



The Spark



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Urgent call for the Egyptian masses to unite

United States imperialism is trying their best to divide the masses, to make worker kill worker as they did in Iraq when the masses were united against the military invasion. US imperialism would even plant people within the 'pro-Morsi' and 'anti-Morsi' groups to shoot on opposing factions to divert the masses from fighting against the military regime. We should not allow US imperialism to divide us.

What were the masses demanding on the 30th June 2013?

The masses were demanding jobs, an end to high prices, justice for all those killed by the old Mubarak regime; in a sense the masses were demanding an end to the entire capitalist regime, not only the figurehead of Morsi. Indeed, ordinary Muslim Brotherhood supporters formed part of the crowds making these demands. Imperialism sent their forces to try and infiltrate the protests and to divert them away from a fight against the regime to a fight within the capitalist system, trying to limit the fight to one of removing Morsi but replacing him with another capitalist figure. Each day, for the next 4 days, the numbers in the streets grew up to 17 million; many workers had gone on strike joining, in fact, spearheading the revolutionary upsurge.

In order to pre-empt a total takeover by the revolutionary masses, the military launched a pre-emptive coup, suspending even the limited Constitution, dissolving the parliaments, arresting Morsi and many of the Muslim Brotherhood leaders and supporters, shooting down more than 100 protestors in the process. There has been several decades of bourgeois propaganda claiming that the military is progressive and 'above politics', a lie unfortunately supported directly or indirectly by many on the left (including the Revolutionary Socialists of Egypt- part of the International Socialists group around the Socialist Workers Party, SWP, of Britain).

Who controls the Egyptian military?

US imperialism gives over \$1bn every year to the Egyptian military. The generals and top officers are all trained in US military academies. The generals control at least 20% of Egyptian industry. In the time of Mubarak, the real power behind him was the military. The real power controlling the generals is US imperialism. The pre-emptive coup against Morsi was planned by US imperialism. Every move of the military is planned by US imperialism. Even after the coup, bypassing even their own Constitution, US imperialism decided to send another billion dollars to the Egyptian generals.

A Constituent Assembly?

On the 25th Jan 2011, it was the military who forced Mubarak to stand down to pre-empt the masses taking power themselves. On the 3rd July 2013, the military forces Morsi to step down to prevent the masses taking power. The Constitutional Assembly that wrote the Constitution and opened the path for the election of Morsi, was dictated by the generals. General Sisi, who is the coup figurehead, disbanded the Morsi government and appointed an interim govt, of which he is still the Minister of Defence and head of the army.



The Revolutionary Socialists in their 3rd July 2013 statement make as a minimum condition for the masses *'Morsi's departure and early presidential elections'*. In other words, they have no problem with the coup Generals staying on in their posts nor even do they have a problem with the capitalist election system imposed by the generals. The Revolutionary Socialists go further in that they call for a Constituent Assembly. Thus, they create the illusion that the interim government, placed there by US imperialism and the military, will be able to draw up a Constitution that will act against the generals and the capitalists. How can the capitalist generals be in charge of convening an Assembly that will act against the capitalists and the generals? This is like asking the gangster, Al Capone, to lead the campaign against gangsterism.

The decades of Mubarak and the 30 months of Morsi shows that the capitalists will never allow an Assembly to convene that will act against them. ***Who will convene the Constituent Assembly?- this question is fundamental.*** It can only be convened by a revolutionary workers' government which is based on committees of workers and rank and file soldiers, who have no vested interests in maintaining the exploitative system of capitalism. The generals, the National Salvation Front, the Muslim Brotherhood, El Baradei all have vested interests in limiting the Constituent Assembly.

In other words, the only way to guarantee that a Constituent Assembly sits without restrictions, is for the masses to take power in their own hands, based on their own committees, subject to instant recall and without privileges. But immediately the question would arise as to whether the Constituent Assembly is needed and even if it can go as far as the workers government which was based on committees of workers. Elections to Constituent Assembly would include delegates from the capitalists- they will fight for their privileges. The limits of the Constituent Assembly would be seen by all the masses. That the capitalists and the generals will also be in the Constituent Assembly is shown by the second demand of the Revolutionary Socialists for the *'Election of a Constituent Assembly, representing all sections of the people...'*

The RCIT (Revolutionary Communist International Tendency) place the struggle of the masses within capitalist limits by saying that the central slogan should be for a Constituent Assembly with proportional representation- in other words, they too believe that the capitalists should be present and represented in it. For us the central slogan is for a workers government not a Constituent Assembly. The bourgeois position of the RCIT is further exposed when they say that the role of the 'provisional revolutionary government' is to make sure that *'the delegates of the Constituent Assembly are controllable and can be replaced if they do not implement what their electoral base wanted them to do.'* So for the RCIT, the role of the revolutionary govt is to safeguard the Assembly which includes the capitalist representatives, ie the revolutionary govt must limit itself to protect a bourgeois parliament, which is what the Constituent Assembly is.

If the question of a Constituent Assembly comes up, the task of the revolutionary government is to show the limits of it, to expose it and disband it. The revolutionary workers' government based on grassroots committees will be a million times more democratic than the best Constituent Assembly where the capitalists and their parties sit.



The way forward

It is pointless crying about lack of revolutionary organization; the masses do not wait for the party. What is the programme to unite the masses against the imperialist-backed military regime? This is the basis for the revolutionary party to be built.

- The revolutionary Socialists say that the first demand should be for 'social justice' for the poor. The military is getting \$10 bn in loans to give the appearance of 'justice' just so that they can stay in control. The masses are demanding food, jobs, and end to high prices. Social and economic justice can only be achieved if those who have been stealing during the Mubarak era and the Morsi era, are expropriated. **Thus the first demand must be for the entire capitalist class, including the generals and the assets of the Israeli companies, to be expropriated including the large capitalist commercial farmers, without compensation, and these entities and banks centralised and run under workers control;** This means that councils of workers delegates from all industry and workplaces, irrespective of party affiliation, should be set up to spearhead this fight and implement this demand. These workers councils should be extended to the working class communities and thus also include delegates from the unemployed; What will El Baradei, the National Salvation Front and Morsi say about this demand to expropriate all the capitalists? We think they will side with the generals against the masses;
- For the nationalization of the land; assistance to the small farmers through cheap credit and modern equipment and training;
- The capitalist generals are likely to defend their privileges and thus it is important to win over the rank and file soldier to the side of the masses; thus we call for the councils of workers delegates to include delegates from rank and file soldiers; these workers and soldier councils should establish armed self-defence committees;
- The workers and soldiers committees should set up its own provisional revolutionary government
- Demands should be raised for the immediate freeing of all prisoners of the military, including Morsi- the masses will decide on their own justice through their own structures; the military wants to start with Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood but wants to extend this to crack down on all the masses who are opposing the regime.
- For freedom of movement, the right to protest, freedom of expression; lift all the restrictions of the military regime on the Muslim Brotherhood, the trade unions and other organizations;
- For Workers tribunals to try all those associated with the crimes of the Mubarak regime against the masses;
- Tear down the Rafah border, open all the tunnels, close the gas pipes to Israel;
- For international workers solidarity in support of the masses struggle against the military regime in Egypt and against US imperialism

The above forms a basis for the setting up of a revolutionary working class party that is needed to unite the fighters in Egypt against the regime; the struggle for workers power in Egypt is part of the struggle in the region and internationally against world capitalism-imperialism.



