

## Judge rules Trump plotted a coup, warns nation of potential rerun



By Mark Gruenberg

**T**hen-GOP Oval Office occupant Donald Trump plotted a coup to stay in power even after multiple presentations to him showing he lost the 2020 presidential election, a federal judge declared on March 27.

And unless the country becomes—and stays—vigilant, it could see a rerun, “undermining democracy,” U.S. District Judge David Carter of the federal court in Los Angeles warns.

Judge Carter’s evaluation came as he ruled against an attempt by John Eastman, a self-described constitutional law expert and a law professor at Chapman University, to keep key documents and e-mails from a subpoena by the House Committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, Trumpite insurrection and invasion of the U.S. Capitol.

On March 28, Judge Carter rejected Eastman’s case, in scathing language.

“Dr. Eastman and President Trump launched a campaign to overturn a democratic election, an action unprecedented in American history,” the judge stated at the end of his 44-page ruling. “Their campaign was not confined to the ivory tower—it was a coup in search of a legal theory.

“The plan spurred violent attacks on the seat of our nation’s government”—the Trumpite insurrection—and “led to the deaths of several law enforcement officers, and deepened public distrust in our political

process.”

Eastman’s own memo deepened that distrust, too, Judge Carter said. That’s because his memo, and Trump’s speech to the crowd, which gathered near the White House on January 6 before thousands of them marched on the Capitol, provided the justification for their attack.

“More than a year after the attack on our Capitol, the public is still searching for accountability. This case cannot provide it,” Judge Carter wrote.

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“The court is tasked only with deciding a dispute over a handful of e-mails. This is not a criminal prosecution; this is not even a civil liability suit.

“At most, this case is a warning about the dangers of ‘legal theories’ gone wrong, the powerful abusing public platforms, and desperation to win at all costs.

**U.S. District Judge David Carter of the federal court in L.A. warns it could happen again.**

“If Dr. Eastman and President Trump’s plan had worked, it would have permanently ended the peaceful transition of power, undermining American democracy and the Constitution.

Carter ruled on Eastman’s e-mails because the committee’s probe now includes the runup to the invasion, starting after Trump lost the November election to Democratic nominee Joe Biden.

Eastman’s key memo to Trump detailed a plan to overturn the electoral votes of six swing states—Georgia, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Nevada, and Arizona—plus New Mexico, thus throwing the decision into the U.S. House, where Trump would win on a one-state, one-vote partisan count.

The alternative, Eastman added, would have Vice President Mike Pence toss those seven electoral vote certifications back to the states for a 10-day “recount.”

Then the Trumpites tried to overturn the electoral vote count by invading. Their invasion included

seeking out lawmakers and Pence, for retribution. Chants resounded of “Hang Mike Pence!” The invaders had erected a hangman’s noose on the Capitol lawn.

Since the election, the House committee discovered that conspiracy “to commit fraud” on the U.S. by Trump and his cadres, Eastman included. Eastman then claimed lawyer-client privilege for the backup documents and e-mails showing planning and proposals for that conspiracy.

The committee said there’s a “fraud” exception to that lawyer-client privilege, and that Carter couldn’t exercise it in any case, because he was advising Trump on political issues, not legal matters. Carter agreed and ruled for the committee.

The committee is reportedly still debating whether it should subpoena lawmakers who willingly cooperated with Trump—such as Cruz and Hawley—or, like House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., who supposedly tried to get him to call off the invasion.

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## **Tucson tenants organize to fight evictions and soaring rents**

**By Joe Bernick**

**S**ome fifty tenants and supporters rallied and picketed Tucson’s eastside Monterey Garden apartment complex protesting evictions and unconscionable rent increases on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 22.

After learning of sweeping evictions taking place at Monterey Garden Apartments the Tucson Tenants Union, joined by Jobs with Justice Arizona, and Casa Maria Catholic Worker Collective delivered a letter to Complex Management demanding they explore options for vulnerable tenants at risk of immediate eviction more time to find new, adequate housing.

