Israel’s policies.

This act reflects the frustration of marginalized individuals caught in a world shaped by imperialist power dynamics. Soliman, an Egyptian national whose asylum application was denied in 2005, operated alone, with no evident ties to organized groups. His actions, while criminal and misguided, can be seen as a distorted response to the perceived impunity of

powerful state actors like Israel, whose military campaigns are backed by Western capital and political support. The rage expressed in such acts often stems from the powerlessness felt by those on the periphery of global systems, where working-class and oppressed communities withstand the worst of imperialist violence and economic exclusion.

The Israel-Palestine conflict provides critical context for understanding global reactions, including the Boulder attack. Since October 2023, Israel’s military campaign in Gaza has resulted in over 62,000 Palestinian deaths, mostly women and children, and injured more than 111,000. The campaign, launched in response to the Oct. 7 operation, has razed entire cities and destroyed hospitals, schools, and cultural landmarks, and displaced nearly all of Gaza’s 2.3 million residents. The blockade of aid has pushed Gaza to the brink of famine, with per capita water consumption dropping to 3–5 liters per day and a sewage crisis threatening disease outbreaks.

This devastation, described by top genocide scholars and prominent human rights organizations, as ethnic cleansing and genocide, reflects the priorities of a capitalist-imperialist system where state power serves elite interests. Israel, heavily subsidized by U.S. military aid, \$17.9 billion since October 2023, operates with near-total impunity, shielded by Western governments and corporate media. The destruction of Gaza’s infrastructure, including 69% of its buildings and 92% of housing units, serves not only military but economic ends, clearing land for potential redevelopment that benefits Israeli and Western capital while displacing Palestinians. The working-class Palestinian population faces annihilation, while Israel’s ruling class, backed by global powers, consolidates control over resources and territory.

The lack of accountability for Israel’s actions, evidenced by the U.S. vetoing UN resolutions and continuing arms sales, creates a perception that the state can “get away with whatever it wants.” This impunity fuels anger among global working-class communities, particularly in the Global South, where people see parallels between their own exploitation and the suffering in Gaza. The Boulder attacker’s actions, while indefensible, reflect this broader resentment against a system that prioritizes imperialist agendas over human lives.

The incident in Boulder also highlights how class dynamics shape responses to global conflicts. The victims, ranging from 52 to 88 years old, were part of a community event in an affluent college town, advocating for a cause tied to Israeli state interests. Meanwhile, the attacker, an individual on the margins of U.S. society, appears to have acted out of a sense of solidarity with Palestinians, however violently misdirected. This clash underscores how imperialist conflicts abroad, rooted in the exploitation of resources and labor, reverberate in local settings, pitting marginalized individuals against those perceived as aligned with oppressive systems.

The capitalist system thrives on such divisions, deflecting class solidarity into ethnic or religious antagonisms. Instead of uniting against the ruling elites who fund and perpetuate wars, communities are fractured by narratives of “antisemitism” or “terrorism.” While the Boulder attack was labeled antisemitic by politicians and mainstream media, framing it solely as a hate crime, risks obscuring the systemic issues at play. The real enemy is not Jewish or Palestinian people but the ruling classes; Israeli, American, and global, who profit from war and occupation. Arms manufacturers like Lockheed Martin and Raytheon profit from U.S. military aid to Israel, while real estate and energy interests eye Gaza’s reconstruction as a lucrative opportunity. Meanwhile, working-class communities, whether in Boulder or Gaza, face the fallout: violence, displacement, and economic precarity.

Condemning the Boulder attack means rejecting violence against civilians, but it also requires addressing why such acts happen. Israel’s destruction of Gaza, enabled by Western support, creates conditions where desperation festers. Solidarity with Palestinians means advocating for an end to Israel’s blockade, military occupation, and displacement policies, while also condemning violence against civilians, whether in Boulder or Gaza. It requires building movements that unite working-class people across identities to challenge the global ruling class, from arms manufacturers to state leaders, who perpetuate these cycles of destruction. Only through collective action can we dismantle the systems that fuel such tragedies and create a world where no one feels driven to such desperate acts.

MCKEES ROCKS STRIKE “GREATEST LABOR FIGHT IN ALL HISTORY”



Thomas K. | Ohio | Aug. 1, 2025

The Pressed Steel Car Strike, also known as the McKees Rocks Strike, is an incredible event in U.S. labor history for multiple reasons. Besides resulting in a massive win for workers, the strike highlights the invaluable roles that immigrants play in the workforce. This event also provides many horrific examples of the lengths that corporations and capital interests are willing to go in order to secure its oppressive grip on the masses. We are shown what can be accomplished when discipline and strong organization are prioritized. The workers and their families had seemingly insurmountable odds placed in front of them, but by relying on each other and staying true to their principles they were able to stand firm.