Down with the interim government appointed by the generals; Down with the SCAF (Supreme Council of the Armed Forces); Forward to a workers' government based on grassroots committees of delegates of workers and rank and file soldiers.

24.7.2013 **Workers International Vanguard Party** workersinternational@gmail.com



Syria- the struggle continues against the imperialist puppet Assad

Over the past 2 years more than 100 000 of the Syrian masses have been massacred by the Assad regime. Yet despite this, the masses, largely unarmed, continue to resist. The revolt against the Assad regime is the same as the revolt across the world against all capitalist regimes, be it in Brazil, Turkey, Egypt, Greece and elsewhere, it is the masses against the capitalist regimes. It is not some sort of 'Arab Spring'- to say this is to separate the masses from the rest of the world working class and limit these revolts as if they are for 'democracy' rather than revolts against the capitalist system itself.

Most of the world's 'left' have tail-ended the Syrian Communist parties by declaring that Assad is not a dictator and is some sort of anti-imperialist figure. We present just some of the facts to show that the Assad regime is in fact a puppet of imperialism:

- The report on torture shows that Syria was a favourite destination for the CIA for torturing activists who they had kidnapped from around the globe;
- Until at least the middle of 2012 Shell and Total supplied (and still do) diesel and jet fuel to the Assad regime; if imperialism wanted to, they could have cut off the fuel supply which would have brought the tanks and jets of Assad to a standstill. [Syria does not have the refining capacity and thus has to import most of its refined oil
- The Syrian oil company and banks all have partnerships with imperialist capitalist companies

When the revolt against Assad started there was no Free Syrian Army (FSA); the masses created their own grassroots committees; only when mass defections from the Syrian army started to take place did some of Assad's officers go over and create the Free Syrian army. The creation of this specialist army was encouraged by imperialism to keep arms away from the masses. We cannot blame any of the masses who joined the FSA because they thought here was at least an opportunity to get weapons to fight Assad. Unless the masses dal



with the FSA leadership it is likely that their struggle will continue to be betrayed from within. These commanders may even be giving away the positions of the fighters to the Assad regime.

Qatar and US imperialism gave some pea shooters to the FSA only as a publicity stunt as if they are standing up to a dictator. Hezbollah and Iranian fighters have joined the Assad regime to help kill off the resistance. They know that if the masses overthrow Assad, the masses may deal with them next.

Imperialism has also sent Al Nusrah and Taliban forces to infiltrate the resistance- this is to help weaken the unity of the masses and try to divert the struggle into ethnic/religious grounds.

We salute the Palestinian and other internationalist forces that have supported the resistance against the Assad regime.

Even though there are talks of a settlement between the FSA, SNC (Syrian National Council) and the Assad regime, they all fear the independent militias. The FSA, SNC and Assad are all on the same side as imperialism and the world's 'left' against the masses.

We call for the fighters to break with the FSA , soldiers, break with the Assad army, strengthen the independent grassroots committees and their associated militias.

The central demand must be the expropriation of all the capitalist and imperialist assets in Syria, without compensation to the capitalists, under workers control- this is the way to get bread, work and freedom. Then all the fake forces that claim to support the Syrian masses but also support the Assad regime, will be exposed. Forward to a revolutionary working class party in Syria as part of a revolutionary International. Workers' power in Syria leads to reclaiming of the Golan Heights and assists in the struggle against the Zionist terror regime.





Down with the pre-emptive military coup in Egypt

We salute the magnificent demonstrations in Egypt from 30 June to 2 July calling for the overthrow of the Morsi regime. But we condemn the military for usurping and hijacking the revolution. We condemn the killings by the military of the supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood who are standing up against the military regime. Imperialism has managed to divide the Egyptian masses; we need to re-unite them and this can only be done on a basis of exposing the military regime and a united fight against it.

The 17 million strong demonstration, one of the biggest ever in world history, shows that even though it was large, it did not prevent the aspirations of the masses being hijacked by the imperialists. Since Morsi took over there have been over 9000 protests. Food prices went up, unemployment went up, indeed the same social and economic conditions that existed under Mubarak was being sustained and promoted by Morsi, in line with the dictates of US imperialism. The fact that the masses took to the streets means that they have broken from parliamentarism. What is necessary now is for the masses to set up committees in every workplace, in every working class district, uniting with delegates from rank and file soldiers, electing councils of delegates which is the base of a workers' government. All delegates should be subject to instant recall and have no privileges, receiving at most the wage of an average skilled worker. This is the task while at the same time preparing to disperse the military regime that is trying to usurp the power, with the imperialist agencies even calling for a Pinochet-type military coup regime.

At this time, while the masses are in the streets, it would be creating dangerous illusions to call for a Constituent Assembly as the whole struggle would now be diverted once more into the path of bourgeois elections, although with red colours but essentially the line of the imperialists, who are now calling for elections next February.

Imperialism has planted as the enemy with the mass movement, the National Salvation Front of El Baradei. Both the Muslim Brotherhood and the National Salvation Front are happy that the masses are divided- this assists capitalist rule and helps divert the masses from struggle to overthrow the military regime. We condemn the coup as it suppresses even the limited bourgeois democratic gains that we won so far. An important lesson to be learnt from the transition from Mubarak to Morsi is that the grinding poverty and suffering of the masses is the result of the capitalist system and that the domination of imperialism, in this case US imperialism, is what is the main agency enforcing the suffering of the masses. The military receives billions of US dollars every year, the leadership have been trained in the US military schools; they receive instructions from US imperialism. In fact the voice of the Military (Supreme council of the Armed Forces, SCAF) and El Baradei are directly the voices of US imperialism.