After canvassing the premises and speaking with dozens of Monterey Garden residents The Tenants Union learned that most tenants have been denied lease renewals while only a select few were allowed to renew. The majority of these tenants are low-income, disabled, and/or recipients of Section 8 housing vouchers.

The Tenants union noted a pattern of misleading, coercive, and unethical behavior by the management company. Some tenants also reported code violations and predatory fines being added to their rent.

The Landlord claims this mass eviction is needed

to remodel, and raise rents. The Tenants union points to many better options for keeping tenants housed during remodeling. Tenants can be temporarily moved to other units, or the remodeling can be delayed while tenants are given the time to secure housing elsewhere. Many vulnerable residents are in direct danger of becoming homeless.

The Tenants union called the action to bring attention to this grave injustice, noting, “We want to send a resounding message to management companies and landlords, here and across the city, that housing is a human right and tenants are not alone... The right to universal safe and secure housing will only be won with a movement that builds collective power and is led by those most affected: communities of color and the working poor.”

Jobs with Justice leader, Steve Valencia, explained that the problem is a structural crisis of capitalism and that a tremendously large movement is needed to make for humane policies. “We can’t win these battles without solidarity”, he added.

After the short rally participants walked the half block to Speedway for an anti-eviction picket where they were greeted with honks of support from Rush hour commuters.

**Tucson Tenants Union mobilizes to support tenants at a large housing complex, Monterey Garden Apartments, demanding Complex Management explore options for vulnerable tenants at risk of immediate eviction more time to find new, adequate housing.**

# People's World is a key resource against weapons of mass disinformation



By Chauncey K. Robinson

According to a recently conducted Pew Research Center survey, a large majority of Americans are getting their news from digital devices. The share of people who prefer to get their news online has been growing steadily for years. In 2010 People's World was ahead of the curve, as it often is, in making the transition to a daily online publication to be part of this ever growing terrain, and to be where the masses were growing and seeking information. With our presence online we continue to step up to the increasing danger in the digital sphere of disinformation, misinformation, and capitalist propaganda that seeks to keep the people powerless.

Climate change, the global pandemic, extreme right-wing domestic terrorism, and the fight for living wages, are just a number of issues we've strived to give analysis and information in the interests of working people.

When corporate media overlooked the gutting of key issues in President Biden's Build Back Better plan, we made sure to highlight what was lost, and who was responsible. Such as our story on how Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., who pockets \$500,000 per year from dirty coal, would not support legislation that included any type of clean electricity program.

As public figures online have tried to drum up conspiracy theories about voter fraud and the big lie of a stolen presidential election, People's World has stayed on top of the real threat to our democ-

racy— voter suppression. The GOP has continued to attack the voting rights of working people and that deserves more coverage across all forms of media.

These are just two examples of the many issues People's World has given consistent coverage to over the years. This could not be possible without your financial support for this publication. We are sure you will agree that the perspective we give, and the topics we give priority to, are not the kinds of stories you read in the mainstream media.

People's World supporters have already contributed \$30,000 toward our \$75,000 goal. With your generous donation, I'm sure we will reach our goal by May 1.

The last two years have been tumultuous across the world. Things have seemed dire for so many. There have been setbacks, but there have also been victories. Throughout it all, People's World has been there to report on it, and provide a viewpoint that takes the side of working people.

Donations of \$10, \$25, \$50, or however much you can give, are invaluable to keeping the great work at People's World going.

Your contribution to PW helps to keep building on top of the legacy of working-class journalism from our founding as the Daily Worker in 1924.

Last year we reached over 2 million readers. Let's make it 2 million more because when people are exposed to honest journalism, they're less likely to fall prey to information that aims to lead them astray.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Last year alone we reached over 2 million readers. Let's make it 2 million more because when people are exposed to honest journalism, they're less likely to fall prey...**

## Greek workers and peace activists rally in 'people's port' of Piraeus

By Steve Sweeney

**G**reek workers and peace activists staged a mass anti-war rally as the French aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle arrived in the port of Piraeus in Athens on March 24.

Organizers described Piraeus as "a port of the peoples, not of the war or imperialists."

The Labour Centre of Piraeus denounced what it described as "Russia's imperialist intervention in Ukraine" and said that it stood "in solidarity with the people that find themselves at the center of war."

