When war broke out in August 1914, it hardly came as a surprise for the populations of Europe, especially the workers. For years, ever since the turn of the century, crisis had followed on crisis: the Moroccan crises of 1905 and 1911, the Balkan Wars of 1912 and 1913, just to name the most serious of them. These crises saw the great powers heading to head, all of them engaged in a frenzied arms race: Germany had begun a huge campaign of naval construction, which Britain had inevitably to answer. France, having introduced three-year military service, and above all desired by all the ruling classes of the day — tell us that the war could not be unleashed until the ruling classes were confident that plunging Europe into a bloodbath would not in turn unleash the revolution. The rulers could only go to war when it was clear that the ‘representative’ of the working class, the Socialist parties grouped in the Second International, and the trade unions, far from opposing war, would become its most crucial recruiting sergeants. This article begins the task of reminding us how this monstrous betrayal could take place.

How could such a disaster happen? How could those who, only a few months or even a few days previously, had threatened the ruling class with the consequences of war in its own rule, now turn round and join without protest in national unity with the class enemy — the Borghildespolitik, as the Germans called it?

Of all the parties in the International, it is the Socialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands, the German Social-Democratic Party (SPD) which bears the heaviest responsibility. Not that the others were guiltless, especially not the French Socialists. But the German party was the flower of the International, the jewel in the crown of the proletariat. With more than a million members and more than 90 regular publications, the SPD was far and away the strongest and best organised party of the International. On the intellectual and theoretical level, it was the reference for the whole workers’ movement: the articles published in its theoretical review Neue Zeit (New Times) set the tone for marxist theory and Karl Kautsky, Neue Zeit’s editor, was sometimes considered as the “pope of marxism” As Rosa Luxemburg wrote: “By means of countless sacrifices and tireless attention to detail, [German Social Democracy] have built the strongest organisation, the one most worthy of emulation; they created the biggest press, called the most effective means of education and enlightenment into being, gathered the most powerful masses of voters and attained the greatest number of parliamentary mandates. German Social Democracy was considered the purest embodiment of Marxist socialism. German Social Democracy had and claimed a special place in the Second International — as its teacher and leader” (Jaurès, Pamphlet).

The SPD was the model that all the others sought to emulate, even the Bolsheviks in Russia. “In the Second International the German ‘decisive force’ played the determining role. At the international congresses, in the meetings of the International Socialist Bureau, all awaited the opinion of the Germans. Especially in the questions of the struggle against militarism and war, German Social Democracy always took the lead. ‘For us Germans that is unacceptable’ regularly sufficed to decide the orientation of the Second International, which blindly bestowed its confidence upon the admitted leadership of the mighty German Social Democracy: the pride of every socialist and the terror of the ruling classes everywhere” (Jaurès Pamphlet). It was therefore down to the German Party to translate the commitments made at Stuttgart into action and to launch the resistance to war.

And yet, on that fateful day of 4th August, the SPD joined the bourgeois parties in the Reichstag to vote for war credits. Overnight, the working class in all the belligerent countries found itself disarmed and disorganised, because its political parties and its unions had gone over to the enemy class and henceforth would be the most energetic organisations not of resistance to war, but on the contrary of society’s militarisation for war. Today, would have it that the workers were swept away like the rest of the population by an immense wave of patriotism, and the media love to show us film of the soldiers seen off to the front by a cheering population. Like many legends, this one has little to do with the truth. Yes there were demonstrations of nationalistic hysteria, but these were mostly the actions of the petty bourgeoisie, of young students drunk with nationalism. In France and in Germany, the workers demonstrated in their hundreds of thousands against the war during July 1914, they were reduced to impotence by the treason of their organisations.

