Letters from our readers

9 March 2010

On "Three children perish in Detroit house fire"

You write, "While DTE Energy says that it is company policy for a representative to try to speak with a resident before turning off utilities, when asked by the WSWS, the agency could not confirm whether it had talked with anyone living at the Bangor Street home ahead of time." What difference would this "talk" have made? The family clearly has no resources to pay. This is a tragic, inexcusable incident. I'm disgusted with their "policy". My God, what has become of our world? I'm devastated and slowly losing hope for change. My power almost got shut off and PG&E's suggestion was to place a deposit of $500.00 and set up a payment plan for the past-due amount and promise to stay current. I was right on it. I told them to wait just a minute while I pulled the money out of my ***. Really, that's the option? Something really needs to be done. I allowed my car payment to fall behind in order to prevent my power from being shut off. Should I be worried that my car might be repossessed? What's the solution...? I want to help.

Araceli B
California, USA
4 March 2010

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I'm so sorry to hear about those kids. They didn't even get a chance to live their life… Lord please look over those other kids.

Kawana
Michigan, USA
5 March 2010

On "NUMMI auto workers denounce UAW intimidation"

The questions the workers are posing are so important and the outright theft and fraud the UAW is perpetrating should warrant arrests. The UAW are the group committing crimes, including calling the police on the workers who are in a building, where the rent of the building is paid for by the workers! Despicable, absolutely despicable. Unfortunately, this is an all too common practice.

Thank you for these interviews, and all that you are doing to help the working class.

Luana T
3 March 2010

On "Finance capital and the Greek debt crisis"

Let me see if I understand this. The state underwrites the activities of finance capital. The resulting continual transfer of resources by the state (from the working class to the bankers, etc.) involves the public destruction of its ideological neutrality. Meanwhile, the bankers, etc. have a financial incentive to promote the political weakness of their own state, to speculate on the inability of the state that protects them to meet its debt obligations. So Catch-22 has merged with Wall Street. If your description is correct, the economic and social crisis is in the first phase.

Chris
Ireland
6 March 2010

On "Military occupation of earthquake-ravaged region expands in Chile"

The situation is still quite tense. People wonder a lot—where all the disorganization comes from. Now they are discussing, why have there been so many false alarms about looting and robbing? In my part of the city, there have been false alarms every now and then. I think they do it to suppress more and more recent demonstrations against mishandling. Still, who is culpable for the not warning of the tsunami in central regions, the impact of which has been devastating?

The politicians are seeking to take advantage from the situation, such as the ridiculous pictures from Lula and Hilary Clinton offering ironically small support for Chile. In order to prevent any kind of questioning, the authorities try to make ONEMI responsible for the failed logistics

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and escalation of situation in the south.

It is completely off, as PDI and the army, instead of helping the population, tried to get “stolen” or taken articles back. It shows clearly the reason why they are in the region in the first place. There is a difference between taking hard needed goods and supplies, and the horrible image the media is creating from the regions, like stealing and destroying.

Kathy
5 March 2010

On “Diane Sawyer and ABC News pay tribute to remote control drone killings”

Textron Systems, a manufacturer of drones, cluster bombs, and other “weapons systems” for the “war-fighter of today” finds such news reports so flattering that it currently features one on its website.

Lesley Stahl, reporting for CBS’s 60 Minutes, gives a similarly shameless and revolting report on the drones in a 2008 piece about “the fight for Sadr City” in Iraq. Bragging about her exclusive access into US Army meetings, she smiles with glee upon hearing that “the enemy” can’t even hear the drones about to end their life. Drone footage of “insurgents” being killed is proudly displayed in the segment, and she narrates with satisfaction that “an estimated 700 of the militia fighters were killed…6 Americans died.”

As part of the operation, the US Army also constructed a wall through Sadr city, cutting off the population and forcing them to travel through checkpoints. US General: “And again that’s to limit the freedom of the…ah…insurgents…for the most part.” To footage of generic landscape murals on the walls, Stahl notes without irony or comment that “local artists [have painted] peaceful, happy scenes that have to be approved by the US Army.”

Jeff L
6 March 2010

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