In the past period, the police and tried to regain support by marching with the masses- they should be evicted from the mass demonstrations- they were the ones killing the activists during the last days of the fight against Mubarak.



The central slogan for the moment should be for committees, irrespective of party affiliation, to be set up in all workplaces and for councils of workers and rank and file soldiers delegates as the core of a workers government: All power to the working class.

By the military assuming the role of ousting Morsi, they are attempting to usurp the revolution of the masses. The task of the masses was not only to oust Morsi but to disperse the military regime. The military ousts Morsi to keep the same repressive regime intact. It was the military that dictated the limits of the Constitution that Morsi was carrying out. The powers exercised by Morsi were exactly what the military granted him.

A Constituent Assembly?

Some of the left like the RCIT are calling for a Constituent Assembly. But the central question is: who will convene it? The military? They have shown that they will do everything to water down and constrain any Constituent Assembly. The only force that can convene it without restrictions, is the working class in power, a workers government, but for this to happen, the military regime has to be overthrown. The 17 million in the streets are not demanding a Constituent Assembly; in a sense, the fact they are there, means they have moved beyond capitalist parliament. Why should we hold the masses back, take them back to bourgeois parliament? The imperialist only hope is to offer a sham Assembly, maybe with some more concessions, but only enough to keep the system intact. The other option, if they can get away with it, is to divert the masses struggle into inter-group fighting and in this case try to wipe out a generation of fighters- but the masses are not defeated, they are on the march, the capitalists are on the defensive, why should we help them get out of their corner?

We condemn also the 'Revolutionary Socialists', who just as they did just before Mubarak was overthrown, create illusions in the military, as if it is some sort of class neutral entity. The base of the military should be split from the generals.

It is clear we need a revolutionary working class party, but the precondition is a revolutionary programme. This leaflet is our contribution towards the programme in Egypt. If the working class takes power in Egypt, this will mark a giant historical step forward for the struggle for world Socialism. Let us define the programme around which the world revolutionary party is to be constructed.

The way Forward

The revolution is at a cross roads: either to step forward and break from parliamentarism completely or allow a step back by allowing the military to usurp the struggle of the masses and launch a counter-revolution. It is interesting to note that both the Assad and Saudi regimes that support the coup by the Egyptian military. But then, what else can be expected from imperialist puppet regimes?

From occupying the streets, now it is time to occupy and take over the factories and commercial farms.



Tahrir Square has inspired the Occupy Wall street movement, it can now be a beacon for the US and world masses again. We call on the masses in the US to also launch a political mass action campaign against the White House.

The military had to pose as being the most democratic in order to usurp the revolution- they need to be exposed and their grip broken:

Some more demands

- Arrest the generals who ordered the killing of activists in the Mubarak era and who were involved in the CIA rendition and torture programme, disband the army, arm the masses
- Open the border with Gaza, tear down the border gates
- Cut the gas to Israel
- Expel all US troops and advisors from Egypt
- Lower the food and fuel prices, expropriate all the capitalist and imperialist assets, without compensation to the capitalists, place them under workers control
- Forward to a workers government.

8.7.2013

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As we called for defence of Mandela against the apartheid regime even though we knew he was a sellout, similarly, we call for defence of Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood against the military regime, even though we do not politically support any of their policies



Cancel the joint military exercises of the SA and US military

From the 24th July 2013 the SA and US military are due to have joint exercises simulating war. This is an affront to everything that the masses have fought for. Clause 200 (2) of the Constitution states:

'The primary object of the defence force is to defend and protect the Republic, its territorial integrity and its people in accordance with the Constitution and the principles of international law regulating the use of force'

The crimes of the US military and its abuse of even the minimalist 'international law' are legion. We mention but a few:

- In 2003 the US military invaded Iraq under false pretences (supposed weapons of mass destruction alleged to be in the hands of the Saddam Hussein regime); in the process Iraq has been (and still is being) plundered. Baghdad now ranks last in 222 capital cities in terms of standard of living, just below Bangui of the Central African Republic. Hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqis have died as a result of the US invasion;
- One of those who exposed the gross human rights violations of the US military in Iraq, Bradley Manning, now faces a life sentence at the hands of the US regime;
- Most of the prisoners at Guantanamo bay military prison have been found to be innocent yet they have been kept on the island for the past 11 years, with no prospect of ever being released; they are being violently force-fed during their months long hunger strike- they are demanding their freedom;
- There has just been a military coup in Egypt, yet the US regime break their own Constitution by continuing military and financial support to the dictators;
- The Friends of the Congo have presented video interview evidence given by ex diplomats of the USA who confirm that US weapons and military advisors were on the ground assisting the Rwandan army in its invasion of the DRC. All the armed groups have some link to imperialist backing. The fighting clears the land and in their place, mining operations spring up. Most of the world's supply of cassiterite (the raw materials for cell phones, laptops and playstations) are in the DRC. Over 6 million people have died in the recent wars in the DRC. The extent of the plunder is alluded to by the International Monetary Fund that lists the main source of income for the DRC, over 90%, as oil, not minerals;
- The secret service of the USA, the CIA, have hosted a number of secret prisons around the globe for the torture of anyone who they claim are endangering US interests.

There is also a sinister plundering of SA taking place: Ben Fine reports in the Journal of Southern African Studies on the extent of capital flight from the country. He reports that the mining corporates (mainly Anglo American) have been carrying off much of the wealth for at least the past 40 years, much of it illegally. In 2007 for example, as much as 20% of GDP (over R600bn) was carried off illegally through mislabelling and tax avoidance. US companies are literally stealing the future of the masses of SA; yet its military is welcomed here to conduct joint exercises. This is like conducting an anti-theft exercise with the main thief.



It is concerning that mining operations, such as Kivu Resources, in the DRC are being run by 'ex' employees of US mining companies. It is of further concern that SA soldiers are paid R50 000 per month to guard these plunder operations.

We have appealed to the military unions Sasfu and Sandu to take a stand on the gross violations of the terms of the SA Constitution and democratic principles. They are silent. They fail not only their members but also the masses. The ANC members, who claim to be principled democrats are silent on this abuse of the SA military and its growing links to US imperialism.

Are the SA soldiers being prepared for offensive plunder wars in the DRC and beyond? Are they being prepared for a war against the masses in SA?

The only principled position must be that no US army presence be allowed in SA nor even in Africa, not even one square centimetre. All SA troops should be withdrawn from protecting the imperialist plunder operations in Africa. If anything, the US generals should be arrested.