In reality of course, the SPD’s betrayal did not happen overnight. It is the SPD’s electoral power that had a political importance, worse, it was precisely the SPD’s electoral success and the power of the union organisations that reduced the SPD to impotence.
The incoherence of British imperialism

1914: The Socialists betray socialism

potence as a revolutionary party. The long period of economic prosperity and relative political freedom dialectically weakened the inner core of the Party and of the democratic forces in Germany’s anti-socialist laws in 1891 and the legalisation of the socialist parties, ended up convincing the understanding and the socialist parties of the unfeeling capitalism had entered a new phase, and that it had overcome its inner contradictions to the point where socialism could be achieved, not through a revolutionary uprising of the masses, but through a gradual process of parliamentary reforms. Winning elections thus became the main aim of the SPD’s political activity, and as a result the parliamentary group became increasingly preponderant within the Party. The problem was that despite the workers’ meetings and demonstrations during electoral campaigns, the working class did not take part in elections as a class, but as isolated individuals whose only link with one another was belonging to other classes – whose prejudices had to be pondered. Thus, during the 1967 elections, the Kaiser’s Imperial government could initiate a campaign in favour of an aggressive colonial policy and the SPD – which up to then had always opposed military adventures – suffered considerable losses in the number of seats in the Reichstag. The SPD leadership, and especially the parliamentary group, concluded that it would no longer be able to confront patriotic sensitivities too openly. As a result, the SPD resisted every attempt within the 2nd Reichstag to develop a coherent imperialist policy in the last decade of its existence. In the last decade of the old German Empire everything was to be done to attain a peaceful balance of power; on the contrary, it was a way of counter-balancing Germany’s position.

The incoherence of British imperialism

In Iraq and Syria Britain condemns the advance of the Islamic State while insisting it will not support the Kurds. This stance demonstrates the extent to which the British foreign policy is no longer warranted. The unravelling of the Westphalian order that followed the collapse of the Eastern Bloc in 1989 has changed irrevocably. British imperialism in the Middle East is, however, as naive as ever. For many states this situation presented them with new possibilities. Old vassals of the USSR such as Turkey and Iran, elsewhere former allies as Germany and Japan that had been defeated after their defeat in the war to begin the struggle against the states of the European and imperialist world order which had been connected with the decline of the great powers. The failure of American attempts to hold the empire together in the 1990s led to the growing fragmentation and barbarism that has come to dominate the international situation since 1989 and in the long term decline of British power.

The decline of a global power

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It being the much-trumpeted centenary of the assassination of the Nazi diplomat Ernst vom Rath by a Jewish teenager, the pogroms of the 20th century also have a warning for us about the growth of the spirit of revenge, against the scapegoating of minorities, against national hatreds and against nation states and their endless wars. Amos 16/8/14

**Pamphlet** (originally titled The crisis of social democracy) about the atmosphere of German social democracy at the outbreak of the war. Luxemburg tells of the secret police and the appearance of the first workers' soviets, and sets alongside the events of 1918 the pogroms of the 20th century also have a warning for us about the growth of the spirit of revenge, against the scapegoating of minorities, against national hatreds and against nation states and their endless wars. Amos 16/8/14

One of the long-time residents of the Jaffa neighborhood was an old woman who had come out onto the streets against aus- terity and corruption, against the chronic housing shortage and the dearth of social rights. Tentatively, nervously, the unity of interests between impoverish Jews and impoverished Arab- ists was achieved in meetings that crossed the national divide and in slogans about the housing question being an issue for everyone regardless of nationality and religion.

Today, there have been reports of small gath- erings of Israelis chanting that Netanyanu and Hama are both our enemies, but they have been surrounded, drowned out and even physically at- tacked by the right wing Zionists with their incen- tration of this tendency is that the spirit of the pogrom is spreading across the planet. In Cen- tral Africa, in Kenya, in non-Muslims are massacred by Islamist fanatics, provoking counter-massacres by Christian gangs. In Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, Sunni terrorists bomb Shia mosques and processions, while ISIS in Iraq threatens Christians and Yazidis with conversion, expulsion or death. In Burma, the Muslim minor- ity is regularly attacked by “Buddhist Brothels”. In Greece, immigrants are violently attacked by fascist groups like the Golden Dawn; in Hungary, the Jobbik party rails against Jews and Roma. And in “democratic” Western Europe xenophobic campaigns against Muslims, illegal immigrants, Romanians and others have become the political norm, as in the recent European elections. In response to the Kishinev pogrom, the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party, at its historic 1903 congress, passed a resolution calling on the working class and revolutionaryists to oppose the threat of pogroms with all their might.

