

# WORKERS' fight

No 165 - Jul-Aug 2025  
price 50p

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ISSN 2040-400X

*"The emancipation of the working class will only be achieved by the working class itself" (Karl Marx)*

## Fighting back against their system, their laws and their wars

The pay of all workers is lagging behind inflation. Yet when the doctors' union reps announced their intention to strike from 25-30 July, just as in 2022-24, they made no reference whatsoever to the common cause which unites them with the rest of us.

So yes, while they are certainly indispensable when it comes to keeping the NHS on its feet, they are not a special case when it comes to exploitation! They could settle their demands in no time if the rest of the working class was on strike with them - and it would be of mutual benefit to all of us, workers and patients alike.

In 2022/3, during the "summer of discontent" union leaders told strikers in the railways, Royal Mail and the NHS, that co-ordinating their action would amount to an "illegal general strike" - and was therefore out of the question.

Maybe so. But the fact is that any fight which is effective is likely to be designated "illegal" if it wasn't already so. The legality of the ruling class cannot be accepted as the legality of the working class.

### ***They miscarry "justice"***

The same system of law which rules against workers' fights has been exposed by an ever-growing number of public inquiries into cover-ups and downright lies, resulting in deadly miscarriages of "British justice".

So, on the 20th anniversary of the 7/7 terrorist bombings on London Transport, we're reminded that top cops in the Met lied about the killing of Jean Charles de Menezes: contrary to the official version, he did not run away, nor leap over the barriers at Stockwell station; he was never asked to "stop!".

His family, but also the cops ordered to shoot him, will never come to terms with this "mistake". However the officer in charge that day has never been held accountable. Indeed, Cressida Dick



was promoted to Chief of the Met in 2017!

Then this July, Volume 1 of the Post Office inquiry was published. The scale of this scandal is breathtaking; thousands of sub-postmasters robbed of their life savings and homes, put into unrepayable debt, criminally charged, imprisoned, due to a conscious cover-up and blatant lying all the way to the top of government, over 3 decades. At least 13 committed suicide.

More than 3,700 still await redress. But is the infected blood scandal "less worse"? Its report is also an exposé of NHS and government lies. To date, only 430 of its over 30,000 victims have been compensated; and they are slowly dying...

### ***"Socialism or barbarism"***

On the scale of this planet, the human consequences of "British" official law-breaking is dwarfed by the death and destruction in Gaza and around the world.

But "responsible" politicians everywhere keep the lies going, to

keep the profits flowing, no matter what. So continuing the war in Ukraine is encouraged by Starmer, Macron and the "Coalition of the Willing".

The reason to fight on? Also a lie. "Putin" is not an "existential threat" as they claim. Capitulation by Zelensky would however, cut the profits to the western military-industrial complex, now promised even more by NATO's 5% of GDP target. So no surprise that Trump has changed his tune.

As for Netanyahu's final solution for Gaza, it's the only truth which he and Trump admit to. The silence of the others means consent.

So where does all this leave the working class? In fact it's no revelation that the bosses and their government have interests diametrically opposed to ours. We are left with no option but to take them on, regardless of their law, in order to impose ours - and build a different, socialist system. Because as Labour rebel, Zarah Sultana rightly said (quoting Rosa Luxemburg), the choice facing us all is "socialism or barbarism". □

## International

## Trump's big deportation push could backfire

*This article appeared in the newspaper of the US Trotskyist group "the Spark" on 23 June 2025*

Trump's deportation push has slammed into an economic and social reality: key industries rely heavily on workers living in the US illegally, many of them for decades.

This has been proven over and over again over the last few months.

In Tallahassee, Florida, federal agents swarmed the construction site for a 220-unit student housing development, arresting 100 of the 175 workers, while they were pouring the concrete foundation. Without these workers, much of the concrete work was ruined, and eventually had to be redone.

In early June, federal agents fanned out across California's vast agricultural area. The raids spread chaos where most of the nation's vegetables, grapes and delicate fruit, like peaches and strawberries, are starting to be harvested. Growers reported that 30 to 60% of workers stopped reporting to the fields in the days after the raids and warned that without these workers the food would not be picked on time, leading to possible food shortages.

### ***They can't do without migrant workers***

Federal agents also raided Glenn Valley Foods in Omaha, Nebraska, arresting 75 workers, roughly half the assembly line. The work ground to a halt ... and not just at Glenn Valley Foods. Word of the raid spread so quickly that many workers at other meat processing companies, fearful of additional raids, also walked off their jobs. *"Without immigrant workers, there wouldn't be an industry"*, concluded a Glenn Valley Foods executive.

Undocumented immigrants play an important role in the running of the entire US economy. They may account for only about 4.4% of the US workforce. But their share of the workforce in key industries is much higher. More than 40% of all



agricultural workers in the US have no legal immigration status, the Agriculture Department has estimated. Goldman Sachs also estimates that 19% of all workers in landscaping services, 16% in meatpacking and 13% in construction are undocumented.

But these employers don't hire undocumented workers out of the goodness of their hearts. They take advantage of the workers' legal status by paying the workers less, while working them longer and harder.

### ***The bosses asked for the raids to stop!***

Once the raids began, and the workers deserted the work sites, industry groups and corporate executives, many of whom are important donors and supporters of Donald Trump, pressured the Trump administration to exempt them from further raids. The Trump administration then did a big flip-flop. At first, Trump relented, posting a message on Truth

Social that seemed downright friendly toward the very immigrants he has spent much of his political career demonising, calling immigrants in the farming and hospitality industries *"very good, long-time workers"*, in order to entice them back to work.

Then Trump quickly reversed himself and confirmed that the worksite raids would continue. He did so in order to threaten and discipline the working population in the face of much higher prices, and big cuts in social programs and government employment. The administration needs this in order to fund big tax breaks and other giveaways for the big corporations and the rich.

But these attacks could very well backfire, not just on Trump, but the capitalist class which he serves. For by staying away from work, immigrant workers demonstrated not just how vital their work is, but the fact that their vital role in the economy gives them power to fight to defend their own interests! □

## Setting fire to Iran... because its regime dared challenge the imperialist order

No-one knows the exact impact of the Israeli and US strikes on Iran's nuclear sites. The bombs raining down on Tehran terrorised the population, killing hundreds, including many migrant and refugee workers. Media reported disruption to power and water supplies. Israeli jets, missiles and drones targeted scientists and engineers and military commanders, killing two nuclear physicists on day one, as if the world needs fewer of them, not more!

