

northstar compass

ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE VOL.13 #5,DEC.2004

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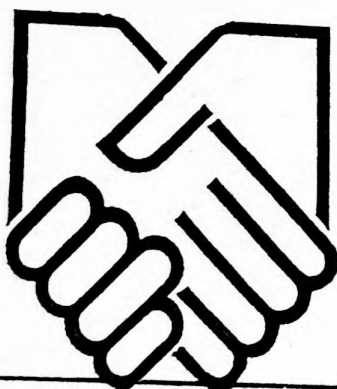
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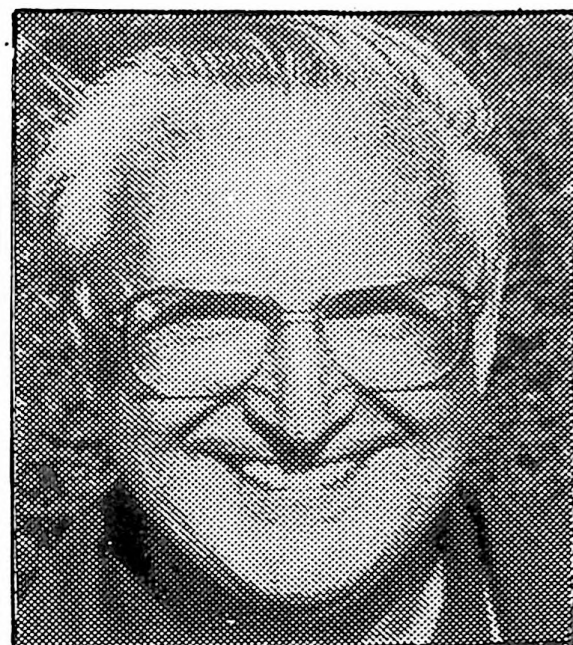
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VIC RATSMA- YOU WILL BE MISSED!



It is never an easy task to try and put into words the deep sadness on the loss of a friend and a comrade in the struggles that all of us were and are involved in. It is especially hard and heart-wrenching to report to our readers in 68 countries of the world that we all have lost one of the most popular columnists that the readers of NSC have learned to appreciate, learn from and to try emulate his devotion to Socialism and the need for the struggle against imperialism and the real danger of the US New World Order!

Vic Ratsma, after struggling long with cancer, finally passed away November 17, 2004 at the hospital in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, with his family beside him as he faded away. A fighter for the cause and peace in the world until his last breath.

Vic was born in The Netherlands and came to Canada, worked as a quality control inspector for the Canada Post, besides raising his family in the city of Winnipeg.

He was the Secretary of the Winnipeg Branch of the Canada-USSR Association for many years and, of all the 42 branches of the Association across Canada, Winnipeg Branch was the only one that had a Cable TV show for close to ten years, showing Soviet Films, interviewing Soviet delegates that came to Canada, besides informing the viewers about the latest developments in the USSR. Vic was the producer and the host of this very important work of building friendship between Canada and the USSR.

He was sent as a delegate to the Soviet Union as a guest of the USSR-Canada Society. He made many trips to Holland to see his family and he corresponded and wrote articles for many international newspapers and many of his articles appeared on the Internet web pages. His many articles were translated in

countries like Nepal, India, Russia, The Netherlands, Ukraine and many others.

Vic took a very active and leading part in the many Canada-USSR conferences that were held regularly.

We all can learn from Vic Ratsma – his devotion to the complex problems that we encountered, his disposition and zeal to promote a united front in our work and above all – his comradeship and friendship that everyone admired.

Vic was very enthusiastic and planned to attend the forthcoming Second World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People that will be held in 2005.

Even though you will not be present at this very important Congress, your spirit and your dedication will permeate amongst all of the delegates gathered there from around the world.

We are sending our deepest condolences to his family here in Canada and in the Netherlands, and, to all of his many friends here in Canada and in other countries where NSC is read.

On behalf of the Editorial Board of NSC and on behalf of the Executive Committee of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People –

Michael Lucas
Editor of NSC
Chairman of the International Council

Dear friends:

I am sending this e-mail of condolences from my Grandfather, David Mackling on the passing away of his friend Vic Ratsma.

As someone who has witnessed my Grandfather's passion for what he always calls "**the cause**", I can tell you that Vic was truly one of Grandpa's "**Guiding Lights**". It's sad when we lose some one with so

much passion, whether you agree with every stand or not.

Greg Mackling, Grandson

It is with much sadness that we learned of the death of our dear friend and comrade, Vic Ratsma.

I am sure that all the members of our former Winnipeg Branch of the Canada-USSR Association will share with me the loss of someone that was loved and respected by many.

Vic was a tireless worker for so many years and he shall be long remembered for his devotion to the cause.

On behalf of Vic's many friends in Winnipeg, we send our most sincere sympathy to Vic's family.

David Mackling
Past Chairman
Canada-USSR Association

About comrade Vic Ratsma!

Holding in my hand his obituary from the Chronicle Herald of Nova Scotia, we extend our condolences to his family, some living in Canada and others in Holland where Vic was born. I respectfully write about Vic's internationalism.

Vic will be remembered not only as a husband, father, grandfather, a good friend, but also as an investigative journalist with very special abilities of understanding the needs of the working class. He explained problems in a way that was easily understood.

I remember one time discussing with Vic about working class songs.

We both sang Solidarity Forever in Toronto at a gathering. We went through many songs and Vic said that people all over the world are singing these songs, whether in Holland, the Soviet Union, America or Africa.

Today in our home we sang some of these songs and dedicated them to Vic, But Vic Ratsma the journalist lives on, for just today, as I opened the latest issue of NSC, on page 17, I started to read Vic's article "Eying Africa" and how the corporate interests of the transnational corporations clearly are to blame for the suffering of the people of San Tome and Principe in West Africa.

Vic the internationalist journalist lives on. It's all there for our eyes to see.

Jerry Morse,
Canada

TO ALL READERS OF NSC!

We are deeply saddened by the death of our comrade Vic Ratsma and it will be a great loss to us who, together with Vic were the initiators of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People. His contribution and dedication should be a lesson and an inspiration to all of us.

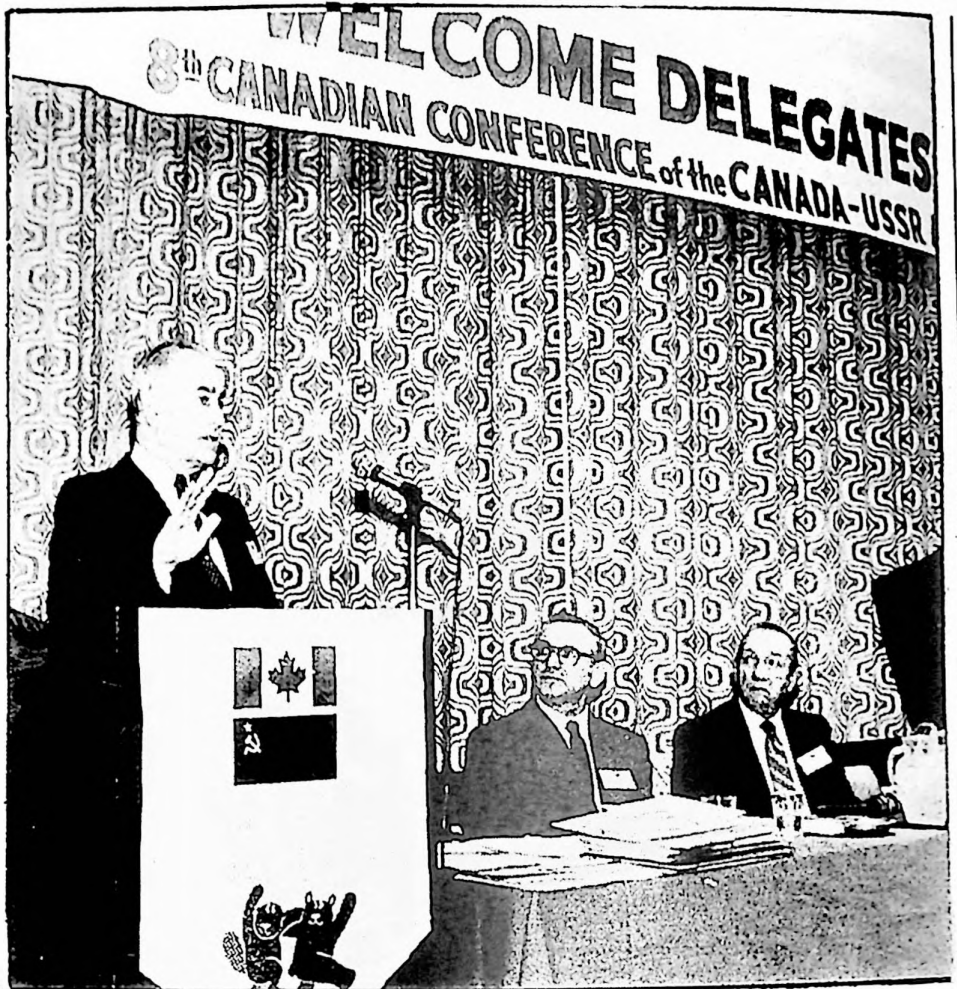
Executive Committee of the
International Council

VOICES FROM THE DEAD

BY W. VIC RATSMASMA

Quietly we lie, scattered cross the land
Separated from our comrades in battle,
returned home in a pre-paid coffin
draped by an American flag,
and put to rest in a hometown plot.
We are the dead.

They told us that we would be
heroes,
Fighting for noble cause.
Save our country, save their country.
They'll welcome us with open arms.
But no flowers, only bullets
Greeted us when we arrived.
And now we are dead.



Vic Ratsma as the Chairman at the 8th Conference of the Canada-USSR Association. At the microphone was Ambassador of the Soviet Union.

We may be silent, voices muted,
Yet we speak to hearts and minds.
Our noble cause, we know was terror
For us and for those in that far-away
land.
The ramparts we watched were not
ours to defend.

And the flag that we placed was a
thorn in their eyes.
No, this was no act of valor or glory
We were misled, deceived by our
own.
Too late we learned.
We are the dead.

A thousand voices like a choir are
rising,
Voices from our separate graves.
Who knows how many more will join
us,
Blown to pieces, by bombs and
grenades?
Do you hear us? People? Leaders?
Bring an end to this murderous act.
So others may live, be useful and
creative
For we, we are already dead.

We were Americans, just like you
African, Mexican, Indian, white
Americans.
Citizens from many walks of life,
Except for those from wealthy stock
Who yearned for war, but did not
flock to fight.
Their fight be fought by others
instead.
So they go on living,
while we are dead.

Must war be always a part of men
To satisfy their greed and
corruption?
To take what doesn't belong to them.
So they may live in wealthy
indulgence?
There is, we know, a better way.
One that meets peoples needs and
desires.

Let's battle disease and hunger
instead,
For that'll save lives, not destroy
them.
We speak from our graves to you
who still live.
To better the world while you can.
Life is too short, we know it full well.
For we, as you know, are the dead.

JUST UNFAIR, UNFAIR, UNFAIR

By ABU ASSUR

Mr. Bush, why are you killing all these simple, innocent people in Iraq? Why are you destroying their homes, the holy shrines, their churches and their mosques? Why are your troops raping their women and children and why is the mob that you sent here abusing them sexually? Just tell us what have the Iraqi people done to you or to the USA? Why did you send your troops to kill an elderly man praying in a mosque, a place of refuge and serenity? Haven't you been told that even a wild boar entering a church, is safe from any hunters? Mr. Bush, do you really realize what the US is doing in Iraq? Do you think just for a second about the tremendous consequences of your deeds?

You are telling the world that you are a Christian, a believer! How on earth can a Christian send his troops and death machines to slaughter innocent people who have done nothing to you or to your people? Do you have a Christian counselor, a Minister, and a God fearing man to listen to?

Did you see Mr. Bush the horrifying scene of your soldiers shooting in a mosque - God's dwelling place - shooting a wounded defenseless old man. Is this the

freedom you came to preach in Iraq? Is this the democracy that you want to impose on Iraq? Is this what your Gospel and God tells you to do? Mr. Bush, have you read your bible lately, not just carry it under your arm? Do you know that every innocent Iraqi you are killing is the image of a Christ that you are crucifying every day in Iraq?

Mr. Bush, I know that professional killers surround you, but by shooting a wounded elderly man in a mosque, you are shooting all humanity and you are killing every human noble practice. This old man, killed by US soldiers during the prayers for Iraq - the world condemns US because this

is outright murder, Mr. Bush.

Yes, Mr. Bush, your country crucified Iraq for thirteen years, killing thousands of innocent civilians through the inhuman embargo, and you are devastating this country by using the most horrible chemical, nuclear and biological weapons.

Mr. Bush, where is your human conscience? If you don't know what a conscience is, then where is your touted Christian education? How can you sleep at night or be respected by your own family and daughters, when they see what the US is doing in Iraq?

Mr. Bush, when someone is that violent, it doesn't mean that he is strong. In fact, and this is a proven psychoanalytical point of view, it demonstrates that he is frightened to death. When you exercise violence



towards others, it really means that you are violent to yourself, towards your kin and towards your family.

As you know violence as a practice can't be split (*i.e. I am violent with others but I am forgiving and serene with my people*) No, this doesn't work like that, unless a person concerned is a psychopath, or is badly suffering from a syndrome called schizophrenia, whose symptoms are the ambivalence of thoughts, feeling and paradoxical behavior, which makes that someone: out of touch with reality. Only your dual personality, Mr., Bush, can explain what is going on in Iraq! In the church you go to, you beg, "*forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors*" – while your troops are slaughtering the innocent in Bethlehem, I mean in Fallujah and elsewhere in Iraq. ■

DANGER OF REAL NATIONAL FASCISM IN UKRAINE

We received this via e-mail from our reader in Ukraine, who cannot give his name, due to the present danger there now.

Dear comrades:

Pease understand that Ukraine is now in danger of turning into Ukrainian National, Fascist state. History is repeating itself as was done in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Georgia.

The power struggle is not between a progressive and a national presidential candidate. They are both bourgeois nationalists. The struggle is between a nationalist and a national-fascist candidate, who is backed by Western Imperialism.

Why is former President of Poland Walesa of Solidarnosc there, why the organizers of the Rose Revolution in Georgia and of the Prague Velvet Revolution of Czechoslovakia there? Why are the NATO big brass working behind the scenes and pouring \$\$\$?

Friend of NSC

**We need your financial support for NSC and the Second World Congress
Sept. 23-24-25, 2005**

FRIENDSHIP NEWS

**FROM
CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ALL- RUSSIA SOCIETY FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH FOREIGN
COUNTRIES**

To:

**Chairman of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People and Editor of Northstar
Compass Michael Lucas**

Reading your official letter to us dated October 15, 2004 about the holding of the Second World Congress, we are informing you that we wholly support the aims of the forthcoming World Congress in 2005 and we are ready to send a delegation of five comrades.

A much more detailed information about the delegates we are going to send, we shall inform you later on.

G.I.TIKHONOV

**Chairman of the peoples-political movement "Union" and
Chairman of the Coordinating Committee of the All-Russia
Society for Friendship with Foreign Countries** ■



"Bourgeois newspapers and journals are maintained by large sums of capital. Workers' newspapers and journals are maintained by funds collected by the workers themselves."

V.I.LENIN

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**HAPPY HOLIDAY
SEASON TO OUR
READERS!**

Editorial Board of NSC

80 TIMES MORE STRIKES HELD IN RUSSIA IN OCTOBER OF 2004 THAN IN YEAR 2003

MOSCOW, Nov 23 (RIA Novosti) - The Federal State Statistics Service has made public information about the number of strikes in January-October 2004, which came as a shock: 80 times more strikes were held in October this year than in the whole of 2003.

This level of social activity was last registered in 1998, Kommersant writes. For the first time in five years, the number of strikes has soared to reach figures last seen during the presidency of Boris Yeltsin.

In October, 5,907 strikes were registered, which is 80 times more than in 2003 (67). The Statistics Committee reports that 96% of the October strikes were held in schools and were registered disregarding the number of strikers. The service regards a strike at a large plant, which involves thousands, and a strike in a village school, where no more than ten teachers work, as events of the same magnitude.

Experts believe that the growing number of strikes can be explained not only by the methods of calculation but also by more serious factors.

Nikolai Popov, the director of research at ROMIR Monitoring, said fall 2004 differed dramatically from the same period last year: "First, 2003 was election year and political interests eclipsed daily economic problems. The election programs of many parties promised to ease social and economic tensions and create more jobs." This distracted the people from strikes as a way to fight for their labor rights.

"We are witnessing the end of a five-year-long social coma," thinks Duma

Deputy Oleg Shein, a co-chairman of the Zashchita (*Protection*) trade union. Mr. Shein believes that the outbreak of social activity was provoked by the new policy of the Fradkov cabinet, which ignores the interests of working people.



WHERE TO BEGIN?

Dear reader:

In the last while we published many articles regarding Igor Gubkin and received praise and criticism of this. This very extensive article was sent us by Felix Gorelik - and we are publishing a condensed part only, for space reasons and eliminating repetition of previous analyses.

"Where do we start to involve young people in a revolutionary struggle in the former Soviet Union?" - asks Igor Gubkin. His answer is: "We have to start to organize the youth and this can be done only by a mass revolutionary newspaper, bringing to the fore the best qualities of agitation work that is already being done here by the NBP. With the present youth, you have to learn to talk their language. But to have such a newspaper you need finances, and these finances could be received from our many internationalists..."

Unfortunately Igor Gubkin is being called by some leaders of the Communist Parties a "provocateur, avaturist, left extremist etc." Who is correct in this argument? To my way of thinking, both methods are correct. There must be legal and illegal work done as was done by the Bolsheviks of old, during Lenin and Stalin's time. Masses today are unfortunately not

ready for revolutionary conflicts. They should be organized by all different methods, including, when ready, armed struggles, since a peaceful transition to socialism is not very likely.

