

The National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA) sends its deepest condolences to our allies the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 10, on the passing of comrade Howard Keylor, may his soul rest in peace.

Comrade Howard was a long time Bay Area Political activist and retired San Francisco longshore militant. He is *one of the founding members of the Bolshevik Tendency (BT) wi*th a conviction in the power of the working class to change the world. As a longtime member of ILWU Local 10, he organized and worked in a rank-and-file caucus with the goal of establishing a class struggle leadership.

With his passion for social justice, he put forward the resolution passed in 1984 to strike the next ship to arrive in the port of San Francisco from apartheid South Africa. Calling such cargo "hot cargo, too hot to handle." Workers refused to unload goods shipped from South Africa, this was a boycott action lasting 11 days at the San Francisco pier. NUMSA continues to be inspired by ILWU as a union, as well as its leadership for continuing to pursue class struggle as the only guarantee for fundamental change and its commitment to international solidarity as a critical pillar of the struggle for socialism. As NUMSA leadership that is privileged to lead our union, we salute his revolutionary contribution and his generation of leadership. Indeed, we lower our banners for this stalwart of the revolution that stood for justice right till the end.

We send our deep sincere heart felt message of condolence to the Keylor family, ILWU Local 10 and all workers around the world who have been inspired by his life. We will always draw inspiration from this leader of class struggle in mobilising and advancing revolutionary Trade Unionism and international solidarity with the poor and oppressed throughout the world.

Issues by NUMSA General Secretary Irvin Jim 24 October 2024