The West's media got excited about the potential to weaken the Iranian

regime, calling its origins the *"Islamic revolution"* of 1978-79 and even wheeling out the overthrown, exiled Shah's son! But this is a twisting of history. There was, in fact, no *"Islamic"* revolution, but a determined popular uprising in which the working class played a leading role, overthrowing the Shah's hated regime, which had always been the willing puppet of imperialism.

Workers raised their own banner, establishing councils to defend their interests, with the participation of militants from communist parties and

progressive militias. But the revolution also opened the way for the return of an exiled Islamic leadership headed by the Ayatollah Khomeini, which, after it had been included in a new reformist government coalition (which included the communists), was able to hijack power. Workers' councils were forcibly suppressed and revolutionaries - including Trotskyists and Stalinists from the Iranian Tudeh Party, who couldn't escape - were jailed and executed. The Islamists did not make a revolution - they buried it! □

## Their society

### "Anti-terror action": is the government mad - or just bad?

On 2 July, Home Secretary Yvette Cooper's order to ban "Palestine Action" as a terrorist organisation was voted for by 385 MPs - with only 26 voting against. And what was the "terrorist" act perpetuated by the Palestine Action activists? A simple incursion into the RAF's Brize Norton base on 20 June to spray red paint over two Voyager aircraft, symbolising the bloodshed in Gaza.

This would be the first time that a non-violent organisation which damaged property (but did not kill or injure people) is labelled "terrorist" and banned in Britain. In fact, an organisation that chooses a form of protest that in effect does nothing to stop the British government from providing military support for Netanyahu's slaughter in Gaza! Yet, this ban, now confirmed by the High Court, means that being part of Palestine Action is punishable by up to 14 years in prison!

This latest clamp down follows the arrest of the Irish rap artist Mo Chara, who was charged under the "UK Terrorism Act" for displaying a Hezbollah flag during a concert. It also follows the current criminal investigation against singer Bob Vylan for "public order offence and hate crime" after he shouted "Death to the Israeli Defence Force" as part of his Glastonbury



Protest in support of Palestine Action outside Downing Street

performance.

And then, at the end of June, the government issued new instructions effectively banning civil servants from speaking about government policy in public. Civil servants will have to be "cleared" to participate in public events and are banned from speaking at Q&A sessions... in other words, censorship - a ban on free speech - plain and simple.

Maybe the crackdown on rap groups and non-violent organisations, and the gagging of civil servants, are just distractions the government desperately needs after being forced into embarrassing U-turns on its anti-working class policies. But these clamp-downs are also a reminder of how easily the "right to free speech" can be taken away! □

### • Soldiers for "family, faith and flag"?

Under its "Future Soldier" plan, the government aims to increase the number of regular soldiers by 5%, to reach 76,000 by the end of this parliament. The Ministry of Defence has also said it would review nearly 200,000 applications to join the regular and reserve armies this year. And after Labour's "Strategic Defence Review" was published on 2 June, a new "Home Guard" force with thousands of recruits is expected to be created - mimicking the Local Defence Volunteers militia (aka "Dad's army") during the Second World War. According to the government and its ministers, "we" are "at war already"!

The government's defence plans also include a 30% expansion of cadet forces by 2030, aiming at recruiting 250,000 youth in schools in the longer term. The Minister for Veterans and People(!), ex-marine Alistair Carns, said this expansion is needed since "*society's connection to defence and the understanding of the utility of defence ... isn't necessarily understood*". In other words, the government wants to brainwash schoolkids - most of whom come from deprived areas!

This push coincides with a deepening of the capitalist crisis. And to prepare for the inevitable social unrest which

accompanies this, the government is preaching patriotism, and hopes to train the youth to obey orders - while offering them an army uniform instead of a decent job.

In fact it has always been unemployed youth - particularly in the so-called Red Belt and "up North" - who resorted to joining the army, since it was at least a job. After Northern Ireland, the Falklands war and Iraq, and Afghanistan, many ended up homeless on the streets, abandoned by a shrinking welfare state. Let's hope this time round, our media-savvy youth resist and refuse to join up.

### FROM TRUMAN TO TRUMP AND HIROSHIMA TO FORDOW

On June 25, during the 2025 NATO summit, and referring to the bombing of Iran's nuclear facility, Trump stated: "*That hit ended the war. I don't want to use an example of Hiroshima. I don't want to use an example of Nagasaki, but that was essentially the same thing, that ended that war. If we didn't take that out, they'd be fighting right now*"...

That "hit", was 14 (!) GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator bombs or "*bunker-busters*" - with a cumulative explosive load equivalent to a magnitude 4.0 earthquake - on three Iranian nuclear sites located in Fordow, Nantanz and Isfahan.

There are parallels to be drawn with the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. For example, the fact that Fordow's 80m underground facilities were a perfect test for these experimental ground-penetrating bombs... recalling the dropping of "*Fat Man*" and "*Little Boy*" (with an untried gun mechanism) on Nagasaki and Hiroshima - as an in vivo mass destruction "lab"!

Since these GBU-57s, didn't contain nuclear fuel, there was no radioactive fallout, and the uranium enrichment sites targeted didn't have any reactors - preventing a nuclear catastrophe. However, enriched uranium - while much

less radioactive than fission products - still irradiates, and the gases released from it are toxic and corrosive - a chemical hazard which remains unassessed!

As for the scaremongering about Iran's "nuclear capabilities" (used for medical and energy purposes), it belongs alongside the myth about Japan's legendary "*fighting will*". In any case, it was clear that an embargoed Iran would be unable to sustain a war against the IDF. Just as it was obvious that Japan was about to surrender after months of B-29 incendiary bombing had already destroyed Tokyo and its other major cities.



**Their politics****Starmer's, Kendall's and Reeves' welfare... for the markets!**

The all-but scrapping of Liz Kendall's Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payment (pip) Bill by the Commons has left Chancellor Reeves - who has by now dried her eyes - having to consider an about-turn on taxes... How else will she manage to fund even the few public investments she promised, given she set those "tight fiscal rules" to keep the financial markets happy. Her "tough choice" to cut instead of to spend has just blown up in her face.

It was obvious that Kendall's Bill had nothing to do with "reforming a broken welfare system", even if this was her after-the-event claim, when she was faced by the well-organised opposition mounted by 120 Labour MPs.

In fact the Bill was meant to achieve a cut of £5bn from what ministers say is a too-large and growing welfare budget, by 2030.