Maybe you will not agree with this, starting partisan struggles immediately, to take over a region of Russia and proclaim it a Soviet Republic. But the youth needs a revolutionary plan and activity, since no revolution or change was ever made by the older generations. Aleksander Uljanov-Lenin's brother proceeded to individual action. But, maybe if Lenin's brother was not killed by the Czarist police -V.I. Lenin would not have started the struggle, including armed uprising methods. Only such a revolutionary party that is able to organize and lead the young revolutionaries, will succeed in reestablishing the USSR and Socialism! ■

ANOTHER PARTY IN RUSSIA IS ON THE SCENE!

The "United People's Party of Soldier's Mothers" has held its founding congress in Moscow. The new leader that was elected is Valentina Melnikova. She told the congress that if the Russian Justice Minister registers the party, it will run in the next Duma elections, and if some candidates get elected, the representatives will put forth a Bill to end conscription in Russia.

"I am a mother of two sons that were conscripted and perished in the Afghan war." The new head of the party said that they are ready to mediate between the Chechen rebels and the Russian government ■

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GRIGORY ATOMOV



YOUNG BOLSHEVIKS IN ACTION!

By GRIGORY ATOMOV

November 7th is celebrated by all progressive mankind as the day of the Great October Socialist Revolution. This year was the 87th Anniversary of the Great October. This was the date that there took place the most historical event of all mankind. This October Socialist Revolution gave freedom to millions of working people, but it became the lighthouse for billions of suppressed and exploited people around the world.

Overlooking the fact that this revolution has suffered a temporary setback, its success and the spark it generated cannot be debunked, covered up or dismissed by lies over the TV, radio and the mass media, by some of those so-called parliamentarians and bourgeois states. Because in the world there is growing a new revolution, which will not only solidify the achievements of the Great October Revolution, but will go even further to build a classless society, which will be the exact opposite of exploitative capitalism.

Revolution is ahead, long live the Revolution!

NOV. 7 IN KISHINEV

"To the new Bourgeois – a new Revolution"

To call this important date here as a holiday is very hard. In the last few years this November 7th event was hidden in a mirage of its insignificance and hidden always in the fog of misrepresentation.

Let us just remind ourselves the significance of this great event and

date. Revolution was successful because of its slogan: *"Land to the peasants, factories to the workers, the state to the Soviets!"* This date is or should be understood by the working class, because it certainly is understood and much feared by the ruling class!

The ruling Communist Party decided to celebrate this day, as if Moldavia is not ruled by an oligarchy and the bourgeoisie, as if the country is doing well, no unemployment, all young people could and do go to school without paying, that the university students who graduated in former USSR that live in Moldavia, are now scattered all over the world, trying to make a living.

With this scenario, the Party of Communists of Moldavia got the workers together in front of the Theatre in Kishinev and they proceeded with the usual standard speeches and slogans that did not mean anything. But, into the square came other Marxists, Bolsheviks. The police of this "emperor" Neron, were amazed to see the young Bolsheviks from the organization "Peoples Resistance" which was established at the beginning of 2004 and has in it members who are dedicated Marxists and Bolsheviks. Overlooking the fact that we were not there to cause any disturbance or provocation, the police, after receiving orders from the top, encircled us in a double circle of police and arrested some young comrades from amongst us. This action by them was very interesting, since none of them were in uniform or any official badge to denote that they are the police! This was done in order that the other people at this gathering would not realize that was the same government that called for November 7th celebration - are the same ones that broke up the genuine Marxists-Bolsheviks!

It is evident that these "communists" got scared when we came marching in with the slogan: **"To the New Bourgeois – a new Revolution!"** But facts are facts that we were encircled by the order of these "communists" and we were held in this circle until the end of the meeting.

These Moldavian government incognito police even got orders to try and tear away our red Soviet Union flags from our hands.

This action by the Moldavian governing communists had shown everyone that they are not going to follow Lenin and the meaning of the Great October Socialist Revolution. But, our doors are always open for dialogue with those who really understand and support the meaning of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

FROM EURASIA
SECURITY WATCH

NATO ON TO THE CAUCASUS

NATO is continuing its charm offensive in the "post Soviet space". On the heels of the late-October visits to all five Central Asian states of ex-USSR, NATO's Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer toured the three countries of the South Caucasus in November, and this visit was meant to reinforce and formalize the cooperation between NATO and the region's fragile republics. In each former Soviet republic he praised the closeness with NATO and growing partnership in fighting terrorism.

High-level US and NATO delegations again visited Uzbekistan – as part of solidifying their Defense Treaty that they signed with NATO. The US delegation also included Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the US Department of Homeland Security. There were also joint military exercises carried out with US armed forces. US had now provided Uzbekistan with millions' worth of security-related equipment.

An agreement was reached between Georgia and US-NATO, that Georgia will send 4,000 of its troops to be trained by NATO command.

The command of the armed forces of these Caucasian former Soviet republics is in the hands of NATO General Staff.

Hey Mr. Putin! Are you listening?

Q: Why will there be never a coup in Washington?

A: Because there is no American Embassy there.

WHAT'S PUTIN UP TO NOW?



NSC has received many news dispatches from Russia, from Internet, from Novosti Agency and other sources which should worry not only the Russian people, but progressive mankind. Here is the story as it unfolded:

A real scandal is breaking out in Moscow and in the Far East because of the attempt by the Putin's government to give away two of the four Sakhalin Islands (*Russia's Far East*) to Japan. The statement about this move by Putin, was outlined by Russia's Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov.

The Mayor of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Fyodor Sidorenko was blunt in his comment: ***"There can be no talk about transferring these Soviet islands to Japan – the ally of Nazi Germany in the Great Patriotic War. If these islands are transferred to Japan, the Russian people will demand that the Russian Duma dismiss President Putin on charges of Treason!"***

There are mass actions planned by the people all over Russia, to stop this treasonous act by the Putin government. ■

CIA's (Serb) "Otpor", experienced in a successful coup in Yugoslavia, have been working for months in Ukraine long before the election, organizing and getting paid in US dollars. **NATO** is behind this push to break any kind of Slavic unity and solidarity.

NATO PLANS OUTLINED FOR THE CAUCASUS

From INTERFAX

NATO military conferences were held in Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan - with military General Staffs of these countries and with top NATO commanders present, where plans were outlined by NATO of financing, military hardware, economic infusion and joint military training. Previously such conferences were held in Estonia and Germany.

NATO's General Secretary is hosting these military planning conferences. Their press release says that it's done *"for region's stability only"*, but there is much more at stake than meets the eye. Oil is behind this NATO move and Azerbaijan, which is oil rich, is afraid that since it's oil revenues are mostly from Russia, therefore NATO and the Western oil cartels are offering large profits and graft to these Azerbaijan leaders. But these Azer leaders well know that there are 2,000,000 Azerbaijanians living in Russia proper – how do these people feel about this love-affair with NATO?

Leader of Azerbaijan H. Aliyev, was a former member of the CC CPSU and now has offered NATO, military bases in the country.

Comment:

We wonder whether the Kremlin and its present occupant are aware what is happening in the former Soviet Republics in the Caucasus? ■

WHY DID THE USSR COLLAPSE?

*By Y. Kojaman
With thanks to Saib Shunia*

Most of those who write about this subject consider that the collapse of the Soviet Union occurred only in 1991, when it officially collapsed and became a group of capitalist states. They therefore search for ways that could bring back the Soviet Union to its

previous and glorious state. They talk about the differences between one leader and another – they believe somehow that if Andropov had lived for a longer time, he would have achieved the desired purpose. They talk about the regime that was instituted by Gorbachev in the 1980's And so on, and so on. In my way of thinking – this way of considering the collapse of the Soviet Union is incorrect, and therefore is not Marxist. It is a sort of worshipping the name of *"Soviet Union"*.

The real collapse of the Soviet Union occurred after March 5, 1953, the day that Stalin died or was killed. I am not talking here about previous enemy conspiracies and opportunist blocks that Lenin and Stalin struggled against - but they did pave the way to such a drastic change. I am only talking about the change itself.

Starting from this date, from the dictatorship of the proletariat it started to become the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie. From the state that managed the whole economy, the law of balanced development of the national economy, which acted to the basic economic laws of socialism – *"the securing of the maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole society"* – it became – *"the securing of maximum profit according to the laws of capitalism"*, for the capitalist class. The name remained as the Soviet Union, but it was no more the same Soviet Union we all loved and cherished, as the first nation of the worlds proletariat.

The first change was to change the economy that the proletariat dictatorship managed for the benefit of all the people. The new thinking of those that governed, they treated all wealth practically as their own and behaved like that.

The capitalist law that was instituted, that the capitalist class should find in the market, people who own nothing, but to sell their labour power – but this was not the case. The capitalists after 1953 received a country in which the people in a socialist country owned everything. These new rulers had to work for a long time in order to create such a class of people. They had to deprive all of the people from all of their economic, cultural and social rights that the Soviet people

took for granted under socialism. These new capitalist rulers had to accomplish this change over through secret means, talking always about improving socialism, getting back to Leninism, and a new and easier way to advance to Communism – this was done in order to conceal their true capitalist plans and nature.

There were many and numerous ways that these traitors achieved their goal. One of them was the printing of paper money without any limit, which meant getting services gratis with a great rise of prices and a tragic inflation, according the Marxist theory of money. This led eventually to a black market.

Theoretically they betrayed Marxism-Leninism by attacking Stalin. Stalin was the greatest Leninist after Lenin. He led the party of the Soviet Union in building a socialist society. He exposed and defeated all of the "right" and the "left" opportunist theories....the aim of which was to return back to capitalism. He also put forward the exact method of advancing towards Communism. Attacking Stalin was and still is, attacking Marxism-Leninism!

These new capitalist-orientated traitors sold off all of the agricultural Tractor Station machinery to the private agricultural cooperatives, thus changing these state-owned machinery as the property of the people, to commodities which brought huge profits to the bourgeois state and brought the drastic destruction of all the collective and state farms.

Another method was to sell the factories to "their workers" in order to create competition. This brought an end to the planned development of the economy. Then their was the opening of the borders to foreign ownership of the means of production and the selling off of the nations natural resources and thus buying labour power.

Politically these new leaders after 1953, starting with Krushchev, converted the CPSU into a revisionist party. In the international field they corrupted the communist parties by bribes and changing the dedicated Marxist leaders. They destroyed the communist unity in the world. They also supported all of the reactionary rulers in the world and prevented any of its allied communist

parties from leading any real revolutionary movements. They became one of the most important arms traders in the world.

They went on repeating Lenin's words that "the spark will lead to a flame" but they said that any revolution in any small country would lead to an atomic war.

They even persuaded some communist parties to dissolve themselves and join the bourgeois or petty bourgeois parties on the pretext that the proletariat is not yet mature or ready of leading any revolutionary movements. They even voiced the theory that there was no "proletariat" in what is called the third world countries. It was their theory that it was the petty bourgeois that should lead the revolutionary movements for a long time, before the proletariat will be mature enough to lead.

This took about 40 years in order to achieve the transformation from socialism to capitalism. During all that period they had to mask their real bourgeois faces with a mask of Marxism, until there was no need to pretend to be Marxist at all, and then they unveiled their true bourgeois faces. This is what happened in the counter-revolution in 1991.

In short - in many ways the Soviet Union became a real enemy from inside the ranks of communist movement. I agree with an article that was written in NSC by a real Bolshevik, that a return to Socialism can only be achieved through a new revolution. This was the situation since 1953 and not only from 1991.

To treat the Soviet Union of the Krushchevites the same as we treated our real Socialist Soviet Union, would be a tragic mistake. ■

FROM THE "RUSSIA REFORM MONITOR"

Russia faces a catastrophic Aids epidemic, according to Vadim Pokrovsky, head of Russia's Health Ministry for the prevention and treatment of Aids and HIV. The number of registered HIV-infected persons grew from 270,000 to 300,000 during the first ten months of 2004. He said that the real number of HIV-infected persons in Russia is 1 million to 1.5 million people.

Putin said that there's no money, it's needed to build more churches!

UKRAINE IN TURMOIL

This article was written before the Western inspired demonstrations took place and the attempt to have the US backed candidate for President of Ukraine declared a winner. George Duravetz was a member of the Canada-USSR Association for many years. He now lives in Ukrain.

In the January issue of NSC we shall have an overview of the election and we will see that Western agencies were involved!

Ukrainian Presidential Election Second Tour was held on November 21, 2004

Ukraine is gearing up for the second tour of the Presidential election to be held on November 21st. It will be a run off between the two top candidates in the first tour held on October 31st. The opposition leader Victor Yushchenko has a slight lead of 155,816 votes over present Prime Minister, Victor Yanukovich. Yushchenko received 11,125,395 or 39.87% of the popular vote, while Yanukovich received 10,969,679 or 39.32% of the popular vote. Yushchenko won a clear majority in 16 western and northern oblasts and the city of Kyiv, while Yanukovich won an overwhelming majority in the 10 heavily populated eastern and southern oblasts and the Crimea. A total of 27,314,448 or 74.56% of Ukrainian citizens voted out of a total of 36.5 million. By western standards, this is a very high turn out.

The four follow up candidates were Socialist leader Alexander Moroz, 1,594,405 or 5.81%, Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko, 1,375,419 or 4.97%, Progressive Socialist leader Nataliya Vitrenko, 423,007 or 1.53% and a

former Prime Minister Anatoli Kinakh with 258,727 or .93%. The remaining 20 candidates –many of whom were suspected of being 'technical' candidates whose purpose was to split the opposition- received less than 1.0% each. As of now, Alexander Moroz and Anatoli Kinakh have thrown their support behind Victor Yushchenko, while Petro Symonenko and Nataliya Vitrenko have pledged to support Victor Yanukovich. However, it remains to be seen whether ordinary voters will follow their leaders.

One thing that arises out of this election is the demise of the Communist Party. It has declined from absolute control 13 years ago to receiving 5% of the popular vote. They have further compromised their credibility with their dwindling supporters by pledging to support a candidate that is wholly supported by the corrupt oligarchs and criminal mafia.

Their support of Yanukovich rests on his promise to integrate Ukraine with Russia, introduce dual citizenship and make the Russian language the second official language in Ukraine. The Communist Party has always been a Russian proxy in Ukraine and true to form they have shown their true colours. Loyalty to mother Russia comes before Ukrainian national interests.

Barring any outright falsification of voting procedures or manipulation of voters lists, the results promise to be close. The stakes are high for both candidates and for the people of Ukraine. The outcome will decide for years to come whether Ukraine will join the European community and integrate into their social and political structures, or whether Ukraine will become a part of what could be a newly reconstituted Russian Empire along with Byelorussia and Kazakhstan. If this happens, there are fears that Ukraine could very well become an autonomous region within the Empire supplying its military-industrial complex with raw materials, agricultural products and manpower.

The Russians fully realize what is at stake and have thrown their vast financial and media resources behind Yanukovich. Russian language TV channels both in Russia and in Ukraine have put out a steady stream of pro Yanukovich propaganda while Yushchenko is

completely ignored. They play on the fear of the large Russian speaking population in the southeast that is if the "nationalists" from Western Ukraine win, they will be forced to speak Ukrainian and the border with Russia will be closed. (40% of Ukrainian citizens have relatives living in Russia and visit them often.) Ukraine will then join NATO and become a client state of the European Union. Some western journalists such as John Laughland of the Spectator in Britain have taken up this pro-Russian line.

The ultra wealthy oligarchs, who have bought up many large Ukrainian industrial and commercial enterprises, using the vast Communist Party funds that disappeared after the collapse of the Soviet Union, have everything to lose. Yushchenko has promised, if elected, to reorganize the security services in order to clean up corruption, tax evasion and the outright theft of state and public property. The embezzlement of state funds by corrupt ministries and tax commissions will also be addressed. This has caused a panic in many circles. The corrupt mayor of Kyiv, Alexander Olmelchenko, has already publicly stated that, "Yushchenko can never be President." Factory directors and industrial managers have called meetings of their employees and threatened them with dismissal if the voting results are not

The sign says: "No to NATO! Yes to the UNION (USSR)!"



favourable for Yanukovich.

The Russians have called into play their Fifth Column or Trojan horse in Ukraine. Last night The Patriarch of the "Ukrainian" Orthodox Church, Moscow Patriarchate, Vladimir (Sabadan) appeared on national TV stating the he has given his holy blessing to Victor Yanukovich as the only candidate that deserves to be President of Ukraine. Throughout the villages and towns of Ukraine Priests belonging to the Moscow Patriarchate have harangued their parishioners from the pulpit to vote for Yanukovich.

If not, they reserve the right to deny baptisms, marriages and burials to those who have openly defied them. It's an open secret that priests in local areas have received considerable financial gifts from government and Russian authorities. Adopting a completely different position is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Kyiv Patriarchate, Ukrainian Catholic Church, and the Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist Church who at a joint-press conference only asked that the elections be fair and honest and that people vote according to their consciences. What a travesty, that this gang of political opportunists in the Moscow Patriarchate, posing as the emissaries of Christ in Ukraine are doing everything in their power to destroy the newly found independence of this struggling nation! Yet they have the support of highly placed individuals in the hierarchy of the Orthodox Churches in Canada and the U.S. because they are "canonical".

Yushchenko has challenged Yanukovich to a public debate on national TV. The latter –after initially refusing unless Yushchenko apologized for his comments regarding Yanukovich's criminal youth- has finally accepted and the debate will take place on November 15. In all fairness, it must be stated the both Yushchenko and Yanukovich fall short of being brilliant public speakers, although Ukrainians have also grown weary of good 'salesmen'. It took 10 days after the first round for the Central Election Commission to tabulate the returns and publicly announce the final results of the first tour. The Yanukovich observers had registered thousands of complaints of violations of the Ukrainian electoral law in order

to tie up the electoral process. All of them had to be investigated before a final statement could be issued. Furthermore, revised voters' lists have to be drawn up after unanimous complaints from international observers and agencies.