In view of the fact that movements such as the all too sadly well-known pogrom in Kishinev, quite apart from the abominable atrocities they commit, serve in the hands of the police as means by which the latter seek to hold back the growth of consciousness among the proletariat, the Congress recommends comrades to use all in their power to combat such movements and to explain to the proletariat the reactionary and class-inspiration of anti-Semitic and all other na- tional-chauvinist incitements.”

How right was this resolution in seeing po- gromism as a direct attack on proletarian class consciousness? In 1905, faced with mass strikes and the appearance of the first workers’ soviet, the “Tsarist regime unleashed the Tsar’s pogrom directly against the revolution. And the government responded no less directly: the soviet organised armed militias to defend Jewish neighbours from the Blachk Hundreds.”

Today this question is more universal and even more vital. The working class is seeing its class consciousness in very much the same way as it understood in 1905, and the assembly is a new form of assembly where the struggle of each against all, the proliferation of gang rivalries, the sinister spread of ethnic, racial and religious hatreds. At the level of nation states it means the spread of irrational military conflicts, unallied alliances, wars that both escape the con- trol of the great powers but also drag them further into the very chaos they have created. And we are seeing in the wars in Israel/Palestine, in Iraq, in Ukraine, how the spirit of the pogrom becomes a direct adjunct of war, and threatens to turn into its ultimate avatar: genocide, the state-organised extermination of entire populations.

This sombre picture of a global society in its death throes is certainly not a pleasant one to reflect on and despair, especially since the hopes that sprang up in 2011 have been almost totally shattered, not only in Israel but across the Middle East, which has seen protests in Libya and Syria sub- merged in murderous “civil wars” and Egypt’s so-called “revolution” giving rise to one repres- sive regime after another. And yet: these move- ments, above all the one in “democratic” Spain, did at least to create a perspective for the future by only showing the potential of the masses when they come together in demonstrations, in assemblies, in profound debates about the direction of capi- talist society and the possibility of getting rid of it. They revived, in however confused and halting a manner, the spectre of the class struggle, of the international proletariat, which made the revolu- tions of 1905 and 1917-18, which put an end to the First World War with its strikes and uprisings, which blocked the road to World War Three with the renaisance of its struggles after May 1968 in France, and which has again begun to show its hand in the class movements between 2003 and 2013. The exploited class in capitalist society, re- alising the common interests that unite it across national boundaries, has discovered the social force that can stand against the spirit of revenge, against the scapegoating of minorities, against national hatreds and against nation states and their endless wars.

**Strengthen the struggle against the pogroms in the heart of the Middle East**

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Middle East 3

**A Kishinev air**

This is the much-trumpeted centenary of the outbreak of World War One, we are reminded of what the internationalist revolutionary Rosa Lux- emburg wrote during her prison cell in the Jusit3

**Struggles in Burgos, Spain: the importance of assemblies and solidarity**

The struggle of Gamonal can’t be compared with other kinds of protest where people come along and make a lot of noise before quietly retreating to the whencne they came, home to their atomised and solitary existence. Every day without excep- tion the assembly was held at noon and at 7/010. The assemblies were the heart and the brain of the movement. The brain, because there was a collective reflection about how to struggle about what actions to take next, about the deci- sions to make. The heart, because the assembly is a real expression of the means of communicating, developing understanding and establishing links to break the isolation and the atomisation, which are the terrible stigma of a society where everyone is trapped “in their own little world”, dominated by the commodity...

As some people actively participated in the struggle wrote on a blog: “The failure of the old structures of pseudo-participation such as politi- cal parties and the creation of the self-organised structures such as participat- ing as equals, opens the door to a new world”, but even more important was the insistence that “we all are needed: the elderly’s youth, the mothers and fathers of children” and it is inside the assembly (the method specific to the working class) where they all have a say and the state take up contributions.