Now it has itself been cut, to appease the Commons' rebellion (only 49 Labour MPs voted against

the new amended version) and their amendment will actually add £3.2bn to the welfare bill! Woe is Reeves! ☐

## • Blame the bosses, and tax them till the pips squeak?

If Kendall wanted to institute a reform which might address the "broken welfare system" she could impose a tax on the bosses, payable for every single job they cut, instead of blaming the one million increase in disabled claimants on the claimants themselves. But she won't do it, not in a month of Sundays! In the late 1970s, the then Labour Chancellor Denis Healey promised to "tax the rich until the

*pips squeaked*" (meaning pip as in seed of a fruit!). But he never did.

Now Reeves, who promised "no tax rises", is faced with rising clamour all around her, over the need for increased taxes in the Autumn budget in order to balance the books. She must surely be plotting her own escape? Some commentators have suggested that a different face at the despatch box

assigned to this task would upset the markets less?

And one better not ask why, since with the markets, it's not a matter of rhyme nor of reason, but of bulls and bears... and "speculators' confidence" - and never mind that confidence in a degenerate system like capitalism in the 21st Century can only be false.

## • Living costs soar while wages stall

As many as 41% of Londoners, including half of all children, live in households that cannot afford a basic standard of living, yet they are not entitled to social housing nor benefits!

Rents have risen by about 50% over the decade up to 2025. Families spend as much as 60% of their incomes on the rent. Average energy bills are due to fall

by 7%... but since bills have increased by 43% in the last three years, this is a mere drop in the ocean of indebtedness. On London Transport, Oyster fares on buses have increased by 61% and on the Tube by 47% since 2008. There has been a 29% increase in the cost of the same basket of food compared to 5 years ago.

Wages lag far behind. Increases have

been consistently outstripped by rises in inflation - and all the more so if the RPI rate is used rather than the government's lower by 1-2% CPI measure. There has been a 15-20% decline in real wages over the past two years. While this might be felt more sharply by workers in London, the vast majority of the working class is struggling to make ends meet.

## Brink's-Mat: the capitalists' vaults are still loaded!

The BBC's *The Gold* is back for a second series, about Scotland Yard's hunt for the haul of the 1983 heist at the Brink's-Mat warehouse near Heathrow Airport. "Brink's-Mat" became something of a legend, recalling the 1963 Great Train Robbery. A gang, expecting to steal £1m-worth of Spanish currency from the vault they raided, found and took £26m-worth of gold (3 tonnes), diamonds and cash. Though the scale of the haul was unplanned, they

successfully had much of the gold laundered and it remains untraced.

No-one was hurt in the heist, though raiders doused warehouse workers with petrol and held up matches to get the vault combination. But the capitalist class will never let such a large-scale raid on its assets go unpunished, and 13 people were eventually jailed, two for 25 years each. Tens of millions-worth of assets were later confiscated.

For all its legendary daring and

cunning, Brink's-Mat was ultimately futile, and its aftermath was bloody. One raider and eight men suspected of involvement were murdered between 1990 and 2015, and a detective was killed during the investigation. When the assets of our class enemies are seized for good, it will be in the name of us workers in our millions, for the benefit of all of society!



## Their society

# The housing crisis: another reason why we need a revolution!

The housing situation in England is just getting worse and worse. The charity Shelter estimates that, on any given night in 2024, 354,016 people were homeless across the whole country. This is 14% higher than in 2023, and it's probably a big underestimate. In London, the situation is even more dire, with at least 187,000 homeless people last year. Newham has the highest rate, with 1 in 18 residents affected.

At least 326,000 people are in temporary accommodation arranged by local councils. However, there can be weeks or even months of waiting before they're placed anywhere. As for this "accommodation"; it usually consists of little more than a dormitory bed provided by a charitable organisation, even if the homeless person or persons are on a "high priority" list. In the meantime, they are left to chase underfunded

council services, sometimes just automated online websites or over the phone, as face-to-face services have become almost impossible to access. In fact 16,600 remain in temporary accommodation sometimes for years.

### **Why are there no state-owned, free hostels?**

Centralised, cheap - let alone free - government-run accommodation is non-existent. At best homeless hostels are run by charities, sometimes subsidised by local councils, or at worst, by dubious private companies and shady individuals. Moreover, unless a person is referred by the council, Universal Credit does not cover the cost of housing in hostels. The official estimate of rough sleepers in England (alone) is 3,900 but this seems to be a gross underestimate - and the

number is rising fast.

Ministers say that by building 1.5m new homes, the housing crisis will be tackled. But will there be cheap young workers' housing, for rent? No such plans exist.

In London, Mayor Sadiq Khan earlier this year announced £10m in funding to "end rough sleeping by 2030". But the housing crisis is just one part of the vicious circle which someone who loses a home and/or a job (usually linked) finds his or herself in: they are doomed to roam from one temporary hostel bed to another because of precarious employment on a minimum wage which never stretches far enough and the impossibility of being able to stay long enough in one place to connect with local services - such as might exist.

### **Not "work-shy", but excluded!**

The health, social care, and mental health systems never provide support to those who need it in order to break out of homelessness. According to the Office for National Statistics, as of this May, 8.7% of the workforce were in temporary or casual jobs - amounting to 2.73 million people, a 10% increase from the previous year.

In fact this seems an underestimate, too. Many homeless people find themselves jumping from one casual job to another, never earning enough to afford a deposit for a rented property. A hostel bed rarely costs less than £20 per night. To pay for 4 weeks at this rate would use up every penny of a basic Universal Credit payment. Yet, despite all this, ministers dare to label those caught in this vicious, precarious situation as "work-shy"! ☐



## CLIMATE CHANGE: IT MAY BURN THEIR PROFITS!

According to the Financial Times, Trump's capitalist masters don't agree with him that climate change is just a "hoax". Banks and insurance companies have studied climate data for many years, as part of their assessments of future risk. In fact the insurance sector - which is married to banking capital - is shrinking. As flooding, fires and tornadoes occur more frequently, many properties in high climate risk areas are no longer "insurable". The US Federal

Reserve has warned of collapsing house prices and banks withdrawing from large disaster-prone areas.

The idea that climate crisis alone could cause a financial crash is probably not so far-fetched. The interesting difference between a conventional cyclical economic crisis and a crisis brought on by climate change is, as the FT points out, that while a "normal" financial crash will be followed by a period of recovery - of course, at a cost - a climate crash

is likely to be unidirectional... There will be no recovery phase.

In the meantime therefore, Trump or no Trump, the insurance industry is "adapting" - insurance premiums in many thought-to-be-at-risk areas have been put up on average by 82%. And anyway since most policies renew every year it allows companies to pull out at short notice. No surprise - they are passing on the risk and the cost to the "public"!