The role of the Americans vis-à-vis Ukraine is rather ambiguous. Officially a stream of high-level American officials has visited Ukraine, such as Colin Powell, Condeleesa Rice, Madeline Albright, Zbigniew Brezinski and Henry Kissinger, some of whom were invited to Ukraine by President Kuchma's oligarch son-in-law and media magnate Victor Pinchuk. All have declared that the only American interest in the Ukrainian election is that it be transparent and democratic. Furthermore, The United States is ready to cooperate with any candidate that wins the election fair and square. However, American national interests go beyond Ukraine. Having installed a string of military bases stretching from Croatia in former Yugoslavia to Romania and Bulgaria in the Balkans and on to Georgia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kirghizstan on the Afghan border, the Americans have outflanked and isolated the Russians in their own backyard. To sweeten Russian bitterness and resentment, the Americans would not be loath to leave Ukraine in the Russian sphere of influence. Russian control would relegate Ukraine to the permanent status of a colonial backwater. Americans are also cognizant of the fact that Ukraine possesses a vast underdeveloped industrial and economic potential in addition to a highly educated and skilled labour force. If allowed to develop freely, Ukraine could pose a serious economic challenge to American and Western European interests. Neither the U.S. nor Western Europe needs this challenge to their economic hegemony. Furthermore, Russian compliance and cooperation in America's "War on Terrorism" must include some kind of payout. One final complication for the Americans is that Yushchenko has pledged to bring Ukrainian troops home from Iraq where their presence is seen by many Ukrainians as President Kuchma's attempt to win back his reputation after it was badly tarnished by charges of his alleged

involvement in the murder of journalist Gongadze and the Kolchuga radar scandal. Thus, Ukraine may very well be the sacrificial lamb.

One thing that is clear is that the present Ukrainian government in power will resort to any means fair or foul to retain control of the state apparatus. They have too much to lose should by some miracle Yushchenko and his team win this election.

George Duravetz, Canadian Observer for the Presidential election and correspondent for the German Mennonite community newspaper, The Steinbach Carillon

BEFORE WE WENT TO PRESS, HERE'S THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.

*Ukraine's Supreme Court rejects Yushchenko's Bloc's complaints.

*Ukraine sliding towards an abyss, says Parliamentary speaker

*Ukraine Defense Minister tells troops to remain calm

*Georgia "Rose Coup" veterans arrive in Kiev to help to stage another "rose revolution"

*Continuing crisis will effect the bi-lateral economic relations between Ukraine and Russia, said Russian Finance Minister

*Russia threatens to cease investments in Ukraine due to this political crisis



RELIGION? NO, IT'S POLITICS!

Anti socialism campaign by religious fundamental groups in USA is not religion at all!

It is a tool promoted by US ruling class to struggle against Socialism all over the world.

BELIEVE OR NOT!

According to Moscow Times Russia's Yaroslav Regional legislature is considering legalizing prostitution as a way to increase welfare payments to young parents and bolster other social programs. "These young women it is hoped will fill substantially the regional budget", said Sergei Zamorayev, the Yaroslav legislator who proposed this bill to legalize prostitution.

The liberal Union of Right-Wing Forces had previously backed legalizing prostitution, as has also Saratov Governor Dmitri Ayatskov, who in 1999 called for setting up and opening State-run Brothels.

HOW MANY COUPS AND WHERE US IMPERIALISM HAS ACCOMPLISHED THE CHANGING OF GOVERNMENTS, OR TRIED TO AS IT IS NOW DOING IN UKRAINE?

China in 1949, 12950's
 Albania 1949-1953
 Iran 1953
 Guatemala 1954
 Costa Rica 1950's
 Syria 1856-57
 Indonesia 1957-8
 British Guiana 1953-1964
 Iraq 1963
 North Vietnam 1955-1970
 Cambodia 1955-1970
 Laos 1968, 1959, 1960
 Ecuador 1960-1963
 Congo 1960
 Brazil 1962-64
 France 1965
 Dominican Republic 1963
 Cuba 1959 to present
 Bolivia 1964
 Indonesia 1965
 Ghana 1966
 Chile 1965-1973
 Costa Rica 1970-71
 Angola 1975, 1980's
 Zaire 1975
 Portugal 1974-76
 Chad 1981-82
 Grenada 1983
 Nicaragua 1981-90
 Panama 1989
 Bulgaia-Abania 1991
 Iraq 1991
 Afghanistan 1098-
 Yugoslavia 1999-2000
 Haiti 2004

Our Happy Bygone Days

By ISRAEL SHAMIR

"We lived in a Communist paradise and weren't aware of it!"

"I have heard this sentence from many ex-citizens of ex-USSR - from Russians and Tajiks, Ukrainians and Balts, and I agreed with them wholeheartedly". Soviet Union was a land of spiritual and educated men and women who loved their work, were proud of their country, despised money as a symbol, were hospitable and kind. S' Gowans (<http://www3.sympatico.ca/sr.gowans/reds.html>) eloquently eulogized the lost paradise:

Over the seven decades of its existence, and in spite of having to spend so much time preparing, fighting, and recovering from wars, the Soviet Russia managed to create one of the great achievements in human history: a great industrial society that eliminated most of inequalities of wealth, income, education and opportunity that plagued what preceded it, what came after it, and what competed with it; a society in which health care and education through university were free (*and university students received living stipends*); where rent, utilities and public transportation were subsidized. By 1933, with capitalist world deeply mired in a devastating economic crisis, unemployment was declared abolished, and remained so for the next five and a half decades, until socialism itself, was abolished. The Communists produced social security more robust than provided even by Scandinavian-style social-democracy, but it was achieved with fewer resources and a lower level of development and also in spite of the unflagging efforts of the capitalist world to see to it that Socialism failed. Soviet socialism was, and remains, a model for all humanity - of what can be achieved outside the confines and contradictions of capitalism.

Over thirteen years ago the Soviet Socialism was done in, and the Anglo-American Liberalism won the

third great victory in one century. These were hard years for the Russians - life expectancy dropped drastically, industry collapsed, great achievements of the Soviet days were reversed. But life of the ordinary man and woman in the victorious Western Europe and America as well, became much worse, because the moneyed classes lost their fear of workers' revolts and an alternative system that they would demand. The social gains of the Western working class were obtained thanks to this scare of socialism in the Soviet Union, but these gains are now being taken back as Russia itself was turned into a middle-sized country of little importance.

Stephen Gowans understood it; actually his essay is a complaint against "gleeful" Howard Zinn and other Western leftists who provided the left flank of the anti-communist Cold War front. Howard Zinn is not alone in his refusal to admit his collaboration with the enemy. A British Trotskyite Alan Woods published now a verbose tripartite article, a response to my Celia in the Woods. He published it in English, Russian and Spanish, equally full of glee.

Woods mentions that his guru Trotsky "always stood for the unconditional defense of the USSR against imperialism and capitalism". But he and his kin rejected his advice. For him, the Russian communists are "Stalinists" and he gleefully asked:

"Let us begin with some awkward questions for our Stalinist opponents. The first question is: if we accept what you say, that the Soviet Union was a socialist paradise, then how come it collapsed?"

The third question would be: if there was a genuine workers' democracy in the USSR, why did the Soviet workers not fight to defend the old regime? How does it happen that after over a half a century of what



Israel Shamir calls socialism, they could re-establish capitalism without a civil war?"

These are valid questions, and they should be answered.

It is a sad truth that people's minds may be manipulated. Vast majority of men and women will act against their own best interests if convinced that "this is right". I witnessed it recently in an Israeli Kibbutz rich, stable, prosperous enterprise. The average kibbutz member's share of communal property was close to a million dollars. They went through privatization and "income differentiation" scam and became paupers. Now many kibbutz members, yesterday's millionaires, survive by collecting leftovers in the fields. This vast property went to a few well-placed families.

I asked some kibbutz members: "The privatization was not forced upon you: You accepted it, you voted for it. Why did you raise your hand for the scheme that was sure to ruin you?"

"We were told that it is more progressive!" they told me.

If that was the case for a few thousands of well educated and prosperous Israeli kibbutzniks, it was even easier to convince millions of innocent Russians-Soviets that "state

ownership is detrimental to all development" as this idea was broadcast daily to millions by million voices from the West. Trotskyites played a very prominent part in this ideological warfare, as they glibly operated quotes from, Marx, convincing the Russians that what they have was in no way socialism or communism, but "nomenklatura rule."

Socialism in Russia lost the Cold War, as it lost the war for discourse; anti-communism became an integral part of every political or philosophical movement in Europe and in North America. The Trotskyites formed the left wing of the anti-communist front, next to Euro-communists or Berlinguer and deconstructionists followers of Derrida, Eventually this united anti-communist front succeeded to undermine the Soviet people's morale.

The word-wide Anti-Stalinist campaign was a powerful ideological weapon in the war for discourse, for the images of Lenin and Stalin were sacred to the Soviet people. Myopic Krushchev presented himself that he fights a war for Stalin's legacy against other Stalin's ministers; but he actually willingly undermined the sacred structure of Soviet society and Socialism and damaged it irreparably.

Looking back, we understand that a major share of the Western leftists' complaints against Stalin and against the USSR were without any merit.

The so-called "Russian cruelty" and the "Gulag horrors" were Euro-centric racist slurs. Indeed, the US has a bigger jail population than Russia ever did. In a recent article in The Guardian, October 26, 2004 Woods can read about your average British brutality....

"British forces killed around 10,000 Kenyans during the Mau Mau campaign, compared with the 600 deaths among the colonial force and European civilians. Some British battalions kept scoreboards recording kills, and gave wards to the first sub unit to kill an insurgent, whose hands were often chopped off to make fingerprinting easier. There were even "Free Fire Zones" set up, where any African could be shot on sight. As opposition to British rule intensified, brutal "resettlement" operations, which led to the deaths of tens if thousands, forced around 90,000 into detention camps. In this

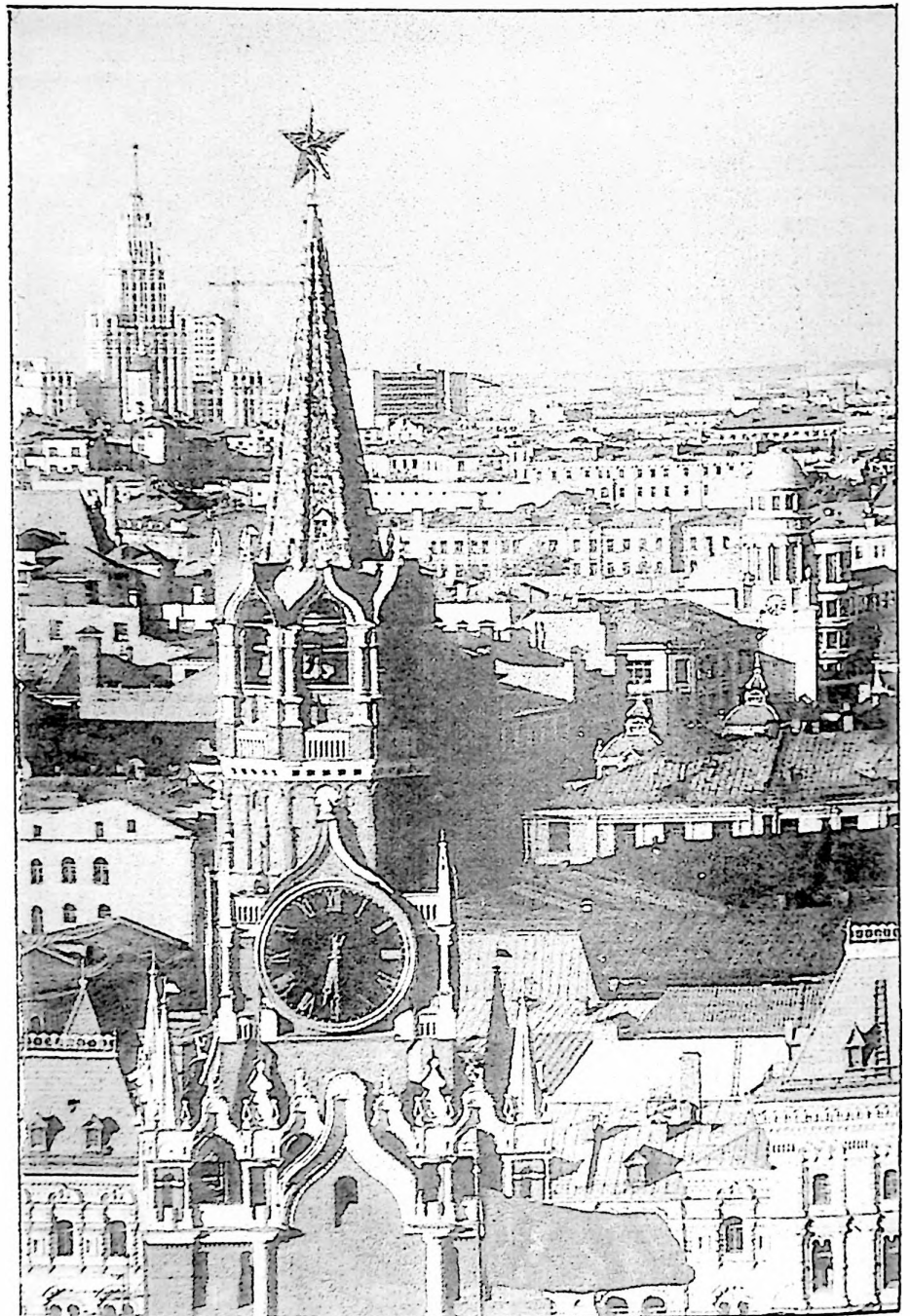
1950's version of Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, forced labour and beatings were systematic and disease rampant." Indeed, peoples of the Soviet-led world never ever experienced anything similar to the devastation meted out by the Anglo-American forces.

Russian Gulag pales when you compare it to the Israeli concentration camps for Palestinians: he biggest of them is using the whole of Gaza Strip, with one million strong population. The so-called "Stalin's atrocities" could never ever compete with the US atrocities in occupied Germany, with nuclear bombardment of Hiroshima and firebombing of Tokyo, besides millions killed in Vietnam and Algeria.

Soviet troops have foiled the

attempted Coup d'etat in Hungary, East Germany and Czechoslovakia. The Left bewailed it, but in the same period, the Americans were fighting the pro-communist insurgencies in Greece and Malaya, Nicaragua and Cuba, Indonesia and Cambodia. Mea culpa, I have to admit that as a young dissident I supported the Prague Spring when it was unfolding, but now I regret that the Soviet Communists did not dare to do Tiananmen in Moscow and arrest the pro-American "velvet putschists" in 1990's.

The "Afghanistan Invasion of 1980" - was denounced by the West, from Trotskyites of Woods - to the American President. But was this justifiable? The Soviet troops came into Afghanistan at the express



request of the Afghan president, according to the Defense Treaty between Afghanistan and the USSR, in order to stop the CIA-led insurgency. Here is a short excerpt from an interview given by Zbigniew Brzezinski, alluringly called "How the US provoked the Soviet Union into invading Afghanistan and starting the whole mess" (*Le Nouvel Observateur (France)*, January 15-21, 1998).

Q: The former Director of the CIA, Robert Gates, stated in his memoirs (*From The Shadows*), that the American intelligence services began to aid the Mujahadden in Afghanistan over 6 months before the Soviet intervention. In this period you were the US National Security Advisor to President Carter. You therefore played a role in this affair. Is that correct?

A: Yes, according to the official version of history, CIA aid to the Mujahadeen began during the 1980's, that is to say, after the Soviet army invaded Afghanistan. But the reality, closely guarded until now, is completely otherwise: Indeed, it was on July 3, 1979 that President Carter signed the first directive for sending secret aid to the opponents of the pro-Soviet regime in Kabul. And that very day, I wrote a note to the president, in which I explained to him that in my opinion, this aid was going to induce a Soviet military intervention.

Q: Despite this risk, you were an advocate of this covert action. But perhaps you yourself desired a Soviet entry into war and looked to provoke it?

A: Regret what? That secret operation was an excellent idea. It had the effect of drawing the Russians into the Afghan trap, **and you want me to regret it?** The day that the Soviets officially crossed the Afghan border, I wrote to President Carter, in substance: We now have the opportunity of giving the USSR its own Vietnam War. Indeed, for almost ten years, the Soviets had to carry on a war unsupportable by the government, a conflict that brought about the demoralization and finally the complete break-up of the Soviet empire.

Practically every "anti-Stalinist" and "anti-Sovieteer" claim can be

countered. People who denounce "Russian cruelty" expressed in the downing of the South Korean spy plane, spent no tears over the fate of the Iranian Airbus gunned down by the Yanks. They regretted Sacharov's exile from USSR but ignored Israel's Vanunun's sentence.

It is a fact that the Western Left felt its belonging to the West more than its solidarity with the Left in the East. Alan Woods and his Trotskyites were committed to the Western supremacy. This is not by chance that in his essay he described Russia 16 times as "backward". He wrote: "Russia, is an extremely backward country, frightful backwardness...semi-feudal country like Russia, a backward Asiatic country, peasant country like Russia, backward agrarian Russia, terrible backwardness etc. etc. What is this if not typical Western arrogance, Euro-centrism of a most brutal kind?"

Russia, the country of Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, of Lenin, of Stalin, of Florensky, was one of the most spiritually advanced countries. And Communism is - if anything - a victory of spirit. Woods and other Trots despised spirit and worshipped material progress, for only from this point of view Russia could be perceived as "backward." Success and failure of Socialism in the East could not be explained within the confines of the vulgar-Marxist dogma. Marx was disgusted with these vulgar materialist "Marxists."

Socialism won in the East - not because the East was backward, but because the East was the most spiritual part of the planet, less ruined by modernity and alienation. Socialism was not successful in the West because the West was spiritually impoverished and subdued by latter-day Hobessians.

In two words, the difference between the West and the East was not in the amount of steel and

electricity produced. The difference was philosophical and metaphysical. Carl Schmidt wrote that: "all of the most pregnant concepts of modern doctrine are secularized theological concepts." And the doctrinal difference of the East and the West fit this description to the T.

In the Anglo-American West, Hobbes based his vision of society on "Man-to-Man-is-Wolf" approach, won the day. Men are united only by common enemy, he wrote. In a way, he was right.

The Soviet Communists eventually solved their material problems and created a care-free society, where everyone's life-hood was assured. But in order to advance materially, they accepted some of the Modernist ideas, uprooting and alienation struck home. The extreme materialists, those post-Stalin leaders were convinced that as long as they produce enough material goods they can manage. The sacrality of Lenin and Stalin was demolished by Krushchev; and the desacrIALIZED society couldn't survive for long.