No to the militarization of the mines

On Monday 3rd June 2013 the ANC govt announced that it was considering taking steps to deploy the army to all the mines in the country. Already the SANDF has been deployed into the DRC to protect the Anglo American mines and their plunder in the region. We oppose both.

Why now?

Imperialism has realized that the ANC-SACP-Cosatu alliance, that used to be able to control the masses to ensure 'capitalist stability', is not able to do so any more. The equilibrium has been shattered on the mines



and is under threat more broadly; the NUM leadership is unable any more to guarantee 'stability' on the mines that imperialism requires for its continued exploitation of the masses. The police of imperialism, the ANC-SACP-Cosatu alliance leaders, are discredited in the eyes of the masses. Imperialism needs a new form of control. Even the Amcu leaders' hold over the mine workers is not strong enough to act as the new 'NUM'- the Amcu leaders never led the revolt on the mines last year, they merely rode on the crest of the revolt, parasiting on the militancy of the mineworkers and mine worker communities as they rose up against the system of capitalist exploitation on the mines.

What isolated the revolt initially was the Cosatu and SACP leadership, who painted the leadership of the mineworkers revolt as thugs. Despite this the revolt against the capitalist relations spread through the region, to the truck drivers, to the farm workers, to the metal workers, to the Namibian teachers, energy, airways and public sector workers, to the local bus drivers; a wave of revolt that has given courage to workers around the world.

In other parts of the world, imperialism is desperately trying to put out the flames of resistance against it. While propping up their dictators, imperialism also tries to infiltrate and neutralise the resistance against it. In SA imperialism has instructed its agency, the ANC govt, to send the army to protect all the mines, essentially the assets of Anglo American, JP Morgan Chase and the Bank of New York.

Imperialism justifies the deployment of the army through the death of Amcu organisers and NUM shopstewards. But there is no generalised fighting between Amcu and Num members- in fact last year the base of the mineworkers revolt was the unity of the strikers in worker committees irrespective of union affiliation. It is likely, as imperialism has done countless times across the world, that imperialism is behind the attacks on both Amcu and Num, hoping to instigate inter-union fighting to divert attention away from their crackdown on and destruction of working class democratic gains.

What are the implications?

- **Crushing of independent organization**

In addition to the current role of the ANC-SACP-Cosatu alliance to control the masses, imperialism feels it needs brute force. With Num and Amcu unable to control the mineworkers, imperialism wants to prevent independent self-organization such as expressed through the existence of workers' committees on the mines which unite delegates from mineworkers and from mineworker communities- in essence the unity of the employed and unemployed workers in what was beginning to take the form of soviets, or workers' councils, the beginning of an alternative form of government which would be in direct opposition to the current capitalist government and capitalist relations, not only in the country, but also the region.

- **Intimidation of the entire working class in the region**

Thus the deploying of the army to the mines goes beyond just protecting the mines, but it is a political attack on the masses to intimidate us from setting up independent organizations of struggle which could oppose the system.



- **The rise of fascism**

This is the start not just of bonapartism, but the first steps to fascism. [Bonapartism arises when capital is on the attack and workers rise up to resist, but neither party is strong enough to defeat the other, then a figure at the head of the state, appearing to be above classes, acts as a disciplining force against both classes but ultimately in the interest of the capitalist class].

A few weeks ago, the Cosatu leaders criticised the DA for its call to send the army onto the farms to protect the farmers during the widespread spontaneous strike. Now, the Cosatu leaders are silent and thus it is clear that the ANC-SACP-Cosatu leaders will support the rise of fascistic measures, not only on the mines, but more broadly.

- **Democratic gains trampled**

The presence of the army on the mines will mean that the hard won gains of freedom of gathering, freedom of association, freedom of movement, the right to strike, the right to organise, freedom of speech, are all being trampled on and destroyed.

An appeal to the soldiers

We remember how, recently, the regime sent troops to the Central African Republic (CAR) to defend assets of Anglo American as well as that of the BEE elite. The SA troops were used to prop up Bozize who had himself come to power through a coup. When the CAR masses began to rise up against Bozize, the SA troops were sacrificed when French and US imperialism launched a pre-emptive coup to prevent the masses from self-organizing and rising up and toppling the regime on their own. CAR is a mineral rich country, yet it ranks 221 out of 222 countries in terms of living standards. Imperialism now wants to use the SANDF rank and file to shoot down mineworkers, the backbone of the economy, so that the capitalist can plunder without any challenge.

We also need to remember that Anglo American and other mining capitalists are stealing hundreds of billions every year, besides what they steal through their declared profits. The very ones who are denying our children and youth a chance at decent work, decent housing, decent health care, the imperialists, want you to shoot down mine workers so that their theft can continue.

We remember how the army was deployed by the apartheid regime at Mercedes Benz in 1990 when the workers occupied the plant, protesting against the use of the company facilities to produce armoured vehicles for the regime; we remember how the Smuts regime (the forerunner of the DA) bombed the striking white mineworkers. Now the ANC regime wants to use apartheid measures against us.

We should not allow any soldier to be used against the masses.



A proposed way forward

1. As a start, we call for general meetings on all mines and in all mining communities, uniting workers and unemployed, irrespective of affiliation, to begin discussing a response to the attacks on democratic gains by the state and its imperialist masters;
2. We call for the setting up and extending of the workers committees in the mining communities- uniting workers of NUM, Amcu, Solidarity, Uasa, Numsa and all others;
3. We call for mineworkers, through marches, pickets, or sending of delegates to the mine bosses, to begin submitting demands to management that no soldier be deployed on any mine.
4. At the same time, the demand for the return of the wealth stolen by Anglo American and other mining capitalists, should be made. This should go together with a demand to expropriate all the mines, without compensation to the capitalists, to be placed under workers control.

We call for discussion and preparation among all the masses and our grassroots organizations on measures how to counter the rise of fascism in SA and beyond. Now, more than ever, we need to unite the activists in a revolutionary working class party, in SA, in the region and in the world.

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Soldiers concerned about deployment in civilian areas

Soldiers are concerned that there is a trend developing of using them where they are not supposed to be used. This shows a total disregard of the law. Section 200 (2) of the Constitution says

'The primary objective of the defence force is to defend and protect the Republic, its territorial integrity and its people in accordance with the Constitution and the principles of international law regulating the use of force.'

For example some soldiers were deployed in the Cape in areas of gang violence. Soldiers are trained to kill, not shoot warning shots or shoot in the leg. They have R4 or R5 rifles; they are not trained for crowd control. If someone comes with a stone, the instinct of the soldier takes over, that is, to shoot to kill.