Review of Melvin Bragg’s documentary on John Ball

**Film: How the working class brought an end to World War One**

1. It was quickly withdrawn following widespread criticism, but the fact that the book was all indicative of a growing state of mind in Israel.
The weakening of a superpower: The "Islamic State" is a product of US foreign policy's border disorder

The Observer, of its chemical weapons. At the same time it for the Assad regime to put pressure on the US. efforts to pull Ukraine away from its sphere of in push into Ukraine would not have happened if it as seen in the "international coalition" during the end of the threat of nuclear destruction and imperialist blocs reduced one country after an Europe and the US may have had 'peace' but the children. This barbarism did not end with the war. humanity should weep to see this, and greatly Imperialist conflict

The USA will not be able to respond to this situ...
them by Shia gangs, and treated their populations as worth massacring and guarding. The new ‘security’ government in Iraq can readmit some of its Sunni MPs but the latter are likely to be beheaded if they dare to go back to their constituencies. The US can hope for a stable government but the perspective for Iraq looks very much like a break up. The US cannot control or contain this chaos which it has, on the contrary, facilitated. For the moment it has decided to defend the Kurdish capital Irbil, where it has American ‘boots on the ground’, oil and other interests. There’s no ‘humanitarian intervention’ here, that’s just a blatant lie. More lies from Camer-
on with ‘Britain is not going to get involved in another war in Iraq’ (BBC News, 18/9/14) along-
side lies about the ‘humanitarian’ nature of its in-
tervention. The decision to arm the Kurds by the US, France, Britain, Italy, Germany and the Czech Republic, though by no means a common policy, can only strengthen the Kurdish Regional Gov-
ernment (KRG), strengthen the tendency towards Iraq’s likely break up and cause more problems in the region.

In Irbil there are 60,000 refugees and in Dobuk, one of the poorest regions of Iraq, there are 300,000 more. Over a million in Iraq and millions across the region. These unprecedented numbers on the move, along with collapsing borders, is an expression of the further decay of this rotten sys-
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scriptions of IS and its rivalry with its own even more radical organisations. In the last month the combination of Kurdish and Peshmerga forces have been consolidating their forces and it is clear that they will hold.

The working class in Ukraine is very deceptive. In ad-
dition to the loss of life and physical destruction of infrastructure, particularly in the East, there is the effect on the economy. Although the mining and heavy industry in the Donbas is out of date and dangerous, the loss of a region that accounts for 16% of GDP and 27% of industrial production is a disaster for Kiev, whose GDP is predicted to fall by 6.5% by the end of the year and whose cur-
rency, the hryvnia, has fallen by 60% against the dollar since the beginning of the year. It is truly an open invasion. The perspective for now is con-
tinued destabilisation.

Ukraine: reverberations of an imperialist ‘civil war’

When Poroshenko was elected president of Ukraine in May 2014 he signed the famous ‘Minsk Agreements’ that he had to accept in order to get 15 billion euros from the IMF. The agreement bound Kiev to withdraw its forces from the Donbas, to allow the elections and to respect the independence of the so-called ‘people’s republics’ in the Donbas. The agreement calls for a transition to a federal system and the holding of a referendum on the status of Crimea. The agreement is treacherous because it has allowed Putin to have his cake and eat it too. He is now in a much stronger position to invade and destroy the Ukrainian economy.

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trous west of the country where the secessionists are already in control, and in another part of the country the ethnic fighting has resulted in a million lives being lost in Donbas… Romania’s 20,000 troops massing near Rostov and car-

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not only gone to the rescue of Donetsk, but started to make a land corridor towards Mariupol in the summer. The so-called ‘Novorossiya’ separatists are not doing enough towards Russia’s desire to forge a land bridge to Crimea, which it annexed last March, and perhaps also towards the pro-Russian separatists in Trans-Dniester in Moldova. For the moment, this is only a so-not-covert infiltration, not an open invasion. The perspective for now is con-
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Meanwhile Ukraine wants to join NATO. Po-

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The Communist Party of Great Britain, which each summer hosts the “Communist University” in the village of Tyneham, is often called the “left wing of capital” by its opponents. It’s extremely difficult for revolutionaries to speak at SWP meetings because they are often blocked by members who are pre-arranged to monopolise the brief period of debate that usually follows a lengthy introduction (or three). At the Communist University meeting this year, I was particularly interested to note that the trend towards opportunism in the party over time was evident in the parties and organisations of the bourgeois left - was aimed at the organisations of the capitalist state. This group was a further product of the organisations of the bourgeois state and the Communist International towards opportunism in the party over time was evident in the parties and organisations of the bourgeois left - was aimed at the organisations of the capitalist state.