**King's Cross railway station (London)****Using and abusing temps**

Since the 1990s, when the railways were privatised, we've seen more and more services outsourced to different companies. Even so-called revenue protection (policing passengers to make sure they've paid!) and security have been subcontracted to firms like the giant Mitie or SES. But recently (and quite bizarrely) contracts have gone to recruitment agencies like Ontrak and Fusion People. They must be very cheap!

And these cowboys employ workers on temporary/zero-hour contracts, paying

little more than the minimum wage. Sick pay or other necessary conditions (forget travel allowances!) are of course out of the question. So yes, Network Rail and the TOCs put (mostly) young temps to act the "cop" by confronting passengers who fail to present tickets. They get minimal training and have no physical protection whatsoever against the obvious risks involved when passengers are drunk, drugged, or merely very pissed off!

In fact if anything needs to be "policed", it's the railway bosses who're



presiding over increasingly dilapidated trains and tracks, which mean accidents are just waiting to happen - like the recent (luckily victimless) derailment near Milton Keynes! □

- **Access stymied for now**

With GBR looming, there's been a surge in open-access (OA) applications from private train operators. But FirstGroup's application to run its Lumo train to Glasgow and launch routes to Rochdale, Paignton and Hereford was rejected, as was Alstom's bid for London to Wrexham services - and, of course, so was Virgin's proposal to return to the West Coast Main Line. Avanti's many delays are symptomatic not just of lack of over-capacity on this line, but also the need for upgrading of absolutely everything... [King's X Workers' Platform 09/07/25]

- **Not so "primo"**

However, "First Worst" has managed to acquire a new OA contract for London to Stirling and London to South Wales... So its terrible record running *Avanti* (i.e., "forward") - which should really be called "Backwards" or *All'indietro* - doesn't count against it? In fact it's rewarded for poor performance? [King's X Workers' Platform 09/07/25]

- **Out with this app!**

We just got another LNER notice that the "Point of Sale" (POS) phone app - or as we now call it, "Probably Outta Service" app - once again can't do its most

important job: connect to the internet! We're advised to close it and reopen it and re-enter our details... This app is supposed to help us make supply orders and get our commission payments, but given its unreliability we'd rather go back to the old, non-tech methods... [King's X Workers' Platform 09/07/25]

- **Shocking hoovers**

Over at Hornsey, us GN cleaners are using hoovers which are so worn out, that they've even got frayed cables! Since we often have to free the wires, we've risked getting our hands slashed more than once. Not to mention the electrocution risk! [King's X Workers' Platform 09/07/25]

**BMW Mini centre (Cowley, Oxford)****Bosses' profits up, on our backs!**

The world car market is fairly stagnant. Total sales in 2024 were only slightly higher than in 2019, and are actually down 11% in Europe, 5% in America and 15% in Japan. China, and to a lesser extent India, are the only major markets that have seen a rise in sales in the past 6 years. At the same time, the average cost of a new car in Britain has risen 129%(!) over the past 15 years, much faster than inflation - to £52,345 - while the average cost of an EV is even higher, at £62,000.

BMW bosses have been complaining about their "low sales volume" for months now. They might have sold 100,000 fewer cars last year than in 2019 - but nonetheless, made over £3 billion more profit - nearly £10bn in total!

So where has this increase in profits come from, if not more sales? From making workers at Cowley (and all their other plants) pay! This year, jobs have been cut, with those who remain, expected to do more work. And the bosses use their "working time account"



system to make us do overtime whenever they like. So intensity of work is up, and to top it off, we got a "0% pay rise" for 2025! The bosses are looking after their own interests, at our expense - it's time we did too, at theirs! □

- **Against BMW's BS!**

How can our mates on the 10pm-6am shift in BiW be threatened with the sack (again!), while being offered to work overtime on Sunday?! Management always claimed these jobs depend on demand for the convertible... But as far as we are concerned, our demand is to make everyone permanent now! [Workers' Fight bulletin BMW Mini Oxford 01/07/25]

- **Playing with numbers?**

Those of us working in Assembly were surprised by the car output displayed

by the screens. The numbers seem too low to be true, and we know when we're overworked. So... have the bosses stopped counting all the cars sent to re-work? Or is there something else that they're trying to hide from us? [Workers' Fight bulletin BMW Mini Oxford 01/07/25]

- **Time we did less**

Despite job cuts and merging processes, some days we're still producing as many Minis as we used to! So the energy we expend has gone up, while our wages haven't. The only solution is to lower targets without loss of pay, share the work, and bring back all our sacked

mates! [Workers' Fight bulletin BMW Mini Oxford 01/07/25]

- **Out with managers!**

We see work has started to put in sensors so that the cars can drive themselves off the line and around the factory. So if mates in Validation are not going to be driving the cars around any more, does that mean managers will expect us to check more cars? Because we don't mind robots taking some of the workload off our backs, our problem is the human managers who want to put other work on! [Workers' Fight bulletin BMW Mini Oxford 01/07/25]



**Mount Pleasant mail centre (London)**
**From our friends in the North**

Whilst others have refused the most "excellent" Order of British Empire - as the mantle rewards thousands of years of brutality (not to mention that Jimmy Savile got one) - we collectively tugged our forelocks when the Communication Workers Union's General Secretary David Ward celebrated his reward for selling out the working class for decades.

This is not the trade unionism we want. We don't need ribbon bedecked leaders and their courtiers telling us that we need to accept change (meaning attacks on our working conditions!) because they know better than us. They only know what they don't tell us for fear of losing what little power they have.

So after months of waiting, we now

know what the commander and his mates have been scheming up in their secret meetings with management: part two of a never ending agreement (they call it "Rebuilding Royal Mail"... ) that requires part three to resolve parts one and two.

In this part two, the recommended 3-year pay deal starts with a real pay cut: 4.2% when RPI inflation rate is currently 4.3%. As for years 2 and 3, they want to use the bosses' preferred inflation index, CPI, which is always below the real increase in prices. And the increase in Voluntary Redundancy package from 9 months to 12 months doesn't cut it!

The rest of this part two non-agreement is made up of promises, and bad ones at that. For instance, they still



want agency workers to be brought-in, but where possible, replace them with... overtime for permanent workers!

As for the attacks on the Universal Service Obligation, sick pay, etc., we're told to wait for the part 3 sequel... Is this how the British Empire got things done? It's no wonder the colonial working classes stood up and defeated the occupiers and bosses. Let's give Commander Dave a reminder of who's in charge, i.e., us. Vote "no" and reject empire's part one, two and three! ☐

**• Pay rise needed now!**

Us cleaners with RM-PFS, have heard nothing about our pay offer! Were union officials so busy concocting their "Destruction of postal workers' conditions part 2" that they couldn't spare a thought for the lowest paid section in RM? We're on £13.15/hr (in London) and the only thing we're told is that there was "some initial tentative discussion with the company" - but apparently so "tentative" that nothing happened! [Workers' Fight Mount Pleasant Mail Centre 09/07/25]

**• Can't do, won't do**

When there are late Distribution arrivals, parcel sorting becomes impossible.

