

Thu, Nov 9, 2023

CALIFORNIA



If you're a veteran or member of a military family, we are honoring you with action this week. And to all of our readers, we urge you to let your representatives know about the Third Reconstruction and its proposals for transforming the U.S. from a war economy to a peace economy. Details below, plus more insight from our national co-chairs on the crisis in Gaza.

Announcements



Tell Congress to honor veterans, commit to ending poverty and cosponsor House Resolution 532!

The military budget, which is 62 percent of U.S. discretionary spending, has devastating consequences for people in this country and around the globe. On Veteran's Day, let us honor those in the campaign who are veterans and members of military families with a call for a Third Reconstruction, which would redirect military spending to address the needs of the 140 million poor and low-wealth Americans. [H.Res.532](#) calls upon Congress to demilitarize U.S. foreign policy, reduce the Pentagon's budget, end "forever wars," choose diplomacy over aggression and more.



To highlight on Veteran's Day the impact of militarism and the war economy, we are lifting up Dr. King's prophetic speech "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence." We have given public readings of the speech for the last two years. Listen to the April 4, 2023 statewide reading [here](#).

Please share widely, including with your elected officials, to let them know that we need to transform our war economy into a peace economy. (Don't know who represents you? The League of Women Voters has [this handy tool.](#))



**Truth Commission on violence against hotel workers Thursday Nov 16, 5pm | [RSVP](#)
St. Augustine by-the-Sea Church (1227 Fourth St, Santa Monica)**

Striking hotel workers have been met with violence by hotel security, while unhoused migrant workers have been brought in to replace them during the strikes. This truth commission hearing will give you the opportunity to hear testimonies from workers and migrants who have been affected and exploited during the ongoing labor dispute, and to show your solidarity as their struggle continues.

For more about the striking hotel workers, see the news article below.

News



Le Méridien Delfina sees biggest protest yet

The March for Migrants protest in Santa Monica last Saturday drew a strong and loud crowd of supporters, including CA PPC members and partners, who shared their experiences and photos on social media. After picketing at Le Méridien Delfina and the

Viceroy, the gathering headed onto the Santa Monica pier to bring the message to the public. Marchers called on the hotel to come to an agreement on a fair increase in wages and to stop its reported practices of using vulnerable migrants as laborers—and paying them less—during the strike. Visit the [CLUE Facebook page](#) for a recap, and read more in the [Hollywood Reporter](#) and [Deadline](#).

Support the California PPC!

When over 140 million Americans are poor or living with low-wages, it's time for systemic change. We are building a movement led by poor and impacted folks, building across all lines of division, in order to topple the interlocking pillars of racism, poverty, militarism, environmental destruction and this country's distorted moral narrative. Please help us achieve this goal by clicking below and chipping in whatever you can.

DONATE

PPC in the media

“Roses Dressed in Black”

Writing in [TomDispatch](#), Rev. Theoharis lays out a few of the many absurdities that define our military priorities. Here’s one: “At a moment when the Republicans (and some Democrats) argue that we can’t afford universal healthcare or genuine living wages, the military budget for 2023 is \$858 billion and the Pentagon still maintains 750 military bases globally.” At the same time, she recognizes the many Americans who are beginning to question these priorities—and she uplifts the “eruption of nonviolent, propeace protests across the world.”

“We must stop the killing”

In a long [Twitter thread](#) posted over the weekend, Bishop Barber spoke of a growing, multifaith chorus calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. Acknowledging both the atrocities of October 7 and the “indiscriminate violence” taking place at the hands of the Netanyahu administration, he wrote, “I want to be w/ the beloved community that’s against antisemitism & Islamophobia, that loves the Jewish child & the Muslim child; the Black poor, the white poor, the Latino poor, the Asian poor, & the Native poor; people of faith & not of faith; gay, straight, trans & nonbinary.” Read the whole thread [here](#).

Thanks for reading. If you have any questions, you are welcome to reply to this newsletter or email california@poorpeoplescampaign.org.