For instance, in 1917 social democracy. But the CPGB is not the only group involved in this discussion of the still existing political organisations of the left. This is a question we can come back to in another article but it is relevant to the sense of the CPGB’s history and has been in Italy re...

One of the main functions of the organisations of the left is to recruit people who are beginning to question capitalism and then turn this questioning into dead-end forms of thought and activity. This is why we have never rejected discussion with individual members of such organisations even though we reject any form of cooperation with the organisations as such. But equally we have always stressed that any political progress by such individuals cannot avoid a radical break with the organisations of the capitalist left and their whole world outlook.

We will not enter here into the questions about religion that you pose, except to make it clear to you that the policies you advocate – such as the destruction of cathedrals and, apparently, the forcible suppression of religion by the proletarian dictatorship – may be called “ultra-left” by your fellow CPGB supporters, but they certainly have nothing to do with the ultra-left ideas of the Stalinists, which are equally the source of capitalism, whether socially democratic or Stalinist forms. […]
International Communist Current

Day of discussion

World War One: how the workers were mobilised for war, and how they put an end to it

September 20, 2014, 11 am to 6 pm
Lucas Arms, 245A Grays Inn Rd, Kings Cross, London
WC1X 8QY

In all the noisy commemorations about the First World War, some things are more or less left in silence. First, that a crucial responsibility for the war lay with the ‘Labour’ and ‘Socialist’ parties who in 1914 voted for war credits and sat about mobilising the workers for the war effort; and second, that the war was ended by the revolutionary struggles of the working class.

In the first session of this day of discussion, we will look at how the majority of the parties of the Second International came to betray the fundamental principles of internationalism and integrate themselves into the bourgeois state. This treason did not come about overnight, but was the product of a long process of degeneration which still contains many lessons for today. We will focus in particular on the German Social Democratic Party, the great jewel of the International, whose capitulation in 1914 was a decisive factor in the collapse of the International.

In the second session we will begin the discussion by showing a short film about how the working class recovered from its disarray in 1914 and, after three years of slaughter, began the wave of strikes, mutinies and uprisings which forced the ruling class to end the war and, for a while, threatened the very existence of the world capitalist system.

All welcome. Comrades who envisage coming to the meeting from outside London and will need accommodation should write to us at uk@internationalism.org.

Out soon
International Review 153

Main articles:
1914: how German social democracy came to betray the workers
1936-37: the war in Spain reveals anarchism’s fatal flaws
1948: on the function of the political party of the proletariat

Karl Liebknecht defended the internationalism of the working class against the First World War

Gauche Communiste de France

Continued from page 8
A Fire in the Master’s House is Lit

the murder of black children. Neither is hoisting flags.

The only solution is a social revolution, which can only be carried out by working people like you and me. No matter how much we appeal to our handlers, the ruling class, to improve the condition of our lives it is fundamentally in their interest not to help. This decadent system can barely stay afloat in its current condition. And to demand from the government and the people who control us respect of our “democratic rights” and basic needs is to overload this system’s capacity. Unless we all want to go down sinking together, workers have to unite together across racial lines in order to save society and possibly all of human civilization from destruction.

What rights can they give us, democratic or not, that would stop our bosses from taking a cut of our work and our pay for their profit? As long as the exploitation of workers continues, and the extraction of profit from the labor of the working class continues, no amount of “civil” disobedience is going to stop poverty? We are being clubbed over the head by capitalism. It doesn’t help if the club was democratically elected.

We have to take away the stick. What our rulers have continued to show us is that no matter how peaceful we are, there are always violent reprisals to be had at the hands of the state. Many times when people talk about social and economic justice, the redistribution of the wealth, it assumed the system is in a position to grant these reforms. But the wealthy are not just going to hand over their wealth! Do you think they store their billions under their mattress, or in massive piggy banks? No, their wealth is in hedge funds, stocks and bonds, and to demand economic justice is a direct hit to their money. Money exorted from the profit of our labor. If all the people in Ferguson, including the police and the politicians, just stopped going to work, who would be around to protect us from each other? Would we be killing and stealing from each other? Or is it the system itself that encourages the killing? If one day we all woke up and just said, “No,” what would happen to the world? Maybe places like Ferguson, Missouri could be a better place.