Practically, Soviet Union collapsed because of its leaders who betrayed the people. This uprooting created a chasm between the people and the elites in the CPSU and these leaders started to shift their money to the French Riviera. They sold the wealth of the USSR to US companies, impoverished the working class and ruined the country. This collapse should be a lesson to all of us; the communists must fight the alienation and uprooting as their greatest enemy; they should not allow the enemy to de-sacralise

The Jewish question played an important role in the rise and in the collapse of Soviet socialism. The Western Left had a very strong Jewish connection. Some of them were tainted with Zionist nationalism and turned their pens and efforts



against Socialism when they perceived that Socialism eventually became predominately Russian. In order to justify their betrayal, they had spread the black lie of "Russian anti-Semitism".

This false narrative is carried out by the Trotskyist Alan Woods. I wrote in my article: "Were Jews persecuted as a racial group under Stalin? Obviously not, for Stalin's daughter was married to a Jewish man; some of his best friends and party leaders had Jewish wives (Molotov, Voroshilov) – or many Jewish sons and daughters-in-law (Malenkov, Krushchev). So much for racism. Were Jews discriminated against under Stalin? In 1936 at the pinnacle of Stalin's power, the Central Committee and Politburo included nine Jews".

The best reply that Woods could think off is: "This is absolutely incredible. It is common knowledge today that Stalin was a rabid anti-Semite." The reference to common knowledge is not considered to be an argument. Indeed, it was also "common knowledge" in England that woman do witchcraft and that the nobles and the royalty have blue blood in their veins! Today it is common knowledge that da Vinci code tells us that the Holy Graile is Mary Magdalene.

Writers spit off that "The Bolshevik Revolution gave freedom to the Jews". As a matter of fact, Jews were always free – even when the majority of Russians, Poles, Ukrainians were serfs. All limitations on Jewish rights were removed – not by Bolsheviks, but by the bourgeois February revolution.

Woods also writes that: "After 1917 Lenin and the Bolsheviks even granted those Jews who wished to live in their own autonomous region, the area known as "Birobidjan". Wrong again. This was done by the so-called "rabid anti-Semite Stalin" in 1934, not by Lenin in 1917.

Woods as a Trotskyist writes that: "On February 28, 1953, before Stalin died, there were deportations to Siberia of a large number of Jews from Moscow and other parts of the Soviet Union". This is another Zionist story of "eternal persecution of Eternal People." There were no deportations or plans of deportations. A Russian, world-renowned and respected historian, Kostyrchenko,



who proved by documentation in his paper called "Deportation or Mystification?"

<http://www.lechaim.ru/ARHIV/125/kost.htm> – that it is an urban legend promoted by a Zionist, Professor Jacob Etinger of the Hebrew University, a man who readily admits his "deep hatred of Communism".

Woods and other anti-Sovieters wrote that: "Members of the JAFC (Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee) were accused of being part of a Zionist-US conspiracy against the Soviet Union: all accused of espionage, nationalistic propaganda, and of seeking to establish a Jewish republic in the Crimea as a "bridgehead" for American Imperialism."

Does Woods and other anti-Sovieters know of a reason to doubt that they thought to establish a Jewish Crimea on the ruins of Tatar villages, a sister state to Israel established on the ruins of Palestinian villages? Publications in the Russian post-Soviet media and Israeli media indicate that the Jewish activists of JAFC supported the expulsion of Tatars and envisaged the creation of a Jewish Crimean Republic. Mass immigration of Russian Jews to Israel in 1990's furnished an additional proof that Zionist nationalist propaganda was quite successful.

Again, Woods writes that: "In 1953, Stalin ordered all Jewish

Colonels and Generals in the KGB, and a total of some 50 senior officers and generals were taken into custody". Apparently this "rabid anti-Semite Stalin" still has so many Jews in the top positions of the Soviet Red Army and in the feared State Security after 30 years of Stalin's rule!

For Woods, the Zionists are always innocent. Whether they were involved in the excesses of the State Security or promoted mass deportations of the Tatars' whether they bent towards Zionism or are allied with the US – they should not be touched. He further wrote: "Molotov's wife was Jewish. Stalin forced Molotov to separate from his Jewish wife, and she was exiled in 1940 by a direct vote of the Politburo, while Molotov abstained."

If he would only read the Memoirs of Golda Meir of Israel, the first Israeli ambassador to the USSR, he would learn that Polina Molotov embraced Golda Meir, and tearfully called out: "Ich bim ein Yiddische tochter". (I am a Jewish daughter). Such nationalistic and Zionist feelings were not very palatable to the Soviet State and made Mme. Molotov quite unstable for her position as the Deputy Member of the CPSU Politburo. As I said previously, Woods and others support Jewish Zionism and nationalism, but are too intolerant to anything else in the "backward Russia." Stalin's Russia treated Jews and other nationalities as equals – not as superiors like some other places. If Jewish nationalism was to be treated in England and the US as it was in Russia in the days of Stalin, the citizens of Baghdad and Tehran, Basra and Ramallah would be able to sleep peacefully in their own homes.

Northstar Compass will be redesigned in the New Year and the policy will change in order to get more and shorter articles to interest the readers. We ask our contributors to keep their articles to less than 600 words, otherwise we have the right to either rewrite or not use it at all. 2005 being the year of 2nd World Congress discussions, space is limited to long articles.

100 FACTS AND ONE OPINION. THE NON-ARGUABLE CASE AGAINST THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION

by Judd Legum

IRAQ

1. The Bush Administration has spent more than \$140 billion on a war of choice in Iraq.

Source: *American Progress*

2. The Bush Administration sent troops into battle without adequate body armor or armored Humvees.

Sources: *Fox News, The Boston Globe*

3. The Bush Administration ignored estimates from Gen. Eric Shinseki that several hundred thousand troops would be required to secure Iraq.

Source: *PBS*

4. Vice President Cheney said Americans "will, in fact, be greeted as liberators" in Iraq.

Source: *The Washington Post*

5. During the Bush Administration's war in Iraq, more than 1,000 US troops have lost their lives and more than 7,000 have been injured.

Source: *globalsecurity.org*

6. In May 2003, President Bush landed on an aircraft carrier in a flight suit, stood under a banner proclaiming "Mission Accomplished," and triumphantly announced that major combat operations were over in Iraq. Asked if he had any regrets about the stunt, Bush said he would do it all over again.

Source: *Yahoo News*

7. Vice President Cheney said that Iraq was "the geographic base of the terrorists who have had us under assault for many years, but most especially on 9/11." The bipartisan 9/11 Commission found that Iraq had no involvement in the

9/11 attacks and no collaborative operational relationship with Al Qaeda.

Source: *MSNBC, 9-11 Commission*

8. National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice said that high-strength aluminum tubes acquired by Iraq were "only really suited for nuclear weapons programs," warning "we don't want the smoking gun to be a mushroom cloud." The government's top nuclear scientists had told the Administration the tubes were "too narrow, too heavy, too long" to be of use in developing nuclear weapons and could be used for other purposes.

Source: *New York Times*

9. The Bush Administration has spent just \$1.1 billion of the \$18.4 billion Congress approved for Iraqi reconstruction.

Source: *USA Today*

10. According to the Administration's handpicked weapon's inspector, Charles Duelfer, there is "no evidence that Hussein had passed illicit weapons material to al Qaeda or other terrorist organizations, or had any intent to do so." After the release of the report, Bush continued to insist, "There was a risk—a real risk—that Saddam Hussein would pass weapons, or materials, or information to terrorist networks."

Sources: *New York Times, White House news release*

11. According to Duelfer, the UN inspections regime put an "economic strangle hold" on Hussein that prevented him from developing a WMD program for more than twelve years.

Source: *Los Angeles Times*

TERRORISM



12. After receiving a memo from the CIA in August 2001 titled "Bin Laden Determined to Attack America," President Bush continued his month-long vacation.

Source: *CNN.com*

13. The Bush Administration failed to commit enough troops to capture Osama bin Laden when US forces had him cornered in the Tora Bora region of Afghanistan in November 2001. Instead, they relied on local warlords.

Source: *csmonitor.com*

14. The Bush Administration secured less nuclear material from sites around the world vulnerable to terrorists in the two years after 9/11 than were secured in the two years before 9/11.

Source: *nti.org*

15. The Bush Administration underfunded Nunn-Lugar—the program intended to keep the former Soviet Union's nuclear legacy out of the hands of terrorists and rogue states—by \$45.5 million.

Source: *armscontrol.org*

16. The Bush Administration has assigned five times as many agents to investigate Cuban embargo violations as it has to track Osama bin Laden's and Saddam Hussein's money.

Source: *sfgate.com*

17. According to Congressional Research Service data, the Bush Administration has under-funded security at the nation's ports by more than \$1 billion for fiscal year 2005.

Source: *American Progress*

18. The Bush Administration did not devote the resources necessary to prevent a resurgence in the production of poppies, the raw material used to create heroin, in Afghanistan--creating a potent new source of financing for terrorists.
Source: Pakistan Tribune

19. Vice President Cheney told voters that unless they elect George Bush in November, "we'll get hit again" by terrorists.
Source: Washington Post

20. Even though an Al Qaeda training manual suggests terrorists come to the United States and buy assault weapons, the Bush Administration did nothing to prevent the expiration of the ban.
Source: sfgate.com

21. Despite repeated calls for reinforcements, there are fewer experienced CIA agents assigned to the unit dealing with Osama bin Laden now than there were before 9/11.
Source: New York Times

22. Before 9/11, John Ashcroft proposed slashing counterterrorism funding by 23 percent.
Source: americanprogress.org

23. Between January 20, 2001, and September 10, 2001, the Bush Administration publicly mentioned Al Qaeda one time.
Source: commondreams.org

24. The Bush Administration granted the 9/11 Commission \$3 million to investigate the September 11 attacks and \$50 million to the commission that investigated the Columbia space shuttle crash.
Source: commondreams.org

25. More than three years after 9/11, just 5 percent of all cargo--including cargo transported on passenger planes--is screened.
Source: commondreams.org

NATIONAL SECURITY

26. During the Bush Administration, North Korea quadrupled its suspected nuclear arsenal from two

to eight weapons.
Source: New York Times

27. The Bush Administration has openly opposed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, undermining nuclear non-proliferation efforts.
Source: commondreams.org

28. The Bush Administration has spent \$7 billion this year--and plans to spend \$10 billion next year--for a missile defence system that has never worked in a test that wasn't rigged.
Sources: www.gao.gov/new.items/d04409.pdf Los Angeles Times

29. The Bush Administration underfunded the needs of the nation's first responders by \$98 billion, according to a Council on Foreign Relations study.
Source: nationaldefensemagazine.org

CRONYISM AND CORRUPTION

30. The Bush Administration awarded a multibillion-dollar no-bid contract to Halliburton--a company that still pays Vice President Cheney hundreds of thousands of dollars in deferred compensation each year (Cheney also has Halliburton stock options). The company then repeatedly overcharged the military for services, accepted kickbacks from subcontractors and served troops dirty food.
Sources: The Washington Post, The Tapei Times, BBC News

31. The Bush Administration told Saudi Prince Bandar bin Sultan about plans to go to war with Iraq before telling Secretary of State Colin Powell.
Source: detnews.com

32. The Bush Administration relentlessly pushed an energy bill containing \$23.5 billion in corporate tax breaks, much of which would have benefited major campaign contributors.
taxpayer.net, Washington Post

33. The Bush Administration paid Iraqi-exile and neocon darling

Ahmad Chalabi \$400,000 a month for intelligence, including fabricated claims about Iraqi WMD. It continued to pay him for months after discovering that he was providing inaccurate information.
Source: MSNBC

34. The Bush Administration installed as top officials more than 100 former lobbyists, attorneys or spokespeople for the industries they oversee.
Source: Source: commondreams.org

35. The Bush Administration let disgraced Enron CEO Ken Lay--a close friend of President Bush--help write its energy policy.
Source: MSNBC

36. Top Bush Administration officials accepted \$127,600 in jewelry and other presents from the Saudi royal family in 2003, including diamond-and-sapphire jewelry valued at \$95,500 for First Lady Laura Bush.
Source: Seattle Times

37. Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge awarded lucrative contracts to several companies in which he is an investor, including Microsoft, GE, Sprint, Pfizer and Oracle.
Source: cq.com

38. President Bush used images of firefighters carrying flag-draped coffins through the rubble of the World Trade Center to score political points in a campaign advertisement.
Source: The Washington Post

THE ECONOMY

39. President Bush's top economic adviser, Greg Mankiw, said the outsourcing of American jobs abroad was "a plus for the economy in the long run."
Source: CBS News

40. The Bush Administration turned a \$236 billion surplus into a \$422 billion deficit.
Sources: Fortune, dfw.com

41. The Bush Administration implemented regulations that made millions of workers ineligible for overtime pay.
Source: epinet.org

42. The Bush Administration has crippled state budgets by underfunding federal mandates by \$175 billion.

Source: *cbpp.org*

43. President Bush is the first President since Herbert Hoover to have a net loss of jobs--around 800,000--over a four-year term.

Source: *The Guardian*

44. The Bush Administration gave Accenture a multibillion-dollar border control contract even though the company moved its operations to Bermuda to avoid paying taxes.

Sources: *The New York Times*, *cantonrep.com*

45. In 2000, candidate George W. Bush said "the vast majority of my tax cuts go to the bottom end of the spectrum." He passed the tax cuts, but the top 20 percent of earners received 68 percent of the benefits.

Sources: *cbpp.org*, *vote-smart.org*

46. In 2000, candidate George W. Bush promised to pay down the national debt to a historically low level. As of September 30, the national debt stood at \$7,379,052,696,330.32, a record high.

Sources: *www.georgewbush.com*
Bureau of the Public Debt

47. As major corporate scandals rocked the nation's economy, the Bush Administration reduced the enforcement of corporate tax law--conducting fewer audits, imposing fewer penalties, pursuing fewer prosecutions and making virtually no effort to prosecute corporate tax crimes.

Source: *iht.com*

48. The Bush Administration increased tax audits for the working poor.

Source: *theolympian.com*

49. In 2000, candidate George W. Bush promised to protect the Social Security surplus. As President, he spent all of it.

Sources: *georgewbush.com*,
Congressional Budget Office

50. The Bush Administration proposed slashing funding for the largest federal public housing

program, putting 2 million families in danger of losing their housing.

Source: *San Francisco Examiner*

51. The Bush Administration did nothing to prevent the minimum wage from falling to an inflation-adjusted fifty-year low.

Source: *Los Angeles Times*

EDUCATION

52. The Bush Administration underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$9.4 billion.

Source: *nwitimes.com*

53. In 2000, candidate George W. Bush promised to increase the maximum federal scholarship, or Pell Grant, by 50 percent. Instead, each year he has been in office he has frozen or cut the maximum scholarship amount.

Source: *Source:*
edworkforce.house.gov x

54. The Bush Administration's Secretary of Education, Rod Paige, called the National Education Association--a union of teachers--a "terrorist organization."

Sources: *CNN.com*

HEALTHCARE

55. The Bush Administration, in violation of the law, refused to allow Medicare actuary Richard Foster to tell members of Congress the actual cost of their Medicare bill. Instead, they repeated a figure they knew was \$100 billion too low.

Source: *Washington Post*,
realcities.com

56. The non-partisan GAO concluded the Bush Administration created illegal, covert propaganda--in the form of fake news reports--to promote its industry-backed Medicare bill.

Source: *General Accounting Office*

57. The Bush Administration stunted research that could lead to new treatments for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, diabetes, spinal injuries, heart disease and muscular dystrophy by placing severe restrictions on the use of federal dollars for embryonic stem-cell research. Source: *CBS News*

58. The Bush Administration reinstated the "global gag rule," which requires foreign NGOs to withhold information about legal abortion services or lose US funds for family planning.

Source:
healthsciences.columbia.edu

59. The Bush Administration authorized twenty companies that have been charged with fraud at the federal or state level to offer Medicare prescription drug cards to seniors.

Source: *American Progress*

60. The Bush Administration created a prescription drug card for Medicare that locks seniors into one card for up to a year but allows the corporations offering the cards to change their prices once a week.

Source: *Washington Post*

61. The Bush Administration blocked efforts to allow Medicare to negotiate cheaper prescription drug prices for seniors.

Source: *American Progress*

62. At the behest of the french fry industry, the Bush Administration USDA changed their definition of fresh vegetables to include frozen french fries.

Source: *commondreams.org*

63. In a case before the Supreme Court, the Bush Administrations sided with HMOs--arguing that patients shouldn't be allowed to sue HMOs when they are improperly denied treatment. With the Administration's help, the HMOs won.

Source: *ABC News*

64. The Bush Administration went to court to block lawsuits by patients who were injured by defective prescription drugs and medical devices.

Source: *Washington Post*

65. President Bush signed a Medicare law that allows companies that reduce healthcare benefits for retirees to receive substantial subsidies from the government.