On July 10, 1909 in a small town called McKees Rocks, PA, a group of workers had received their day's wages and realized they had been paid less than what they were owed. As any worker would, they went to management to demand an explanation, but the bosses refused to meet with them. In response, the workers walked off the job, vowing not to return to work until their demands were met. Two days later the company began evictions from company housing and brought in 500 strikebreakers.

The Pressed Steel Car facility (PSC) was locally known as the “Last Chance” or the “Slaughterhouse.” Joseph G. Armstrong, the county coroner at the time of the strike, estimated on average one worker death per day at the factory. Other rumors persisted around the facility of unidentified immigrant workers buried on the property.

This site was one of the highest-producing train car production lines in the country at the time of the strike. The workers were tasked with doing quick and discrete work on these rail

cars as they were pulled down the rail line. The factory was furnished with a machine shop, a foundry, and multiple high capacity electric cranes. By modern standards this would be a highly dangerous work area.

Workers were organized not only by language but also by religion; the company did this in order to minimize “petty quarreling” on the assembly line. At the time of the strike, 6,000 immigrant workers were employed by the PSC factory.

During the strike, the workers would meet almost every day at what they referred to as “The Indian Mound,” where they would hold meetings and give speeches in 15 different languages. These meetings quickly turned into highly-attended worker rallies.

The strike reached its boiling point on Aug. 22, when the actions were charged after what police forces aiding in company housing evictions had done the day before.

On Aug. 21 in the nearby company town of Schoenville, while evicting a family from company housing, a police officer placed a baby in a basket on top of a wagon containing the family's possessions. This photograph was printed in the local newspaper that same day. On Aug. 22 in McKees Rocks during a worker-organized protest, an officer from the Schoenville photograph was spotted in the crowd in civilian clothing. A confrontation led to the death of the officer and sparked a violent clash between the workers and the Pennsylvania State Police. (The workers at the factory referred to them as “Black Cossacks.”) The conflict between mounted officers and workers led to the deaths of at least three workers but an official number is still debated.

Though this is what is considered to be the climax of the conflict, it is important to note that the workers on strike at this facility were already fighting almost daily. Between conflicts with scabs and company thugs, they were now introduced to the state police force. After the events of Aug. 22 martial law was enacted. Through their struggle and unwillingness to break, on Sep. 8, 1909 the workers forced their bosses to capitulate. Management ended the unfair pay practices that ignited the strike, and the workers gained an immediate 5% pay increase with another 10% in 60 days. They also forced the inhumane housing practices of the Pressed Steel Car Company to cease.

Other results of the strike included better working conditions, which created room for one thousand more employees to be hired — a powerful example of how supporting workers through community leads to changes for all.

“This desperate fight must be continued. The eyes of the civilized world and the eyes of all the laborers of the world are upon you. It is the greatest labor fight in all history.”

— Eugene Debs

Eugene Debs saw this labor struggle as the beginning of industrial unionization. We know from history that the Pressed Steel Car Strike had a major impact on the labor movement in the area, and created opportunities by providing a public win for young budding American unions.

Though working and community conditions were greatly improved, the lack of central organization and ultimately the lack of a union contract led to issues shortly after returning to work. Second-generation American skilled workers, who had lost their class consciousness, harassed immigrant workers and created racial tension inside the shop. A United Steelworkers contract was signed in 1942 forming USW Local 2746.

The McKees Rocks Strike holds serious relevance to us today. Tactics used against strikers now can be seen in their infancy in 1909 — most glaringly is capitalists’ manipulation of immigrants in the workplace as a means of dividing the working people. Corporations would still have us believe that our struggles are separate and disconnected, but we should not be fooled. We must recognize the strengths that each of us provide as workers, through our different cultures, creeds, and general backgrounds. This was a necessity to be understood in 1909 and it is a necessity to understand today.

We can also learn from McKees Rocks the importance of central organization. Throughout the strike the “Indian Mound” was used as a central location for all striking workers to gather to inform and educate each other. Thus they were able to organize more effectively and protect themselves from the influence of company spies. These lessons and many more provided by the brave working families of McKees Rocks should be analyzed and acknowledged, for their struggle is our struggle now.