Jamal 8.20.14

Subscriptions to World Revolution

Readers will be aware that we have reduced the frequency of the publication of World Revolution. On the positive side, our website is now our main publication, which we can update as necessary between publication dates giving a proletarian view on significant events in the world. It is also able to reach readers in parts of the world that our papers cannot.

At the same time, the rise in postal charges means that producing and selling papers is increasingly expensive. From this issue we will be producing World Revolution quarterly, 4 issues a year. Our new subscription prices will appear in the next issue. All existing subscribers will get the full number of issues they have paid for.

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The contribution that we are publishing below was presented at an online discussion forum by an ICC sympathiser in response to the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, on August 9th, and the subsequent protests and unrest. 1

Among the strengths of the perspective that we criticise is the rhetoric of black nationalism and left liberalism. It acknowledges that looting, setting things on fire, and undirected expressions of anger and despair in their own striving to change the world. It identifies with the consciousness of a black as a global phenomenon. It sees the importance of workers’ struggle and the need for social revolution. The shooting of a young black man by police in the US followed by protests is not unusual. The text below refers to the shooting of Trayvon Martin in Sanford, Florida in 2012, and the shooting of Oscar Grant in Oakland in 2009. These are among the incidents that are known internationally, for the angry responses they provoked. In fact the latest available figures show that a white police officer kills a black person in the US on average 96 times a year. In total the figure reported by local police to the FBI of all killings by the police is typically more than 400 a year (and that self-reported figure is probably a gross underestimation). It could be suggested that, alongside the police, many occupations of universities and schools, which often devoted time to discuss questions ways, have to unite together across racial lines in order to can only threaten capitalist domination through an international struggle. As the text says “workers have to unite together across racial lines in order to can only threaten capitalist domination through an international struggle.”

The MBT has a long history in the ICC, which defends the ‘workers’, ‘Socialist’ and ‘communist’ were just a particularly new crisis. In the 1980s, it entered into the final phase of this crisis, the phase of decomposition. There is only one alternative offered by this irreversible historical decline: socialism or barbarism, workers' communism remains the only alternative. 1

* The Paris Commune of 1871 was the first attempt by the proletariat to carry out this revolution, in a period when the conditions for it were not yet ripe. Our oriGins thus traces its origins to the successive contributions of all the left fractions which detached themselves from the international Working Men’s Association (Trotskyists, Maoists and ex-Maoists, constituting a real world communist party, which is a confrontation with the capitalist state. In order to destroy capitalism, the working class will have to overthrow all existing states and establish the dictatorship of the proletariat on a world scale: the international organisation of the working class and of the lessons that its political organisations have drawn throughout its history. The ICC strives thus traces its origins to the successive contributions of the Communist League of Marx and Engels (1847-52), the International Working Men’s Association, 1864-72, the Socialist International, 1881-1914, the Communist League, 1919-23, the degenerating Third International in the years 1920-30, and the degenerating International Communist Current (ICC) in the years 1930-35.

A fire in the master's house is lit

I

So Ferguson joins the list, along with Sanford, Money, San Francisco, New York City, London, and so many other places in the United States and the world.

The response from the African-American community who are joined together with many other working people in St. Louis County has been fairly significant. However the rhetoric coming from people and the protests has ranged from black mobilisation to “left liberalism” to liberalism. Most of the dialogue has been based around the idea that race and human rights are the main issues in Michael Brown’s death.

But what other forces are at work here? The repression of the protests and anger from the working class is evident. Ferguson police and other government forces has struck a chord with many Americans. Among the many questions being asked, why are so many black youth being killed in similar situations in America? Is the life of an African-American valued less than others? Why aren’t the rights of African-American people better respected in the “democratic” system in America?

This is at the core of government’s divisions. The ruling class employs the police and military (paid for by our taxes) who kill our children over bogus reasons because they themselves are inherently racist. Capitalism breeds racism. The wealthy American capitalist can’t afford a prosperous black nation, in Missouri, in California, in Africa or anywhere else. Capitalism means the competition of nations, races, economies and this relies directly on the elbow grease of all working men and women.

