GLOBAL RESISTANCE AGAINST POLICE VIOLENCE

U.S. police are an instrument of state violence used against Black, Brown, and poor people in the United States and internationally. While policing local communities, they also exchange strategies and weapons with police and military forces around the world.

POLICE TRAINING

- The Israeli military, facilitated by the U.S. government, the U.S.-based Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), has trained more than 14,000 law enforcement officials from police departments in “counter-terrorism” and population control used to target communities and repress popular protest throughout the U.S., training of former St. Louis County Police Dept Chief (Ferguson), the NYPD and the Oakland Police Dept.

- For the past 5 years, BART police have participated in a police exchange with the Philippine National Police (PNP), including training on “counter-terrorism” and “crowd control.” The PNP and Philippine military have been responsible for assassinations, enforced disappearances, and other human rights violations. BART police also have a history of brutal force, including the 2009 killing of Oscar Grant.

- The New York Police Department, responsible for the murder of Eric Garner, has branches in Israel and the Philippines and is now helping to train police in Haiti. Haitian police fired on unarmed, pro-democracy demonstrators in November, killing at least two people, and have repeatedly attacked peaceful mass demonstrations with live ammunition, clubs, and chemical agents.

WEAPONS AND DRONES

- Urban Shield is an international SWAT team training and weapons expo host-ed for the past several years by the Alameda County Sheriff’s Dept which brings together local, regional and global police-military units to share tactics and market military-grade weapons to attending law enforcement for use against people in the countries they police.

- The U.S. and Israel control a combined 60% of the drone market, used globally to spy on populations and movements, and execute targeted assassinations absent any due process.

- Merida Initiative: The U.S. has provided more than $1.5 billion to the Mexican Government to help the country “fight its powerful drug cartels and organized crime networks,” which, in reality, has only fueled violence, instability and repression of the country’s population at the hands of government and other paramilitary forces, leaving over 35,000 people dead. Recent examples of paramilitary abuses include the disappearance of 43 students and the sexual assault and rape of dozens of female detainees.

- From 2009-2013, the Stop the Injunctions Coalition led a successful campaign to stall the use of civil gang injunctions in Oakland, CA. The coalition of organizers, 3rd World Liberation groups, legal support, cultural workers, and educators not only made gang injunctions a politically unfavorable policy, they also mobilized residents to reject further zero-tolerance policing schemes such as youth curfews and anti-loitering laws.

- After powerful Arab, Black, Latino, Asian and Queer organizing, San Francisco and Alameda County passed resolutions in 2013 withdrawing from the “Secure Communities” program (S-Comm), a federal-local collaboration criminalizing communities of color and dramatically increasing deportations by requiring local police to act as agents of federal immigration enforcement.

- During the attacks on Ferguson, Palestinians in Gaza expressed their solidarity with Black activists who were facing the tear gas with which they are so familiar.

THIRD WORLD RESISTANCE FOR BLACK POWER

Because racism, policing, military violence, occupation and colonialism are intertwined, they must be resisted together. The links we make today across our struggles build on a long history of joint struggle and international solidarity—from Buffalo soldiers/Black army corps members who defected by the dozens to join the Philippine Liberation Army fighting U.S. colonization at the turn of the 20th century, to the movement against the Vietnam War and the Black, Chicano, Southeast Asian, Filipino and Native liberation struggles of the 1960s and 70s to today’s international protests against racist policing, U.S. military occupation and attacks and repression across the globe.

RECENT VICTORIES AND EXAMPLES OF JOINT STRUGGLE

- Urban Shield victory: In a major organizing victory following strong resistance by Black, Arab and anti-polici-ing/anti-repression groups in the Bay Area against Urban Shield, in 2014, Oakland Mayor Jean Quan announced the city will no longer host the event.

- During the 2011 California Prisoner Hunger Strike, strikers created and released an Agreement to End Hostilities – a historic agreement of solidarity between prisoners from different racial and ethnic backgrounds and different geographic locations.

- From 2009-2013, the Stop the Injunctions Coalition led a successful campaign to stall the use of civil gang injunctions in Oakland, CA. The coalition of organizers, 3rd World Liberation groups, legal support, cultural workers, and educators not only made gang injunctions a politically unfavorable policy, they also mobilized residents to reject further zero-tolerance policing schemes such as youth curfews and anti-loitering laws.

- After powerful Arab, Black, Latino, Asian and Queer organizing, San Francisco and Alameda County

“Our only hope today lies in our ability to recapture the revolutionary spirit and go out into a sometimes hostile world declaring eternal hostility to poverty, racism, and militarism. With this powerful commitment we shall boldly challenge the status quo.”

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

#MLKshutitdown
#3rdworld4blackpower
#BlackPowerMatters