Managers completely changed the bullring area when the Parcel Sorting Monster was installed, saying it would ease the workload... but of course it hasn't! And now they expect us to sort all these parcels manually? Not a chance! [Workers' Fight Mount Pleasant Mail Centre 09/07/25]

**• Fed up with robin already**

This new "Robin" app is getting on our nerves! In order to access it, it asks us to login on the previous "People's" app and get information from there... And after we've done it? Most of us still can't login! The problem is there's nobody who's responsible for access to our records, payslips, pensions, VR applications, etc., anywhere in the Mount any more; nor even

in London! What are we supposed to do? Ask "a friend" to hack the system?

[Workers' Fight Mount Pleasant Mail Centre 09/07/25]

**• Too clean for management!**

Cleaners were expected to "huddle" with management a couple of weeks ago. And other than the petty "don't leave a second too early" crap, we were also warned not to clean the place so well. Yep, apparently we need to cut back on the amount of chemicals and cleaning fluid we use, because it runs out by the weekend... So if things start smelling less than fresh round here, that's the reason! [Workers' Fight Mount Pleasant Mail Centre 09/07/25]

**Ford Dagenham estate (Essex)**
**• Asking for a fight!**

In the Den, despite the arrival of our new temp workmates, we're still working non-stop! We're being asked to do overtime before and after our shifts, and the shortening - by 6 secs! - of the processes hasn't been reversed...! Does this mean we need a stoppage? [Workers' Fight Ford Dagenham 02/07/25]

**• Raiding the winter palace?**

We also wonder why there's absolutely no breeze!... We've heard there's AC hidden somewhere deep in the Den, but wherever it might be, we can't feel it! It certainly doesn't reach us from the managers' office, so why not sit there with our mates until it does? [Workers' Fight Ford Dagenham 02/07/25]

**• A cool machine**

On the Chicken Farm, we welcomed the breakdown which gave us a 30min breather on Monday! Particularly, since we had no heat relief whatsoever...

Machine or worker, we are both bound to overheat! [Workers' Fight Ford Dagenham 02/07/25]

**• Where's our cooling system?!**

If it's hot in DDC, inside DEP it's like working in a sauna... It's hotter inside than outside! So we've all had to bring in iced drinks and electric fan gadgets. But why should we have to equip ourselves with an anti-melt survival kit?

[Workers' Fight Ford Dagenham 02/07/25]

**• It's not the heat... it's the bosses!**

On Panther, when we feel dizzy, we're only "exceptionally" offered to rest in a cooler spot (or go to the glass house) for a few minutes... at "managers' discretion"! That's why - despite supervisors' moans - we kept our pace slow. We all know that LLL and Ford don't care if we faint and our heads hit the floor. [Workers' Fight Ford Dagenham 02/07/25]


**• Loco Logistics Logic!**

Why on earth were the shutters of the lorry bays down?! They're open all year long - even during winter, letting the freezing air through! So is this all about baking us properly?! We can only turn off the engines and stay away from the heat! [Workers' Fight Ford Dagenham 02/07/25]

**• Pay cut by at least -2%!**

Lineside workers' pay "enhancement" kicked-in on July 1st - a miserable 2.5% for this year. This, when the latest RPI inflation rate is 4.3% and when food and housing prices have gone up by a lot more (food +20%)! It's a real pay cut! [Workers' Fight Ford Dagenham 02/07/25]

## Europe

## NATO's Summit: defence... of the arms merchants' profits!

At the latest NATO summit, Mark Rutte, the NATO Secretary General, repeated the US demand that each member state increases military spending to 5% of GDP. This was followed by a statement that *"Europe is going to pay in a BIG way, as they should, and it will be [Trump's] win"*. As most European heads of state quickly agreed to Washington's demand, the Summit was *"extremely short"*. Their agreement would increase each country's military spending by hundreds of billions, with Britain, for example, needing to find about £30 billion more, pushing its defence budget over £100 billion by 2035.

### ***It's not to please "Daddy", but BAE systems***

Of course, NATO member countries are not rearming or preparing for future wars just to please Trump, despite Rutte's obsequious flattery of the US president. Nor is this rearmament drive about defending Europe, or supporting any country's *"right to self-defence"* or *"self-determination"*. This is simply imperialism in action.

Let's not forget that NATO is the military alliance of western European countries under US command, which, in 1949, aimed to prepare for war against the Soviet Union. Today, it supports US global military, industrial, and political interests throughout Europe and beyond. As such, the US focus during the Summit on weapon



Lockheed Martin's F-35Bs on the HMS Prince of Wales

"interoperability" was a euphemism for pressuring NATO member states to buy US weapons and accept US-led military training. It was the US defence industry, such as Lockheed Martin and Raytheon, that benefited the most from the Summit, with multiple countries ordering over 440 Lockheed Martin aircraft, resulting in a nearly £26 billion bill.

### ***... with the "public" asked to pay the bill!***

In fact, it is large corporations that are worried that being excluded from these discussions could stop them from receiving military orders, accessing raw materials or fertile farmland, or participating in rebuilding war-torn countries. So

far, Thales in Belfast has already received a £1.6 billion order from the MOD for 5,000 air-defence missiles, tripling its capacity. By May 2025, 51 British defence firms had already visited Kyiv, securing industrial projects and advanced military exports.

The fact is that this insane spending can only be achieved by more austerity, by increasing cuts in public expenditure, or by squeezing more "productivity" out of workers' labour. Politicians share the same objective, i.e., increasing the burden of military spending on the back of the working class. Workers, on the other hand, since we are the target of the cuts to fund it, have the power to stop it.

### **Jeff Bezos gets married: bride, groom, guests and 90 private jets delivered to Venice...**

Jeff Bezos, billionaire and founder of Amazon, chose Venice as the setting for his lavish wedding. From 26-28 June, 200 guests took part in a three-day

celebration costing an estimated £42 million. They arrived on super-yachts and in private jets - Hollywood elites, billionaires, and Ivanka Trump and the favourite Brit establishment goosinger, Elton John, among them - ready to impose themselves on one of the world's most architecturally fragile, ancient cities.