Soldiers are there to protect citizens, not be used like this. Clause 198 of the Constitution, dealing with the governing principles on the Security Service, prohibits the use of soldiers in armed conflict, yet soldiers are being prepared to go to war against our own citizens. This is a concern.

Editorial Comment

This is indeed a worry especially as the ANC government is now considering deploying soldiers on all the mines; in essence they want to protect the assets of the US monopolies and principally that of Anglo American. The state wants to go to war against the mineworkers on behalf of the mining monopolies. What the imperialists fear is that the masses have tested the limits of a general strike and that the next time a revolt breaks out, the masses could seize the mines and a broader country-wide, if not region wide revolution could



break out. Despite what the Constitution says, the last resort of the violent rule of the capitalist class, the big bosses, is the use of the army against the masses.

We should remember that the army itself has ranks that mirror capitalist society; in fact the generals, like their Egyptian counterparts, have become capitalists themselves; some retired generals have opened up security companies and have placed themselves in the service of imperialism (eg in Iraq) or of dictators and coup leaders in Africa, such as in the Central African Republic. The interests of the generals is not the same as the rank and file soldier.

The reason why the US military is having joint exercises with the SANDF is that they want to create and expand a group among the soldiers who will act as unthinking robots, who will blindly obey the instructions of the generals to shoot down the mineworker, his partner, his child. Despite the words of clause 199 (6) of the Constitution

'No member of any security service may obey a manifestly illegal order'

soldiers will have to choose: either obey the order of the general (instructions coming ultimately from the US or French or English or German regimes) to act against the masses, **or** stand with the masses and the history of the working class against this cruel capitalist system.

Already, the ground is being prepared to send an attack force of SA soldiers to the DRC to prop up the Kabila regime that is handing over the wealth of the country to imperialism, imperialism wants the SA soldiers to become part of the wars between groups that clears the land of the masses so that the US mining companies can move in and plunder.

The old apartheid regime used the military to terrorise the masses of the whole of Southern Africa. Should we allow the ANC govt to do the same? 24.7.2013





Stop the harassment of activists in Boiketlong

Today, 11th July 2013, Dinah Makheta and possibly 2 other activists are being targeted by the ANC for daring to stand up against poor service delivery in Boiketlong, Sebokeng. cde Dinah appears in court today in Sebokeng (Court 4) on fabricated charges of assault, public violence, arson, and malicious damage to property.

The charges arise out of protests of the community against the poor service delivery ever since the community of Boiketlong was established, more than 6 years ago. Before the previous general election the ANC came around promising the earth. The community is still without electricity and sanitation. This brutality is the true legacy of Mandela and the ANC labour brokers.

In recent months the ANC started gearing up for next year's elections by sending around 'volunteers'. In reality, these 'volunteers' have gone around intimidating activists who have been spearheading the fight for housing and who are thus in direct opposition to the ANC councillors. This 'electioneering' is nothing but a campaign to beat down the working class, to silence working class voices and to create a climate of fear.

Part of this campaign of beating down and silencing activists is to frame them on false charges.

The political leadership of Anglo American, the 1%, responsible for stealing the future of the masses, Obama, is welcomed with open arms, while the activists who stand up against the theft is put under threat of arrest. It is on record through journal articles of Ben Fine in the Journal of Southern African studies, that Anglo American and other mining giants have been stealing trillions over the past 40 years at least. Does the ANC hunt these people for the lack of service delivery? No. They look the other way while the theft continues, being bought off by contracts for being the labour brokers on the mines.

The change in Cabinet is a pathetic attempt to rebuild credibility, on the advice of the Harvard advisors. But the past 20 years of labour broker ministers show that any change in Cabinet will not put bread on the table, will not create jobs for all, will not provide housing for all.

Down with the intimidation and harassment of activists! Arrest the bosses of Anglo American!

Decent Housing for all, expropriate the capitalists! for further comment: Dinah Makheta ph 0735689258





Defend the Keurboschkloof workers and other dismissed farm workers and shopstewards

Most of the workers at Keurboschkloof have been dismissed; there used to be over 400, but now there are only 120. This scenario has replicated itself all over the farming region. This is a political attack to behead the farmworkers revolt, which was really part of the broader political revolt. Thus what is needed is for workers committees to be revived and strengthened uniting all workers, for a programme of marches to all the farms where workers have been victimised. But we need to take the fight into all the urban areas, Cosatu, Nactu, Consawu, the independent unions should mobilize for a strike against this victimization.

all mobilise in defence of the farm workers

7 July 2013



The ANC and DA are blocking the workers' demands on the wage curves in the municipal sector

The South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) has long been fighting for equalization of wages. The apartheid past has led to workers being paid different wages for the same work, even in the same municipality; at the same time wages in the municipalities in the rural areas are much lower than those in the main cities. Workers have put forward the demand of equal pay for equal work across the country. About 3 years ago a compromise was reached between Samwu and Salga (the organization of political parties who control local government) to introduce wage curves; in other words, workers in the metropolitan areas would



have their wages equalized and only vary within a certain range while at the same time workers' wages in rural areas would also be raised to come closer to those in the metro areas but would also be allowed to vary within its own range.

About 3 years ago, an ANC official falsified the implementation date resulting in workers losing out on increases that would have brought abolition of apartheid wage differences a bit closer. Salga (an alliance of the ANC, DA and IFP) went to court on this, losing every time, spending millions on this. The ANC government has done nothing about this but sat on their hands and allowed workers' rights to be trampled on.

Negotiations were held about the back pay that workers lost and another compromise position was reached, namely that every worker should get a once-off 14th cheque to make up for the losses and negotiations would start all over again on abolishing the wage differences. Now Salga does not even want to pay this 14th cheque.

We think it would have been better to reach a compromise that everyone gets a minimum of a 14th cheque but that all rural workers should get 6-8 weeks pay. This would acknowledge that their wages are not only lower and that they would need more to begin to make up for the apartheid gap.

The fight to equalize wages and conditions between town and country is a fundamental part of the struggle for Socialism.

Workers are furious that instead of addressing workers' issues, general meetings of municipal workers are being held to campaign for a vote for the ANC for the 2014 elections.

The political lesson to learn is that workers cannot depend on the middle class ANC to achieve even the most basic democratic demand; in fact there is an ANC-DA alliance against the demands of the masses.

The biggest obstacle to the struggle for Socialism is the alliance of Cosatu with the ANC





ANC vs Cosatu? Or once again desperate manoeuvres by the ANC to use Cosatu as an election machine?

