Who's MAWO?
Mobilization Against War and Occupation is a coalition of over 50 endorsing organizations and also individual members, most of which are working class organizations, student groups, grassroots organizations, and ethnic communities. This is including Indigenous activists and groups from the third world as well as women, youth and elder fighters for social justice and against war and occupation. We are the people in struggle because we are people that suffer at the hands of imperialism. We have the energy, drive and will for change because it is in our interest to make this change in order to create a better world for all of humanity!

Get involved with MAWO!
Meetings & Forums on Tuesdays - 7:00PM
For location, please visit our website: mawovancouver.org
e. info@mawovancouver.org
t. 604-322-1764 f. 604-322-1763

* Next Organizing Meeting *
TUESDAY June 17 at 7 pm
Britannia Community Center - Learning Resource Centre
1661 Napier Street

Who is Private Manning “Soldier of Humanity”? To find out more about the case of Private Manning, pick up a brochure and petition from a MAWO info table or download one from our website www.mawovancouver.org

Endorsed by MAWO:

May 6, 2014
May 4 — Imagine a gathering of diverse activists in a medium-sized U.S. city, representing low-wage workers, communities mobilizing against police brutality and radical organizations. It might be an Occupy Wall Street encampment, a civil rights rally or anti-war conference. You may have attended such events yourself.

Now imagine this gathering was attacked by a thousand members of the Ku Klux Klan, dispatched with government approval. Consider that the Klan members, armed with gasoline bombs, baseball bats and firearms, chased the unarmed activists into a union hall and set fire to the building.

Suppose dozens of activists died in the fire, while others were shot dead or beaten to death while trying to escape the inferno. What if police then arrested survivors and the media blamed them for the blaze, while the bigots responsible were allowed to escape?

How would the workers’ and progressive movements respond to such an atrocity?

This is the horrific scenario that played out in Odessa, Ukraine, on May 2. Neo-Nazi gangs based in from western Ukraine marched through the city, posing as sports fans going to a soccer match. They attacked local anti-fascist activists who tried to block them outside a shopping center. The fascists set fire to the protest encampment set up by opponents of the U.S.-backed coup, forcing their unarmed opponents to retreat. Workers at the nearby House of Trade Unions opened their doors to shelter the activists. Then the neo-Nazis attacked the trade union building, setting it ablaze. Paramilitary goons fired guns into windows, killing and wounding those attempting to escape. Some activists leapt from high windows and survived, only to be beaten to death on the ground.

In 28, 46 anti-fascists were killed, most during the murderous attack on the trade union building. They included men and women, youths and seniors, activists and workers.

Photographs taken the following morning inside the trade union building show bodies charred beyond recognition, some having been shot, others suffocated or burned to death while half-hanging out of windows.

Some of the survivors were arrested. The killers were allowed to leave, to be used again another day.

On May 4, more than 1,000 courageous Odessans protested outside police headquarters and forced the authorities to release arrested anti-fascist protesters, including survivors of the attack on the trade union building. As they were released, the people chanted, “Heroes!”

Washington’s guilty silence

From the government of Russia to the European Left parliamentary group, angry messages of protest against the massacre and condolences for the people of Odessa poured in. But in Washington, there was silence — though President Obama did find time to praise Kiev’s attack on cities in the rebellious Donetsk region to “restore order.” So far, 13 unarmed activists and civilians in Slavyansk and 10 more in Kramatorsk have been killed in this latest offensive, falsely labeled “anti-terrorist.”

The corporate media have tied themselves in knots to avoid reporting the truth about Odessa. For example, a May 2 Reuters news agency
Corporate media have always lied about the real reasons for the war, from Vietnam and Iraq to Syria and Afghanistan. If you turn on CNN or Fox News, read the corporate media, you are getting the real story. Here are 10 things the U.S. government wants you to know about the ongoing war in Ukraine.

1. Washington planned the coup in Ukraine. Ukraine's government overthrew the elected government of Yanukovych, who participated in a referendum that chose to leave Ukraine and affiliate with the Russian Federation. The U.S. had spent $5 billion funding the so-called “anti-fascist movement in the southeast.” When preparing for war, the U.S. had a plan to overthrow the elected government. They have been caught on tape plotting who would be the puppet leader of the new regime.