Local politicians, such as Luca Zaia, the far-right president of the Veneto region, welcomed Bezos, claiming the event brings "visibility" to a city already struggling with too many tourists. And with 8 mega-yachts clogging the Venetian lagoon and nearly 90 private planes flying in guests, this event could go down as one of the most ecologically destructive weddings ever. To avoid bad publicity, Bezos left his 127-metre

sailboat, Koru, and the Abeona, his support yacht, behind... And he even made a £730 million donation to a lagoon research centre - as if that compensates for the carbon emissions and disruption caused.

As many local protesters pointed out, this obscene display of wealth is financed by a system built on Amazon's super-exploitation of workers. Behind the scenes are 1.5 million warehouse workers and drivers, enduring lousy conditions on miserable wages, whose labour fuels the empire that enabled Bezos to organise a wedding which cost more than the budget of a small country... Even some of the guests were embarrassed. Actor Leonardo DiCaprio wore a large black baseball cap to hide his face...

### ***"No space for Bezos!" say protesters...***





## Europe

# Strikes in the car industry across the Channel!

*The following are translations of an article that appeared in the weekly newspaper of Lutte Ouvrière (No 2969) and an article that appeared in the LO website. It refers to strikes at the MCA Renault plant in Maubeuge which produces the Kooga and an electric model (2,200 workers, Northern France) and the Forvia factory which produces seats for Stellantis (nearly 300 workers, Eastern France). Forvia also provides seats for the Mini Cooper production at the BMW plant in Cowley.*

### A strike does you good!

On 20 June, at the MCA Renault plant in Maubeuge in the North, where 2,200 workers produce the Renault Kangoo and the new electric 4L, the unions CGT and

SUD called a strike against management's plan to cut wages. Permanent workers went on strike, as well as temporary agency workers.

During the morning shift, the production line stopped for more than three hours, and in the afternoon, management had to send workers who weren't on strike back home, since production was at a standstill. The workers particularly wanted to show their opposition to management's plan to reduce the pay for the night shift and overtime hours. Many workers said "No way are we going to work more to earn less"!

Indeed, in every area, the workload is increasing. In assembly, where most of the 600 temps work, everything has to be produced at full speed under conditions of permanent under-manning. A mandatory 15-minute overtime is almost a daily occurrence. Nearly every Saturday work is compulsory for those on the morning shift. Under these conditions, it's hardly surprising that several thousand defective cars are stockpiled in the parking lots awaiting rework! Management has even created a night shift team and a Saturday-Sunday team for reworks!

Added to this are a series of measures introduced by the new top manager, which make us angry: the termination of bus transport to work, deemed not profitable enough; a ban on smoking or using the phone anywhere on the estate, even outside the building; a ban on wearing one's own T-shirt; the removal of break areas and benches to sit on; not enough

water bottles handed out while the heat in the workshops is unbearable...

The success of the walkout was noticed by everyone, and those who took part were proud of it! A first step that calls for more to come!

### Forvia strikers win pay rise!

On 12 June, at the Forvia Siedoubs factory in Allenjoie (Eastern France), where seats are produced for Stellantis, the CGT union called a strike on the last day of pay negotiations. We strikers gathered on the premises, around a barbecue and played some music.

And management called in the bailiffs... who, after their inspection, left disappointed - thanks to the determination of the strikers who had brought a large part of the plant's production to a halt.

By that evening, the bosses had given in. The 150 striking workers (around half of the workforce) had won a 6.1% pay increase backdated to January (i.e., between £135 and £165 increase in our monthly pay), a non-consolidated lump sum of £2,250, an additional £22 on their holiday allowance now amounting to £1,580 (an allowance towards holiday costs), and payment of their strike hours!

With smiles, heads held high, and the satisfaction of not having fought in vain, everyone returned to the plant. It just goes to show that in the heat of action, unity makes us stronger - and makes good barbecues as well! ☐

## Class Struggle n° 124

Spring-Summer 2025

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## "La Fête de Lutte Ouvrière"

The "Fête de Lutte Ouvrière" is the annual internationalist working class festival organised by our sister (and mother!) group - the French Trotskyist Lutte Ouvrière (Worker's Struggle). It's held in the beautiful forested grounds of an old stately home, in Presles, a village in the Val-d'Oise region just north of Paris, during the Pentecost long weekend in the Spring.

The idea is to give everyone "a little taste of socialism" with delicious food, fun, great music, wonderful movies, theatre, comedy, scientific experiments and presentations on the history and struggles of our class, on the fightbacks and the strikes, etc., etc! There's a "city of novels"; and books galore!

There's even an arboretum and a canopy zip line to fly through the treetops, way above the ground... And there are lots of things for kids to do, with a crèche to take care of the youngest.

Of course, there is much political debate and different Communist/Trotskyist/syndicalist organisations can introduce and share their ideas - and their differences - in a friendly and open atmosphere.

Groups affiliated to, or in a fraternal relationship with Lutte Ouvrière come

from all over the world; from elsewhere in Europe, from Britain, the USA, the Far East, Africa, the Caribbean and even Haiti, where a group of comrades still manage to continue their political activity, despite the danger.

So, we hope to see you there next year!



Picture by Serge d'Ignazio

## Haiti and Africa

## Kenya: one year later - workers and youth protest again...

On 25 June, Kenyans marked the one year anniversary of anti-government protests with nationwide demonstrations. In 2024, a violent police crackdown left at least 60 dead, dozens abducted or "disappeared" by security forces, and hundreds more injured. This year, protesters again faced state brutality, with police using live bullets, tear gas, water cannon and batons, resulting in at least 16 deaths and over 400 injuries.

## Fighting the finance bills - and the cops

Last year's protests had been triggered by President Ruto's Finance Bill, which proposed increased taxes on basic foods and essentials. On June 25, 2024, mainly young protesters stormed and occupied the parliament building. Although Ruto was forced to withdraw the bill, the cost of living continues to rise - and so does unemployment.

This June, parliament passed the 2025 Finance Bill. Ministers avoided overt hikes in VAT this time, hoping to avoid a social reaction. But prices are still going up and popular anger against the government has, if anything, been escalating. Protests are set to continue, despite and because of the state's murder of demonstrators.

In the past months, the government has been trying to suppress all political opposition. On 2 June, for instance,



software developer Rose Njeri was arrested for creating a tool to help people oppose the government's annual finance bill. Police raided her home in the capital, Nairobi, and seized all electronic devices. Days later, Albert Ojwang, a young blogger was beaten to death in custody after criticising a senior officer.