The rumour mill from the capitalist press is in full swing. They are building up Vavi and Zuma factions in Cosatu as if there was a fundamental difference between the 2 'groups'. Only a few months ago when the ANC-Cosatu alliance faced its most serious crisis during the Marikana uprising, while Ramaphosa and Zuma organised a special police unit to shoot down striking miners in cold blood, Vavi, was central to running a campaign in Cosatu as if NUM and Cosatu were under attack from a group of thugs. Vavi was central to isolating the striking mineworkers and preventing the rest of the working class uniting with the mineworkers against the ANC govt. In other words, Vavi was central to maintaining the ANC-Cosatu alliance through which Anglo American keeps the masses in SA in wage slavery. Now the capitalist press want us to believe that Vavi and Zuma are at each others throats.

So why is the capitalist press deliberately building up the profile of Vavi as if he is so 'critical' of the ANC policies? The answer lies in the fact that the rank and file of Cosatu and beyond have largely rejected the ANC. This is reflected in the survey done by the Forum for Public Dialogue, which has been suppressed by the Cosatu leadership, Terry Bell and Moeletsi Mbeki, which reports that more than 50% (or much more) of Cosatu shopstewards reject the ANC and want Cosatu to break ties with it. This report was supposed to have been presented to the Sept 2012 Cosatu Congress but was suppressed. If workers break from the alliance then imperialism has a problem- there is no other force that is large enough to control the masses, not yet anyway. So how does to ANC retain control of the masses? Well, they use their old trick that they have used over the decades by the ANC Youth League, namely get a group that poses radically, as if it opposes and is critical of the leadership, thus showing that there is a place in the ANC for radical views, and then in the final moments, the very leaders of the ANC YL will say, despite their criticisms, they support the ANC.

Thus the profile of Vavi and Irvin Jim is being built up to show that radicals have a place in the alliance, despite the strong disagreements they know the base of Cosatu has. For all the supposed pro-worker posture and tones of Jim and Vavi, they will end up, like Peter Mokaba, like Fikile Mbalula, like the younger Mandela, like Julius Malema, that despite all the so-called differences, they would call on workers to support the ANC.

Let's put the so-called 'worker friendly' Vavi and Jim to the test: Let us use the demands raised by Vavi and Jim, will they put to the ANC that workers will support them in the next election on 3 conditions:

1. Scrap all labour brokers;
2. Scrap e-tolling;
3. Scrap the cheap labour youth wage subsidy and create decent work, starting by filling all the vacant posts in the public and municipal sector.

Will Vavi and Jim even put down these 3 minimum conditions (which are by no means Socialist, but rather modest democratic demands)? We think not. This means that after all the bluster and fake disagreements, Vavi and Jim will lead Cosatu members to once again be used as an election machine for the ANC.



We say, the NDP is the plan of the World Bank; it should be rejected and there should be mobilisation for a Special Congress of Cosatu to break with the NDP and the ANC, once and for all. We need a Conference of the left to work towards a revolutionary programme that will set the basis for a new revolutionary working class party that is truly internationalist and independent of the state and capital.



Obama is not welcome in Africa

We welcome the debate over the pending Obama visit to Africa. The DA offers him the Freedom of Cape Town while the ANC offers him the Freedom of the country (by inviting him). We reject both.

Obama is a representative of the US banks, the 1%, who are responsible for the plunder of most of the world. Recently the 'Africa Progress Panel', chaired by ex-President Mbeki, reported that twice as much leaves Africa through illegal deals like mispricing and tax avoidance than it receives through 'Aid'. Thus 'Aid' is an artificial construct by imperialist banks to keep Africa in debt and totally dependent.

Consider the nature of 'Aid'. Take the example of 'Aid' from the US for Aids drugs. These are sold to Africa through loans. Thus the funds do not even leave the USA but once delivery is taken of the drugs the loan has to be repaid. Generally the rate of interest we pay in Africa is substantially higher than in the USA or Europe. 'Aid' secures a market for the US drug company, which means a competitor cannot easily enter, while at the same time Africa lands up paying double what we should have been able to pay for ourselves in cash, or even have developed ourselves.



Let us now consider the scale of the theft by US mining companies and banks such as Anglo American and JP Morgan Chase. (JP Morgan Chase is one of the main shareholders of Anglo American). Ashman, Fine and Newman's work in 2011 (*Amnesty International? The Nature, Scale and Impact of Capital Flight from South Africa*) in the Journal of Southern African Studies, outlines how the mining companies have been responsible for illegal capital flight for more than the past 40 years. Ironically, in 2007, during the Presidency of Mbeki, this theft reached its zenith. Twenty per cent (20%) of South Africa's GDP was stolen by the mining companies, a figure in excess of R600bn.

This is one of the ways that the mining companies would smuggle out value from SA: They would, for example, label Platinum (\$1400 per ounce) as Palladium (\$400 per ounce) and thus smuggle out \$1000 per ounce.

Here is one of the reasons why our youth have no future, why millions are suffering and deliberately kept in starvation and in shacks and overcrowded ghettos. How many hundreds of thousands have died from preventable diseases of poverty? Yet the DA and ANC fall over their feet to welcome the chief representative of the 1% responsible for the continued enslavement of Africa.

JP Morgan Chase is also one of the main shareholders of the SA Reserve Bank. According to McGregor's *Who Owns Whom*, the major player on most of the gold mines is the Bank of New York.

The ones who were supposed to police illegal capital flight, such as the ex-Governor of the Reserve Bank, Tito Mboweni, is now Chair of AngloGold Ashanti; the ex- Deputy Chief Director of the Department of Minerals and Energy, Harold Motaung, is now CEO of Atlatza which is in partnership with Anglo American in the running and control of Bokoni Platinum. SARS turns a blind eye to Anglo American and all the mines who have been involved in illegal capital flight (stealing). They have repeatedly offered amnesty, but the mines have refused to declare their misdemeanours. Yet SARS does not act against those mining companies who are snuffing out the future of our children. SARS acts against the ordinary person who owes a R10- we are treated as criminals but the big time crooks get away with murder.

We should be organizing the biggest demonstrations the country has ever seen against the Obama visit. This executioner is not welcome.





Friends of the Congo speak

"Africa doesn't need strong men. Africa needs strong institutions!" Those were the words of United States President Barack Obama in his second visit to Africa in Ghana. Today, President Obama and his administration stand to support African strongmen who have blood on their hands such as Ugandan President Museveni and Rwandan President Paul Kagame as they are at the center of the deadliest conflict since World War II, the crisis in the Congo.