"Competition in the region of Ukraine over the control of wealth-producing and energy resources, trade routes, and spheres of influence among imperialist powers has resulted in the loss of dozens of people every day, including many children," it said in a statement.

"The working class in Greece has no interest in aligning behind one or the other imperialist. The interests of the workers are in conflict with the aspirations and objectives of all those who are currently waging the war."

"The Ukrainian people have been paying for at least a decade for the antagonisms and interventions for the sharing of markets and spheres of influence between the US, NATO, and the EU and the strategy of 'Euro-Atlantic enlargement,' on the one hand, and, on the other, the strategy of the capitalist Russian Federation for its own exploitative plans to the detriment of the people, to strengthen its own imperialist coalition in the region of the former Soviet Union," a statement from its political committee said.

## 'Zoot Suit Riots': guerras culturales en tiempos de guerra en Los Ángeles

By Michael Berkowitz

**E**l martes 29 de marzo, Public Broadcasting Service transmitió Zoot Suit Riots, del escritor y director Joseph Tovares, la historia de los disturbios raciales masivos de 1942-1943 que fueron provocados por los arrestos policiales de 600 jóvenes mexicano-estadounidenses. Los Ángeles y las continuas batallas callejeras entre blancos y mexicoamericanos, y el juicio masivo más grande en la historia de California.

Los arrestos y disturbios se produjeron después de que una fiesta el 1 de agosto de 1942 se estrelló en el pozo de natación de Sleepy Lagoon. La fiesta degeneró en una pelea que acabó con la vida de José Díaz. Se realizaron arrestos masivos basados en la raza. Los acusados fueron secuestrados juntos, se les negó una defensa adecuada, se les mantuvo alejados de sus abogados e incluso se les negó el derecho a limpiar, cambiarse de ropa y comer cuando los sacaron de la calle o de su trabajo. Esta táctica parecía ser un castigo previo al juicio y un intento de la acusación de hacer que los acusados mexicano-estadounidenses lucieran culpables.

A pesar del vigor equivocado de la acusación, el asesinato nunca se resolvió. En cambio, el caso ha pasado a la historia como un hito de la expresión del miedo basado en la raza y la presunción de culpabilidad.

Históricamente, California había pertenecido a México. El estado albergaba la mayor concentración de mexicanos étnicos fuera de México. Como respuesta a la terrible economía de la Gran Depresión, el gobierno federal había deportado a casi 2 millones de personas de etnia mexicana.

Se estima que un millón de ellos eran ciudadanos estadounidenses, sacados ilegalmente de su tierra natal. En su situación de californianos descendientes de mexicanos, no es que cruzaran la frontera sino que, en 1848, ila frontera los cruzó a ellos!

Las deportaciones fueron claramente motivadas por diferencias culturales. Los informes de los periódicos, las historias de la radio y los boletines de la policía destacaron las diferencias en la apariencia y el comportamiento como amenazantes. El atuendo de Zoot Suit mostraba telas de colores brillantes, muy afilados sobre trajes largos con hombros acolchados adornados con amplias joyas llamativas, a menudo pantalones holgados, sombreros de pastel de cerdo y tratamientos para el cabello idiosincrásicos. Cabe señalar que este estilo tiene sus raíces en la cultura afroamericana. Se atacaron las reuniones sociales, así como los negocios de latinos e incluso las celebraciones religiosas.

La notoria fuerza policial discriminatoria de Los Ángeles, unos 50.000 militares en tiempos de guerra y miles de vigilantes, estimulados por los medios de comunicación populares y el boca a boca, atacaron lo que vieron como un enemigo interno. Los peores disturbios estallaron durante la primera semana de junio de 1943, cuando mexicoamericanos, negros y asiáticos fueron golpeados y expulsados de las calles. Los taxistas ofrecían viajes gratis para que los militares fueran a las zonas de combate de los vecindarios para mantener a los mexicoamericanos en su lugar. Se quemaron la ropa colorida y las pertenencias personales de las minorías. Los Zoot Suits étnicamente populares fueron prohibidos.