Source: *Bloomberg News*

66. Since President Bush took office, more than 5 million people

have lost their health insurance.
Source: CNN.com

67. The Bush Administration blocked a proposal to ban the use of arsenic-treated lumber in playground equipment, even though it conceded it posed a danger to children.
Source: Miami Herald

68. One day after President Bush bragged about his efforts to help seniors afford healthcare, the Administration announced the largest dollar increase of Medicare premiums in history.
Source: iht.com

69. The Bush Administration—at the behest of the tobacco industry—tried to water down a global treaty that aimed to help curb smoking.
Source: tobaccofreekids.org

70. The Bush Administration has spent \$270 million on abstinence-only education programs even though there is no scientific evidence demonstrating that they are effective in dissuading teenagers from having sex or reducing the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases.
Source: salon.com

71. The Bush Administration slashed funding for programs that suggested ways, other than abstinence, to avoid sexually transmitted diseases.
Source: LA Weekly

ENVIRONMENT

72. The Bush Administration gutted clean-air standards for aging power plants, resulting in at least 20,000 premature deaths each year.
Source: cta.policy.net

73. The Bush Administration eliminated protections on more than 200 million acres of public lands.
Source: calwild.org

74. President Bush broke his promise to place limits on carbon dioxide emissions, an essential step in combating global warming.
Source: Washington Post

75. Days after 9/11, the Bush

Administration told people living near Ground Zero that the air was safe—even though they knew it wasn't—subjecting hundreds of people to unnecessary, debilitating ailments.
Source: Sierra Times

76. The Bush Administration created a massive tax loophole for SUVs—allowing, for example, the write-off of the entire cost of a new Hummer.
Source: Washington Post

77. The Bush Administration put former coal-industry big shots in the government and let them roll back safety regulations, putting miners at greater risk of black lung disease.
Source: New York Times

78. The Bush Administration said that even though the weed killer atrazine was seeping into water supplies—creating, among other bizarre creatures, hermaphroditic frogs—there was no reason to regulate it.
Source: Washington Post

79. The Bush Administration has proposed cutting the budget of the Environmental Protection Agency by \$600 million next year.
Source: ems.org

80. President Bush broke his campaign promise to end the maintenance backlog at national parks. He has provided just 7 percent of the funds needed, according to National Park Service estimates.
Source: bushgreenwatch.org

RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES

81. Since 9/11, Attorney General John Ashcroft has detained 5,000 foreign nationals in antiterrorism sweeps; none have been convicted of a terrorist crime.
Source: hrwatch.org

82. The Bush Administration ignored pleas from the International Committee of the Red Cross to stop the abuse of prisoners in US custody.
Source: Wall Street Journal

83. In violation of international law, the Bush Administration hid prisoners from the Red Cross so the organization couldn't monitor their treatment.
Source: hrwatch.org

84. The Bush Administration, without ever charging him with a crime, arrested US citizen Jose Padilla at an airport in Chicago, held him on a naval brig in South Carolina for two years, denied him access to a lawyer and prohibited any contact with his friends and family.
Source: news.findlaw.com

85. President Bush's top legal adviser wrote a memo to the President advising him that he can legally authorize torture.
Source: news.findlaw.com

86. At the direction of Bush Administration officials, the FBI went door to door questioning people planning on protesting at the 2004 political conventions.
Source: New York Times

87. The Bush Administration refuses to support the creation of an independent commission to investigate the abuse of foreign prisoners in American custody. Instead, Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld selected the members of a commission to review the conduct of his own department.
Source: humanrightsfirst.org

FLIP FLOPS

88. President Bush opposed the creation of the 9/11 Commission before he supported it, delaying an essential inquiry into one of the greatest intelligence failures in American history.
Source: americanprogressaction.org

89. President Bush said gay marriage was a state issue before he supported a constitutional amendment banning it.
Sources: CNN.com, White House

90. President Bush said he was committed to capturing Osama bin Laden "dead or alive" before he said, "I truly am not that concerned about him." *americanprogressaction.org*

91. President Bush said we had found weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, before he admitted we hadn't found them.

Sources: *White House, americanprogress.org*

92. President Bush said, "You can't distinguish between Al Qaeda and Saddam when you talk about the war on terror," before he admitted Saddam had no role in 9/11.

Sources: *White House, Washington Post*

BIOGRAPHY

93. George Bush didn't come close to meeting his commitments to the National Guard. Records show he performed no service in a six-month period in 1972 and a three-month period in 1973.

Source: *boston.com*

94. In June 1990 George Bush violated federal securities law when he failed to inform the SEC that he had sold 200,000 shares of his company, Harken Energy. Two months later the company reported significant losses and by the end of that year the stock had dropped from \$3 to \$1.

Source: *The Guardian*

95. When asked at an April 2004 press conference to name a mistake he made during his presidency, Bush couldn't think of one.

Source: *White House*

SECRECY

96. The Bush Administration refuses to release twenty-seven pages of a Congressional report that reportedly detail the Saudi Arabian government's connections to the 9/11 hijackers.

Source: *philly.com*

97. Last year the Bush Administration spent \$6.5 billion creating 14 million new classified documents and securing old secrets--the highest level of spending in ten years.

Source: *openthegovernment.org*

98. The Bush Administration spent \$120 classifying documents for every \$1 it spent declassifying

documents.

Source: *openthegovernment.org*

99. The Bush Administration has spent millions of dollars and defied numerous court orders to conceal from the public who participated in Vice President Cheney's 2001 energy task force.

Source: *Washington Post*

100. The Bush Administration--reversing years of bipartisan tradition--refuses to answer requests from Democratic members

of Congress about how the White House is spending taxpayer money.

Source: *Washington Post*

OPINION

If the past informs the future, four more years of the Bush Administration will be a tragic period in the history of the United States and the world.

And, of course, a Kerry victory would have resulted in pretty much like things.

OBITUARY

It is with great affliction that we learned of the death of our comrade and fraternal friend, Vic Ratsma. On the occasion of this important loss, we offer our sincere condolences to his companions in the struggle, to all his friends and family. Vic Ratsma has been associated for a very long time with the peoples of the USSR. He was an important and untiring worker for the revival of the Soviet Union and Socialism. This big loss that we have just sustained, we must now surmount it. This will be the best way to remember Vic.

The name of Vic and his personality were deeply bound to the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet people. He had totally devoted himself to the cause of the Soviet people. As an Executive member of the International Council and as an

Associate Editor of Northstar Compass, he devoted an important slice of his life to the struggle against imperialism.

He was a fantastic thinker and writer, and never missed an opportunity to contribute to settle some of the problems that were confronting our Association and publication.

My friendship with Vic makes me duty bound to say that, with his death, he bequests us the duty to continue our fight in which Vic was so involved with, and to improve our way in order to totally identify ourselves with the cause and the aims of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People.

THE MAN DIES, THE SYMBOL REMAINS!

Dr. Adelard Paquin
Editor of French Edition of NSC

'REVOLUTION' IN UKRAINE ORCHESTRATED BY US?

By IAN TRAYNOR

Dear reader:

This was written as we went to press. The concise analyses from our comrades in Ukraine will be in the January issue of NSC. But, there is lots of truth in this article.

The turmoil in Ukraine after the presidential elections have been mobilized by Ukrainian Pora Youth Movement with the help of outside

forces, headed by US Imperialism.

With their financed websites and stickers, pranks and slogans aimed at spreading fear and the "chestnut revolution" in Ukraine, this is done by the backing and financing from USA, a sophisticated and brilliantly conceived exercise in Western branding and mass marketing that, in four Eastern European countries in four years, had been used to try to salvage so-called elections and topple regimes.

Funded and organized by the US government, deploying US top-gun consultancies, pollsters, diplomats, the two big American parties and US non-governmental organizations, the campaign was first used in Europe in

Belgrade in 2000 - to beat Slobodan Milosevic. The US Ambassador to Yugoslavia played a key role, as did the US Ambassador in Tbilisi.

The campaign organized by US Imperialism was so slick that the methods have matured to be used in winning other peoples' elections. There are other targets that US multimedia experts are working on to overthrow the governments that the US things are "rogue states." ■

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF NSC

US ELECTIONS:

An excellent analyses of US election is being published as written by Ray O Light, entitled "*Some Lessons of the 2004 US Presidential Election*". It is very necessary to understand the consequences for all humanity of this election of Bush.

UKRAINE'S US INSPIRED COUNTER-REVOLUTION:

Our correspondents and party writers in Ukraine have let us know that they're sending the analyses. Besides this, the opinions and analyses from the Russian comrades will also be published

THE BANKRUPTCY OF THE AMERICAN LEFT

By ANA LUCIA GELABERT

Cuban American Political Prisoner

But, maybe we should title this article as the "American Ultra Left."

Among other things, that is what the recent election of George W. Bush to the presidency of the USA implies. This is the legitimization of heretofore usurper and illegitimate ruler of a coup. From now on he is genuinely elected president and induced by the largest number of votes of any president ever received!

And the "left" and the "left" and the "left"?

Oh very well, thank you. To them it seems that nothing has changed. They are still busy as ever catering to the very same choir of alter-girls and boys, each micro-sect immersed in its own exclusive "no admissions" milieu and oblivious to the real world and to real life. They are still calling for a "million workers marches" to the

Washington Mall, but of which about 500 show up, but despite this ostensible want of 999,500 absentees short of the goal, calling this event a "success": to the resounding applause and cheers of the choir and the reports of the event making quite an exclusive press coup on their 12-page tabloid newspaper. "Ah, didn't y'all notice how Teresa G. and her what's his name running mate got 1,000 votes (nationwide) for president?" That of course constitutes yet another tremendous election "success".

The revolution is on its way!

Nothing has changed, according to them.

Well, excuse me. Reality check! Yes, a lot happened last November 2nd. America is still sharply divided into two halves and increasingly along class lines. But, despite this increased class consciousness, we the people suffered a monumental defeat at the election, whose consequences we shall sooner, rather than later suffer. Too soon, in fact! From now on we might as well kiss goodbye to Roe. V. Wade affirmative action, what's left of our civil rights and the Bill of Rights guarantees, to freedom of the press (remember Dan Rather?), to the teaching of science or logical thinking instead of myth and obscuratism in schools; to the right of the GLBT persons to be treated as persons with dignity and rights instead of getting lynched in back alleys; to name but a few of soon-to-be-things. SOON!

Internationally? The US right wing is now already talking about using preemptive nuclear strikes on the many future "Iraq's" that are in line to be "democratized". There are plans talked about to dissolve the United Nations Organization the way the League of Nations went six and a half decades ago. So, there goes too what is left of International Law!

All this is of course thanks to the unquestionable mandate that Bush got in the presidential election.

Since this is a fact, let's face it, it was a battle and **the fascists won!** Hiding our heads in the sand like ostriches won't alter the fact - the **fascists have won!**

Why did they win? Because half of America militantly fighting fascism with toes and nails that they had, and as a consequence enduring

repression of all kinds - from police arrests, to job firings, to untold harassments, extortion and threats. Yet, there weren't any LEFT capable of assuming LEADERSHIP; which means engaging in real politics, rather than utopias or fantasies; to seize the historical opportunity under their very noses. Why, each "leftist" grouplet was much too busy with their own "orthodoxy" and splitting hairs longitudinally to waste any time checking out the real world. That's why on that Black Tuesday, November 2, 2004, we the PEOPLE got creamed and the fascists won!

Be that as it may, as a political prisoner in America, what most concerns me here in my cell, is to get out of this prison, and knowing Bush's record I have reasons to be worried: in his first 16 months as Governor of Texas, Bush doubled the prison population from, 70,000 in January of 1995 to over 140,000 by May of 1996. And if you consider that thanks to oil at over \$50 a barrel, the State of Texas will again double its prison population within a very few months, now that the TDCJ no longer has any federal courts to prevent it. I expect that the jail population in Texas will rise from present 200,000 in six separate prisons to over 300,000. Besides all this prison population, there are the USA's Clements "Tent Camps" (Concentration Camps) and it means that the prison population in Texas alone will exceed 400,000.

Nationwide the jail population in the US is exceeding 5.6 million - of which 2.4 million will be in concentration camps. Some of these camps will be extermination camps, slowly getting rid of sinners and undesirables.

Yes, you heard me well!
Extermination Camps!

To sum it up: to all those "leftists" microsects who so vociferously claim to support the prisoners and their rights, to "free Mumia" and abolish prisons and all of that, yet when the time came, when at last the pre-revolutionary moment arrived at last, when push came to shove, you were incapable of turning your vain words into deeds. To them all, I have but one brief message: **HYPOCRITES!**

And the "left" and the "left" and the "left". ■

STRUGGLE IN NEPAL

The Rediff Special/P V Ramana
October 14, 2004
<http://us.rediff.com/news/2004/oct/14spec2.htm>

People's War Group Andhra Pradesh state secretary Akkiraju Haragopal Ramakrishna, currently in Hyderabad to participate in the maiden talks with the AP government on Friday, October 15, dismissed reports of the Naxalites striving to form a corridor extending between Nepal and parts of India as a creation of the media.

Available evidence suggests that such plans indeed exist.

Speaking to the BBC on June 20, 2003, Malkapuram Bhaskar 'Chandranna,' a senior PWG leader and member of the North Telengana Special Zone Committee, 'confirmed the claim that the PWG was setting up a corridor from Nepal to Andhra Pradesh through Bihar, Orissa and other states.'

It is, thus, difficult to take Ramakrishna's assertion at face value.

The PWG and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), envision carving out a compact revolutionary zone stretching from Nepal to Andhra Pradesh and connected through a revolutionary corridor.

Informed sources believe that the formation of the revolutionary corridor has been completed. This could facilitate the easy movement of men and material along the length of the revolutionary corridor and quick relocation of cadres to safer areas in the face of intense operations by the security forces in one part. Moreover, the rebel groups might also seek to expand to adjoining areas along the revolutionary corridor and destabilise them through their violent activities, as part of their strategy to bring in newer areas

**STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND
SOLIDARITY IN THE WORLD!**

under their influence and sway.

Further, the PWG, the Maoist Communist Centre of India and the CPN-M, together with similar groups from India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, are members of a broad front known as the Coordination Committee of Maoist Parties and Organisations of South Asia that came into formal existence on July 21, 2001. Thus far, three annual meetings of CCOMPOSA have been held; the last was held in March 2004. The objective of this front is to 'coordinate the activities of Maoist parties and organisations in South Asia by spreading protracted People's War in the region, in the context of hastening the World Proletarian Socialist Revolution.'

CCOMPOSA also seeks to 'fight Indian expansionism, world imperialism, especially American imperialism, build solidarity with anti-imperialist struggles throughout the world, build a broad front with the ongoing armed struggles of the various nationality movements in the subcontinent, and lend mutual assistance and exchange experiences and deepen bilateral and multilateral relations among Maoist forces in the subcontinent. At its last meeting, members also resolved to 'preserve, develop, and extend these people's wars in the entire region and initiate new ones. Let us also vow to unite even more closely, build greater bonds of unity with the other struggling forces of the region, with all those who can be united against the common enemy, and turn the respective countries of South Asia into a strong bastion of world revolution.'

STAMPS FROM AROUND THE WORLD!

**If you collect stamps
and want to receive a
package...just
send a small donation to
NSC and we shall
mail them to you,**

The idea of CCOMPOSA is not merely notional.

In 2002, in an interior village in Andhra Pradesh's Karimnagar district, graffiti appeared on the walls hailing CCOMPOSA. Besides, the CPN-M reportedly played a role in the founding of the Bhutan Communist Party-Marxist-Leninist-Maoist, the newest Maoist outfit in the region, formally launched on April 22, 2003 and headed by one 'Vikalpa.'

CCOMPOSA publishes a journal periodically under the same title. Indeed, CCOMPOSA members marked the anniversary of the 1967 Naxalbari uprising by conducting week-long protests during May 22-29, 2004 against, what they term 'State repression.'

Both the CPN-M and PWG also conduct propaganda for CCOMPOSA and for each other. The CPN-M web site has repeatedly posted statements and protest calls given by the PWG on its web site. Further, for instance, the monthly People's March, a Naxalite journal published from Emakulam, carries detailed accounts of CPN-M armed attacks and interviews with its leaders. Its October 2004 issue contains a long interview with Hisila Yami 'Parvati,' the highest ranking woman leader in the CPN-M, who is a central committee member and wife of Baburam Bhattarai, No 2 in the CPN-M hierarchy.

In fact, the linkages between the CPN-M and PWG have deepened so much that as a very well informed PWG watcher in AP told this researcher, "invariably the CPN-M informs the PWG of an impending major attack in Nepal."

This ever-widening complex web of linkages is a source of serious concern for all the governments in the region.

The relations between the PWG and the CPN-M date back at least to 1995.

In a joint-statement signed by CPN-M supremo Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' and a senior PWG functionary, 'Suresh', the two outfits strongly condemned what they termed was 'Indian expansionism.' Over a period of time, these linkages have broadened and deepened.

At the recently conference of chief ministers of Naxalite-affected

states on September 21 in Hyderabad, representatives from Bihar expressed deep concern at the existing and deepening linkages between Indian Naxalite groups and the Maoist insurgents of Nepal. In fact, a number of Maoist insurgents have been arrested in India on different occasions.

Reports in 2002 indicated that the Nepalese Maoists and PWG have formed the India-Nepal Border Regional Committee to coordinate their activities in areas along the India-Nepal border in Bihar.

In the same year, on January 25, the CPN-M politbureau condemned the proscribing of the PWG and MCCI under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and resolved to work together with the two Indian outfits to oppose the ban and build public opinion against it.

Further, CPN-M central committee member Chandra Prakash Gajurel 'Gaurav' attended the PWG's ninth congress held in the dense forests of Chhattisgarh from March 3 to 21, 2001. Gajurel is currently an undertrial prisoner in Chennai after he was arrested at Chennai airport on August 20, 2003 while attempting to proceed to Europe on a fake passport to liaise and conduct propaganda for his outfit.

At that time, an official of the Indian embassy in Kathmandu said: 'We suspect he had gone there to meet the People's War Group. He had certainly not gone there to teach at Chennai University.'

In all, over 75 Nepalese Maoist leaders and cadres have been arrested in India and handed over to the authorities in Nepal, including central committee members Suresh Ale Magar, Maitrika Prasad Yadav and Bamdev Chetri — who was employed at Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University and later set free by the Nepalese government. Babauram Bhattarai holds a doctoral degree from JNU.

The PWG had also given some arms to the CPN-M and, as one Maoist cadre admitted on the night of November 17, 2003, on state run television, the Maoists had received training from the PWG in handling weapons and explosives. Available information also indicates that a top PWG leader, Cherukuri Rajkumar 'Uday' is the point man for the PWG

in its talks with the CPN-M.

The linkages between the Naxalite groups and the CPN-M have, 'over the years, evolved into a strategic alliance with a steady exchange of men and material, extension of training facilities and safe haven and facilitation of procurement of arms and explosives.'

Within India, the trend points towards increasing unity among the various Naxalite groups. In the recent past, this had commenced with the merger between the PWG and the erstwhile Party Unity of Bihar on August 11, 1998, following four years of negotiations.

Naveen Prasad, presently a member of the PWG's central committee and general secretary of the erstwhile PU, acclaimed the merger as the 'most significant development in the CPI-ML (Communist Party of India-Marxist-Leninist) history after the martyrdom of Charu Mazumdar.'

Presently, the PWG and Janasakthi have joined hands to participate in the talks with the AP government. At his October 12 press conference in Hyderabad, in the presence of Janasakthi leaders, Ramakrishna indicated that the two groups could merge in the future, but added that unity talks were not taking place presently.