Since 1996, over six million Congolese have died in a conflict waged for the control over its mineral resources by US allies Rwanda and Uganda while the world watches. Half of the deaths have been children under the age of five years-old. Hundreds of thousands of women have been brutally raped as a strategy of war in an attempt to systematically terrorize local communities in the Congo and displace them from their land.

Knowing that President Obama's administration supports the real culprit of the war in the Congo, we encourage the NOBAMA coalition to denounce the militarization of Africa by the United States and demand that it ends the training, equipping and financing of African strongmen like Museveni and Kagame for lasting peace in the heart of Africa, the Congo.

Kambale Musavuli
Spokesperson
Friends of the Congo

Message from Bradley Manning Campaign

We'd like to thank the citizens of Cape Town for honoring Army whistleblower Bradley Manning, who we believe is a true patriot and world citizen. Unlike President Obama, Bradley Manning has risked not only his career but his life so that he might promote critical debate about U.S. foreign policy and encourage peace. A week prior to his arrest, while talking about the horrible things he'd seen in Iraq, Bradley stated that, "I can't separate myself from others. I feel connected to everybody, like they were distant family. I... care? We're human... and we're killing ourselves... and no one seems to see that... and it bothers me. Apathy. Apathy is far worse than the active participation. I prefer the painful truth over any blissful fantasy."

And so, Bradley released information about how U.S. authorities had been complicit in prisoner torture taking place in Iraq, about how two-thirds of those killed in Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts were civilians, how the U.S. State Department helped put down a movement to raise the minimum wage in Haiti, and evidence of many other international injustices in which powerful people with selfish motives had disregarded human rights. No one has lost their life as a result of his actions, yet he faces life in prison for creating transparency in government where it was lacking, in his hope of enabling "worldwide debates, discussions and reforms." Bradley Manning has been thrice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his actions, and now during his trial is a crucial time for people around the world to stand up not only for Bradley himself, but for the ideals he represents: government



transparency, democratic accountability, and international cooperation. Thank you again for this honor.

Best,

Emma Cape

Campaign Organizer

www.bradleymanning.org

Join our facebook page: [savebradley](https://www.facebook.com/savebradley) !

“God knows what happens now. Hopefully worldwide discussion, debates, and reforms... I want people to see the truth... because without information, you cannot make informed decisions as a public.” -PFC Bradley Manning, May 2010



WARRANT OF ARREST- BARACK OBAMA

We the people of Africa hereby issue a warrant for the arrest of Barack Husein Obama: Caution: This man is dangerous; he has waged more wars than Bush. He spearheads the robbing of the masses and youth of Africa of our future. Here are some of the crimes of US imperialism:

Obomba claims that he is here to promote trade and economic development, but:

- US companies and banks steal over \$1000billion from Africa each year, deliberately starving us



- The US state backs the militias and armed forces that are terrorising the masses in the DRC- this is so US companies can continue to profit from the cassiterite that is used for laptops, cellphones and playstations, as well as profit from other minerals
 - Anglo American sends most the diamonds from Africa to Israel to fund its terror against the masses
 - \$2 billion each year from the US state funds to Israel to terrorise and kill Palestinians
 - The US state bailed out the Wall Street banks and stole the pensions of the motor and public sector workers, and is cutting school, health and welfare benefits of the US masses
 - Goldman Sachs and other US banks are stealing the workers' pension monies from Greece and elsewhere
- Obomba claims he is here to promote 'democratic' institutions, but:**

- The FBI is in partnership with the police and the local gangsters that keep our youth on drugs
- Mumia Abu Jamal has been kept jail for decades for an act that he did not commit
- The Cuban 5 have been held in US jails for many years, without just cause; the blockade of Cuba continues
- Most of the prisoners in Guantanamo Bay have been found innocent even by a military court, but they have been kept for 11 years in prison; the others' only 'crime' was resisting the plunder and oppression of US imperialism. Obomba lied about closing Guantanamo Bay. Prisoners on hunger strike are being violently force-fed while they have no hope of ever going home
- 5 million Palestinian refugees want to go home, but they are still waiting since 1948- Obomba supports Israel to deny them the chance to go home
- Bradley Manning exposed the atrocities of the US military in Iraq but he faces a life in prison
- Unmanned US drones have killed many innocent people, including children in Afghanistan and Pakistan
- Obomba supported the coup in Honduras, Mali, CAR and supports the dictators around the globe
- Obomba is spying on all our telephone calls, sms'es, email and social media and is hunting Edward Snowden
- The local African leaders are the spearhead of imperialism to plunder the African masses

WE WILL AWARD FREEDOM OF THE CITY TO THE MARIKANA COMMUNITY, MUMIA, THE MASSES OF THE DRC, ALL REFUGEES, MANNING AND OTHERS

Our message is simple: Obama, go home, you are not welcome! Anglo American and all imperialist banks, mining companies and assets, should be expropriated, without compensation and placed under workers' control. Issued by Nobama Coalition Cape Town nobamact26@gmail.com 26.6.2013





We condemn the University management at UJ and UCT

Nobama Coalition Cape Town condemns in the strongest possible terms the violent manner in which the police attacked protestors at the University of Johannesburg today (Sat 29th June 2013). Two protestors were injured by stun grenades in scenes reminiscent of June 1976 and Marikana 2012. This shows that the police and the SA regime are puppets of US imperialism. On the one hand they claim there is the right to protest, on the other, they use the jackboot to suppress peaceful protest.

We are still convinced that the Africa safari of Obama is nothing but a cheap publicity stunt to boost his flagging stature. Ironically, this descendant of Africa is the political head of the 1% that is continuing to enslave Africa. The Africa Progress Panel reports that much more is stolen by US mining companies and others from Africa than it receives in 'aid'.

We condemn the management at UJ and UCT for tearing up the vestiges of academic freedom by allowing the US embassy to select who could be in the audience. We also condemn UCT for only allowing a tiny corner far away from Jameson Hall, on condition that participants accept that Obama has the right to speak. Do the Guantanamo prisoners have the right to speak? Do the many prisoners who have been kidnapped from around the globe and rendered into CIA prisons world wide, have the right to speak? We reject such tokenism with the contempt it deserves.

Even in the days of apartheid, UCT did not allow a US military takeover of its premises. Occupation of even a square centimetre of African soil is not normal, despite what UCT managers want us to believe. The management of UCT and UJ should resign. This is not transformation but the destruction of the gains of the masses that have been won over many years of hard struggle. It is worse than apartheid.

