

invasion day is nothing to celebrate



**Always Was
Always Will Be
Aboriginal Land**

26 January is Invasion Day. It commemorates the start of the British invasion of Aboriginal Australia in 1788 and the dispossession and genocide of Australia's Indigenous peoples. Indigenous people have resisted this from the beginning and their resistance continues today. Sovereignty has never been ceded, the land has never been sold. We support Aboriginal and Islander rights to self determination.

The Indigenous struggle is a workers' issue. We cannot let the capitalists divide us into Indigenous and non-Indigenous. We cannot let the capitalists make Indigenous people the scapegoat for their own problems or for the injustices that non-Indigenous workers experience. Only the capitalists win if that happens.

The Indigenous struggle is a union issue. Our unions bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous workers together. Our unions can fight for payment of the Stolen Wages. Our unions can fight for the right of Indigenous people to keep their

languages. Our unions can fight for land rights. By fighting racism, we strengthen our unions.

The Indigenous struggle is a global issue. Around the world, Indigenous people fight for their rights. Indigenous people fight against deforestation in Malaysia, against dispossession by mining companies in the Philippines, against dispossession by dams in Canada, against State persecution in Chile, for self determination in West Papua and for language and cultural rights everywhere. Capitalism is the same the world over and wherever there are Indigenous people, it commits the same crimes against them.

The Indigenous struggle is an issue for workers around the world. Capitalists organise production globally and play on national divisions to secure advantage. The only way to fight global crimes is with global struggle. Our unions must organise internationally to defend Indigenous rights.

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