2. The coup leaders hired snipers to justify the overthrow. The U.S. government hired mercenaries to kill protesters peacefully demonstrating against the overthrow of the elected government. They were blamed for the killings and this was used to justify the coup.

3. Oil and gas pipelines in Ukraine supply fuel to Russia. Big Oil wants to cut the flow to Russia and hike their own profits. The U.S. has even offered the new government gas from dangerous fracking drilling in Russia! The U.S. is using its own military force to cut off the flow of gas to Russia and Russia – to put up profits and push the new leaders with no quarrel in the parliament.

4. There has been no Russian invasion. Western corporate media won't report that Russia is invading Ukraine. It's a Big Lie meant to cover up the real reason the coup regime is at war against the Ukraine government.

5. Power for the 1%, misery for workers. The coup against the elected government. They have used their military force to force out the elected government of Yanukovych, who was a far rightist Arsen Avakov.

6. Wall Street and Big Oil want to control the oil and gas pipelines in Ukraine. Wall Street and Big Oil are demanding that Russian gas not be allowed to flow to Europe. They are using the Ukraine coup to control the oil and gas pipelines to Europe.

7. NATO's drive to expand. The coup regime has caved in to the demands of the U.S. government to expand NATO. The coup leaders have caved in to the demands of the U.S. government to expand NATO at the cost of the people of Ukraine.

8. Billion for coup in Ukraine, cuts for food stamps in U.S. In early February, Congress and the Obama administration agreed to cut SNAP food assistance benefits for hungry families by 8.7 billion dollars. The same amount the U.S. had spent to overthrow the elected government of Yanukovych.

9. Power for the 1%, misery for workers. One out of 10 workers was laid off in the spring of 2014, just as we helped mobilize workers in the USA and around the world to stop the threat of immediate war in August 2013. At that time, Obama failed to secure congressional approval for an attack on Syria, while public opinion polls in the USA were running overwhelmingly against an overt U.S. military intervention. At that time the USA was bringing in 500 troops a day into Iraq, which in turn is bringing in 500 troops a day from the USA. The USA is on the warpath. Fresh from a disastrous regime-change operation, utilizing extreme right wing and fascist forces, the US government is trying to build a coalition to bomb Syria and Ukraine, and an on-going destabilization campaign against the elected government in Venezuela, which has been helping people. The U.S. government is demanding that the Syrian government be overthrown.

10. People across Ukraine are fighting back. People in Eastern Ukraine and throughout the country are organizing against the coup. Some have taken over regional and city buildings and are demanding independence from the authorities. Others are marching on military bases and demanding that the troops not obey the orders of the coup leaders. People are calling on the Russian government to protect and support the elected government of Yanukovych. The government of Libya was neither unwilling nor unable to defend itself against attacks by the western-backed “rebels” based in Benghazi. It also didn't challenge the no-fly zone. Yet, the air forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) quickly imposed the no-fly zone, which included 226-day bombing campaign (with 26,500 air sorties) for regime change in Libya. The result was to allow the rebels to commit mass war crimes, the wholesale destruction of Libya's military, and the military defeat of the Libyan rebels by the “rebels” against black people in Libya, and the demobilization of Libya into chaos, war, and death.

The talks collapsed because, from his very first speech there, US Secretary of State John Kerry called for the removal of Syrian President Assad. Kerry threatened that the U.S. government for Syria take place. Kerry went so far to lie: he said he was just repeating the “American people’s will.” Nothing could have been further from the truth. The American people are overwhelmingly against any increase in the war on Syria. Kerry was Adam Schiff, the US congressman from California, who said on June 30, 2012 (from the Geneva Conference #1). Nothing could have been further from the truth. The American people are overwhelmingly against any increase in the war on Syria.

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Kerry personally delivered the first billion on March 4.

The power for the 1%, misery for workers. The new regime has appointed wealthy oligarchs as governors of rebellious regions of Eastern Ukraine and the Crimea. The new government has imposed an IMF austerity plan drafted by Washington to cut jobs, wages, public services and social programs – just like the cut-backs after the coup.

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