

Call for internationalist brigades to go to Egypt to mobilise to tear down the 'Berlin wall' starting at Rafah

The Workers International Vanguard League met on 8.6.2010 with various activists from KTC, Antiwar Coalition, Newfields Village Anti-Eviction, as well as a number of individual pro-Palestine activists. The YCL also supported the meeting (although absent) raising that Western Sahara should be included in the actions; they in principle supported the notion of international brigades to Egypt.

The meeting resolved to intensify the campaign to break the blockade of Gaza and to break down all the 'Berlin walls' faced by Palestinians every day (the wall in and around the West Bank, the hundreds of checkpoints, the borders around 'Israel') and to strengthen the campaign for the unconditional return of all Palestinian refugees. This is especially important as 6 of the hostages taken by fascist Israel remain missing, feared dead (possibly being dumped into the open sea) or being subjected to torture. Further, since the massacre on the high seas another 4 Palestinians have been murdered by the fascist Israelis.

The first step was to take the lead in calling for and organising international brigades to go to Egypt to mobilise for the mass tearing down of the Rafah border. The Egyptian regime has been forced to open up the Rafah border indefinitely but still refuses to allow any building materials through; thus the multitude of bombed out buildings (basically all of Gaza) is left as a daily threat of toppling and killing the children, aged and infirm- such is the barbarism of the alliance of the regimes of Israel and Egypt at the behest of their master, US imperialism. This slight opening of the Rafah border could be ended at a moment's notice by imperialism. [the idea was also raised of organising an alternative world cup in Gaza as part of breaking the blockade].

It was noted that the SA government was hypocritical as they temporarily recalled their ambassador to Israel, while at the same time still allowing coal, diamonds, aircraft and helicopter parts and propellants (chemicals used in missiles) to go to Israel. The SA government was in thus the lackey of US imperialism.

Further steps:

1. To lobby intensively with mineworkers (diamond and coal), commercial workers (Pick 'n Pay, Shoprite, Checkers, Spar, Woolworths), docks and transport workers, and municipal workers to put into action their bold statements for workers to take action to refuse to handle any goods to or from Israel; co-ordinators were elected for these sectors.
2. We would issue educational leaflets to explain to the broader working class the real role fascist Israel plays and why we need to support the Palestinian cause
3. We would support protests of other pro-Palestinian groups with our own slogans;
4. We would support the poor people's world cup at Avondale (and would welcome teams names such as the various Palestinian towns as well as team names such as Western Sahara, Rwanda, DRC, Sudan, Ogoni- as a means of highlighting the

struggles the masses face against imperialism); we will be making Palestinian flags for this alternative world cup;

5. our next meeting is on the wed 16th June 17h00 at Community House, to which we invite all progressive media as well as workers organizations and activists, with the youth to watch a screening of "Offside" a movie about Palestinian youth trying to organise a soccer match but obstructed by checkpoints and the Israeli fascists; the way forward on the campaign will be discussed after the movie.

6. we support the initiative by the Ogoni Solidarity Forum for protest on 26-28 June outside the Cape Town International Convention centre when the CEO's of the world's imperialist companies, Shell, JP Morgan, the real masters behind the genocide of the Palestinians and the plunder of the Ogonis, as well as the exploitation of billions of humanity, will gather.

7. We will continue to call for an international general strike against fascist Israel.

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