The PWG and MCCI announced their merger in Hyderabad on Thursday. Earlier in January 2003, the Revolutionary Communist Centre of India merged with MCC and the resultant grouping was named as the MCCI.

The emerging pattern of consolidation of forces among Naxalite groups in India, together with the functional linkages with fraternal groups on the sub-continent, holds grave threat to India's internal security. It could lead to increasing lawlessness in vaster tracts of land and destabilise them.

The Union government noted at the chief ministers conference that 125 districts across the country have been affected by Naxalite violence and 24 more are being targeted by the Naxalite groups.

The author is Research Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi. ■

MICHAEL
OPPERSKALSKI



CAESAR IS DEAD BY STEALTH ASSASSINATION

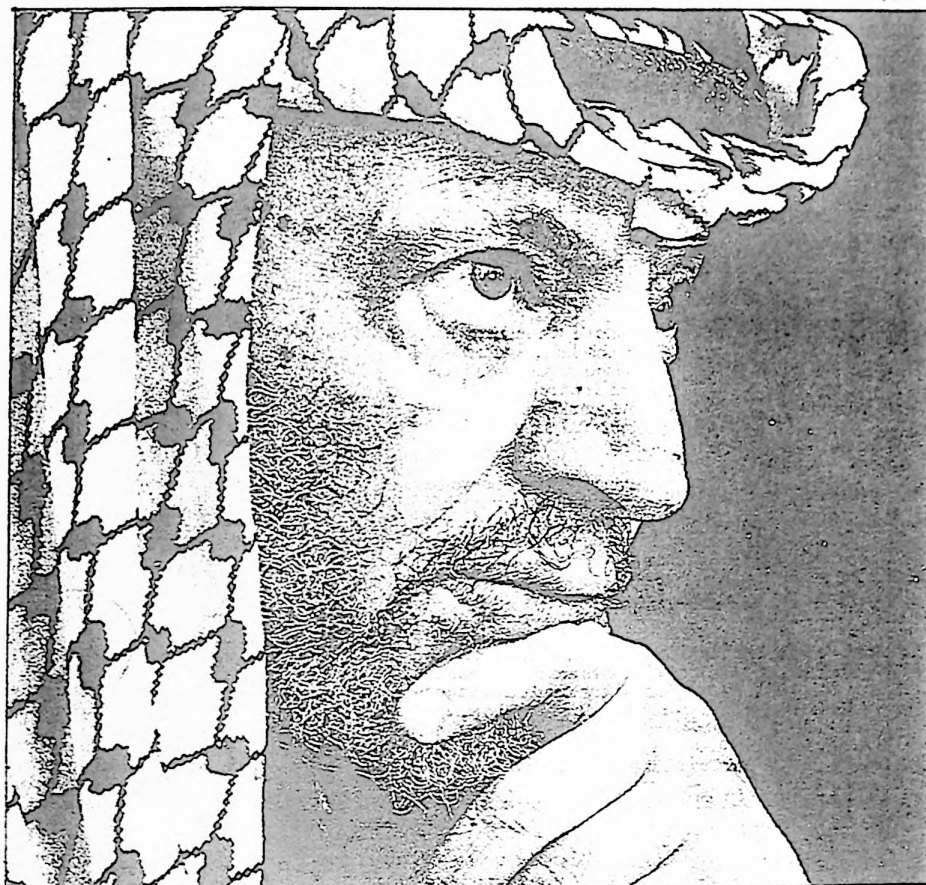
It's the worst possible end for Yasser Arafat, and more importantly for his life-long quest for justice, dignity and a free independent Palestinian State.

In the end it appears that Yasser Arafat has been killed by fatal poisoning in a kind of stealth assassination by his arch nemesis Ariel Sharon, and with the help from those inside his own circle.

Arafat passes from history not as the father of a Palestinian State, but with his people more fractured and dispossessed and in greater bondage, imprisonment, and impoverishment than ever in their history.

The last photo his people saw of him as he departed the occupied Palestinian State was a picture of a jolly sick man - smiling Arafat in his pajamas, goes off to die in exile. Insiders said that he whispered to his long-tome confidants just before being taken away: **"This time they got me."** And now Israel and those who he never fully trusted to follow him (*and how right he was*), are conspiring to bury him in relative obscurity in Gaza Ghetto.

The circumstance, the timing, the method, the exiled "wife" whisking him off to Paris in the end --- all extraordinarily suspicious when all the pieces are put together.



Just an old man - who supposedly caught the ordinary flu and quickly deteriorated, despite teams of world-renowned doctors and the best medical care? Or like Julius Caesar of old - done in by his long-time enemies and some insiders he thought to be his own?

Arafat was assassinated by blood poisoning by the Israelis, working with some insiders in the conclusion of Professor Hisham Ahmed.

Ordered by Ariel Sharon, done by Mossad, OK'ed by the CIA, and actually perpetrated by some turncoat Palestinians - that is the most likely reality in the cause of death, killing of Yasser Arafat. But Arafat's murder will not reach the court of law, no Judge or Jury will ever decide "*Beyond a Reasonable Doubt*" or "*By Preponderance of Evidence*" - this is left to the insiders, to the experts, to the journalists.

Professor Ahmed himself lives in Ramallah, near the headquarters where Arafat was under house arrest and imprisonment by the Israelis for nearly three years. He teaches Political Science at Bir Zrit University and has his PhD from the University of California and has been a Fulbright Scholar. Dr. Ahmed was born in Deheishe Refugee Camp

near Bethlehem and he is an astute observer of Palestinian affairs and indeed international affairs.

He was interviewed by MiddleEast.Org last month as the tragedy was unfolding with Yassar Arafat. ■

COULD THIS BE IT?

From www.chinaview.cn 2004

Well informed Palestinian sources said last month as the Palestinian leader was in a Paris hospital, that Yasser Arafat, might be poisoned by putting poison into his food.

The sources told the Xinhua agency that Israel is accused and responsible for trying to poison Arafat, adding that- "*Israel wanted to get rid of Arafat through a slow death.*"

The question that Arafat had been poisoned "*was the first priority for his illness after the doctors at Percy Hospital outside of Paris, France failed to diagnose the illness that Arafat suffers from*", said the source.

Palestinian reports said that Palestinian security forces are holding intensive investigations to find out whether the poison had been put into his food, adding that Arafat

had escaped 13 assassination attempts by Israelis, three of them were attempts to poison him.

French doctors said that he doesn't suffer from any organic disease or Leukemia, but his health has been deteriorating.

COMMENT:

Western secret services are filling the media with all sorts of stories, trying to cloud this important issue. But, the 13 assassination attempts on Arafat, is never ever mentioned Why? ■

PRESSURE ON FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO COME CLEAN

From AL-Jazeera

Pressure from around the world is growing for the French Government to order the military authorities to publish full details of the death of Yasser Arafat, amid growing speculation that the French authorities are hiding the real truth.

The five-line communique by the hospital did not even mention the cause of Arafat's death. This is a violation of the French law that forbids issuing of a death certificate without specifying the actual cause of death.

French diplomatic sources said that "*they did not know why there was such an omission.*" Arafat's personal physician for 22 years, Dr. Ashraf Al Kurd has publicly called for an investigation in the cause of death, and criticized strongly the French authorities for what he terms as "*strange attitude*"

The question is asked as to who wants to keep the cause of Arafat's death a secret and why? ■

US IS REPORTEDLY GASSING FALLUJAH

From IslasmOnline.net

NOV. 10, 2004: US troops used chemical weapons and poisonous gas in its large scale offensive on the Iraqi resistance bastion of Fallujah. US troops are using internationally-banned chemical weapons, the resistance forces told the Al-Quds

Press on Wednesday, November 10th. Bodies of Iraqi fighters litter the streets.

US troops used these weapons out of despair and helplessness in the face of the steadfastness and fierce resistance of the Iraqi patriots, with only small arms weapons and opposing them was the mightiest army and weapons in the world.

US troops sprayed chemical and nerve gases on the resistance fighters, turning them hysteric in a heartbreaking scene, according to the Iraqi doctors on the scene.

The last August of 2003, the United States admitted dropping the internationally-banned incendiary weapon of napalm on Iraq, despite the earlier denials by the Pentagon that the "horrible" weapon had not been used in the three-week invasion of Iraq. Iraqis have complained to the United Nations about the thousands of unexploded cluster bombs that the US dropped on Iraq.

Since the closure of Al-Jazeera TV network and the Western journalists followed like sheep the ban of any news about this, therefore the US command opted to use these banned weapons, knowing full well that people at home or in the world will not hear about it in the news media!

COMMENT:

Where is the UN and its highly overpaid Secretary General? Where is the International Court? Where are the protests from Russia or China? When will these US war criminals be tried for these war crimes?

CIA'S SECRET WEAPONS SYSTEMS

In a very extensive article by Andrew Stark, where he reveals all sorts of secret weapons that CIA is manufacturing, using and trying desperately to hide their work from the general public. We just summarize some of these weapons that are made from ordinary daily used materials and human part functions.

*There are guns that shoot cobra-venom darts.

*Borga ring contains deadly poison to be slipped in to a victim's drink.

*Exploding wine glasses

*Aspirin explodes as you swallow

*The CIA has developed poison from almonds and paste, radiator cleaner drink disguised as a coke

*The weapons developed to change the weather pattern which was used in Vietnam

*Germ warfare was used in Korean War

*Urine and nitric acid connected to urinals to kill victims

*Cigarette that blow up a person's head

*Writing paper that ignites and explodes

*Lipstick that poisons immediately

*Wrist watch that becomes a bomb equal to TNT when it explodes ■

US BOMBS TO BE TESTED IN AUSTRALIA

The USA is preparing to test new-generation weapons, including smart bombs, on Australian territory under an agreement between the two countries.

According to the former ANZUS treaty advisor, Ross Babbage, the US will be experimenting with self-guided smart bombs and live "dummy" bombing raids into Australia from US aircraft carriers. He also said that smaller versions of these smart bombs, which could even pinpoint hinges on tanks, would also be experimented with.

He ended up with the assurance that this joint exercise will send a strong message to the world and the region, of the support by USA of Australia. ■

CIA AGENTS WORKING INSIDE THE US IN RECORD NUMBERS

By MICHAEL OPPERSKALSKI

USA TODAY reported that the CIA has secretly undertaken the most extensive deployment of CIA agents working inside the USA in the spy agency's history. This marks the CIA's broadest association with the FBI since the agency was formed 50 years ago.

By US law, CIA is prohibited from participating in intelligence gathering operations in the US against

American citizens. US Federal officials have expressed concern and stated emphatically that this is against the US Constitution – but Bush is in for another four years – so the dye is cast.

According to the Washington Post, US will deploy over 4,000 troops as a security operation when Bush's inauguration ceremony takes place in January of 2005, plus thousands of police officers from across the country.

Meanwhile, last month in New York at ground "0" a 25-year old man killed himself after becoming distraught over Bush's election victory. Andrew Veal bought a shotgun a day after Bush won the election and went to Ground Zero and committed suicide as a sign of protest.

The number of women prisoners in US jails is now over 100,000, This shows that there are more women going to jail per year than men, mostly related to drugs. ■

Solidarity with Colombia

Colombia needs today more than ever the solidarity from the international community. That country is the key for the domination of the countries to the south of the Rio Grande and the area of the Caribbean by the USA's Pentagon. If the forces that struggle at different levels in that country do not prevail, the Bolivarian Revolution, the hope of the peoples who are demanding a better world, as all of the other struggles in the region, will be in danger.

There is much that we can do from our own spaces to help in the struggles of our Colombian sisters and brothers. Let us keep the Colombian struggle in all of the forums to which we have access. Let us send letters of denunciation to the governments of Colombia and the USA, against the murders, massive detentions and the criminalizing of protests; to the trade unions and the organizations who are in the struggle. Let us defend the right of insurgency like the Iraqi and the Palestinian people. Let us not allow that the reactionary and rightwing forces put them on the same level as

the paramilitary terrorists. These reactionary Colombian forces and US imperialism want to exterminate the Colombian resistance. **We must not allow this.**

Let us continue the boycott of CocaCola and denounce other multinationals that want to steal the country's resources, and for whose benefit all the violence is committed.

In solidarity from inside the Monster
BERTA

Falluja's Humanitarian Disaster Confirmed

GRANMA INTERNATIONAL

US soldiers involved in the offensive on the city of Falluja stated at the height of the savage bombardment that there was no need for the Red Crescent to distribute humanitarian aid inside the area, reported ANSA.

"There is no need to bring aid inside the city because we have our own aid for the population," announced US Marine Colonel Shupp.

What this Colonel did not explain is that the aid to the population in the martyred city consists of

indiscriminate bombardment day and night, resulting in thousands of dead civilians, many of whose bodies have been left on the streets to decompose, while the wounded have not been able to reach the hospitals.

After blocking the entrance of the Red Cross into the city, this same US high-ranking officer added that he wasn't aware of any Iraqi citizens trapped inside the city because of the fighting!?

Meanwhile Ferdus al-Ibadi, the spokesperson for the Iraqi Red Crescent stated: "There is a humanitarian crisis in the city. Disease is killing the children, pregnant women are miscarrying, the elderly and the wounded are dying in the streets, not to mention the occupation of the main city hospital and the destruction by the US Marines of the health clinics".

COMMENT:

Where is the outcry from the United Nations and all those highly paid politicians serving at the UN and having caviar and drinks, while the Iraqi blood flows in the streets? Let us remember, that war criminals are not only those who perform the killing, but also those that allow that to happen, while having the power to stop this carnage!

Historic General Strike in West Bengal, India, defying threats and intimidation from the Government, Administration and the Judiciary

By MANIK MUKHERJEE -



All India Anti-Imperialist Forum

The total success of 24 hours General Strike on 17 November 2004 in the state of West Bengal of India, at the call of the Socialist Unity Centre of India (SUCI), reared and steered by Shibdas Ghosh, one of the famous Marxist thinkers of the era and a worthy successor of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Mao ze-dong, added a glorious chapter in the annals of the struggle of the toiling people of India seeking emancipation from the ruthless capitalist exploitation. The General Strike was called in protest against the unprecedented rise in the price of petroleum products and

other essential commodities and against anti-people policies of the Central and State Governments. It was a culmination of the programmes organized by the SUCI to observe the November Revolution Day.

The Congress Party led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government, resting on the support of pseudo-lefts, like Communist Party of India- Marxist (CPI-M) and the Communist Party of India (CPI), assumed power at the Centre six months back by replacing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) Government through 14th General Election to the Indian Parliament. This Congress led Government has recently imposed a steep hike in the price of petrol, diesel and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), third time in a row since it took over. The erstwhile BJP Government also raised the domestic oil tariff six times during its tenure. And both of them have the same plea for price escalation, surge in international oil price. But the fact is, over 65% of the price tag is attributed to the heavy dose of tax and cess levied by both Central and State Governments. While the people suffer, the large oil companies owned by the Government and MNCs amass fabulous profit so much so that the Indian oil companies are investing billions of dollars abroad to acquire oil fields and refineries. There is no initiative on the part of the Indian Government to build up international public opinion against the unilateral act of the oil sharks backed by US imperialists to jack up the prices of crude and petro-products in the international market. The CPI(M) and CPI who claim that they are providing content and character for the policies of the UPA Government are also conspicuously silent on this.

While the known bourgeois parties and their sham Marxist friends are implementing the class-design of the ruling bourgeoisie, it is the SUCI, who is fighting for the people's cause, on the platform of democratic mass movements conducive to anti-capitalist proletarian revolution. Sensing the militant mood of the toiling Indian people against the most unjust price hike in the petro-products and against other anti-people measures

of the Central and State Governments, like galloping rise in power-tariff, commercialization of health and education etc., the SUCI gave a call of 24 hour General Strike on 17 November in the State of West Bengal, the citadel of democratic mass movements and nerve centre of proletarian revolutionary movements in India observing the date as All India Protest Day. Protest demonstrations and rallies were organized at various parts of the country.

The West Bengal State Government is run by the CPI(M) and its associates who, under the garb of Marxism-Leninism, are nakedly pursuing anti-people pro-capitalist policies to appease the ruling class for pelf and power. The CPI(M) led Government feigning opposition to globalization-liberalization to hoodwink the masses, is openly inviting Indian and foreign capitalists as well as MNCs to invest in the State and offering them all cooperation and concession. To woo national and foreign capital and assure them faithful subservience, it is ruthlessly crushing democratic mass struggles and trade union movements and in the process sully the Red Flag. The people's movements over burning problems of life organized by the SUCI and the sustained ideological struggle unleashed by it are not only exposing the nefarious design of the ruling bourgeoisie and its known political agents but are also unmasking these sham Marxists. They all combined to foil the General Strike of Nov. 17.

The Congress Party, through one of its lackeys, filed a petition in the Apex Court of West Bengal seeking to ban the proposed General Strike. The Court upheld the prayer and declared the General Strike illegal. The Court also direct the State Government to take appropriate steps to maintain, what it called "normalcy" on the General Strike day and take stern action against the Organizers and volunteers of the General Strike. It even threatened the Government employees of a day's wage cut in case they failed to turn up on the General Strike day. It may be added that a year back the Apex Court of India also ruled against organizing a General strike as a form of movement, but this is a first time that the Court specifically

singled out a particular General Strike for being ruled against. The CPI-M led West Bengal Government betrayed a rare sense of obedience to the Court directives by lining up its entire arsenal to break the General Strike. There was massive deployment of police and paramilitary Forces. Raids were conducted at the residences of the SUCI leaders and leading organizers for preemptive arrests. Their family members were terrorized. The CPI(M) sponsored criminals were posted at various localities. The bourgeois media was pressed into action to unleash ceaseless anti-General Strike propaganda.

But the SUCI and the fighting people were unperturbed and were unflinching in their resolve to make the General Strike a total success, come what may. The Government administration brandished the Court Order to call the General Strike illegal and threatened of dire consequences if the judicial verdict was disobeyed. But the SUCI leadership boldly declared that the Court might find the General Strike call illegal but they were seeking the people's verdict about its legitimacy. In a class-divided society, the judiciary, said the SUCI, is no super-class machinery but an inseparable organ of the capitalist state machine. Its job is to protect and serve the interest of the ruling capitalist class. So judiciary in a bourgeois state operates within the bourgeois framework and hence its ruling can not transgress the barrier of bourgeois class-interest. The battle lines were thus clearly drawn between legitimacy and legality, just and unjust; between the SUCI — representing the people's cause, and the reactionary combination of all bourgeois Parties - pseudo-lefts, government-administration-coercive state apparatus.