Ferguson, Missouri right now looks more like the West Bank than the United States. This is a common sentiment of the demonstrators, who have been talking back and forth with Palestinians in Ferguson, the best way to avoid tear gas and rubber bullets. Why are the demonstrators in Gaza and Israel experiencing similar events to those of working class people in the “first world”? Why these experiences in a “developed” nation like the United States? Because working people have no borders, no countries. No matter where we live we are all subjected to the will of the state government, “democratic” or otherwise. It should come then as no surprise that the Ferguson police chief himself, along with many other St. Louis county police officers have actually trained weapons combat and guerrilla tactics in Israel in recent years. Isn’t it ironic? Nope, it’s just capitalism.

Working people have to continue to defend themselves against the brutal repression of the ruling class through the use of the capitalist state, whether it’s economic repression, the repression of people’s dignity, or the violent repression and murder of our youth.

But we have to carefully consider our tactics and methods and their effectiveness. Unchallenged anger gets us nowhere. More reflection and discussion is always necessary. Setting tarshas on fire and throwing rocks at armored personnel carriers and urban tanks is not the path to stopping Continued on page 7

World Revolution is the section in Britain of the International Communist Current which defends the following political positions:

* Since the first world war, capitalism has been a decadent social system. It has twice plunged humanity into a barbaric cycle of crisis, world war, reconstruction and new crises. In the 1980s, it entered into the final phase of this decadence, the phase of decomposition. There is only one alternative offered by this irreversible historical decline: socialism or barbarism, workers' communism remains the only alternative. 1

* The Paris Commune of 1871 was the first attempt by the proletariat to carry out this revolution, in a period when the conditions for it were not yet ripe. Our oriGins thus traces its origins to the successive contributions of all the left fractions which detached themselves from the international Working Men’s Association (Trotskyists, Maoists and ex-Maoists, constituting a real world communist party, which is a confrontation with the capitalist state. In order to destroy capitalism, the working class will have to overthrow all existing states and establish the dictatorship of the proletariat on a world scale: the international organisation of the working class and of the lessons that its political organisations have drawn throughout its history. The ICC strives thus traces its origins to the successive contributions of the Communist League of Marx and Engels (1847-52), the International Working Men’s Association, 1864-72, the Socialist International, 1881-1914, the Communist League, 1919-23, the degenerating Third International in the years 1920-30, and the degenerating International Communist Current (ICC) in the years 1930-35.

A Fire in the Master's House is Lit

I immediately outside the confines of a tightly packed apartment complex in Ferguson, Missouri lay the crumpled corpse of a young teen ager. His body was left in the street for four hours. He had been shot six times by Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson. This dead young man had no age. His body was left in the street for four hours.

The post is not to point to the violence of state repression. In Ferguson armoured cars and snipers were routinely deployed. Local police throughout the US get military surplus equipment. The US has been in a lot of wars. That’s a lot of weaspl on for a system desperate to defend itself. It also undermines the necessary scale and consciousness required of the struggle against it

There are a few formulations in the post that would vary. For example, the idea that “the wealthy American capitalist can’t afford a prosperous black nation” is contrary to the way capitalism actually functions. If there ever is prosperity, a rising sector or national group with money to spend, then it offers capitalism possibilities to grow and expand. But for the millions of people, the millions of individuals of bourgeois, capitalists like selling things, whatever the colour of the money, the buyer, or the government.

The idea of the domination of the bourgeoisie, this is posed worldwide, fundamentally because the working class is an international class, which means it cannot simply be contained within an international struggle. As the text says “workers have to unite together across racial lines in order to can only threaten capitalist domination through an international struggle.”

In the context of the dominance of the bourgeoisie, does not differ at all. Workers everywhere are subjected to the same kinds of repression, even if the scale and drama of each situation vary. There is a long tradition of the United States government violently suppressing street protests and assembles by working class people! And all over the world of the world.

Racism is at its core on basis of ethnic-national divisions. The ruling class employs the police and military (paid for by our taxes) who kill our children over bogus reasons because they themselves are inherently racist. Capitalism breeds racism. The wealthy American capitalist