The very ones who have stolen trillions of dollars from SA and the rest of Africa, thereby denying the right to education, housing and health, are being lauded by the UCT and UJ managements.

We call on those who have been selected to be part of this gathering of plunderers to either walk out or disrupt the speech of Obomba.

We would like to hear the Cuban 5, Mumia Abu Jamal, Bradley Manning, the prisoners of Guantanamo Bay, the thousands of Palestinian prisoners in the Zionist gulags. Now there would be a talk worth attending.

Down with US imperialism! Imperialism get out of Africa and take you Public Relations team with you.

Nobama Coalition Cape Town 29.6.2013



Capitalist companies who plunder the DRC

1. AFRICAN TRADING CORPORATION Sarl, SOUTH AFRICA 2. AFRIMEX, United Kingdom 3. AHMAD DIAMOND CORPORATION, BELGIUM 4. A.H. PONG & Sons, SOUTH AFRICA 5. A. KNIGHT INTERNATIONAL Ltd, United Kingdom 6. A & M MINERALS and METALS Ltd, United Kingdom 7. ALEX STEWART Ltd (Assayers), United Kingdom 8. AMALGAMATED METAL CORPORATION Plc, United Kingdom 9. AMERICA MINERAL FIELDS (AMFI), USA 10. ANGLO AMERICAN Plc, United Kingdom 11. ANGLOVAAL MINING Ltd, SOUTH AFRICA 12. ARCTIC INVESTMENT, United Kingdom 13. ASA DIAM, BELGIUM 14. ASA INTERNATIONAL, BELGIUM 15. ASHANTI GOLDFIELDS, GHANA 16. AVIENT AIR, ZIMBABWE 17. BANRO CORPORATION, SOUTH AFRICA 18. BARCLAYS BANK, United Kingdom 19. BAYER A.G., GERMANY 20. B.B.L. Banking, BELGIUM 21. BELGOLAISE, BELGIUM 22. CABOT CORPORATION, USA 23. CARSON PRODUCTS SOUTH AFRICA 24. CHEMIE PHARMACIE NETHERLANDS, HOLLAND 25. COGECOM, BELGIUM 26. C. STEINWEG NV, BELGIUM 27. DARA FOREST, THAILAND 28. DAS AIR, United Kingdom 29. DE BEERS, United Kingdom 30. DIAGEM BVBA, BELGIUM 31. EAGLE WINGS RESOURCES INTERNATIONAL, USA 32. ECHOGEM, BELGIUM 33. EGIMEX, BELGIUM 34. ENTREPRISE GENERALE MALTA FORREST, DRC 35. EUROMET, UK 36. FINCONCORD SA, SWITZERLAND 37. FINMINING, SAINT KITTS 38. FIRST QUANTUM MINERALS, CANADA 39. FLASHES OF COLOR, USA 40. FORTIS, BELGIUM 41. GEORGE FORREST INTERNATIONAL AFRIQUE, DRC 42. HARAMBEE MINING CORPORATION, CANADA 43. H.C. STARCK GmbH & Co KG, GERMANY 44. IBRYV AND ASSOCIATES LLC, SWITZERLAND 45. INTERNATIONAL PANORAMA RESOURCES Corp, Canada 46. ISCOR, South Africa 47. JEWEL IMPEX Bvba, Belgium 48. KABABANKOLA MINING COMPANY, Zimbabwe 49. KEMET ELECTRONICS CORPORATION, USA 50. KHA International AG, Germany 51. KINROSS GOLD CORPORATION, USA 52. K & N, Belgium 53. KOMAL GEMS NV, Belgium 54. LUNDIN GROUP, Bermuda 55. MALAYSIAN SMELTING CORPORATION, Malaysia 56. MASINGIRO GmbH, Germany 57. MELKIOR RESOURCES Inc, Canada 58. MERCANTILLE CC, South Africa 59. MINERAL AFRIKA Limited, United Kingdom 60. NAC KAZATOMPROM, Kazakhstan 61. NAMI GEMS, Belgium 62. NINGXIA NON-FERROUS METALS SMELTER, China 63. OM GROUP Inc, USA 64. OPERATION SOVEREIGN LEGITIMACY (OSLEG) Pvt Ltd, Zimbabwe 65. ORION MINING Inc., South Africa 66. PACIFIC ORES METALS AND CHEMICALS Ltd, Hong Kong 67. RAREMET Ltd, Saint Kitts 68. SARACEN, South Africa 69. SDV TRANSINTRA, France 70. SIERRA GEM DIAMONDS, Belgium 71. SLC GERMANY GmbH, Germany 72. SOGEM, Belgium 73. SPECIALITY METALS COMPANY SA, Belgium 74. STANDARD CHARTERED BANK, U.A.E. 75. SWANEPOEL, South Africa 76. TENKE MINING CORPORATION, Canada 77. THORNTREE INDUSTRIES (Pvt) Ltd, Zimbabwe 78. TRACK STAR TRADING 151 (Pty) Ltd, South Africa 79. TRADEMET SA, Belgium 80. TREMALT Ltd, Belgium 81. TRINITECH INTERNATIONAL Inc, USA 82. TRIPLE A DIAMONDS, Belgium 83. UMICORE, Belgium 84. VISHAY SPRAGUE, USA and Israel 85. ZINCOR, South Africa

Un article de Direct.cd Lisez la version originale ici: [Liste des 85 multinationales qui soutiennent la guerre en RDC | Direct.cd 2013](#)





Internationale

Words by Eugene Pottier (Paris 1871) Music by Pierre Degeyter (1888)

**Arise ye workers from your slumbers
Arise ye prisoners of want
For reason in revolt now thunders
And at last ends the age of cant.
Away with all your superstitions
Servile masses arise, arise
We'll change henceforth the old tradition
And spurn the dust to win the prize.**

**So comrades, come rally
And the last fight let us face
The Internationale unites the human race.
So comrades, come rally
And the last fight let us face
The Internationale unites the human race.**

**No saviour from on high delivers
No faith have we in prince or peer
Our own right hand the chains must shiver
Chains of hatred, greed and fear
E'er the thieves will out with their booty
And give to all a happier lot.
Each at the forge must do their duty
And we'll strike while the iron is hot.**

The Internationale was written to celebrate the Paris Commune of March-May 1871: the first time workers took state power into their own hands. Representatives were mandated on policy questions by their electors, they were recallable at any time and were paid wages that reflected those of their constituents. The distinction between legislative and executive arms of government was abolished.



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