And November 17 did create history - brag and bluster of the stooges and forces of reaction were of no avail. Braving all odds, defying all threats and intimidation, disdaining the barrage of propaganda by the bourgeois media, the people made the General Strike a total success. Once again the rulers had a feel of what people's power is. There was no picketing, no squatting, no roadblocks, and no forcible prevention. Yet the people

stayed indoor .to demonstrate their solidarity with the General Strike. Shops and establishments were closed. Markets had their shutters down. The streets were deserted, only the baton-wielding police were found patrolling. Under a directive of the Government and the ruling Parties, the Public Transport plied a skeleton service. But there was hardly any passenger. From the foot of the Himalayas to the shores of the Bay of Bengal life came to a grinding halt. It was the poorest strata of the people, the labourers, the landless peasants and agricultural workers, daily wagers who lent their whole hearted support behind this General Strike call and made all sacrifices to crown it with the glory of success. Even the honest rank and file of the pseudo-lefts and other bourgeois parties stood in defence of the General Strike call. Enraged at this unprecedented response to the General Strike call, the administration went berserk. The police pounced upon people's processions in support of the General Strike, mercilessly beat up the SUCI workers and put them behind the bar. Over 1450 SUCI workers, including female workers, were arrested. Many sustained grievous injuries at the unprovoked baton charge by the police on the peaceful protesters and they needed to be hospitalized. The police atrocity is violative of the law, which the Government is so vociferous to uphold. Despite such physical assaults, cooked up stories, tutored interviews, false figures, tailored photographs, the ruling bourgeois and its servitors could not suppress the truth or hide the reality. They were themselves caught in the web of their own contradictions over facts and versions. The whole country stood up and took note of the significant milestone in advancing the people's struggles.

Through success of this historic General Strike, the toiling people of India, under the revolutionary leadership of the SUCI, holding aloft the noble banner of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh thoughts did raise the democratic mass movement to a new height and advanced a step forward in the preparation for achieving anti-capitalist proletarian revolution. ■

ISRAELI SECRET AGENTS KILLED 310 IRAQI SCIENTISTS

By MUSTAFA AMARA

More than 310 Iraqi scientists have perished at the hands of Israeli secret agents in Iraq since the fall of Baghdad to US troops in April of 2003, a seminar was told in Azzaman this year. The Seminar was held in Cairo on October 30, 2004. It was attended by many politicians, journalists and experts with an interest in the current affairs of Iraq.

The conclusion of the Seminar was that there is an organized campaign aimed at "liquidating Iraqi scientists" in the past 18 months and most of them pointed the finger at the Israeli secret police service, the Mossad. "There is a joint American and Israeli plan to kill as many as possible Iraqi scientists, those that were in the Defense Ministry of Iraq. Israel has played a prominent role in liquidating Iraqi scientists, since Israel feels that these scientists working on applied research as threatening its interests", al-Iraqi news service said.

Dr. Imad Jad, an Israeli affairs

expert at the Al-Ahram Studies Center, said that the US has already airlifted 70 Iraqi scientists out of the country and placed them in areas to make it difficult for them to "transfer information to Iraqi anti-US quarters." He also stated that nearly 17,000 Iraqi scientists working in various fields of knowledge have fled the country since the US-led invasion.

The interim Iraqi government officials refused any comment. But, the present Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Science and Technology said that their own figures tally with those mentioned at the Cairo Seminar, particularly the number of the Iraqi scientists that have been killed. ■

DEMONSTRATION IN SOFIA

Over 15,000 people demonstrated in front of the government headquarters in Sofia last month to protest poverty and the government-proposed social benefit cuts, as Bulgaria marked the 15th Anniversary of the collapse of socialism.

Bulgarian trade unions now state that their expectancy of better living conditions were dashed and urged their members to hit the streets in demonstrations to protest the policy of the present capitalist government. ■

THE MODERN DAY CRUSADERS

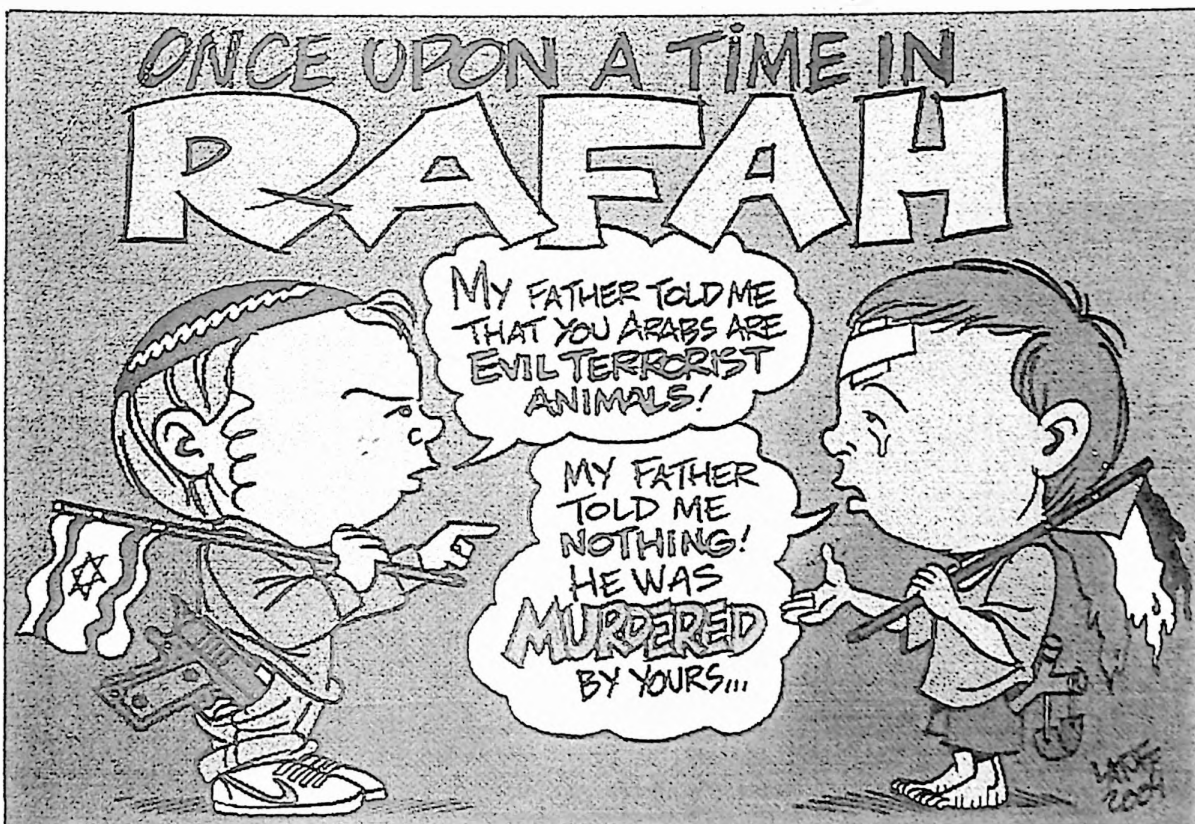
Holy War: US Evangelical Marines in Fallujah, Iraq

This sounds like something from the history books when the Crusaders invaded the Holy Land to battle the "evil barbarians."

When US Marines were preparing to go into Fallujah last month, there was a ceremony where the Christian Marines swayed to Christian rock music and asked Jesus Christ to protect them. Marines in buzz hair cuts and clad in their camouflage uniforms, waved their hands in the air, M-16 rifles besides them, and chanted heavy-rock lyrics in praise of Christ.

They praised the righteousness of their deadly attack on the Iraqi patriots and said that Bush and God sent them to kill the heathens in the name of Christ.

In order to buttress their kill-instincts the US Marines allowed the staging of a Chariot race, reminiscent of the Hollywood film Ben-Hur, complete with confiscated Iraqi horses and the Marines all dressed as Gladiators – crying as they marched: *We're the Soldiers of Christ ready to attack these evil barbarians.* ■



www.MiddleEast.Org

PALESTINE WILL REACH THE VICTORY

Statement by the CC of the Marxist Leninist Party of Turkey/Northern Kurdistan

Yasar Arafat, who has gained an effective and special place in Palestinian people's victory, closed his eyes forever. There is no doubt that the Israeli Zionism, Sharon and other racist fascists are responsible for his death.

He has become a part of history as a hero of the national freedom movement from 1960's and a national leader in the 1990's. Despite his errors in the last 15 years, our party expresses condolences to the glorious Palestinian people, El Feith, El Aksa Martyr's Brigade on the death of this historical personality who lived his life serving the Palestinian people's struggle against Zionism and unbreakably tied his fate with those of the Palestinian people's faith.

Again we announce that we will be together with the Palestinian people. The imperialists, the collaborationist forces and Zionist murderers, those who blood-stained our region and the world, who try to enslave the working mankind, should know that this oppression will definitely be smashed. Palestine will reach the victory and the people will conquer and gain their freedom. ■

HUNGARY WILL PULL TROOPS OUT OF IRAQ

President Bush's re-election drew a mixed back of responses from Eastern Europe.

Polish President Mr. Kwasniewski was jubilant about Bush, praising him to high heavens as a gifted President and a warrior against terrorism.

Hungary announced that their troops shall come back from Iraq on March 31st, 2005.

In the Czech Republic there was lamenting that Kerry did not win, since his ancestors were born in Bohemia and were registered as Jewish. ■

TRIAL OF MILOSEVIC UPDATE

The trial of President Milosevic by the Hague-based International Tribunal (a Kangaroo Court, to be more exact) has taken a new turn.

The prosecution in the case intended to symbolize the triumph of international justice, as understood by the Western backing of Chief Prosecutor Carla de Ponte, suffered two tangible blows.

It is very likely that the NATO peacekeepers and secret services of the Western powers will find themselves in the felon dock for their all-out war against Yugoslavia in 1999.

The first blow came from the Netherlands, the tribunal's host country. The case in point is a secret report prepared by the Dutch intelligence service at the government's request. This report details the circumstances of the 1995 capture of Srebrenica by the Bosnian Serb forces, one of the key charges incriminating Slobodan Milosevic.

Yet this 7000-page report contains absolutely no evidence of Milosevic's involvement in the Srebrenica events.

Among the witnesses that testified at the hearings was a German reporter Franz Joseph Hutch, who back at that time was doing coverage for the magazine Stern and some other German newspapers.

In January 1990 he and some other reporters from OSCE discovered some 45 corpses near the village of Racak in Kosovo. He gave a full picture of how the Racak case had been forged, how proof has been fabricated and how the proof now disappeared!

The events in Srebrenica were used by NATO as the main excuse for its bombings of Yugoslavia, and this became the corner-stone of anti-Serb and anti-Milosevic campaign with the Hague Tribunal as one of its tools. ■

Pentagon said that there were only 8,458 wounded in Iraq, 423 in Afghanistan. Landstuhl Medical Center in Germany treated over 20,000 troops. They will not admit how many dead went through.



ACCORDING TO
MISHKA

WHY IS A RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL BEING BUILT IN HAVANA?

Surely after the disasters of the hurricanes and devastation, the money that will be spent could have been used otherwise!

This is a statement from the Consulate of Cuba in Toronto, sent out on November 16, 2004

MOSCOW: RIA NOVOSTI –

A Russian Orthodox Church is to be built in the historical center of Havana, reports a Russian Embassy official from the Cuban capital of Havana.

"This five domed temple with a tent-like belfry is a joint design of Cuban and Russian experts," said the Embassy official.

The first stone was ceremoniously laid in the foundation of the future Russian Church yesterday, in the presence of the Metropolitan of Smolensk and Kaliningrad Cyril and Bishop of Yegorievsk Marl, who were later received in audience by the Cuban President, Fidel Castro. Arrangements are already made to begin construction in January of 2005.

The temple is to be erected by Cuban builders, with part of the materials brought from Russia, while the finishing touches will be done by the Russian experts. This church will be under the jurisdiction of the Moscow Patriarchate.

The Orthodox community in Cuba is reported as about 2,000 people strong. ■

ARE THEY LEAVING THE SINKING SHIP?

It is very interesting that since President Bush stole the election for four more years, the resignations and departures are just beginning to land of Bush's desk. Here are just a few of the resignations:

- * Colin L. Powell, Secretary of State
- * John D. Ashcroft, Attorney General
- * Rod Paige, Education Secretary
- * Ann M. Veneman, Agriculture Secretary
- * Spencer Abraham, Energy Secretary
- * Donald L. Evans, Commerce Secretary

PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY ISRAELI OFFICIALS TO KILL YASSER ARAFAT!

SALT & PEPPER ON WRY

Frank Ray Davis



Our reader and contributor from Mexico.

TWEEDLE OR TWADDLE?

Ho-Hum. Another Tweedle-Dee Tweedle-Dumb election campaign past, full of sound and fury signifying money. Old depended Tweedle-Dumb gains again.

Once more American voters have had the exalted privilege of choosing between a boot in the butt by a smiling man, or a snarling man. Americans sure have a strong taste for boots, no butts.

But there is a but: But must Americans be forever captives of two tired old fat-cats parties? Or can they rise off their booted butts and do something about it?

BAN THE VULTURES:

The big result of The Grand Unpopularity Contest is not that the guy named Bush or fellow named Kerry "won". Rather, the American

Israel Cabinet meeting, Sept. 11/2003

"Recent day's events have proven again that Yasser Arafat is a complete obstacle in the process of reconciliation...Israel will act to remove this obstacle in the manner, at the time, and in the ways that will be decided on separately."

ARIEL SHARON -Quoted on BBC, August 2003

"We took action against Ahmed Yassin and Abdelaziz Rantisi (both were assassinated) and a few other Palestinian murderers when we thought the time was ripe. On the matter of Arafat, we will operate in the same way, when we find it convenient and a suitable time. One needs to find the time and do what has to be done."

"I wouldn't suggest that Arafat should feel secure. I would not propose that any insurance company to give him coverage."

Editorial in the JERUSALEM POST September 11, 2003

"The world will not help us; we must help ourselves. We must kill as many of the Palestinians of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad leaders as possible, as quickly as possible, while minimizing collateral damage, but not letting that damage to stop us.... and we must kill Yasar Arafat, because the world leaves us no alternative. Killing of Arafat more than any other act, would demonstrate that he, the tool of terror is unacceptable."

Ehud Olmert, Deputy Minister of Israel- Israel Radio, Sept. 23, 2003

"Killing Arafat is definitely one of our options."

COMMENT:

These are just some of the public threats. Can you imagine what has been said, discussed and planned when the TV cameras and microphones were not present?

STAMPS FROM AROUND THE WORLD FOR "U"

For a donation towards NSC we shall send you a packet of these very interesting collection of stamps.

model of Democracy showed down so many throats for so long clearly is a dead duck savable only by a phoenix rebirth. Choosing one of two imaged puppets every four years is just not Democracy, and, we **must** make big changes if the American eagle is not to die the death of a dodo.

SAME POST-ELECTION BULL

Dubya Bush now wants us to "unite" behind him. A mad war-dog-type is not the most appealing object to cuddle-up with. Then he wants us to "work together" for his benefit and enrichment. With all the millions of jobs he and his gang have shipped overseas, even finding work is hard work.

NOTABLE QUOTABLES:

"The three greatest evils that have caused humanity the preponderance of its pain and suffering are: misguided patriotism, greed and religious fanaticism.

MORALITY CUTS COSTS: Some voters went to Dubya Bush because of his "higher moral force". **Wow!** If lying, stealing, murder, torture, and hypocrisy are high morality - the churches can well go out of business. And lucky Devil. He can now douse the fires of Hell and save big bucks on his energy bill.

WHAT DID AMERICANS GAIN?:

Yeah, he and his family of cronies gained - billions of dollar's worth - from oil, armaments, and the "terrorist" hoax. Bill Gates - move over!

GOOD FOR TRANSPORT BIZ THOUGH:

At the same time that many job-hungry Mexicans are migrating as cheap labour, profit-hungry American employers are moving south to the low-wage paradise in Mexico. Well, nobody ever claimed that neo-liberalism makes good sense.

JERRY MORSE



AS I SEE IT!

To pierce President Bush's understanding of the word CAPITAL, which he proclaimed as his Republican election mandate, one must go back to the 11th, 12th, 13th Centuries. Those despicable Christian military crusades and expeditions, all of which went through Nineveh and Baghdad, plundering, butchering Khalif and commoner alike, has its sequel now in present day Iraq.

There were no threats from Iraq against any Christians, as there were none against the US itself. The rights, privileges and the country's resources in Iraq became Bush's CAPITAL. Chains, torture, padlocks, financial booty, obstructionism, thousands of soldiers plundering and killing, is the modern version of the Christian Crusades.

His US and British mercenary Christian Crusaders will receive their thirty pieces of silver, while the leaders will get appointments. Filibustering by the Democrats will be unsuccessful and they will agree, hoping for some spoils also.

Time to bring on the slogan of

"IMPEACH BUSH AS A WAR CRIMINAL !"

Unless one has a **military mind**, one cannot understand the killing of defenseless civilians as in Iraq. The **military mind** is the lowest thought-producing organ of humanity. It thrives on greed, immorality, unethics, non-concern for any right or wrong. It searches for power by

YOU HAVE AN OPINION ABOUT NSC? WRITE!

destruction of all opposition. It bloats its existence by irresponsible action taken to eliminate responsibility for any of its commands. Lies are part of its functioning. Killing is its aim. Justification for law breaking it deems – a Constitutional right.

The media published the photo of US Marine with his super rifle killing of a wounded civilian worshipper in a Fallujah Mosque. We see the daily functioning of Bush's, Cheney's and Rice's mind. All of them have **military minds**. Citizens defending their country and homes are classified as terrorists, insurgents and everyone is blamed, except the US military crusaders.

We all have to condemn these **military minds**, thereby giving input to the understanding of real democracy. No amount of philosophical excuses will cover the outright military-fascist mind of US Marines as they rampage, kill, burn and murder Iraqi people.