About the Red Phoenix

The *Red Phoenix* is the mass voice of the American Party of Labor, published online regularly and printed bimonthly. It is a newspaper dedicated to providing principled class-conscious insight on what is happening in the United States and around the world, along with analysis of important news, events, reviews, and commentary. The goal of the *Red Phoenix* is to provide a platform for working people of all kinds, without the biases and mitigation of corporate media.

The *Red Phoenix* is aimed at progressive-minded people, activists, workers, and all who are fighting in firm opposition to the war against the poor and the oppressed. Our political stances are taken from a revolutionary perspective and our writing serves as a medium of expressing that sentiment.

The *Red Phoenix* was founded in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crash, as a way to give a platform and voice for working-class people left outside popular media narratives. During the Trump presidential campaign and the George Floyd Movement, the *Red Phoenix* grew to have correspondents across the country interviewing workers, analyzing the resurgent labor movement, and agitating for a true workers' democracy. In our era of misinformation and rising fascism and union-busting, the need for true working-class stories, beyond the "blue and red" mythology, has never been greater.

You can help us with our work by subscribing, donating, or submitting your own articles for publication. Please visit us online at RedPhoenixNews.com



Assata Shakur

“Those who have dared to speak out against the injustices in this country, both Black and white, have paid dearly for their courage, sometimes with their lives.”

Assata Shakur (July 16, 1947 – Sep. 25, 2025)

Assata: An Autobiography

The Red Phoenix is published bimonthly by the American Party of Labor.

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About the American Party of Labor

The APL is a revolutionary working-class organization. Our aim is to abolish the capitalist system and replace it with a socialist, working democracy, a system based on the principle laid out by Marx: "from each according to his ability, to each according to his need." There can be no true freedom or democracy when billionaires have more wealth than the bottom 90% of Americans.

An Anti-Revisionist, Internationalist Party: We are a dedicated anti-revisionist party, opposed to concessions to capitalists, and critical of all imperialist actions by the U.S., Russia, and China. The APL is a member of the International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organizations (CIPOML), and the Resist U.S.-Led War Movement.

A Party of Working-Class People: The American Party of Labor is made up of workers fighting for workers' rights. Many of our members are in active union and unionization struggles, and we all do our political work after clocking out.

A Party of Equals: We are active in the fight for the rights of women, oppressed nations, the LGBTQIA+ community, and immigrants, and for the community control of police departments. In 2019, the APL was a founding member in the National Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression.

Forever Anti-Fascist: We uphold the anti-fascist legacy of the Marxist-Leninist movement. Members of the APL are active in movements against the Far-Right on college campuses, and the barbaric treatment of immigrants at the border.

Who can join? How do I get involved?

Every working person who is open to our plan for change, agrees with our Program and Platform, and is over the age of 18 is welcome to apply.

To look at our joining procedure, activity, membership FAQ, and more, please visit:

AmericanPartyofLabor.com

You can find everything that you should know about us here, and you can contact us and connect to members in your area.

If we don't have a presence in your city, we'll get to know you and help you establish one.

Why is Marxism-Leninism relevant in 21st century America?

There is an important, fundamental difference between Marxism and other so-called anti-capitalist or "third way" theories. Marx, unlike many thinkers of his day, did not see a problem with capitalism that could just be mitigated. Instead, he and his compatriots analyzed capitalism itself to understand how the system worked. Marx's ideas for revolution are based on that analysis and the experiences of the struggles in Europe of 1848. Solutions to the problems of capitalism can only be reached by understanding and observing the system itself, textured with the political reality of the country and historical struggles. This is why we think revolutionary history is worth talking about, and making part of our platform.

Regarding the regulation of capitalism and emergent social-democratic reform movements, it is not uncommon that capitalist states restrict the private sector for various reasons. The problem is that political power is still stacked in favor of the ruling class; they have every avenue and all the resources necessary to undo reforms and regulations. What truly led to the collapse of the socialist bloc was not that the pursuit of communism was too radical, but rather that these nations pursued market-style reforms until they had more or less become capitalist countries. As we have seen in the U.S., liberal victories are short lived.

Today, social-democratic movements would have us do much the same, if not less —regulate capitalism, nationalize some industry, and try to maintain a welfare state—without expropriating the ruling class, without giving the nation a clear direction for the future, and worst of all, without putting the working class in power. We cannot face climate change, resurgent fascism, police brutality, the exploitation of oppressed nations, and the threat of American imperialism around the world without a revolutionary, centrally organized movement.