## "El Chapo" serves his western masters well

President Ruto is said to be modelling himself on Trump. Certainly he has been trying to serve US interests, by suppressing domestic discontent and carrying on "security operations" abroad - such as in Somalia and South Sudan. Last year, hundreds of police

officers were deployed to Haiti as part of a "peacekeeping mission" to "combat armed gangs". In exchange, the US gave Kenya over \$250 million in military aid, equipment and logistical support...

For the time being Ruto remains in power - despite his unpopularity - he is known as the man of many nicknames: El Chapo, Kasongo, Hustler, Deputy Jesus and Chicken Seller... However the widely-circulated video showing Donald Trump asking Ruto to resign turned out to be an AI-generated fake... And why indeed would Trump want this loyal servant of imperialism to resign? What Kenyan workers want is not just his resignation, but the overthrow of the state and the system which he represents. □

## Ordinary Haitians fight back against the rule of the gangs

*This article was published in the May newspaper of our Caribbean sister organisation "Combat Ouvrier"*

On Tuesday, 13 May, protesters forced the shutdown of the hydroelectric power plant that supplies the entire Port-au-Prince region and the Centre department with power.

The director of Haiti's electricity company denounced this as sabotage. The organisers responded in kind, stating: "We decided to shut down the plant because the government has abandoned these cities to

criminal gangs. The authorities refuse to deploy the necessary force to drive out the bandits and restore peace. As long as this situation continues, the power plant will remain closed".

## Leaving isn't an option

Organised gangs, murderers and kidnappers are attacking the population. Raids in working-class neighbourhoods have led to more than 2m internally displaced persons, according to figures from non-governmental organisations. Residents are being driven out by violent criminal gangs who take everything they find and then set fire to the houses. They set up armed posts in the rubble to fight off any police who might come.

Most of the displaced victims have found refuge in public buildings, on vacant lots hastily converted into shelters, or on the pavements. Many try to leave the country. But those who've managed to cross into the Dominican Republic are sent back after suffering violence at the hands of the guards and ostracism from part of the population.

## Spiralling living costs

As for the workers in the few factories that are still open, their wages have been frozen for 3 years. Today, with the devaluation of the currency the daily wage is equivalent

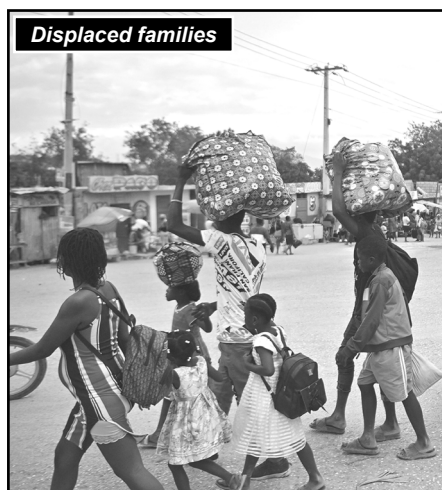
to £2.85. With that, a worker cannot even buy a plate of rice and sauce in front of the factory; it's the price of the round trip to work. So, to bring home a few pennies, they walk to work and skip lunch.

At the same time, the prices of everyday consumer goods, public transport and rent have doubled or tripled. Workers are demanding that the authorities increase wages to take account of this inflation. Obviously, this isn't a priority for the Transitional Presidential Council, whose members are competing to take over the management of the state and help themselves to public finances.

## "Bwa kale"

Their intervention against insecurity is a fiasco. The Haitian police are overwhelmed and under-armed compared to the gangs. As for the "multinational security mission" led by Kenya, its deployment has remained localised to the airport area. During the first 3 months of 2025, more than 1,600 people were killed, according to the UN.

Fed up with gang violence, ordinary workers and poor are resisting. They are waiting for the right moment, an opportunity that will allow them to take action - "bwa kalé" as they call it. They are trying to regroup their forces and build their own organisation. They know they can only rely on themselves. □





## India-Pakistan

# Kashmir and North Pakistan: India's and Pakistan's militarised rule

Modi's government is still refusing to sign a "peace deal" with Pakistan over Kashmir. Of course, this conflict is as old as Partition and it's not going to be resolved until all the borders in this part of the world disappear (and disappear everywhere else, for that matter!).

So Trump's proclaimed peace accord was always going to be a non-starter. And inviting the head of the Pakistani army to the White House shortly after Modi had his own private audience with King Donald, was merely part of the Trump show. Obviously it could not have brought the people of Kashmir - who are under the Indian army's boot - any respite and neither was it intended to do so.

### Modi's blame game

In fact Modi continues to lay the blame for April's terror attack in Kashmir's touristic Pahalgam on "Pakistan", since 2 of the 3 militants identified are Pakistani nationals and are said to belong to the proscribed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) - proscribed also in Pakistan!

But even if Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) or the Baloch Liberation Army had been responsible, all these groups "hit"

more Pakistani targets than any other. Pakistan has seen a 51% increase in terrorist attacks in 2024 - a total of 521. It is more sinned against than sinner.

So for instance on 28 June, Hafiz Gul Bahadur (a faction of the TTP), drove an explosive vehicle into a Pakistan army convoy - killing 16 soldiers and injuring 14 civilians - in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (North Pakistan).

### Troops out!

India-administrated Jammu and Kashmir and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, have many things in common - starting with an

ongoing military occupation. Kashmir has 700,000 Indian Army troops on the ground (36 per thousand inhabitants), with 40,000 more soldiers dispatched after the Pahalgam attack. As for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, there are 1,000 army forts along the border with Afghanistan, with 200,000 Pakistani army troops (40 per thousand inhabitants).

What feeds the insurgencies in both cases is the combination of extreme poverty and repression. And given the current aggravation of the economic crisis it's unlikely that this dire situation will improve any time soon.



Indian soldiers patrol the streets of Srinagar, Kashmir

## Remembering India's first "official" dictatorship

This June, it was 50 years since the then much-feted Congress Party Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, declared a State of Emergency, opening up a two-year period of authoritarian dictatorship. Elections were suspended along with all constitutional rights and there were widespread arrests of opposition activists and a clamp-down on the press.

### Forced sterilisation

The poor in northern India remember the Emergency as "*Nasbandi ka waqt*", the time of sterilisation. In fact 11 million men and women were sterilised, more or less forcibly. Sometimes there were incentives, like cash, or a radio. But in many cases they were just herded into trucks and taken to sterilisation centres where the procedure was often carried out without anaesthesia.

The program of sterilisation had long been pushed by Ford Foundation, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund as a way to cut population growth. But during the Emergency, it was for the first time implemented using coercive state powers, with local administrations taking the lead.

### The radical 1960s

Gandhi's "coup d'état" in June 1975 was her reaction to a decade of social and political mobilisation across the country. Radicalism on the streets had been the order of the day from the mid-1960s onward.