For all intents and purposes, the US military declared that any male in Fallujah or any family unlucky to be caught in the hail of deadly fire, are legitimate targets for death. We will perhaps never know how many thousands of people were killed. But...does the US media or other so called "allies" of US imperialism...do they question the legitimate right to raise the city of Fallujah to the ground? Is this not genocide? Are these US troops and their commanders not war criminals?

How about the Secretary General Koffi Anan of the United Nations going there personally, to see for himself, smell the stench of rotting flesh, children blown to pieces? But no, His Excellency is nothing but a puppet of US Imperialism. May I suggest, that you sir, propose the renaming of the UN and that it should be named the "American United Nations" instead. Bush might still allow you to head this "new" organization.

WASHINGTON, D.C. "Where they smell money, onward fly the protected war criminals."

Trillions of dollars go into the US government system from US workers. 6.2% payroll taxes go to

WHY NOT EXPRESS YOUR FEELINGS IN NSC!

Social Insurance. Moving quickly - President Bush and his advisors want the Republicans and the Democrats to "OK" his blueprint for taking 2% of Social Security payroll deductions (*as just a starter*) for privatization. Here's the president of the Great USA who cons his people into an illegal attack on Iraq and other countries; who has for himself a blind trust from monies gleaned by some of his family members off slave labour; who put through five measures of wage cuts for the US rich; who stomps the environmental sensibilities; who wants astronomical \$ billions invested in the Missile Defense program against imaginary enemies; who hid from the US Congress the financial statements on the Medicare prescription drug plans; who considers the intelligence personnel, choice victims to cover his ass against impeachment; who looks at the Canadian Geese flying over Texas, and him not having the brains of one of the Geese – this US President, with his advisors knows only Enron.Dot.Com, Haliburton, insurance and stock option crooks by the dozens.

This President is going to give the Social Insurance money for privatization? Americans obviously listen to nothing at all!

Let us here in Canada advise our Canadian Geese to change their flight path.

I know for certain, that the Social Insurance money will be given to Bush's private industry. This money will have a new flight path, and it won't be with the migratory birds. ■

DID YOU KNOW?

Genocide as Statecraft

From GLOBE & MAIL, Sept. 7, 2004

After decades of silent or **Quiet Genocide** against the people of Cuba, the US government has made a small adjustment in its policy towards the island republic. The brave people of Cuba have endured

embargoes, blockades, sabotage, invasions, assassination attempts and strangulations from its wicked northern neighbor in a very futile attempt to demonstrate to the world that a small people cannot successfully pursue an independent policy of self-determination. The exile-Cuban oligarchy, which has set up shop in Florida, has great sway over the Governor Bush (*brother of President George W. Bush*) and where president Bush's first electoral victory was fabricated.

The Republic of Cuba has demonstrated that it is nobody's satellite and that it can muster resources and resolve to carry on and be its own master. No power can defeat the determination of a people to be free, and Cuba proves it.

The hypocrisy of free trade is that it is not the Communists of Cuba who are against free trade with America, it is the preachers of free trade who do not want to practice what they preach.

There is no doubt that Cubans and Americans live in fundamentally different societies and have different value systems. Racism is rampant in the US while - it is unknown in Cuba. Cuba believes in free and accessible health care. The Americas believe that medicine is a sacred instrument of enrichment and profiteering and therefore should not be tempered with. Now, after years of boycott, US wants to get a hold of Cuban discovery of an anti-cancer drug that Cuban scientists have developed. But this anti-cancer cure

that the US would import from Cuba, will again be a huge profit-making bonanza. The motive is always the same; **just medical profiteering!**

Couldn't have written it better myself than this article in the big business newspaper in Canada.
The Editor. ■

QUOTES

Christians are a very small minority in the world. Approximately four out of every five people on the face of this earth believe in gods other than the Christian god. The more than 5 billion people who live on this earth revere or worship more than 300 gods. If one includes the animist or tribal religions, the number of gods worshiped is over 3,000.

We are told in the Bible that a few thousand years ago God created the first man and the first women and that every human being in this world is descended from this first couple. But every anthropologist in the world will tell you that this is all nonsense. Fossil remains tell us incontrovertibly that our earlier ancestors did not appear fully formed, but were anthropoid creatures who lived in the world millions of year ago.

Charles Templeton, Evangelist preacher and author of -
FAREWELL TO GOD ■

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Lucas:

I wish to cancel my subscription to NSC. I subscribed to NSC in order to learn more about the developments in the Communist movements in former USSR. In time I became disturbed by your increasing obsession with "Zionism" and now especially with the crackpot conspiracy stuff of James Petras which you published. Anyone that thinks that Bush and Cheney needed some slick Zionist sympathizers to tell them what to do in Iraq or elsewhere is living in a fantasy world.

The Gentile Americans don't need any Jews or even

"Israel" to convince them how to advance capitalist interests. This is the kind of nuttiness one expects from Buchanan and others of the far right.

I am opposed to Sharon and the right wing Zionists and their miserable treatment of the Palestinian people. However, Petras indulges in such exaggeration and distortions of fact that one would think that "Zionists" control the USA - which is standard anti-Semitic argument. One would never learn from Petras that some of the strongest opponents in the US of the right-wing Zionists and the present

Israel government, are such Jews as Prof. Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, Mark Solomon, Rabbi Michael Lerner and many others in the peace movement.

Mr. Lucas, you may remember what happened to the top leaders of the Tudeh Party in Iran in 1983. The Islamic Khomeini regime - which many Communists at the time defended for being anti-US - put the jailed Communist leaders on TV - all tortured and drugged men - and had them confess that they were spies for the Soviet Union. Thousands of Communists in Iran and Saddam's Iraq were tortured and killed by these Muslim and Arab terroristic chauvinists. Where is Petra's condemnation of reactionary Islamism and its terrorist disciples? All he sees are Jews as the culprits of everything bad. This isn't what socialism or a progressive publication is supposed to be about.

Again, please cancel my sub.

Sid Resnick
USA ■

REPLY TO MR. RESNICK:

Dear Mr. Resnick:

I'm writing to you as a member of the Editorial Board of NSC. I want to inform you that NSC and we are not members of any political party, however, we support the left and are naturally critical of all extreme and rightwing movements, regardless of what race, religion or culture they belong to.

We do not always concur with the articles published as written by some of our readers. But - I personally have always considered Zionism to be nothing but a right-wing political ideology and I have not seen any evidence to make me believe otherwise. I look at Zionism as being in the same class as the Knights of Columbus, the Masons and any other purely nationalistic movement. Zionism has nothing to do with being Jewish - it's a reactionary political ideology, nothing else! Maybe rereading the works of Karl Marx will enlighten you!

I find it very unreasonable that you equate criticizing Zionism with being anti-Semitic!

I was a Canadian Merchant Seaman, but we were sold out to the USA after being promised the world

and freedom and accused that we were agents of Moscow. Under pressure from US imperialism Canada was forced to sell off all its Merchant Navy and crews that sailed them were disbanded and out of work. The reason that I mention this is because your criticism I feel is criticism of all of us that fought for socialism, fought all sorts of chauvinism, reactionary and nationalistic ideology since our organization was set up in Canada in 1918 as the "Hands Off Russia Committee". While a Merchant Seaman, I was in London in April of 1949 and there, we were hosted by British Jewish progressives, and we had to guard them against fascist attacks by Mosley's fascist thugs. The same fascist Mosley that was Knighted as Sir by the British Monarch - he was a rabid anti-Semite - so calling us and NSC anti-Semitic - just shows that you obviously cannot or do not want to see the difference between anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism!

I feel that injustice to one is injustice to all of us, by your attitude!

Moreover, had it not been for the Soviet people, you and I and millions of others would not have been around and free to express our opinions today!

Yours sincerely
Lloyd Redstone
Toronto, Canada

ADDANDUM:

In October of 3001, an acrimonious argument erupted during the Israeli cabinet meeting between Israeli Minister Ariel Sharon and his Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. According to the Hebrew Radio Kol Yisrael that last Wednesday of October, Peres warned Sharon that refusing to heed incessant American demands for a cease-fire with the Palestinians, would endanger Israeli interests and turn the US against us.

At this point, furious Sharon reportedly turned towards Peres, saying: "Every time we do something, you tell me that America will do this and will do that...I want to tell you something very clear: Don't worry about the American pressure on Israel. We, the Jewish people (Zionist Lobby - Editor) control America, and the Americans know it."

The radio reported that Peres and other cabinet ministers warned Sharon against saying what he said in public, because "it would cause us a public relations disaster."

This can be checked out at
pribich@gte.net

FROM ENGLAND

Dear friends:

Enclosed some copies of the newspaper "Morning Star" for your interest. Enclosed is a donation of 10 pounds to help in the work that you are doing.

Once again I can only express my great sadness on the death of Ray Stevenson. His regular articles in NSC will be greatly missed, but we are lucky to have the contributions from you Michael as well as Vic Ratsma, Professor Herasymchuk, Felix Gorelik, Galina Savchenko, Jerry Morse etc. etc.

I look forward to all of their contributions...this is what makes Northstar Compass so special.

Keep up the good work!
Clifford F. Roe
Cheshire

We all will miss Vic Ratsma's articles now, since he has passed away. ■

Dear friends:

Enclosed is my subscription and a donation to the Ray Stevenson Sustaining Fund.

I wish to congratulate NSC as well as the authors of the supplement "US- Iraq-Israel Zionist Connection". It is factual, logical and well-documented article. It avoids propagandistic innuendoes and conspiratorial fantasies. This article, in slightly altered version has also been published in the Fall 2004 issue

**Why not give a Gift
Subscription to NSC
for the upcoming
Holiday Season?**

of "Covert Action Quarterly."

My only difference with the authors' views is their contention that the pro-Israel Jews and Zionists control US foreign policy. The authors use the word "hegemon" and "colon" to describe the alleged dominant hegemonic control of the Jews over the political and intellectual structure of the USA. Their statement, that some Leftist views of Israel as a tool or even an ally of US imperialism is incorrect.

The Jews are indeed tools of US imperialism. Israel is a base for US military power and a factor in the divide-and-rule strategy in the Middle East. This support of Israel; also produces a bonus to US imperialist politics in the form of generous financial contributions from Jewish organizations and individuals. This pattern of "partnership" with Jews is not new. It was practiced in France, Britain, Poland, Russia (Czarist, Soviet and now Capitalist), and pro-Nazi Germany. When the Jews' usefulness is over, they are dumped on the trash-heap of history. Then, because of their positions of financial influence in many of the capitalist countries, they are picked upon as a "partner" by the next adventurer who seeking imperialist domination.

US imperialism has taken advantage of a unique historical opportunity. In the past, imperialists have used Jewish wealth to enhance their power. Today, we have not only the wealth, but also the state of Israel to use as a military and psychological bludgeon for domination in the Middle East. The authors see Jewish domination in the number of flunkies in the US government, but they overlook the number of gentiles among the neo-cons. In our local Detroit newspaper, a commentator points that: "Bush's Cabinet includes Colin Powell as Secretary of State; Rod Paige as Secretary of Education; Alfonso Jackson as Secretary of Housing and Development. In fact Condoleezza Rice, as National Security Advisor, is arguably the most powerful women in the world."

So, does this mean that the African Americans are the "hegemon" and "colons" in charge of US imperialism? I don't think so.

The use of the term "hegemon" and "colon" is amusing, but is subject to general misconstrual. Some years

ago I wrote "The Jewish Cosa Nostra" about the Jewish flunkies in the Clinton administration. Even though 40% of the article explained that "cosa nostra" has nothing to do with the "Mafia", the mindset of both Jewish and non-Jewish friends was that I equated the terms. One must always consider familiar terminology when applying labels.

I was disappointed in our friend Sid Resnick, when he terminated his subscription to NSC because of that Petras article, even though he himself supports Palestinian State and condemns the right-wing Israeli violence against innocent Palestinian civilians. However, another friend of mine wrote: "I used to argue along your lines... but given the strides that Zionism has made in the last 2 or 3 decades, I am beginning to lean to the latter condition - that the Superpower is directed by the mini-power."

Regardless of these opinions, I commend Northstar Compass for publishing divergent views, even though some may appear to be incorrect, or even bizarre to some readers. You make it plain on the first page that "Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Northstar Compass."

Isn't this what we need, especially in these confusing and dangerous times? Isn't this what is necessary to combat narrow thinking, to overcome the kind of dogmatism that may very well have caused the collapse of the greatest socialist movement to which we devoted all of our lives?

Let us seek the truth in honest discussion and not repeat errors of the past!

George Shenkar
Detroit, USA

Dear comrades:

In the October issue of NSC we have read about your campaign to organize solidarity with the Soviet political prisoners. We are here in Turkey preparing a solidarity campaign of sending post cards to the political prisoners all over the world on the occasion of the International Actions for Human Rights in the month of December. It would be great if you could help us with addresses of the political

prisoners in former USSR. We already included the addresses that you published in previous issue of NSC. If you have more (*from other countries as well*) please be so kind and send it to us.

Thank you very much in advance. We wish you success in your struggle.

With Communist greetings,

International Bureau
Marxist Leninist Communist Party of
Turkey (Northern Kurdistan)

*We have sent you the new names
and addresses.*

Dear friends:

I am very happy that the Second World Congress shall be held in Toronto in 2005. I must say that it takes a lot of courage on your part to undertake such a big task. I on my part will continue to do my best to improve my work and to help put into effect the great aims of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People. In doing my part I'm sending in \$200 towards the Sustaining Fund for the future of NSC.

Fraternally
Dr. Adelard Paquin
Editor of French Edition
Of Northstar Compass,
Montreal, Canada

Northstar Compass, Vol.13 #3, Oct. 2004

Response to: "The Mother of All Anti-war Forces"

by Naomi Klein.

It is with interest that one reads Naomi Klein, though she has done some good writing on a series of issues, I felt compelled to answer the one article she wrote about the Mothers of those who have died in Iraq, comparing them to the Mothers of May Square in Argentina who lost their loved ones at the hands of the bloody fascist, due to their participation in leftist politics.

Above-mentioned article first appeared in the Globe and Mail some months ago.

One has to ponder for a moment about the radically different situations of the 'mothers' brought about under the same light in the Naomi Klein

article.

The Mothers of May Square - it is an organization existing since 26 years ago, approximately; they have also founded the Mother's of May Square University which follows the teachings and legacy of Simon Bolivar, a hero of Latin America, a man who fought to unite L.A. and put an end to imperialist exploitation of the L.A. continent.

Not only do the Mothers of May Square denounce and expose the military junta's past crimes, but main part of their work consists in finding and locating those children who were sold to military high ranking officers and other rich families after being forcibly taken from their mothers, while being political prisoners under the military junta. (1974-75-76). Thus was the beginnings of the Mother's of May Square organization, they were grandmothers, daughters, mothers, wife's, nieces and lovers of those who were taken by the military to be imprisoned and later on disappeared. Today, the Mother's of May Square engage in solidarity work to end the occupation of Palestine and Iraq, they are actively denouncing the warmongering plans of the U.S. as well as constantly campaigning for the release of the 5 Cuban patriots illegally imprisoned in the dungeons of the capitalist hordes. In short, the Mother's of May Square have evolved through the years to become a powerful political organization with a clear anti-imperialist mandate.

The loved ones the Mother's of May Square lost at the hands of the fascist machine, cannot be compared to those losses incurred by the mothers in the U.S. who sent their sons and daughters voluntarily to fight and kill innocent people who pose no threat to them. As it is depicted in the film by Michael Moore, Fahrenheit 9/11, the mother presented in this film lost her son, son whom she encouraged to go to Iraq, and although one might understand the economic reasons behind her decision it will not excuse the undeniable fact of volunteering to fight an imperialist war of dominance to 'civilize' the 'savages' and to gain total control of their oil resources. Pain is pain, and there can be no monopoly of pain, but a writer such as Naomi Klein must put these two very different situations in context.

The U.S. mothers who lost their sons and daughters do not engage in political work to denounce the system which sent their kids to war, they do not make the links between the plundering of foreign lands and the Foreign Policy of the U.S. which is the MOTHER of all evil. If the mothers in the U.S. would listen and learn from other mothers experiences around the world and how they have organized politically to end all armed conflicts fueled by U.S. governments, then we can begin to think that perhaps these U.S. mothers have started to change the hearts and minds of the American people. Until then, we will have the election of Bush and more of the same injustices and oppression.

To compare the two situations is a gross misrepresentation of history and reality; the Mother's of May Square would never send their children to fight an imperialist war, in fact they, the Mother's of May Square stand today as an example to be followed by other mothers around the world in the fight for justice and Peace.

Cristina Fernandez
Coalition Against War and Racism

Dear comrades:

We noted your second proposal to hold the 2nd World Congress in Cuba instead of Canada... yes - Cuba would be a god venue. But would it not cost some problems to our Soviet comrades and others, because of the longer distance to travel?

We are here deeply involved in organizing mass movements against the Central and State governments

of India. Our Party had organized a General Strike last November 17, 2004 in West Bengal, against the unprecedented rise of essential commodities and of the petroleum products. The response of the people was enthusiastic but the ruling class opposed it tooth and nail.

This strike was declared illegal and the State apparatus used all of its force to suppress this people's movement and used threats. The people were undaunted and the strike was effective and our party knew well that it will be prosecuted for this action. This then presents our party with the task to raise the mass movements to higher stages in the coming months.

Revolutionary greetings

Manik Mukherjee
All India Anti-Imperialist Forum

Dear friends:

The capitalist beast is still on the rampage, and only thinks of itself. They not only want all the oil and natural resources, they want to rule the world. Bush has the nerve to state that God is on his side! What a farce!

Keep up the good work - NSC is the best reading material there is. The American people will have to harness this beast, or this will be a sad period for life on this planet.

Enclosed find a contribution of \$100 for your good work in publishing NSC.

Yours truly
Oscar Gellert
Sk.Canada

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Irina Malenko from N. Ireland sent us CD's of songs that were re-recorded by Soviet patriots. We have put them on tapes and they are available to our readers. The quality is excellent and you will be uplifted by the sheer patriotism of these songs, and melodies that helped the USSR build Socialism and win the Revolution, win the Civil War and defeat fascism in the Great Patriotic War.

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