Communist governments (linked to

Stalinist and Maoist organisations) were formed in West Bengal and Kerala. Student protests in Gujarat and Bihar had brought down Congress governments. The populist Jaya Prakash Narayan led a movement calling for "*total revolution*", which swept across many cities.

### Railway workers' challenge

The most radical moment of those years was the three-week long railway strike of two million workers which brought the country to a halt in May 1974.

A worker interviewed in a government propaganda film (despite itself!) outlined the necessity of the strike in these words: "*We are dying without eating and drinking, we will die with striking also. On the 8th, there will be the strike, it will necessarily happen. This is the truth. Whether we live or we are shot down...*"

At the time Mrs Gandhi responded with massive repression against the working class. The army and police were sent into railway workers' colonies to beat workers back to work. But over the next couple of years, the government conceded on the major demands: payment of an annual bonus, higher wages and shorter working hours.

### Like mother, like son

Recent historical writings on the period reveal that Indira Gandhi's son, Sanjay Gandhi, who regarded the dictator of Philippines,

Ferdinand Marcos, as a role model, had even greater authoritarian ambitions.

Despite not holding any official position in the state apparatus, he attempted to capture the state by using his own circle of political supporters and succeeded to some extent in dominating the state bureaucracy and setting up a parallel power structure. And he did all this from his mother's official state residence!

### A blueprint for Modi's BJP

The rise of today's BJP can also be traced back to the 1970s. Its cadre-based forerunner, Rashtriya Swyam Sevak Sangh (National volunteer corps) or RSS, a far-right paramilitary organisation with cells across the country, emerged as one of the most organised political forces. Because of the social turmoil, it found some legitimacy, and in fact, it became politically significant enough for the Communist Party of India (Marxist) to decide to work in coalition with it!

It was in the government formed just after the Emergency (by a number of non-Congress parties), that RSS men found themselves in power for the first time. In other words, the decade-long crises of Congress politics paved the way for a gradual slide towards Hindutva (the promotion of extreme Hindu-nationalism) from the 1980s onwards.

In that sense, India's "first dictatorship", was hardly a brief moment in the long history of world's largest so-called "democracy". In fact, it marked the turn towards a virulent variety of religious authoritarianism.

## Gaza: starving Palestinians shot, bombed... cleared out?

Only two US-sponsored "aid" centres remain in Gaza, but by now the population knows that to try to collect food there means risking your life. As for the "ceasefire", at the time of writing this is not yet agreed, but the conditions include an initial prison camp to be set up on the ruins of Rafah and mass "voluntary" expulsion. And then what? Occupation by Orthodox settlers under Israeli military (IDF) protection?

By now (10 July) over 750 Palestinians have been killed and thousands wounded since the closure of UN and voluntary aid distribution points, and their substitution with the US-funded "Gaza Humanitarian Foundation" "aid" centres inside Israeli militarised zones. GHF is a shady organisation led by an evangelical political advisor to Trump and ally of Netanyahu. Around these sites, private security contractors - i.e., mercenaries - join IDF soldiers in using starving Palestinians for target practice.

Soldiers told the politically liberal Israeli daily, *Haaretz*, that they were ordered to fire at the unarmed and hungry crowds. One explained how they "open fire early in the morning if someone tries to get in line from a few hundred metres away", then "once the centre opens, the shooting stops, and they know they can approach - our form of communication [i.e., "crowd control"] is gunfire".

### Are words worse than bullets?

Netanyahu and defence minister Katz then accused *Haaretz* of "blood libel". The military operation at these sites is known as "Operation Salted Fish" - the Israeli version of the children's game "red light, green light" - a sadistic joke at the



Palestinians carry aid unloaded from a World Food Program convoy in Gaza City, 16 June

expense of the chronically malnourished people of Gaza.

It's in this context that Starmer condemned as "appalling hate speech" the "Death to the IDF" chant at the Glastonbury festival, claiming this "crossed a line". As for Netanyahu's orders to shoot and kill starving Gazans and the harassment and murder of Palestinians in the occupied West bank, that isn't crossing a line...

### The crimes of British forces

Then again, Starmer presides over a state which has always covered up atrocities committed by its own forces

- whether in Afghanistan, Ireland or the former colonies. Ex-Special Air Service officers who served in Afghanistan told the BBC's Panorama in an episode broadcast this May, how "they'd search someone, handcuff them, then shoot them" - including children.

Indeed, Netanyahu, Starmer, Trump - and the other "democratically elected" world leaders are there to defend a brutal imperialist system against anyone who dares to resist. They deliberately terrorise civilians hoping that it will scare them out of contemplating a revolt. Because that's what they fear, above all else. ☐

## Israel's Vietnam Syndrome: killing others also kills you - even if you aren't yet dead

Below are excerpts from Israeli daily, "Haaretz", which recently interviewed IDF conscripts; all Israelis over 18 years must do 32-36 months of compulsory military service. Almost two years into this slaughter and destruction, these quotes speak for themselves of rock-bottom morale among the often unwilling perpetrators.

"(...) now they're forcing us to do another four months of reserve duty. No one asks if we want to or if we even can. 'There's nothing we can do - we're short on soldiers,' the officers say. And if anyone complains, they threaten him with

*jaail - call him a traitor, a coward. So most of us stay quiet. Sometimes we cry to our moms on the phone, or to a friend we feel safe with. But even that doesn't always help. It's just shit. I've had enough. I can't do it any more.*

*"I can't go on another mission. I can't go back to the same areas we've already been through a million times, investigate another tunnel shaft, enter another building that might be booby-trapped. And for what? Anyone with half a brain can see this war is continuing for political reasons..."*

*"When will you understand that it's*

*time to end this? When there are 900 dead? A thousand? Please - stop.' Speak out. Protest. Don't let all this death keep going".*

*"Even the commanders don't know how to explain it any more, how to convince us to keep at it. Except for the religious guys, no one understands what we're doing. No one believes we're helping to bring the hostages home. If anything, we're putting them in more danger.*

*"They taught us how to charge, how to fix a jammed weapon. No one taught me what to do after you taste your best friend's blood".*

In addition to this monthly paper, we publish fortnightly bulletins in several large workplaces in the South East, a quarterly journal, "Class Struggle" and the "Internationalist Communist Forums" - a series of pamphlets on topical issues.

If you wish to find out more about our ideas, activities and publications, contact the Workers' Fight activist who sold you this issue of our paper, or write to us either by e-mail, at [contact@w-fight.org](mailto:contact@w-fight.org), or by postal mail at:

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